

“SEC. 515. SCHOLARSHIPS.”

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Education (referred to in this section as the ‘Secretary’), in consultation with the Secretary of Labor and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall establish a program to provide scholarships to eligible individuals to increase the skilled workforce for both private sector coal mine operators and mine safety inspectors and other regulatory personnel for the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

“(b) FUNDAMENTAL SKILLS SCHOLARSHIPS.”

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the program under subsection (a), the Secretary may award scholarship to fully or partially pay the tuition costs of eligible individuals enrolled in 2-year associate’s degree programs at community colleges or other colleges and universities that focus on providing the fundamental skills and training that is of immediate use to a beginning coal miner.

“(2) SKILLS.—The skills described in paragraph (1) shall include basic math, basic health and safety, business principles, management and supervisory skills, skills related to electric circuitry, skills related to heavy equipment operations, and skills related to communications.

“(3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this subsection an individual shall—

“(A) have a high school diploma or a GED;

“(B) have at least 2 years experience in full-time employment in mining or mining-related activities;

“(C) submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information; and

“(D) demonstrate an interest in working in the field of mining and performing an internship with the Mine Safety and Health Administration or the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health Office of Mine Safety.

“(c) MINE SAFETY INSPECTOR SCHOLARSHIPS.”

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the program under subsection (a), the Secretary may award scholarship to fully or partially pay the tuition costs of eligible individuals enrolled in undergraduate bachelor’s degree programs at accredited colleges or universities that provide the skills needed to become mine safety inspectors.

“(2) SKILLS.—The skills described in paragraph (1) include skills developed through programs leading to a degree in mining engineering, civil engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, industrial engineering, environmental engineering, industrial hygiene, occupational health and safety, geology, chemistry, or other fields of study related to mine safety and health work.

“(3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this subsection an individual shall—

“(A) have a high school diploma or a GED;

“(B) have at least 5 years experience in full-time employment in mining or mining-related activities;

“(C) submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information; and

“(D) agree to be employed for a period of at least 5 years at the Mine Safety and Health Administration or, to repay, on a pro-rated basis, the funds received under this program, plus interest, at a rate established by the Secretary upon the issuance of the scholarship.

“(d) ADVANCED RESEARCH SCHOLARSHIPS.”

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the program under subsection (a), the Secretary may award scholarships to fully or partially pay the tuition costs of eligible individuals enrolled in undergraduate bachelor’s degree, masters de-

gree, and Ph.D. degree programs at accredited colleges or universities that provide the skills needed to augment and advance research in mine safety and to broaden, improve, and expand the universe of candidates for mine safety inspector and other regulatory positions in the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

“(2) SKILLS.—The skills described in paragraph (1) include skills developed through programs leading to a degree in mining engineering, civil engineering, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, industrial engineering, environmental engineering, industrial hygiene, occupational health and safety, geology, chemistry, or other fields of study related to mine safety and health work.

“(3) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this subsection an individual shall—

“(A) have a bachelor’s degree or equivalent from an accredited 4-year institution;

“(B) have at least 5 years experience in full-time employment in underground mining or mining-related activities; and

“(C) submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information.

“(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.”

SEC. 13. RESEARCH CONCERNING REFUGE ALTERNATIVES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health shall provide for the conduct of research, including field tests, concerning the utility, practicability, survivability, and cost of various refuge alternatives in an underground coal mine environment, including commercially-available portable refuge chambers.

(b) REPORT.—
(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health shall prepare and submit to the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate, and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives a report concerning the results of the research conducted under subsection (a), including any field tests.

(2) RESPONSE BY SECRETARY.—Not later than 180 days after the receipt of the report under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Labor shall provide a response to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions of the Senate and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives containing a description of the actions, if any, that the Secretary intends to take based upon the report, including proposing regulatory changes, and the reasons for such actions.

SEC. 14. SAGO MINE SAFETY GRANTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Labor shall establish a program to award competitive grants for education and training to carry out the purposes of this section.

(b) PURPOSES.—It is the purpose of this section, to provide for the funding of education and training programs to better identify, avoid, and prevent unsafe working conditions in and around mines.

(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall—

(1) be a public or private nonprofit entity; and

(2) submit to the Secretary of Labor an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts received under a grant under this section shall be

used to establish and implement education and training programs, or to develop training materials for employers and miners, concerning safety and health topics in mines, as determined appropriate by the Mine Safety and Health Administration.

(e) AWARDING OF GRANTS.

(1) ANNUAL BASIS.—Grants under this section shall be awarded on an annual basis.

(2) SPECIAL EMPHASIS.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary of Labor shall give special emphasis to programs and materials that target workers in smaller mines, including training miners and employers about new Mine Safety and Health Administration standards, high risk activities, or hazards identified by such Administration.

(3) PRIORITY.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary of Labor shall give priority to the funding of pilot and demonstration projects that the Secretary determines will provide opportunities for broad applicability for mine safety.

(f) EVALUATION.—The Secretary of Labor shall use not less than 1 percent of the funds made available to carry out this section in a fiscal year to conduct evaluations of the projects funded under grants under this section.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each fiscal year, such sums as may be necessary to carry out this section.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS**SENATE RESOLUTION 482—SUPPORTING THE GOALS OF AN ANNUAL NATIONAL TIME-OUT DAY TO PROMOTE PATIENT SAFETY AND OPTIMAL OUTCOMES IN THE OPERATING ROOM**

Ms. LANDRIEU submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 482

Whereas according to an Institute of Medicine (referred to in this resolution as the “IOM”) report entitled “To Err is Human: Building a Safer Health System”, published in 2000, between 44,000 and 98,000 hospitalized people in the United States die each year due to medical errors, and untold thousands more suffer injury or illness as a result of preventable errors;

Whereas the IOM report recommends the establishment of a national goal of reducing the number of medical errors by 50 percent over 5 years;

Whereas there are more than 40,000,000 inpatient surgery procedures and 31,000,000 outpatient surgery procedures performed annually in the United States;

Whereas it is the right of every patient to receive the highest quality of care in all surgical settings;

Whereas a patient is the most vulnerable and unable to make decisions on their own behalf during a surgical or invasive procedure due to anesthesia or other sedation;

Whereas improved communication among the surgical team and a reduction in medical errors in the operating room are essential for optimal outcomes during operative or other invasive procedures;

Whereas the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the American College of Surgeons, and the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management celebrated a National Time-Out

Day on June 23, 2004, to promote the adoption of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations' universal protocol for preventing wrong site surgery errors in operating rooms in the United States;

Whereas the Senate during the 109th Congress supported a National Time-Out Day in 2005 on behalf of the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the American College of Surgeons, and the American Society for Healthcare Risk Management to promote the adoption of the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations' universal protocol for preventing errors in the operating room;

Whereas the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, joined by coalition partners, celebrated a National Time-Out Day on June 22, 2005, for the purpose of promoting safe medication administration practices and the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses distributed "Safe Medication Administration Tool Kits" to more than 5,000 hospitals and 13,000 nurse managers or educators;

Whereas the 109th Congress passed the Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005 to provide for the improvement of patient safety and to reduce the incidence of events that adversely affect patient safety;

Whereas the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses develops and issues, with coalition partners, universally-accepted authoritative statements, recommended guidelines, best practice guidelines, and competency statements for how to provide optimal care for patients in the operating room;

Whereas there is nationally-focused attention on improving patient safety in all healthcare facilities through the reduction of medical errors;

Whereas the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses, the recognized leader in patient safety in the operating room, promotes the highest quality of patient care during all operative or invasive procedures; and

Whereas the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses designates and celebrates National Time-Out Day on June 21, 2006, and each third Wednesday of June thereafter to promote patient safety and optimal outcomes in the operating room by focusing on the reduction of medical errors, fostering better communication among the members of the surgical team, and collaborating with coalition partners to establish universal protocols to increase quality and safety for surgical patients: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideal of an annual National Time-Out Day as designated by the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses for ensuring patient safety and optimal outcomes in the operating room; and

(2) congratulates perioperative nurses and representatives of surgical teams for working together to protect patient safety during all operative and other invasive procedures.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4037. Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4038. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4039. Mr. KERRY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4040. Mr. KERRY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4041. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4042. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4043. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4044. Mr. GRASSLEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4045. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. REID, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4046. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4047. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4048. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4049. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4050. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4051. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4052. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4053. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4054. Mr. GREGG (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4055. Mr. BINGAMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4056. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4057. Mr. THOMAS (for himself, Mr. KYL, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4058. Mr. BROWNBACK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4059. Mr. BROWNBACK submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4060. Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4061. Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4062. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4063. Mr. CONRAD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4064. Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COBURN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mr. GRAHAM) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2611, supra.

SA 4065. Mr. KENNEDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4037. Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 63, strike lines 14 through 16 and insert the following:

(a) DENIAL OR TERMINATION OF ASYLUM.—Section 208 (8 U.S.C. 1158) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—

(A) in paragraph (2)(A)(v), by striking "or (VI)" and inserting "(V), (VI), (VII), or (VIII)"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(4) CHANGED COUNTRY CONDITIONS.—An alien seeking asylum based on persecution or a well-founded fear of persecution shall not be denied asylum based on changed country conditions unless fundamental and lasting changes have stabilized the country of the alien's nationality.;"

(2) in subsection (c)(2)(A), by striking "a fundamental change in circumstances" and inserting "fundamental and lasting changes that have stabilized the country of the alien's nationality"; and

(3) in subsection (d)(5), by adding at the end the following:

"(C) MOTION TO REOPEN.—If an application for asylum filed before the effective date of this subparagraph is denied based on changed country conditions, the alien who filed such an application may file a single motion to reopen the administrative adjudication of the asylum application. Subsection (b)(4) shall apply to any adjudication reopened under this subparagraph."

SA 4038. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2611, to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 264, strike lines 13 through 20.

On page 370, line 21, strike "this subsection" and insert "paragraphs (2) and (3)".

On page 371, between lines 14 and 15, insert the following:

"(5) STATE IMPACT ASSISTANCE FEE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other amounts required to be paid under this subsection, an alien shall submit, at the time