

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 1291. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the renewable energy production credit and to extend and modify the credit to holders of clean renewable energy bonds; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 1292. A bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to improve the safety of meat and poultry products by enhancing the ability of the Secretary of Agriculture to retrieve the history, use, and location of a meat or poultry product through a record-keeping and audit system or registered identification, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. CRAIG:

S. 1293. A bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve educational assistance for members and former members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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

S. 1294. A bill to strengthen national security by encouraging and assisting in the expansion and improvement of educational programs in order to meet critical needs at the elementary, secondary, and higher education levels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 1295. A bill to amend the African Development Foundation Act to change the name of the Foundation, modify the administrative authorities of the Foundation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. BIDEN, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 1296. A bill to provide enhanced Federal enforcement and assistance in preventing and prosecuting crimes of violence against children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. 1297. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to promote the use of advanced clean fuels that help reduce air and water pollution and protect the environment; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

S. 1298. A bill to amend the Social Security Act to establish a Federal Reinsurance Program for Catastrophic Health Care Costs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1299. A bill to establish on behalf of consumers a fiduciary duty and other standards of care for mortgage brokers and originators, and to establish standards to assess a consumer's ability to repay, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 1300. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2008 through 2011, to improve aviation safety and capacity, to modernize the air traffic control system, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DEMINT:

S. 1301. A bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities; read the first time.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 1302. A bill to amend title V of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to encourage and support parent, family, and community involvement in schools, to provide needed integrated services and comprehensive supports to children, and to ensure that schools are centers of communities, for the ultimate goal of assisting students to stay in school, become successful learners, and improve academic achievement; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. VITTER):

S. 1303. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to enhance the security of wastewater treatment works; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself and Mr. KYL):

S. 1304. A bill to amend the National Trails System Act to designate the Arizona National Scenic Trail; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 1305. A bill making emergency war appropriations for American troops overseas, without unnecessary pork barrel spending and without mandating surrender or retreat in Iraq, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. OBAMA (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1306. A bill to direct the Consumer Product Safety Commission to classify certain children's products containing lead to be banned hazardous substances; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 1307. A bill to include Medicare provider payments in the Federal Payment Levy Program, to require the Department of Health and Human Services to offset Medicare provider payments by the amount of the provider's delinquent Federal debt, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, and Mr. ENZI):

S. 1308. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of Agriculture from allowing the importation of certain cattle and beef from Canada until the implementation of country of origin labeling requirements; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 1309. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to prohibit universal defaults on credit card accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. LOTT, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 1310. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of increased payments for ground ambulance services under the Medicare program; 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. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. Res. 185. A resolution supporting the ideals and values of the Olympic Movement;

to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VITTER, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. SALAZAR, and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. Res. 186. A resolution designating June 5, 2007, as "National Hunger Awareness Day" and authorizing the Senate offices of Senators Gordon H. Smith, Blanche L. Lincoln, Elizabeth Dole, and Richard J. Durbin to collect donations of food during the period beginning May 7, 2007, and ending June 5, 2007, from concerned Members of Congress and staff to assist families suffering from hunger and food insecurity in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. SMITH, and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. Res. 187. A resolution condemning violence in Estonia and attacks on Estonia's embassies in 2007, and expressing solidarity with the Government and the people of Estonia; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. BUNNING):

S. Res. 188. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of the accession of Israel to the Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. SUNUNU):

S. Con. Res. 31. A concurrent resolution expressing support for advancing vital United States interests through increased engagement in health programs that alleviate disease and reduce premature death in developing nations, especially through programs that combat high levels of infectious disease, improve children's and women's health, decrease malnutrition, reduce unintended pregnancies, fight the spread of HIV/AIDS, encourage healthy behaviors, and strengthen health care capacity; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VOINOVICH (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. Con. Res. 32. A concurrent resolution honoring the 50th anniversary of Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 3

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) 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. 21

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill to expand access to preventive health care services that help reduce unintended pregnancy, reduce abortions, and improve access to women's health care.

S. 57

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 57, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces

of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 206

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 206, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 309

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 309, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, and for other purposes.

S. 326

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 326, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a special period of limitation when uniformed services retirement pay is reduced as result of award of disability compensation.

S. 430

At the request of Mr. BOND, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 430, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the national defense through empowerment of the Chief of the National Guard Bureau and the enhancement of the functions of the National Guard Bureau, and for other purposes.

S. 431

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 431, a bill to require convicted sex offenders to register online identifiers, and for other purposes.

S. 439

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 439, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

S. 442

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 442, a bill to provide for loan repayment for prosecutors and public defenders.

S. 446

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

NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 446, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize capitation grants to increase the number of nursing faculty and students, and for other purposes.

S. 495

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 495, a bill to prevent and mitigate identity theft, to ensure privacy, to provide notice of security breaches, and to enhance criminal penalties, law enforcement assistance, and other protections against security breaches, fraudulent access, and misuse of personally identifiable information.

S. 502

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 502, a bill to repeal the sunset on the reduction of capital gains rates for individuals and on the taxation of dividends of individuals at capital gains rates.

S. 506

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 506, a bill to improve efficiency in the Federal Government through the use of high-performance green buildings, and for other purposes.

S. 522

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 522, a bill to safeguard the economic health of the United States and the health and safety of the United States citizens by improving the management, coordination, and effectiveness of domestic and international intellectual property rights enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 543

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) 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. 579

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 579, 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. 590

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. 590, a bill to amend the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the investment tax credit with respect to solar energy property and qualified fuel cell property, and for other purposes.

S. 597

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 597, a bill to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years.

S. 609

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 609, a bill to amend section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 to provide that funds received as universal service contributions and the universal service support programs established pursuant to that section are not subject to certain provisions of title 31, United States Code, commonly known as the Antideficiency Act.

S. 622

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 622, a bill to enhance fair and open competition in the production and sale of agricultural commodities.

S. 634

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 634, 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.

S. 644

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 644, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recodify as part of that title certain educational assistance programs for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, to improve such programs, and for other purposes.

S. 648

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of S. 648, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reduce the eligibility age for receipt of non-regular military service retired pay for members of the Ready Reserve in active federal status or on active duty for significant periods.

S. 659

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 659, a bill to amend section 1477 of title 10, United States Code, to provide

for the payment of the death gratuity with respect to members of the Armed Forces without a surviving spouse who are survived by a minor child.

S. 704

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 704, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit manipulation of caller identification information.

S. 773

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 773, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 901

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 901, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act.

S. 935

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 935, a bill to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 937

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 937, a bill to improve support and services for individuals with autism and their families.

S. 961

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 961, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II, and for other purposes.

S. 1146

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1146, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve health care for veterans who live in rural areas, and for other purposes.

S. 1164

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) 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. 1181

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1181, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide shareholders with an advisory vote on executive compensation.

S. 1196

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1196, a bill to improve mental health care for wounded members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1200

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1200, a bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend the Act.

S. 1205

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1205, a bill to require a pilot program on assisting veterans service organizations and other veterans groups in developing and promoting peer support programs that facilitate community reintegration of veterans returning from active duty, and for other purposes.

S. 1226

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1226, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish programs to improve the quality, performance, and delivery of pediatric care.

S. 1237

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1237, a bill to increase public safety by permitting the Attorney General to deny the transfer of firearms or the issuance of firearms and explosives licenses to known or suspected dangerous terrorists.

S. 1256

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1256, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize loan programs under that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1257

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator

from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1257, a bill to provide the District of Columbia a voting seat and the State of Utah an additional seat in the House of Representatives.

S. 1261

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1261, a bill to amend title 10 and 38, United States Code, to repeal the 10-year limit on use of Montgomery GI Bill educational assistance benefits, and for other purposes.

S. 1263

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1263, a bill to protect the welfare of consumers by prohibiting price gouging with respect to gasoline and petroleum distillates during natural disasters and abnormal market disruptions, and for other purposes.

S. 1267

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1267, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

S. CON. RES. 22

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 22, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that a commemorative postage stamp be issued to promote public awareness of Down syndrome.

S. RES. 171

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 171, a resolution memorializing fallen firefighters by lowering the United States flag to half-staff on the day of the National Fallen Firefighter Memorial Service in Emmitsburg, Maryland.

AMENDMENT NO. 991

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of amendment No. 991 intended to be proposed to S. 1082, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize and amend the prescription drug user fee provisions, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of amendment No. 991 intended to be proposed to S. 1082, *supra*.

AMENDMENT NO. 1010

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1010 proposed to S. 1082, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize and amend the prescription drug user fee provisions, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1010 proposed to S. 1082, *supra*.

AMENDMENT NO. 1011

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1011 proposed to S. 1082, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize and amend the prescription drug user fee provisions, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1016

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1016 intended to be proposed to S. 1082, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize and amend the prescription drug user fee provisions, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1024

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1024 intended to be proposed to S. 1082, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to reauthorize and amend the prescription drug user fee provisions, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. OBAMA):

S. 1276. A bill to establish a grant program to facilitate the creation of methamphetamine precursor electronic logbook systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the bipartisan Methamphetamine Production Prevention Act of 2007. I am pleased to have the support and cosponsorship of Senator GRASSLEY for this important legislation, and I look forward to working closely with Chairman LEAHY and Ranking Member SPECTER to advance the bill through the judiciary Committee and to secure its enactment into law.

The Methamphetamine Production Prevention Act will take the next step toward wiping out the domestic production of methamphetamine, or "meth." The bill will make it easier to use electronic logbook systems in order to monitor sales of meth precursor drugs and notify enforcement agencies

when individuals illegally stockpile these precursors by traveling from pharmacy to pharmacy.

This legislation is endorsed by the National Alliance of State Drug Enforcement Agencies, the National Narcotics Officers' Associations' Coalition, the National Criminal Justice Association, the National Sheriffs' Association, the Major County Sheriffs' Association, the National Troopers Coalition, the National District Attorneys Association, the National Association of Counties, and the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America. I also want to commend and thank Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and her staff for their assistance in preparing this legislation.

For years, the manufacture and use of methamphetamine have plagued communities in Illinois and throughout the Nation. Meth is unique among illegal drugs in that its harms stem not only from its distribution and use, but also from the clandestine manufacturing labs that meth "cooks" use to make meth. These labs pose serious dangers to those who live nearby and to the surrounding environment. Law enforcement agencies in Illinois and elsewhere are forced to devote a significant percentage of their time to locating, busting, and cleaning up meth labs.

The Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act, "Combat Meth Act," enacted in 2006, took several important steps to reduce domestic meth manufacturing. These steps included limiting the amount of meth precursor drug products that a purchaser can buy, such as pseudoephedrine, and requiring pharmacies to keep written or electronic logbooks recording each precursor purchase. The Combat Meth Act has led to a drop in the number of meth labs discovered in many States.

However, domestic meth cooks have begun adapting to the Combat Meth Act. They have figured out how to circumvent the act's restrictions by "smurfing," or purchasing illegal amounts of meth precursor drugs by traveling to multiple pharmacies that keep written logbooks and buying legal quantities at each one. According to Illinois law enforcement authorities, smurfing now accounts for at least 90 percent of the pseudoephedrine used to make meth in Illinois.

The next step in combating domestic meth production is to promote the use of effective electronic logbook systems. Law enforcement experts agree that if pharmacies maintain electronic logbook information and share that information with appropriate law enforcement and regulatory agencies, this information can be used to prevent the sale of meth precursor drugs in excess of legal limits, and to identify and prosecute "smurfs" and meth cooks.

This legislation, the Methamphetamine Production Prevention Act, facilitates and encourages the use of meth precursor electronic logbook systems in several ways.

First, the bill revises the technical logbook requirements in the Combat Meth Act. While the Combat Meth Act provides for the use of electronic logbook systems, several of the act's requirements are not tailored for logbooks kept in electronic form. For example, under the act, a prospective purchaser must "enter[] into the logbook his or her name, address, and the date and time of the sale." This requirement is unwieldy for retailers who use electronic logbook systems, because many purchasers cannot type quickly or accurately. The Methamphetamine Production Prevention Act would permit retailers' employees to type the name and address of a purchaser into an electronic logbook system, and would allow retailers to use software programs that automatically record the date and time of each sale. Under the bill, a retail employee would have to ensure that the name the employee types into the system matches the name on the ID that the purchaser is currently required to present.

Also, the Combat Meth Act requires purchasers to sign a logbook at the time of sale, regardless of whether the seller uses a paper or electronic logbook. Collecting and retaining electronic signatures requires a large amount of computer memory, and the transmission of these electronic signature files to law enforcement agencies does not provide a significant law enforcement benefit. Sellers who use electronic logbook systems should be given the option of collecting signatures on paper, as long as those signatures are stored for the requisite 2-year retention period, and as long as the signatures are clearly linked to the electronically-captured sale information.

The Methamphetamine Production Prevention Act would permit a seller who uses an electronic logbook to collect purchaser signatures through any of three different methods: (1) having the purchaser sign an electronic signature device; (2) having the purchaser sign a bound paper book in which the signature is placed adjacent to a unique identifier number, or a printed sticker that clearly links the signature to the purchaser's logbook information; or (3) having the purchaser sign a document that the seller prints out at the time of sale that displays the required logbook information and contains a signature line. These options ensure that each purchaser's signature will be collected, but they give sellers flexibility in developing cost-effective electronic logbook systems.

The Methamphetamine Production Prevention Act would also create a small but important Federal grant program to help States plan, create or enhance electronic logbook systems. Several States, including Oklahoma, Arkansas, West Virginia and Kentucky, have already begun developing electronic logbook systems, and many other States are considering them. The Methamphetamine Production Prevention Act authorizes \$3 million in grants