

Resolved, That the Idaho Legislature shall enact no legislation nor authorize an appropriation to implement the provisions of the REAL ID Act in Idaho, unless such appropriation is used exclusively for the purpose of undertaking a comprehensive analysis of the costs of implementing the REAL ID Act or to mount a constitutional challenge to the act by the state Attorney General. Be it further

Resolved, That the Idaho Legislature urges the Idaho congressional delegation to support measures to repeal the REAL ID Act. Be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the United States George W. Bush, the United States Attorney General Alberto Gonzales, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, the Governor of Idaho C. L. Otter and the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.

POM-69. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts memorializing the President and Congress to recommend more funding to the Department of Veterans Affairs in the budget for fiscal year 2008; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING GEORGE W. BUSH, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO RECOMMEND MORE FUNDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IN THE FISCAL YEAR 08 FEDERAL BUDGET.

Whereas, President George W. Bush has recommended 34.2 billion for the Department of Veterans Affairs in his proposed fiscal year 08 budget, which is an inadequate appropriation to adequately address the health of our veterans; and

Whereas, while the Bush Administration continues to tout its recommendation for an increase of \$2 billion over the previous fiscal year as a "landmark budget", the reality is that this 6% increase is barely enough to account for the cost of inflation and cannot fund the need for improvements in medical care and expansion of services; and

Whereas, more than 27,000 service members have returned home to Massachusetts since September 11, 2001, having faced a new type of warfare in the form of improvised explosive devices and are, upon return home, in need of specialized services and care; and

Whereas, the United States Government must provide to the Department of Veterans Affairs all the tools available to make this specialized care available, particularly for head, spinal cord and sight injuries and the growing need for mental health services; and

Whereas, in 2006, the Veterans Health Administration's Undersecretary for Health Policy and Coordination stated that some areas of the country did not have any mental health services available and that other areas had such long wait times that certain services were "virtually inaccessible"; and

Whereas, unfortunately, once again, Category 8 Veterans, those veterans deemed "high income" veterans by the Veterans Administration—some who make as little as \$28,000 a year—and who have been ineligible to enroll in the Veterans Administration Health Care System since 2003, may continue to be shut out of the Veterans Administration Health Care System if funding is not increased, adding to the approximately 1 million Category 8 Veterans who have been turned away since 2003; and

Whereas, while the Massachusetts State Senate has supported the Veterans Affairs'

recommendations for improvements in medical equipment and facility upgrades to medical centers, for two years, the Senate has fought hard to prevent the possible consolidation of the four existing Veterans Administration medical care facilities in the greater Boston area into one "mega-plex", since the negative impact of removing thousands of veterans from their familiar health care environment and forcing them to change physicians would have consequences that cannot be balanced by the creation of one modernized facility: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Massachusetts Senate hereby urges the President of the United States and Congress to address the Veterans Affairs Budget in a timely manner, include in the 2008 budget the Veterans Affairs' recommendations for improvements in medical equipment and facility upgrades to all Massachusetts Veterans Administration Medical Centers and to provide mandatory funding for the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care system so as to appropriately honor and facilitate the healing of our veterans who selflessly risk their lives and well-being to protect our freedom; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions be transmitted forthwith by the clerk of the Senate to the President of the United States, the Presiding Officer of each branch of Congress and to the Members thereof from the Commonwealth.

POM-70. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Legislature of the State of Vermont urging Congress to enact legislation to assure federal funding for veterans' health care; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION 13

Whereas, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) provides medical care for veterans, including men and women, who have risked their lives to protect the security of our nation, and

Whereas, Congress appropriates funding for VA health care each year as part of the discretionary federal budget, and

Whereas, each year's federal budget for veterans' health care has been very seriously under-funded, and

Whereas, this serious and now chronic shortfall affects the access to and the quality of medical care services that the VA provides for our veterans, and

Whereas, the priority of serving veterans must be absolute and irrevocable, and must serve as the foundation for the VA and of our nation's public policy: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the Senate of the State of Vermont urgently requests that Congress enact legislation to assure Federal funding for veterans' health care, and be it further

Resolved, That Governor Douglas also request that Congress enact legislation to assure Federal funding for veterans' health care, and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Governor, the President, the Vice President, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, James Nicholson; Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi; House Minority Leader, John Boehner; Senate Majority Leader, Harry Reid; Senate Minority Leader, Trent Lott; to the members of the Vermont Congressional delegation; and to Vermont veterans organizations.

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. KYL (for himself, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LOTT, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. SMITH, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. ENZI, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. BURR, and Mr. COBURN):

S. 14. A bill to repeal the sunset on certain tax rates and other incentives and to repeal the individual alternative minimum tax, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 1120. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants for the training of graduate medical residents in preventive medicine and public health; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 1121. A bill to authorize the cancellation of Perkins Loans for students who perform public service as librarians in low-income schools and public libraries; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. NELSON of Nebraska:

S. 1122. A bill to improve the calculation of highway mileage to medium and large hub airports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. 1123. A bill to provide an extension for filing a refund for the excise tax on toll telephone service, and to provide for a safe harbor for businesses claiming such a refund; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 1124. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify, modernize, and improve public notice of and access to tax lien information by providing for a national, Internet accessible, filing system for Federal tax liens, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. SMITH, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. HAGEL, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1125. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to encourage investment in the expansion of freight rail infrastructure capacity and to enhance modal tax equity; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LOTT (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 1126. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to expand and strengthen cooperative efforts to monitor, restore, and protect the resource productivity, water quality, and marine ecosystems of the Gulf of Mexico; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 1127. A bill for the relief of Alexandra S. Banks Desutter and Nicholas S. Banks Desutter; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 1128. A bill to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish a Summer of Service State grant program, a

Summer of Service national direct grant program, and related national activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 1129. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the definition of governmental plan with respect to Indian tribal governments; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 1130. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore, increase, and make permanent the exclusion from gross income for amounts received under qualified group legal services plans; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 1131. A bill to amend the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978 to establish a program to provide assistance to States and nonprofit organizations to preserve suburban forest land and open space and contain suburban sprawl; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1132. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Indian tribes to receive charitable contributions of apparently wholesome food; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1133. A bill to provide additional protections for recipients of the earned income tax credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 1134. A bill to maximize transparency and accountability for direct appropriations to non-Federal entities, including those instances when Congress appropriates funds to a Federal agency specifically in order to contract with a congressionally identified non-Federal entity; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

S. 1135. A bill to amend chapter 1 of title 9, United States Code, to establish fair procedures for arbitration clauses in contracts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. DODD):

S. 1136. A bill to promote the economic security and safety of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 1137. A bill to authorize grants to carry out projects to provide education on preventing teen pregnancies, and for other purposes; 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. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. Res. 150. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 7

through 13, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. Res. 151. A resolution commending the University of Wyoming Cowgirls for their championship victory in the Women's National Invitation Tournament; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BUNNING (for himself, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. KERRY, Mr. OBAMA, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 152. A resolution honoring the lifetime achievements of Jackie Robinson; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID:

S. Res. 153. A resolution making temporary appointments to the Select Committee on Ethics; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 3

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3, a bill to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for fair prescription drug prices for Medicare beneficiaries.

S. 170

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 170, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on telephone and other communications services.

S. 180

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 180, a bill to provide a permanent deduction for State and local general sales taxes.

S. 185

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 185, a bill to restore habeas corpus for those detained by the United States.

S. 211

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of 2-1-1 telephone service for information and referral on human services, volunteer services, and for other purposes.

S. 221

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 221, a bill to amend title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to livestock and poultry contracts.

S. 254

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 254, a bill to award posthumously a Congressional gold medal to Constantino Brumidi.

S. 261

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Pennsyl-

vania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 261, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen prohibitions against animal fighting, and for other purposes.

S. 294

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 294, a bill to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes.

S. 338

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 338, 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. 359

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 359, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide additional support to students.

S. 387

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 387, a bill to prohibit the sale by the Department of Defense of parts for F-14 fighter aircraft.

S. 399

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 399, 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. 479

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 479, a bill to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans.

S. 486

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 486, a bill to establish requirements for lenders and institutions of higher education in order to protect students and other borrowers receiving educational loans.

S. 543

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 543, a bill to improve Medicare beneficiary access by extending the 60 percent compliance threshold used to determine whether a hospital or unit of a hospital is an inpatient rehabilitation facility under the Medicare program.

S. 566

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 566, a bill to amend