

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 22

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 22, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a program of educational assistance for members of the Armed Forces who serve in the Armed Forces after September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 67

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 67, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit former members of the Armed Forces who have a service-connected disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces are entitled to travel on such aircraft.

S. 507

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 507, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for reimbursement of certified midwife services and to provide for more equitable reimbursement rates for certified nurse-midwife services.

S. 518

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 518, a bill to amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 to require the Statistics Commissioner to collect information from coeducational secondary schools on such schools' athletic programs.

S. 578

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 578, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve requirements under the Medicaid program for items and services furnished in or through an educational program or setting to children, including children with developmental, physical, or mental health needs, and for other purposes.

S. 583

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 583, a bill to create a competitive grant program for States to enable the States to award salary bonuses to highly qualified elementary school or secondary school teachers who teach, or commit to teach, for at least 3 academic years in a school served by a rural local educational agency.

S. 968

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 968, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide in-

creased assistance for the prevention, treatment, and control of tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

S. 1164

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1164, 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. 1382

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1382, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of an Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry.

S. 1394

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) 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. 1465

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1465, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of certain medical mobility devices approved as class III medical devices.

S. 1494

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1494, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the special diabetes programs for Type I diabetes and Indians under that Act.

S. 1534

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1534, a bill to hold the current regime in Iran accountable for its human rights record and to support a transition to democracy in Iran.

S. 1551

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1551, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

S. 1679

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1679, a bill to provide that the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center shall be known as Emancipation Hall.

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from

Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1679, *supra*.

S. 1734

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1734, a bill to provide for prostate cancer imaging research and education.

S. 1852

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1852, a bill to designate the Friday after Thanksgiving of each year as "Native American Heritage Day" in honor of the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States.

S. 1858

At the request of Mr. CASEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1858, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1858, *supra*.

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1858, *supra*.

S. 1943

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1943, a bill to establish uniform standards for interrogation techniques applicable to individuals under the custody or physical control of the United States Government.

S. 1958

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1958, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure and foster continued patient quality of care by establishing facility and patient criteria for long-term care hospitals and related improvements under the Medicare program.

S. 1991

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1991, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the suitability and feasibility of extending the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to include additional sites associated with the preparation and return phases of the expedition, and for other purposes.

S. 2056

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2056, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act

to restore financial stability to Medicare anesthesiology teaching programs for resident physicians.

S. 2071

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2071, a bill to enhance the ability to combat methamphetamine.

S. 2123

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2123, a bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

S. 2136

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2136, a bill to address the treatment of primary mortgages in bankruptcy, and for other purposes.

S. 2161

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2161, a bill to ensure and foster continued patient safety and quality of care by making the antitrust laws apply to negotiations between groups of independent pharmacies and health plans and health insurance issuers (including health plans under parts C and D of the Medicare Program) in the same manner as such laws apply to protected activities under the National Labor Relations Act.

S. 2257

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2257, a bill to impose sanctions on officials of the State Peace and Development Council in Burma, to amend the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 to prohibit the importation of gemstones and hardwoods from Burma, to promote a coordinated international effort to restore civilian democratic rule to Burma, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2257, *supra*.

S. 2278

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2278, a bill to improve the prevention, detection, and treatment of community and healthcare-associated infections (CHAI), with a focus on antibiotic-resistant bacteria.

S. 2303

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2303, a bill to amend section 435(o) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding the definition of economic hardship.

S. 2324

At the request of Mrs. McCASKILL, the names of the Senator from Alaska

(Mr. STEVENS) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2324, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) to enhance the Offices of the Inspectors General, to create a Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, and for other purposes.

S. 2331

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2331, a bill to exclude from gross income payments from the Hokie Spirit Memorial Fund to the victims of the tragic event, loss of life and limb, at Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University.

S. 2332

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2332, a bill to promote transparency in the adoption of new media ownership rules by the Federal Communications Commission, and to establish an independent panel to make recommendations on how to increase the representation of women and minorities in broadcast media ownership.

S. 2340

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2340, a bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

S. 2347

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2347, a bill to restore and protect access to discount drug prices for university-based and safety-net clinics.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2347, *supra*.

S. 2348

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2348, a bill to ensure control over the United States border and to strengthen enforcement of the immigration laws.

S. RES. 273

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 273, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States Postal Service should issue a semipostal stamp to support medical research relating to Alzheimer's disease.

S. RES. 356

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from

South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 356, a resolution affirming that any offensive military action taken against Iran must be explicitly approved by Congress before such action may be initiated.

S. RES. 358

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 358, a resolution expressing the importance of friendship and cooperation between the United States and Turkey.

S. RES. 376

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 376, a resolution providing the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of Commerce should declare a commercial fishery failure for the groundfish fishery for Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island and immediately propose regulations to implement section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

AMENDMENT NO. 3508

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCAIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3508 proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3544

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3544 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3545

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3545 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3615

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3615 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3616

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3616 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3625

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3625 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3649

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3649 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 2352. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiaries greater choice with regard to accessing hearing health services and benefits; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce the Medicare Hearing Health Care Enhancement Act with my colleagues, Senators HARKIN, COLEMAN, and MENENDEZ. This legislation is the companion bill to legislation introduced in the House by Representative MIKE ROSS, with a number of cosponsors.

This legislation will provide Medicare beneficiaries with the same hearing care options available to veterans and Federal employees, including every member of this body. Under this bill, Medicare beneficiaries who experience hearing problems will have the option of going directly to an audiologist, rather than first visiting a physician. This is the policy for the health care programs administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Office of Personnel Management. Direct access works well for our veterans and for Federal employees, including Members of Congress, and direct access should be available to senior citizens in the Medicare program.

More than 31 million Americans have some type of hearing problem, making hearing loss the third most common health problem in the U.S. Many of them are older Americans, and this statistic is fast increasing with the aging of the “baby boomers.” Yet half of all hearing impaired persons are under age 65. With 80 to 90 percent of hearing problems not medically or surgically treatable, it seems only reasonable that Medicare patients be allowed to consult with an audiologist without first seeing another health care provider. It is part of regular audiological practice to refer patients for medical management when clinical indicators are present.

In 1992, the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, changed its health care

policy to allow for the option of direct access to a licensed audiologist. The VA reports: “the policy has provided and continues to provide high quality, cost effective, and successful hearing health care to veterans.” The VA did not experience increased utilization of audiology services due to the policy change and instead found, “the policy did not increase the number of visits beyond what would be expected in the aging veteran population.”

In 2003, the Congress in the Appropriations Conference Report number 108-10 recommended that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services make this change. We have since learned that CMS does not have the authority to do so under current law. Therefore, I hope that we can all agree that this is a common sense idea whose time has come, and move this legislation forward to enactment.

Direct access would facilitate access to hearing care without expanding the scope of practice for audiologists. This legislation will make it easier for Medicare beneficiaries, particularly in rural America, to have the same high quality hearing care provided by the VA and OPM. It is also important to point out that both the Medicare and Medicaid programs now recognize State licensure as the appropriate standard for determining who is a qualified audiologist.

This legislation enjoys the support of a large number of organizations including the American Academy of Audiology, the American Speech-Language and Hearing Association, the National Association of the Deaf and the National Rural Health Association. I commend this legislation to the attention of my colleagues and urge them to lend their support by cosponsoring this bill.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2353. A bill to increase the annual salaries of justices and judges of the United States, and to increase fees for bankruptcy trustees; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2353

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Fair Judicial Compensation Act of 2007”.

SEC. 2. JUDICIAL SALARY INCREASE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The annual salaries of the Chief Justice of the United States, associate justices of the Supreme Court of the United States, United States circuit judges, United States district judges, and judges of the United States Court of International Trade are increased in the amount of 16.5 percent of their respective annual salary rates in effect on the effective date of this Act, rounded to the nearest \$100 (or, if midway between multiples of \$100, to the next higher multiple of \$100).

(b) COORDINATION RULE.—If a pay adjustment under subsection (a) is to be made for an office or position as of the same date that any other pay adjustment would take effect for such office or position, the adjustment under this Act shall be made first.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on the first day of the first applicable pay period beginning on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. BANKRUPTCY TRUSTEES.

Section 330(b)(2) of title 11, United States Code, is amended, in the undesignated matter following subparagraph (B), by striking “\$15” each place that term appears and inserting “\$55”.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 2355. A bill to amend the National Climate Program Act to enhance the ability of the United States to develop and implement climate change adaptation programs and policies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Climate Change Adaptation Act of 2007.

Before I describe the merits of this bill, I would like to take a moment to commend many of my colleagues for their ongoing efforts to develop legislative solutions to meet the enormous challenges global warming poses to our Nation and our planet. I feel this bill helps address a somewhat overlooked, but key tool, to tackling this pre-eminent challenge facing our Nation.

I am proud that Washington State is taking the lead on the issue of global climate change. While my State’s contribution to global warming is relatively small—because we are fortunate enough to derive about 70 percent of our electricity from inexpensive, emissions-free hydropower—global warming threatens to seriously impact our economy.

Ironically, one of the primary impacts of global warming on the Pacific Northwest will be to change our rainfall patterns in a way that reduces the amount of water available for hydropower production.

And these changes will not only harm electricity generation, they will also impact billions of dollars of economic infrastructure associated with irrigation systems, municipal water supplies, even ski resorts that depend on our historic snowfall patterns.

Faced with these possibilities, we must ask several simple questions: What are we doing to prepare for these changes? How are predicted sea level rises being incorporated into shoreline restoration projects, siting of public infrastructure, or disaster response plans, among many other examples? What tools do we need to give Federal, State, and local decisionmakers to take climate change into account on long-term, multibillion-dollar decisions?

Unfortunately, we don’t have any answers.