

and became midshipmen in the U.S. Navy, class of 1957.

Almost 4 years later on June 7, 1957, 848 of them graduated with a bachelor of science in engineering, took another oath, and were commissioned into the Armed Forces. Of the Navy Blue majority, 568 were commissioned into the Navy: 160 went to Pensacola to become naval aviators; 203 went into destroyers; 42 to auxiliary ships; 94 to capital ships including aircraft carriers; and 104 of the class went into submarines a year or so later. Sixty-four went into the United States Marine Corps and 206 were commissioned into the then academy-less Air Force.

During the ensuing 50 years, the class of 1957 distinguished itself in service to the Republic. Of the original graduating class, 534 served for 20 years or more. Thirty-eight of them gave their lives in the execution of their oaths. Charles Duke walked on the Moon. Leo Hyatt endured 2,050 days of captivity in North Vietnam. Bradley Parkinson developed the global positioning system. Altogether, the class of 1957 produced 21 admirals and generals. Class members served an average of 1.3 times as commanding officers. The class served with distinction throughout the cold war, including the very hot Vietnam war, and emerged victorious.

Following their retirement or resignation from their respective services, members of the class continued in a variety of careers and professions: 169 of them became presidents or vice presidents of companies or corporations; 33 served as chief executive officers.

Mr. President, I salute the U.S. Naval Academy's class of 1957. Most importantly, I wish to extend warm and hearty congratulations to them for a job well done, or as the Navy would say it, "Bravo Zulu, '57!" I extend my best wishes for their continued success during the years to come.●

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL HERBERT S. LOCKETT

● Mr. SESSIONS. Madam President, I rise today to pay tribute to COL Herbert S. Lockett, former ombudsman for the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve. Colonel Lockett has a long and distinguished history of service to our Nation, both as a soldier and as a volunteer ensuring that National Guard and Reserve soldiers are prepared for battle. His service, both on the front lines and behind the scenes, is noble and commendable. It is for this reason that I honor him today.

Colonel Lockett served as a combat medic in the Southwest Pacific Theater during World War II, earning a Bronze Star, an Outstanding Leadership Commendation, and three Campaign Stars. He cared for those who were wounded and risked his own safety in service to others. Those who brave bullets to provide care are truly heroic, and Colonel Lockett was no exception.

He went on to serve in Korea as an infantryman, where he earned a Silver Star for Gallantry at the Battle of Pork Chop Hill. While his unit had taken heavy casualties, and many in his unit threatened to desert, he took charge and they fought until reinforcements arrived, earning two Presidential Unit Citations and credit for 2,000 Chinese KIA's.

Even after retiring from active duty, Colonel Lockett continued to serve his country. Colonel Lockett has been a volunteer with National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve helping to prepare soldiers in National Guard and Reserve units to be deployed for combat operations. For his efforts in this regard he has been awarded the James N. Roche Spirit of Voluntarism Award, the highest award given by the committee.

Mr. President it is my honor to pay tribute to this great Alabamian, and most of all this great American. He serves as a shining example of the American spirit. He is loved by all who know him for his tireless work and determination.●

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 2198. A bill to require the Architect of the Capitol to permit the acknowledgment of God on flag certificates.

S. 2205. A bill to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INOUE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with amendments:

S. 1778. A bill to authorize certain activities of the Maritime Administration, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-200).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. CORCKER, and Mr. SALAZAR):

S. 2207. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating Green McAdoo School in Clinton, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 2208. A bill to protect public health and safety in the event that testing of nuclear weapons by the United States is resumed; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. SMITH, Mr.

CRAPO, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 2209. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to improve America's research competitiveness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 2210. A bill to provide incentives for investment in research and development for new medicines, to enhance access to new medicines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 2211. A bill to ensure the recovery, resiliency, and health of ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes ecosystems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 2212. A bill to support the establishment and operations of Teachers Professional Development Institutes; 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. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. VITTER, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. Res. 354. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 35th anniversary of the enactment of the Clean Water Act; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 358

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 358, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of genetic information with respect to health insurance and employment.

S. 368

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 368, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 723

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 723, a bill to provide certain enhancements to the Montgomery GI Bill Program for certain individuals who serve as members of the Armed Forces after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, and for other purposes.

S. 1382

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1382, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide the establishment of an Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry.

S. 1394

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr.

NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1394, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, to exclude from gross income of individual taxpayers discharges of indebtedness attributable to certain forgiven residential mortgage obligations.

S. 1499

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1499, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to reduce air pollution from marine vessels.

S. 1515

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1515, a bill to establish a domestic violence volunteer attorney network to represent domestic violence victims.

S. 1641

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1641, a bill to amend Public Law 87-383 to reauthorize appropriations to promote the conservation of migratory waterfowl and to offset or prevent the serious loss of important wetland and other waterfowl habitat essential to the preservation of migratory waterfowl, and for other purposes.

S. 1882

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1882, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish various programs for the recruitment and retention of public health workers and to eliminate critical public health workforce shortages in Federal, State, local, and tribal public health agencies.

S. 2087

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2087, a bill to amend certain laws relating to Native Americans to make technical corrections, and for other purposes.

S. 2198

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2198, a bill to require the Architect of the Capitol to permit the acknowledgment of God on flag certificates.

S. 2201

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2201, a bill to provide for the penalty-free use of retirement funds for mortgage delinquency relief.

AMENDMENT NO. 3397

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3397 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3043, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services,

and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3398

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3398 intended to be proposed to H.R. 3043, a bill making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. SMITH, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. LINCOLN and Mr. KERRY):

S. 2209. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue code of 1986 to provide incentives to improve America's research competitiveness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. HATCH. President, I rise today to join with my friend and colleague from Montana, Senator BAUCUS, to introduce the Research Credit Improvement Act of 2007. We are joined by a bipartisan group of our Finance Committee colleagues: Senators CANTWELL, CRAPO, KERRY, SMITH, LINCOLN, and SNOWE. As its title suggests, the purpose of this legislation is to extend permanently and to improve the research credit, which is set to expire in just a short time, at the end of 2007.

Our Nation has benefited greatly in recent years from strong economic growth. I believe it is vital for all Americans to realize that this economic growth did not just happen by accident. Rather, it is based on several factors, and one of the more important of these is innovation.

Innovation certainly does not just happen either. It is the result of several specific ingredients. Chief among those ingredients is the amount of research and development occurring in the economy. Where does R&D come from? It comes from individuals, companies, and governments who are willing to invest time and money.

Research and development is very expensive for companies to undertake. By its very nature, research activities seldom result in success immediately. There are many dead ends and much frustration on the way to the discovery of a product that can lead to profits.

Moreover, many times a firm's efforts to find innovative solutions to life's problems result in good discoveries for mankind, but little or no immediate or even intermediate rewards for the company undertaking the research. For this reason, most economists agree that even private research and development activities can create a common good, and one that should be partially subsidized by the public.

The original research credit was enacted over 25 years ago to encourage an increase in R&D activity and to help

subsidize the common good that often is derived from research and innovation.

Just as today's economic health is a byproduct of the innovation that came from yesterday's investment in R&D, our future economic health will depend on the amount of innovation we harvest from our investment in research activities today, tomorrow, and into the future.

Years ago, our country had the clear edge on the rest of the industrialized world when it came to having the most nurturing environment to foster research and development. We had more than our share of the scientists, researchers, and other skilled workers to engage in R&D. We had plenty of capital. We had world-class facilities. And we had the biggest market for products right here in the U.S. All the ingredients for innovation were right here, and few other countries could match our research environment. Thus, there was little thought of going anywhere else to perform research.

Sadly, this is no longer the case. Many of our trading partners now possess equal, and sometimes, superior environments to promote research to those we have here in the U.S. More importantly, many of these trading partners now offer strong tax and other incentives designed to lure research to those nations and away from our shores.

Without a strong and effective research incentive of our own, I fear that the United States is at risk of losing its leadership position in innovation. The consequences of this could be very serious for our future economic growth and job creation, as well as for long-term prosperity and national security.

Unfortunately, as I mentioned earlier, our research credit is set to expire in just a few weeks, at the end of December. Once again, American businesses are finding themselves in the all-too familiar position of wondering if the Congress is going to extend the research credit, and if so, when and for how long.

This perennial guessing game that we force our research-intensive firms to play every year or two is getting old. Moreover, it makes the research credit far less effective than it would otherwise be if it were a constant. While it is true that there is some level of confidence among the users of the research credit that this incentive will be extended, everyone knows that the chances of the credit's renewal are not certain, especially in today's volatile legislative climate.

Therefore, the legislation we are introducing today once again provides for the credit to be made permanent. A permanent credit can help our economy develop the new technologies that will enhance existing capital inputs and make workers more productive. The result will be a stronger economy at home, and a more competitive Nation abroad.

In assessing the health of our economy, we find an important correlation