

properties not located in flood hazard zones a one-time opportunity to purchase flood insurance coverage for a period covering such hurricane; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DEWINE (for himself, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. SMITH):

S. 1937. A bill to expand certain preferential trade treatment for Haiti; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. DEMINT (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. Res. 289. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Joseph Jefferson "Shoeless Joe" Jackson should be appropriately honored for his outstanding baseball accomplishments; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. REID, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. REED):

S. Res. 290. A resolution honoring the life and expressing the deepest condolences of Congress on the passing of Edward Roybal, former United States Congressman; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. OBAMA (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 291. A resolution to congratulate the Chicago White Sox on winning the 2005 World Series Championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. SMITH, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 292. A resolution calling on the President to condemn the anti-Israel sentiments expressed by the President of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, on October 26, 2005; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. BAYH, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SMITH, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. Res. 293. A resolution calling for a free and fair presidential election in the Republic of Kazakhstan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. DODD, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BROWNBACK, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. TALENT, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BIDEN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BAYH, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. Con. Res. 61. A concurrent resolution authorizing the remains of Rosa Parks to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 113

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 113, a bill to modify the date as of which certain tribal land of the Lytton Rancheria of California is deemed to be held in trust.

S. 380

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 380, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a State family support grant program to end the practice of parents giving legal custody of their seriously emotionally disturbed children to State agencies for the purpose of obtaining mental health services for those children.

S. 408

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 408, a bill to provide for programs and activities with respect to the prevention of underage drinking.

S. 417

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 417, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a refundable wage differential credit for activated military reservists.

S. 438

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 438, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medical care outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 484

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 484, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) were added as cosponsors of S. 632, a bill to authorize the extension of unconditional and permanent nondiscriminatory treatment (permanent normal trade relations treatment) to the products of Ukraine, and for other purposes.

S. 633

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) were added as cosponsors of S. 633, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while

serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. 801

At the request of Mr. MARTINEZ, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 801, a bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 300 North Hogan Street, Jacksonville, Florida, as the "John Milton Bryan Simpson United States Courthouse".

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1172, a bill to provide for programs to increase the awareness and knowledge of women and health care providers with respect to gynecologic cancers.

S. 1191

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1191, a bill to establish a grant program to provide innovative transportation options to veterans in remote rural areas.

S. 1215

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1215, a bill to authorize the acquisition of interests in underdeveloped coastal areas in order better to ensure their protection from development.

S. 1264

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1264, a bill to provide for the provision by hospitals of emergency contraceptives to women, and post-exposure prophylaxis for sexually transmitted disease to individuals, who are survivors of sexual assault.

S. 1272

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1272, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, and title II of the Social Security Act to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II.

S. 1462

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1462, a bill to promote peace and accountability in Sudan, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1462, supra.

S. 1571

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1571, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a comprehensive program for testing and treatment of veterans for the Hepatitis C virus.

S. 1587

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBAKES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1587, a bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to permit qualifying States to use a portion of their allotments under the State children's health insurance program for any fiscal year for certain medicaid expenditures.

S. 1800

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1800, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the new markets tax credit.

S. 1808

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1808, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve the qualified medicare beneficiary (QMB) and specified low-income medicare beneficiary (SLMB) programs within the medicaid program.

S. 1824

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1824, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to strengthen the earned income tax credit.

S. 1860

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1860, a bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to improve energy production and reduce energy demand through improved use of reclaimed waters, and for other purposes.

S. 1922

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1922, a bill to authorize appropriate action if negotiations with Japan to allow the resumption of United States beef exports are not successful, and for other purposes.

S. 1925

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1925, a bill to provide for workers and businesses during the response to Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 1

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACH) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 1, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to marriage.

S. CON. RES. 46

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACH, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr.

MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 46, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Russian Federation should fully protect the freedoms of all religious communities without distinction, whether registered and unregistered, as stipulated by the Russian Constitution and international standards.

S. RES. 219

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 219, a resolution designating March 8, 2006, as "Endangered Species Day", and encouraging the people of the United States to become educated about, and aware of, threats to species, success stories in species recovery, and the opportunity to promote species conservation worldwide.

AMENDMENT NO. 2070

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2070 proposed to H.R. 3058, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, Treasury, and Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, District of Columbia, and independent agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2193

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2193 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2218

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2218 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2219

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2219 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2249

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2249 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

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AMENDMENT NO. 2250

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2250 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2255

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2255 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2257

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2257 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2258

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2258 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2259

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2259 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2262

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2262 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2276

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2276 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2283

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2283 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2287

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2287 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2287 proposed to H.R. 3010, *supra*.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2289

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2289 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2299

At the request of Mr. TALENT, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2299 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2301

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2301 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2308

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a co-

sponsor of amendment No. 2308 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2327

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2327 proposed to H.R. 3010, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1927. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the Federal income tax system simpler, fairer, and more fiscally responsible, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I am proposing a Fair Flat Tax Act that will finally provide real tax relief to America's hurting middle class. It will do so by making the tax system simpler, flatter and fairer. And at the same time, it will begin to reduce the deficit that is destabilizing our economy, our security and our future.

This tax reform proposal is simpler because it's easier to understand and use. My legislation will include a new, simplified 1040 form that is one page, 30 lines, for every individual taxpayer.

This plan is flatter because it collapses the current system of six individual tax brackets down to three—15, 25 and 35 percent—and creates a flat corporate rate of 35 percent.

Ultimately, this plan is fairer because it changes the laws that disproportionately favor the most affluent Americans and corporations at the expense of the middle class. Instead, it provides a major middle-class tax cut—paid for by the elimination of scores of tax breaks in the individual and corporate income tax breaks, and by repealing the Bush tax cuts that favored the most fortunate few at the expense of the many.

This plan is fairer for American taxpayers because it treats work and wealth equally.

This is a radical statement about tax law: America can do better than a two-tier system which forces a policeman to pay a higher effective tax rate than an investor who makes his income on capital gains and dividends.

Under the current Federal Tax Code, all income is not created equal in this country. Americans who work for wages, in effect, subsidize the tax cuts and credits and deferrals of those who make money through unearned income—the dividends from investments. It's time to treat all taxpayers the same.

Let me be clear: I am not interested in soaking investors. I am a Democrat who believes in markets, and creating wealth. But what our country is all about is equality, and our Tax Code should treat everyone's income more equally too.

My legislation, The Fair Flat Tax Act of 2005, adapts the flat tax idea to help reduce the deficit instead, through fewer exclusions, exemptions, deductions, deferrals, credits and special rates for certain businesses and activities, and through the setting of a single, flat corporate rate of 35 percent. On the individual side, it ends favoritism for itemizers while improving deductions across the board: The standard deduction would be tripled for single filers from \$5,000 to \$15,000 and raised from \$10,000 to \$30,000 for married couples. Six individual rates are collapsed into three progressive rates of 15 percent, 25 percent and 35 percent, and income from all sources is taxed the same.

Several deductions used most frequently by individuals, those for home mortgage interest and charitable contributions, and the credits for children, education and earned income are retained. No one would have to calculate their taxes twice: this proposal eliminates the individual Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT), which could snare as many as 21 million American taxpayers in 2006.

This proposal would eliminate an estimated \$20 billion each year in special breaks for corporations, and direct the Treasury Secretary to identify and report to Congress an additional \$10 billion in savings from tax expenditures that subsidize inefficiencies in the health care system. Eliminating these breaks would sustain current benefits for our men and women in uniform, our veterans and the elderly and disabled—as well as breaks that promote savings and help families pay for health care and education.

What makes the Fair Flat Tax Act truly unique is that it corrects one of the most glaring inequities in the current tax system: regressive State and local taxes. Under current law, low and middle income taxpayers get hit with a double whammy: compared to wealthy Americans, they pay more of their income in State and local taxes. Poor families pay more than 11 percent and middle income families pay about 10 percent of their income in State and local taxes, while wealthier taxpayers only pay five percent. And because many low and middle income taxpayers don't itemize, they get no credit on their Federal form for paying State and local taxes. In fact, two-thirds of the Federal deduction for State and local taxes goes to those with incomes above \$100,000. Under the Fair Flat Tax Act for the first time the Federal code would look at the entire picture, at an individual's combined Federal, State and local tax burden, and give credit to low and middle income individuals to correct for regressive State and local taxes.