

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. ALLEN):

S. 1694. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to submit to Congress a report describing the method by which existing reporting systems within the Department of Energy can be coordinated to provide timely reporting of significant supply interruptions in the transmission of petroleum and petroleum-related products; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 1695. A bill to provide the Secretary of Agriculture with additional authority and funding to provide emergency relief, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security, to victims of Hurricane Katrina and related conditions; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. LOTT, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. VITTER, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 1696. A bill to provide tax relief for the victims of Hurricane Katrina, to provide incentives for charitable giving, and for other purposes; 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. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. Res. 236. A resolution recognizing the need to pursue research into the causes, a treatment, and an eventual cure for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, supporting the goals and ideals of National Idiopathic Pulmonary Fibrosis Awareness Week, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 258

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 258, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance research, training, and health information dissemination with respect to urologic diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 392

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. FRIST) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 392, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of Congress, collectively, to the Tuskegee Airmen in recognition of their unique military record, which inspired revolutionary reform in the Armed Forces.

S. 506

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 506, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a scholarship and loan repayment program for public health preparedness workforce development to eliminate critical public health preparedness workforce shortages in Federal, State, local, and tribal public health agencies.

S. 603

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 603, a bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act to assure meaningful disclosures of the terms of rental-purchase agreements, including disclosures of all costs to consumers under such agreements, to provide certain substantive rights to consumers under such agreements, and for other purposes.

S. 666

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 666, a bill to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products.

S. 713

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 713, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 757

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor 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. 769

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) were added as cosponsors of S. 769, a bill to enhance compliance assistance for small businesses.

S. 895

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) 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. 1010

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 1112

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1112, a bill to make permanent the enhanced educational savings provisions for qualified tuition programs enacted as part of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001.

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1112, supra.

S. 1186

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1186, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide the same capital gains treatment for art and collectibles as for other investment property and to provide that a deduction equal to fair market value shall be allowed for charitable contributions of literary, musical, artistic, or scholarly compositions created by the donor.

S. 1191

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) 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. 1240

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1240, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an investment tax credit for the purchase of trucks with new diesel engine technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 1386

At the request of Mr. MARTINEZ, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1386, a bill to exclude from consideration as income certain payments under the national flood insurance program.

S. 1496

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1496, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a pilot program under which up to 15 States may issue electronic Federal migratory bird hunting stamps.

S. 1515

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1515, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve access to advanced practice nurses and physician assistants under the Medicaid Program.

S. 1622

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1622, a bill to establish a congressional commission to examine the Federal, State, and local response to the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Region of the United States especially in the States of Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and other areas impacted in the aftermath and make immediate corrective measures to improve such responses in the future.

S. 1630

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1630, a bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish the National Emergency Family Locator System.

S. 1638

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1638, a bill to provide for the establishment of programs and activities to assist in mobilizing an appropriate healthcare workforce in the event of a health emergency or natural disaster.

S. 1644

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1644, a bill to promote the employment of workers displaced by Hurricane Katrina in connection with Hurricane Katrina reconstruction efforts.

S. 1645

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1645, a bill to establish a first responder interoperable communications grant program.

AMENDMENT NO. 1650

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1650 proposed to H.R. 2862, a bill making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1652

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1652 proposed to H.R. 2862, a bill making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1654

At the request of Mr. DAYTON, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1654 proposed to H.R. 2862, a bill making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1660

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were

added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1660 proposed to H.R. 2862, a bill making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1661

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1661 proposed to H.R. 2862, a bill making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1687

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1687 proposed to H.R. 2862, a bill making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1694

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1694 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2862, a bill making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1690. A bill to provide for flexibility and improvements in elementary and secondary education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about a bill that gives students, parents and teachers options and flexibility for meeting accountability and proficiency standards—the No Child Left Behind Flexibility and Improvements Act. My colleague, Senator COLLINS, and I have been working hand-in-hand with Maine's educators to identify problems with the No Child Left Behind Act and develop practical solutions to these issues. The bill we introduce today is the product of our combined efforts.

In 2001, with the passage of the No Child Left Behind Act, Congress, in a bipartisan fashion, set forth a truly ambitious education reform. This is a law that was conceived and created with the worthy intention to provide equal educational opportunity for

every American child. Upon implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act some unforeseen complications of the Act have become apparent. And that is why Senator COLLINS and I called for the creation of No Child Left Behind Task Force in 2003 in response to the concerns we heard in meetings with Maine's education professionals.

As described by the Task Force, "the challenge that the Task Force faced was to confront the issues raised by No Child Left Behind, to ask how the common State and Federal objectives could be met, and to assess how No Child Left Behind and the Maine Learning Results could be coordinated better to the benefit of the citizens of Maine." The members of this Task Force have their fingers on the pulse of their students' needs and are therefore uniquely qualified to assess this law and make recommendations on how to improve it. In March of this year we received the Task Force report, and it is with these recommendations that Senator COLLINS and I could understand its impact on our state and our children, so that we can move forward to improve this law in a meaningful manner.

Maine's No Child Left Behind Task Force issued several recommendations in five major areas: annual yearly progress, assessment and accountability; reading and limited English proficiency students; special education; highly qualified teachers; and funding. The No Child Left Behind Flexibility and Improvements Act addresses each of these areas in several ways. For example, our bill allows local education authorities to use local assessments as opposed to a state-wide test to measure adequate yearly progress.

The Act also gives States additional options for deeming a teacher highly qualified, give schools the discretion to use reading activities grants in a manner that will best address the needs of their students and allows schools flexibility with limited English proficiency students. This is only a sample of the many modifications our bill makes that will result in No Child Left Behind being more effective in the State of Maine.

One of our democracy's most noble goals, still a work in progress, has been to create a level playing field on which our children may strive to learn and reach their potential. Clearly, education, along with the family, plays an integral role in achieving this great imperative, which distinguishes our nation and helps make us worthy of the world's emulation. The No Child Left Behind Flexibility and Improvements Act will help to further this goal.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, along with the senior Senator from Maine, Senator SNOWE, I am today introducing the No Child Left Behind Flexibility and Improvements Act. Our legislation is designed to provide State and local decision makers with greater control options and flexibility in the implementation of the No Child Left Behind