

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 1009. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to extend certain water contracts in Idaho, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SANTORUM (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. JEFFORDS, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 1010. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve patient access to, and utilization of, the colorectal cancer screening benefit under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 1011. A bill to establish a national historic country store preservation program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. DAYTON, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 1012. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to protect consumers in managed care plans and other health coverage; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1013. A bill to improve the allocation of grants through the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 1014. A bill to provide additional relief for small business owners ordered to active duty as members of reserve components of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. DEMINT:

S. 1015. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for cooperative governing of individual health insurance coverage offered in interstate commerce; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARTINEZ:

S. 1016. A bill to direct the Secretary of Energy to make incentive payments to the owners or operators of qualified desalination facilities to partially offset the cost of electrical energy required to operate the facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CHAFEE (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. VITTER, Mr. BAUCUS, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. CORZINE):

S. 1017. A bill to reauthorize grants from the water resources research and technology institutes established under the Water Resources Research Act of 1984; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SARBANES:

S. 1018. A bill to provide that transit pass transportation fringe benefits be made available to all qualified Federal employees in the National Capital Region; to allow passenger carriers which are owned or leased by the Government to be used to transport Government employees between their place of employment and mass transit facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 1019. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to increase benefits for members of the Armed Forces who, after September 11, 2001, serve on active duty outside the United States or its territories or possessions as part of a contingency operation (including a humanitarian operation, peacekeeping operation, or similar operation) or a combat operation; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself and Mr. PRYOR):

S. 1020. A bill to make the United States competitive in a global economy; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 1021. A bill to reauthorize the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1022. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for an energy efficient appliance credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. BURNS):

S. 1023. A bill to provide for the establishment of a Digital Opportunity Investment Trust; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 1024. A bill to revitalize suburban communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROBERTS:

S. 1025. A bill to amend the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the construction of the Cheney division, Wichita Federal reclamation project, Kansas, and for other purposes" to authorize the Equus Beds Division of the Wichita Project; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 1026. A bill to ensure that offshore energy development on the outer Continental Shelf continues to serve the needs of the United States, to create opportunities for new development and the use of alternative resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BUNNING:

S. 1027. A bill to exempt the natural aging process in the determination of the production period for distilled spirits under section 263A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1028. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the protection of members of the Armed Forces and their spouses from unscrupulous financial services sales practices through increased consumer education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1029. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to expand college access and increase college persistence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1030. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to simplify and improve the process of applying for student assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1031. A bill to enhance the reliability of the electric system; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 1032. A bill to improve seaport security; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. McCAIN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. SALAZAR):

S. 1033. A bill to improve border security and immigration; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. COBURN):

S. Res. 136. A resolution designating the month of May 2005 as "National Drug Court Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CORZINE (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. Res. 137. A resolution designating May 1, 2005, as "National Child Care Worthy Wage Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. BURNS, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. Res. 138. A resolution designating July 23, 2005, "National Day of the American Cowboy"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. FRIST, and Mr. McCAIN):

S. Res. 139. A resolution expressing support for the withdrawal of Russian troops from Georgia; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MARTINEZ (for himself, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BAYH, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. COBURN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. CRAIG, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. ALLEN):

S. Res. 140. A resolution expressing support for the historic meeting in Havana of the Assembly to Promote the Civil Society in Cuba on May 20, 2005, as well as to all those courageous individuals who continue to advance liberty and democracy for the Cuban people; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DODD, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. Res. 141. A resolution designating September 9, 2005, as "National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Con. Res. 32. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Government of the Russian Federation should issue a clear and unambiguous statement of admission and condemnation of the illegal occupation and annexation by the Soviet Union from 1940 to 1991 of the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 98

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr.

HATCH) was added as a cosponsor 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 name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor 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. 267

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 267, a bill to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

S. 313

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 313, a bill to improve authorities to address urgent nonproliferation crises and United States nonproliferation operations.

S. 330

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 330, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require a voter-verified permanent record or hardcopy under title III of such Act, and for other purposes.

S. 331

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) 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. 340

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 340, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

S. 390

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 390, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of ultrasound screening for abdominal aortic aneurysms under part B of the medicare program.

S. 438

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

S. 440

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 440, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to include podiatrists as physicians for purposes of covering physicians services under the medicaid program.

S. 467

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 467, a bill to extend the applicability of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002.

S. 471

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) 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. 558

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) 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. 582

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of the Little Rock Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, and for other purposes.

S. 594

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 594, a bill to amend section 1114 of title 11, United States Code, to preserve the health benefits of certain retired miners.

S. 637

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) 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. 681

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor 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. 714

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 714, a bill to amend section 227 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 227) relating to the prohibition on junk fax transmissions.

S. 757

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) 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. 802

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) 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. 853

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 853, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to establish a program to bolster the mutual security and safety of the United States, Canada, and Mexico, and for other purposes.

S. 859

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 859, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an income tax credit for the provision of homeownership and community development, and for other purposes.

S. 863

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) were added as cosponsors of S. 863, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centenary of the bestowal of the Nobel Peace Prize on President Theodore Roosevelt, and for other purposes.

S. 865

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 865, a bill to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to reauthorize the Price-Anderson provisions.

S. 967

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 967, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to ensure that prepackaged news stories contain announcements that inform viewers that the information within was provided by the United States Government, and for other purposes.

S. 984

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 984, a bill to amend the Exchange Rates and International Economic Policy Coordination Act of 1988 to clarify the definition of manipulation with respect to currency, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 104

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 104, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate encouraging the active engagement of Americans in world affairs and urging the Secretary of State to take the lead and coordinate with other governmental agencies and non-governmental organizations in creating an online database of international exchange programs and related opportunities.

AMENDMENT NO. 670

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 670 proposed to H.R. 3, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 681

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 681 proposed to H.R. 3, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 704

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 704 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 708

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 708 proposed to H.R. 3, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 732

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 732 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 733

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 733 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3, a bill to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. JEFFORDS:

S. 1011. A bill to establish a national historic country store preservation program; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I have long been a proponent of measures that support historic preservation and economic development, and it is in keeping with that tradition that I rise today to introduce the National Historic Country Store Preservation Act of 2005.

This bill establishes a national program to support historic country store preservation that will aid in the revitalization of rural villages and community centers nationwide.

For many Americans, the country store invokes an image of a simpler life before much of this country became stamped with shopping malls and the “big-box” store.

But for thousands of people living in Vermont and for millions more living in rural communities across the United States, a visit to the local country store is a regular part of one's daily life.

They are centers of commercial activity in the towns they serve and embody the core of American small business entrepreneurship.

Many of these vital small businesses have been passed down among family members for generations. They are operated in buildings that have existed for as long as 150 years.

In fact, by one of the more vigorous standards in Vermont, a country store is only considered historic if it was built before the Winooski River Flood of 1927.

In my hometown of Shrewsbury, VT, the Pierce Store was the hub of our small community when my wife Liz and I settled there in 1963.

Run by the four Pierce siblings, Marjorie, Glendon, Marion and Gordon, the store was the place to go for a neighborly chat as much as for your milk and butter.

Children would get off the bus to buy their penny candy. Glendon Pierce

could tell a great tale, and the political banter was endless.

With its antique cash register and woodstove, this was the quintessential general store.

Unfortunately, the Pierce Store closed its doors some years back and Shrewsbury lost a vital part of its identity.

There has been a recent attempt to revive the store, and I hope, for the sake of my community, it proves successful.

Despite their small relative size and market share, historic country stores have demonstrated incredible resiliency, surviving floods and fires, overcoming economic downturns, and reformulating their inventories to meet modern needs.

According to the Vermont Grocers' Association, country stores account for an estimated \$55 million annually in retail sales in Vermont.

Nonetheless, competition from larger chain stores continues to increase.

When coupled with the additional cost and expertise required to maintain their aging structures and external facades, today's remaining country stores are hard-pressed to overcome these unprecedented challenges.

In Vermont, a handful of historic country stores close each year and the cumulative impact of those losses is experienced throughout the State.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation has listed the entire State of Vermont among America's “Eleven Most Endangered Places.”

That is due to the threat that large-scale development poses to Vermont's small, independent retailers.

Yet country stores remain fixtures of Vermont's landscape. The Vermont Alliance of Independent Country Stores estimates that more than 115 historic country stores are scattered about the State.

Across the country, thousands of these establishments help to define the character of rural life.

These country stores draw local customers and tourists alike, offering convenient access to newspapers, groceries and local specialty foods in a typically neighborly atmosphere.

Many stores also double as local post offices or outdoor camping and home hardware goods suppliers. It is not unusual, and highly recommended, that customers buy a fresh whole wedge of cheddar cheese from a 38-pound wheel next to the cash register.

Fathers can buy earthworms and tackle and take their daughters to the nearby fishing hole for an afternoon excursion.

The National Historic Country Store Preservation Act of 2005 is designed to build upon the momentum that country store preservation work has generated in Vermont and to gather useful models and information to develop a program that supports historic, rural country stores nationwide.

My legislation authorizes the U.S. Economic Development Administration to make grants to national, State