

S. 978. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the purchase of qualified health insurance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 979. A bill to strengthen United States capabilities to secure sealed sources of nuclear materials from terrorists; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 980. A bill to provide state and local governments with financial assistance that will increase their ability and effectiveness in monitoring convicted sex offenders by developing and implementing a program using global positioning systems to monitor convicted sexual offenders or sexual predators released from confinement; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 981. A bill to ensure that a Federal employee who takes leave without pay in order to perform service as a member of the uniformed services or member of the National Guard shall continue to receive pay in an amount which, when taken together with the pay and allowances such individual is receiving for such service, will be no less than the basic pay such individual would then be receiving if no interruption in employment had occurred; read the first time.

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 982. A bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain rayon staple fibers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DEMINT:

S. 983. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to protect employer rights; 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 Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. WARNER, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. Res. 133. A resolution recognizing the 13th Annual National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. BIDEN):

S. Res. 134. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the massacre at Srebrenica in July 1995; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 98

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWBACK) were added as cosponsors of S. 98, a bill to amend the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 and the Revised Statutes of the United States to prohibit financial holding companies and national banks from engaging, directly or indirectly, in real estate brokerage or real estate management activities, and for other purposes.

S. 103

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 103, a bill to respond to the illegal production, distribution, and use of methamphetamine in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 173

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 173, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide adequate coverage for immunosuppressive drugs furnished to beneficiaries under the Medicare program that have received an organ transplant.

S. 185

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. 185, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for the reduction of certain Survivor Benefit Plan annuities by the amount of dependency and indemnity compensation and to modify the effective date for paid-up coverage under the Survivor Benefit Plan.

S. 331

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 331, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for an assured adequate level of funding for veterans health care.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 333, a bill to hold the current regime in Iran accountable for its threatening behavior and to support a transition to democracy in Iran.

S. 380

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) 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. 420

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 420, a bill to make the repeal of the estate tax permanent.

S. 432

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 432, a bill to establish a digital and wireless network technology program, and for other purposes.

S. 438

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the names of the Senator from Maryland

(Mr. SARBANES) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) 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. 471

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 471, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for human embryonic stem cell research.

S. 484

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) were added as cosponsors 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. 558

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 558, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain additional retired members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special compensation and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt.

S. 602

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 602, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to fund breakthroughs in Alzheimer's disease research while providing more help to caregivers and increasing public education about prevention.

S. 633

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) 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. 637

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 637, a bill to establish a national health program administered by the Office of Personnel Management to

offer health benefits plans to individuals who are not Federal employees, and for other purposes.

S. 642

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) 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. 681

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 681, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a National Cord Blood Stem Cell Bank Network to prepare, store, and distribute human umbilical cord blood stem cells for the treatment of patients and to support peer-reviewed research using such cells.

S. 757

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) 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. 758

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 758, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that the federal excise tax on communication services does not apply to internet access service.

S. 760

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 760, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide a means for continued improvement in emergency medical services for children.

S. 774

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 774, a bill to amend the Internal Rev-

enue Code of 1986 to repeal the 1993 income tax increase on Social Security benefits.

S. 784

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 784, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 798

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 798, a bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and title 5, United States Code, to provide entitlement to leave to eligible employees whose spouse, son, daughter, or parent is a member of the Armed Forces who is serving on active duty in support of a contingency operation or who is notified of an impending call or order to active duty in support of a contingency operation, and for other purposes.

S. 799

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 799, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the coordination of Federal Government policies and activities to prevent obesity in childhood, to provide for State childhood obesity prevention and control, and to establish grant programs to prevent childhood obesity within homes, schools, and communities.

S. 809

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 809, a bill to establish certain duties for pharmacies when pharmacists employed by the pharmacies refuse to fill valid prescriptions for drugs or devices on the basis of personal beliefs, and for other purposes.

S. 895

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 895, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a rural water supply program in the Reclamation States to provide a clean, safe affordable, and reliable water supply to rural residents.

S. 914

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 914, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a competitive grant program to build capacity in veterinary medical education and expand the workforce of veterinarians engaged in public health practice and biomedical research.

S. 918

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the names of the Senator from Minnesota

(Mr. COLEMAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 918, a bill to provide for Flexible Fuel Vehicle (FFV) refueling capability at new and existing refueling station facilities to promote energy security and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

S. 927

At the request of Mr. CORZINE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S.J. RES. 15

At the request of Mr. BROWBACK, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 15, a joint resolution to acknowledge a long history of official depredations and ill-conceived policies by the United States Government regarding Indian tribes and offer an apology to all Native Peoples on behalf of the United States.

S. CON. RES. 11

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 11, a concurrent resolution honoring the Tuskegee Airmen for their bravery in fighting for our freedom in World War II, and for their contribution in creating an integrated United States Air Force.

S. CON. RES. 19

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 19, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the importance of life insurance and recognizing and supporting National Life Insurance Awareness Month.

S. CON. RES. 30

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 30, a concurrent resolution to express the sense of Congress concerning the provision of health insurance coverage to all Americans.

S. RES. 86

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 86, a resolution designating August 16, 2005, as "National Airborne Day".

S. RES. 116

At the request of Mrs. DOLE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 116, a resolution commemorating the life, achievements, and contributions of Frederick C. Branch.

S. RES. 131

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 131, a resolution commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have lost their lives while serving as law enforcement officers.

S. RES. 132

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 132, a resolution expressing support for prayer at school board meetings.

AMENDMENT NO. 580

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 580 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3, a bill Reserved.

AMENDMENT NO. 588

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 588 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3, a bill Reserved.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BURNS:

S. 977. A bill to include claims for injuries and death due to exposure during certain time periods from fallout emitted during the Government's above-ground nuclear tests in Nevada that exposed individuals who lived in the downwind affected area in the State of Montana; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. BURNS. Mr. President, in Montana, when someone does something to hurt someone else, they make it right. Not just because it is the right thing to do, but because in this State we shoot straight and take responsibility for our actions that's why I'm working to bring some of that Montana ethic to Washington to get the Federal Government to make amends for actions that have caused too many Montanans great pain and suffering.

Nuclear testing in Nevada during the 1950's threw blooms of radioactive Iodine-131, I-131, high into the atmosphere. Those who were affected are sometimes referred to as "Down Winders" because the wind carried the poisonous iodine north to Montana where gravity finally kicked in and the radioactive material settled to the ground. It eventually got into the milk supply—one of the primary sources of Iodine 131—and disproportionately affected milk drinkers. And who drinks milk? Children and babies, who are the most vulnerable in society.

Iodine-131 is absorbed by the thyroid—the organ of the body that uses iodine to produce important hormones. It can take between 20 and 40 years, but eventually the damage caused by Io-

dine-131 manifests itself as thyroid cancer. I've had cancer, and I understand the physical, mental and emotional pain that follows this terrible disease. I know the pain, and it is time that the government made right the harm it has caused to people in my State of Montana.

In 1990, the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act or RECA was signed into law. This measure provided financial compensation for victims living downwind of the Nevada Test Site to the tune of \$50,000 per person. The law covered select counties in Nevada, Utah and Arizona. Later, this Act was amended to include compensation for uranium miners in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico and Texas.

However, Montana, with 15 of the 25 counties with the highest dosage, Meagher, Broadwater, Beaverhead, Jefferson, Powell, Judith Basin, Madison, Fergus, Gallatin, Petroleum, Lewis and Clark, Blaine, Silver Bow, Chouteau and Deer Lodge, single most affected county in the United States, Meagher, is the only State in the affected region to receive no RECA compensation at all. If that doesn't sound right, it's because it's not.

Montanans have experienced unbelievably high rates of thyroid cancer. Between 1989 and 2003, the national rate of thyroid cancer increased by 38 percent. In that same timeframe, Montana's rate increased by a whopping 127 percent. And yet, Montana is the only State in the region that is excluded from RECA. In 2000, the rate of reported thyroid cancer in Montana was 17.5 times greater than the national rate. And yet, Montana is the only State in the region that is excluded from RECA.

On April 28, 2005, at the request of Congress, a report was released by the National Academy of Sciences. The 500-page report confirms the inadequacy of current RECA compensation. Most importantly, it supports the fact that Montana was one of the worst affected States. The fact is that folks in Montana were involuntarily subjected to increased risk of injury and disease in order to serve the national security interests of the United States. Moreover, they deserve our compassion and support. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support the expansion of RECA to my State of Montana.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 979. A bill to strengthen United States capabilities to secure sealed sources of nuclear materials from terrorists; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Safe Storage of Radiological Materials Act of 2005 to prevent sealed radioactive sources, which can be used to create "dirty bombs," from getting into the hands of terrorists. This bill is similar to S. 1045, the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Act, which I introduced in 2003.

Since September 11, 2001, the Congress has faced the challenge of anticipating where the next attack on the United States will come from and in what form it will come. It is important to weigh where to invest precious security resources, knowing everything can't be protected. Many vulnerabilities deserve serious attention. Some can be addressed with relative ease.

Thousands of unwanted sealed radioactive sources are currently held by the private sector, research institutions, and medical laboratories where these sources are generally unprotected and accessible. An April 2003 report I requested from the Government Accountability Office, GAO, entitled "Nuclear Proliferation: DOE Action Needed to Ensure Continued Recovery of Unwanted Sealed Radioactive Sources," stated that "if these sealed sources fell into the hands of terrorists, they could be used as simple and crude but potentially dangerous radiological weapons, commonly called dirty bombs." Most experts agree that it would not require much scientific expertise or funding to cobble together a dirty bomb from radioactive material. In other words, the required materials are accessible and the assembly is relatively rudimentary.

The GAO report focused on greater-than-class-C, GTCC, sealed sources. GTCC radiological sources are the "high end" of the continuum of low-level radioactive waste. Class A, B, and C wastes can generally be disposed of at existing commercial disposal facilities. But wastes that exceed the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's criteria for Class C, known as greater-than-class-C wastes, are potent enough that they cannot be disposed of at existing facilities. While GTCC wastes are not as dangerous as high-level radioactive waste and therefore are not considered the highest security priority, they are the most potent of low level waste and necessitate progressively more stringent disposal requirements.

The Low-Level Radioactive Waste Policy Amendments of 1985, P.L. 99-240, required the Department of Energy, DOE, to provide a facility for disposing of all GTCC radioactive waste, including GTCC sealed sources that are no longer utilized by their owners. GAO found that little to no work had been done to designate a permanent disposal site. Although DOE has said that the facility will be up and running by 2007, it seems unlikely as they have only just begun the necessary environmental impact statement process.

In 1999, DOE created the Off-Site Source Recovery Project, OSRP, to recover unwanted GTCC sealed sources and temporarily house them at the Department of Energy's Los Alamos National Laboratory. According to GAO testimony before the Senate Energy Committee in September 2004, approximately 10,000 GTCC sealed sources from about 160 sites across the U.S. had been recovered to date. However, approximately 8,000 sources still remained in