

sources of income, to extend authorities for certain programs to benefit homeless veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 1385. A bill to designate the United States courthouse facility located at 301 North Miami Avenue, Miami, Florida, as the "C. Clyde Atkins United States Courthouse"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. REED:

S. 1386. A bill to amend the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, to provide better assistance to low- and moderate-income families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 1387. A bill to amend the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act of 1986 to provide for greenhouse gases; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1388. A bill to establish a commercial truck highway safety demonstration program in the State of Maine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. OBAMA (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 1389. A bill to authorize the National Science Foundation to establish a Climate Change Education Program; 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. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. Res. 196. A resolution commending Idaho on winning the bid to host the 2009 Special Olympics World Winter Games; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. STEVENS, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. Res. 197. A resolution honoring the accomplishments of AmeriCorps; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SPECTER, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. STEVENS):

S. Res. 198. A resolution designating May 15, 2007, as "National MPS Awareness Day"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 21

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) 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. 22

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) 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. 160

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 160, a bill to provide for compensation to the Lower Brule and Crow Creek Sioux Tribes of South Dakota for damage to tribal land caused by Pick-Sloan projects along the Missouri River.

S. 223

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 423, a bill to increase, effective as of December 1, 2007, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans.

S. 573

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 573, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women.

S. 579

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors 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.

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 579, *supra*.

S. 609

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor 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. 673

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 673, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide credits for the installation of wind energy property, including by rural homeowners, farmers, ranchers, and small businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 691

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 691, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the benefits under the Medicare program for beneficiaries with kidney disease, and for other purposes.

S. 739

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 739, a bill to provide disadvantaged children with access to dental services.

S. 746

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 746, a bill to establish a competitive grant program to build capacity in veterinary medical education and expand the workforce of veterinarians engaged in public health practice and biomedical research.

S. 773

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, his name was added as a cosponsor 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. 823

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 823, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to facilitating the development of microbicides for preventing transmission of HIV/AIDS and other diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 871

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 871, a bill to establish and provide for the treatment of Individual Development Accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 881

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 881, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 941

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 941, a bill to increase Federal support for Community Health Centers and the National Health Service Corps in order to ensure access to health care for millions of Americans living in medically-underserved areas.

S. 969

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 969, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to modify the definition of supervisor.

S. 971

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 971, a bill to establish the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, to provide funding for the support of fundamental agricultural research of the highest quality, and for other purposes.

S. 973

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 973, a bill to amend the Mandatory Victims' Restitution Act to improve restitution for victims of crime, and for other purposes.

S. 1026

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1026, a bill to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, as the "Charlie Norwood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center".

S. 1060

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1060, a bill to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to improve reentry planning and implementation, and for other purposes.

S. 1113

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1113, a bill to facilitate the provision of care and services for members of the Armed Forces for traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes.

S. 1161

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added

as cosponsors of S. 1161, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the expansion of medicare coverage of medical nutrition therapy services.

S. 1164

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors 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. 1239

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1239, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the new markets tax credit through 2013, and for other purposes.

S. 1252

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1252, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for uniformity in the awarding of disability ratings for wounds or injuries incurred by members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1257

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1267

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) 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. 1277

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 1277, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the treatment of payment under the Medicare program for clinical laboratory tests furnished by critical access hospitals.

S. 1287

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1287, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an offset against income tax re-

funds to pay for State judicial debts that are past-due.

S. 1299

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 1313

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1313, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide relief for servicemembers with respect to contracts for cellular phone service, and for other purposes.

S. 1328

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1328, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate discrimination in the immigration laws by permitting permanent partners of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents to obtain lawful permanent resident status in the same manner as spouses of citizens and lawful permanent residents and to penalize immigration fraud in connection with permanent partnerships.

S. 1332

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1332, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and violence to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs.

S. 1346

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1346, a bill to amend conservation and biofuels programs of the Department of Agriculture to promote the compatible goals of economically viable agricultural production and reducing nutrient loads in the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries by assisting agricultural producers to make beneficial, cost-effective changes to cropping systems, grazing management, and nutrient management associated with livestock and poultry production, crop production, bioenergy production, and other agricultural practices on agricultural land within the Chesapeake Bay watershed, and for other purposes.

S. 1354

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1354, a bill to amend the definition of a law enforcement officer under subchapter III of chapter 83 and chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, respectively, to ensure the inclusion of certain positions.

S. 1355

At the request of Mr. MARTINEZ, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1355, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat spaceports like airports under the exempt facility bond rules.

S. CON. RES. 3

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 3, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that it is the goal of the United States that, not later than January 1, 2025, the agricultural, forestry, and working land of the United States should provide from renewable resources not less than 25 percent of the total energy consumed in the United States and continue to produce safe, abundant, and affordable food, feed, and fiber.

S. RES. 171

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor 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.

S. RES. 191

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 191, a resolution establishing a national goal for the universal deployment of next-generation broadband networks to access the Internet and for other uses by 2015, and calling upon Congress and the President to develop a strategy, enact legislation, and adopt policies to accomplish this objective.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 1376. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and expand the drug discount program under section 340B of such Act to improve the provision of discounts on drug purchases for certain safety net providers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation with my colleague from South Dakota, Senator THUNE, designed to address the growing burden faced by this Nation's health care safety net institutions in being able to provide adequate pharmaceutical care to the most vulnerable patient populations.

Communities across the country rely on public and nonprofit hospitals to serve as the health care "safety net" for low-income, uninsured, and underinsured patients. With the ever-increasing cost of pharmaceuticals, these institutions are struggling more and more to provide basic pharmaceutical care to those least able to afford it.

Fortunately, many safety net hospitals are currently able to participate in the Federal 340B Drug Discount Program, which enables them to purchase outpatient drugs for their patients at discounted prices. These hospitals, known as "covered entities" under the 340B statute, include high-Medicaid disproportionate share hospitals, DSH, large and small urban hospitals, and certain rural hospitals.

I am introducing legislation today, the 340B Program Improvement and Integrity Act of 2007, which would extend discounted drug prices currently mandated only for outpatient drugs to inpatient drugs purchased by covered entities under the 340B program. Although the Medicare Modernization Act, MMA, of 2003 permitted pharmaceutical manufacturers to offer 340B drug discounts to covered entities, this legislation did not include a mandate. Without a mandate we have seen very little willingness on the part of manufacturers to offer 340B drug discounts for inpatient drugs. As the prices of pharmaceutical drugs continue to increase sharply, the need for these inpatient discounts grows more and more acute.

My legislation would also expand participation in the program to a subset of rural hospitals that, for a variety of reasons, cannot currently access 340B discounts. These newly eligible rural hospitals include critical access hospitals, sole community hospitals, and rural referral centers. In proposing this modest expansion to the program, we have struck an important balance between ensuring a close nexus with low-income and indigent care, ensured that a significant portion of savings is passed on to the Medicaid Program, and strengthened the integrity of the program.

Specifically, newly eligible rural hospitals would have to meet appropriate standards demonstrating their "safety net" status, as do all hospitals that currently participate in the program. For example, sole community hospitals and rural referral centers, all of which are paid under the prospective payment system, would be required under this legislation to serve a significant percentage of low-income and indigent patients, have public or nonprofit status, and, if privately owned and operated, to have a contract with State or local government to provide a significant level of indigent care. All standards are designed to reinforce the obligation of these covered entities to continue serving low-income and uninsured patients.

This legislation would also generate savings for the Medicaid Program by requiring participating hospitals to credit to their Medicaid agencies a significant percentage of their savings on inpatient drugs. It would address the overall efficiency and integrity of the 340B program through improved enforcement and compliance measures with respect to manufacturers and covered entities. This is designed to improve program administration and to

prevent and remedy instances of program abuse.

In the end, this legislation would accomplish several important goals. It would help safety net providers stretch their already limited resources through increased access to discounted pharmaceuticals; it would enhance 340B program integrity by making sure participants are complying with program rules; and it would help to improve the care provided to this Nation's most vulnerable populations.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation.

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. 1376

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 "340B Program Improvement and Integrity Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. EXPANDED PARTICIPATION IN SECTION 340B PROGRAM.

(a) EXPANSION OF COVERED ENTITIES RECEIVING DISCOUNTED PRICES.—Section 340B(a)(4) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 256b(a)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(M) A children's hospital excluded from the Medicare prospective payment system pursuant to section 1886(d)(1)(B)(iii) of the Social Security Act which would meet the requirements of subparagraph (L), including the disproportionate share adjustment percentage requirement under clause (ii) of such subparagraph, if the hospital were a subsection (d) hospital as defined by section 1886(d)(1)(B) of the Social Security Act.

"(N) An entity that is a critical access hospital (as determined under section 1820(c)(2) of the Social Security Act), and that meets the requirements of subparagraph (L)(i).

"(O) An entity that is a rural referral center, as defined by section 1886(d)(5)(C)(i) of the Social Security Act, or a sole community hospital, as defined by section 1886(d)(5)(C)(iii) of such Act, and that both meets the requirements of subparagraph (L)(i) and has a disproportionate share adjustment percentage equal to or greater than 8 percent."

(b) PROHIBITION ON GROUP PURCHASING ARRANGEMENTS.—Section 340B(a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 256b(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)(L), by striking clause (iii); and

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E); respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (B), the following:

"(C) PROHIBITING THE USE OF GROUP PURCHASING ARRANGEMENTS.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—A hospital described in subparagraphs (L), (M), (N), or (O) of paragraph (4) shall not obtain covered outpatient drugs through a group purchasing organization or other group purchasing arrangement, except as permitted or provided for pursuant to clauses (ii) or (iii).

"(ii) INPATIENT DRUGS.—Clause (i) shall not apply to drugs purchased for inpatient use.

"(iii) EXCEPTIONS.—The Secretary shall establish reasonable exceptions to clause (i)—