

By Mr. CORZINE (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SARBANES, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 924. A bill to establish a grant program to enhance the financial and retirement literacy of mid-life and older Americans to reduce financial abuse and fraud among such Americans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORZINE (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 925. A bill to promote youth financial education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. ENZI):

S. 926. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the credit for producing fuel from a nonconventional source shall apply to gas produced onshore from a formation more than 15,000 feet deep; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORZINE (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. JOHNSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 927. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand and improve coverage of mental health services under the medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. LINCOLN:

S. 928. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the immediate and permanent repeal of the estate tax on family-owned businesses and farms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ALLEN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. COBURN, Mr. TALENT, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 929. A bill to provide liability protection to nonprofit volunteer pilot organizations flying for public benefit and to the pilots and staff of such organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. DODD):

S. 930. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to drug safety, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 931. A bill to reduce temporarily the duty on certain articles of natural cork; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. DODD, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 932. A bill to provide for paid sick leave to ensure that Americans can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. STEVENS):

S. Res. 126. A resolution honoring Fred T. Korematsu for his loyalty and patriotism to the United States and expressing condolences to his family, friends, and supporters on his death; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. FRIST, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. DEMINT, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. BURR, and Mr. ALLARD):

S. Res. 127. A resolution congratulating charter schools and their students, parents, teachers, and administrators across the United States for their ongoing contributions to education, and for other purposes; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 7

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 7, a bill to increase American jobs and economic growth by making permanent the individual income tax rate reductions, the reduction in the capital gains and dividend tax rates, and the repeal of the estate, gift, and generation-skipping transfer taxes.

S. 114

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 114, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to ensure that every uninsured child in America has health insurance coverage, and for other purposes.

S. 271

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 271, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to clarify when organizations described in section 527 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 must register as political committees, and for other purposes.

S. 300

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 300, a bill to extend the temporary increase in payments under the medicare program for home health services furnished in a rural area.

S. 313

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 313, a bill to improve authorities to address urgent nonproliferation crises and United States nonproliferation operations.

S. 382

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 382, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen prohibitions against animal fighting, and for other purposes.

S. 397

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 397, a bill to prohibit civil liability actions from being brought or continued against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages, injunctive or

other relief resulting from the misuse of their products by others.

S. 418

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 418, a bill to protect members of the Armed Forces from unscrupulous practices regarding sales of insurance, financial, and investment products.

S. 428

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 428, a bill to provide \$30,000,000,000 in new transportation infrastructure funding in addition to TEA-21 levels through bonding to empower States and local governments to complete significant long-term capital improvement projects for highways, public transportation systems, and rail systems, and for other purposes.

S. 438

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 438, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 484

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) 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. 633

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 642

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 642, a bill to support certain national youth organizations, including the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes.

S. 647

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 647, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize physical therapists to evaluate and treat medicare beneficiaries without a requirement for a physician referral, and for other purposes.

S. 677

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 677, a bill to amend title VII

of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to establish provisions with respect to religious accommodation in employment, and for other purposes.

S. 756

At the request of Mr. BENNETT, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 756, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance public and health professional awareness and understanding of lupus and to strengthen the Nation's research efforts to identify the causes and cure of lupus.

S. 757

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 757, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to make grants for the development and operation of research centers regarding environmental factors that may be related to the etiology of breast cancer.

S. 782

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 782, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to authorize travel and transportation for family members of members of the Armed Forces hospitalized in the United States in connection with non-serious illnesses or injuries incurred or aggravated in a contingency operation, and for other purposes.

S. 785

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 785, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the small refiner exception to the oil depletion deduction.

S. 802

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 802, a bill to establish a National Drought Council within the Department of Agriculture, to improve national drought preparedness, mitigation, and response efforts, and for other purposes.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, the Public Health Service Act, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide parity with respect to substance abuse treatment benefits under group health plans and health insurance coverage.

S. 850

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S.

850, a bill to establish the Global Health Corps, and for other purposes.

S. 894

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 894, a bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba.

S. RES. 117

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 117, a resolution designating the week of May 9, 2005, as "National Hepatitis B Awareness Week."

S. RES. 121

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 121, a resolution supporting May 2005 as "National Better Hearing and Speech Month" and commanding those states that have implemented routine hearing screening for every newborn before the newborn leaves the hospital.

AMENDMENT NO. 573

At the request of Mr. SHELBY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 573 proposed to H.R. 3, a bill Reserved.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CONRAD:

S. 911. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for reimbursement of certified midwife services and to provide for more equitable reimbursement rates for certified nurse-midwife services; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Improving Access to Nurse-Midwifery Care Act of 2005. For too many years, certified nurse midwives, CNMs, have not received adequate reimbursement under the Medicare program, despite evidence that shows the quality of care and outcomes for services provided by CNMs are comparable to obstetricians and gynecologists. My legislation takes important steps to improve reimbursement for these important healthcare providers.

There are approximately three million disabled women on Medicare who are of childbearing age; however, if they choose to utilize a CNM for "well women" services, the CNM is only reimbursed at 65 percent of the physician fee schedule. In practical terms, the typical well-woman visit costs, on average, \$50. But Medicare currently reimburses CNMs in rural areas only \$14 for this visit, which could include a pap smear, mammogram, and other pre-cancer screenings. CNMs administer the same tests and incur the same costs as physicians but receive only 65 percent of the physician fee schedule

for these services. This reduced payment is unfair and does not adequately reflect the services CNMs provide to beneficiaries. At this incredibly low rate of reimbursement, the Medicare Payment Advisory Committee, MedPAC, agrees that a CNM simply cannot afford to provide services to Medicare patients and has supported increasing reimbursement for CNMs.

My legislation would make several changes to improve the ability of CNMs and certified midwives, CMs, to effectively serve the Medicare-eligible population. First, and most importantly, my bill recognizes the need to increase Medicare reimbursement for CNMs by raising the reimbursement level from 65 percent to 100 percent of the physician fee schedule. CNMs provide the same care as physicians; therefore, it is only fair to reimburse CNMs at the same level.

In addition, the Improving Access to Nurse-Midwifery Care Act would guarantee payment for graduate medical education and includes technical corrections that will clarify the reassignment of billing rights for CNMs who are employed by others. Finally, my bill would establish recognition for a certified midwife, CM, to provide services under Medicare. Despite the fact that CNMs and CMs provide the same services, Medicare has yet to recognize CMs as eligible providers. My bill would change this.

This bill will enhance access to "well woman" care for thousands of women in underserved communities and make several needed changes to improve access to midwives. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 912. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify the jurisdiction of the United States over waters of the United States; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, today I am introducing important legislation to affirm Federal jurisdiction over the waters of the United States. I am pleased to have three members of the Environment and Public Works Committee—the Senator from Vermont, Mr. JEFFORDS, the Senator from New Jersey, Mr. LAUTENBERG, the Senator from California, Mrs. BOXER—as original cosponsors of this bill. I also thank Senators DAYTON, KERRY, SCHUMER, and DURBIN for joining me in introducing this important legislation.

In the U.S. Supreme Court's January 2001 decision, Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County versus the Army Corps of Engineers, a 5 to 4 majority limited the authority of Federal agencies to use the so-called migratory bird rule as the basis for asserting Clean Water Act jurisdiction over non-