

EC-2127. A communication from the Director of Regulations Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Department of Veterans Affairs Implementation of OMB Guidance on Nonprocurement Debarment and Suspension" (RIN2900-AM44) received on May 29, 2007; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-2128. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Emerald Ash Borer; Quarantined Areas; Maryland" (Docket No. APHIS-2007-0028) received on June 1, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2129. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Wood Packaging Material; Treatment Modification" (Docket No. APHIS-2006-0129) received on June 1, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2130. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Importation of Emerald Ash Borer Host Material from Canada" (Docket No. APHIS-2006-0125) received on June 1, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

EC-2131. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Classical Swine Fever Status of the Mexican State of Nayarit" (Docket No. APHIS-2006-0104) received on June 1, 2007; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN, from the Committee on Armed Services, without amendment:

S. 1547. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110-77).

By Mr. INOUE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. 1142. A bill to authorize the acquisition of interests in undeveloped coastal areas in order better to ensure their protection from development (Rept. No. 110-78).

By Mr. LEVIN, from the Committee on Armed Services, without amendment:

S. 1548. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

S. 1549. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military construction, and for other purposes.

S. 1550. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for defense activities of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes.

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. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 1539. A bill to designate the post office located at 309 East Linn Street, Marshalltown, Iowa, as the "Major Scott Nisely Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. DOLE (for herself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BURR, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. ALLARD):

S. 1540. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for the transportation of food for charitable purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 1541. A bill to allow for expanded uses of funding allocated to Louisiana under the hazard mitigation program while preserving the goals of the program to reduce future damage from disasters through mitigation; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 1542. A bill to establish State infrastructure banks for education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 1543. A bill to establish a national geothermal initiative to encourage increased production of energy from geothermal resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 1544. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the quality and efficiency of health care, to provide the public with information on provider and supplier performance, and to enhance the education and awareness of consumers for evaluating health care services through the development and release of reports based on Medicare enrollment, claims, survey, and assessment data; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CASEY, Mr. GREGG, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. SUNUNU, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 1545. A bill to implement the recommendations of the Iraq Study Group; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. STEVENS, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 1546. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue code of 1986 to treat gold, silver, platinum, and palladium, in either coin or bar form, in the same manner as equities and mutual funds for purposes of the maximum capital gains rate for individuals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 1547. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 1548. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 1549. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military construction, and for other purposes; from

the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 1550. An original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for defense activities of the Department of Energy, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Armed Services; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mrs. MURRAY):

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; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1552. A bill to authorize the Administrator of General Services to convey a parcel of real property to the Alaska Railroad Corporation; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. McCONNELL (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. ENZI, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BROWNBARK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURR, Mr. BYRD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 220. A resolution honoring the life of Senator Craig Thomas; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 57

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) 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. 65

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 65, a bill to modify the age-60 standard for certain pilots and for other purposes.

S. 130

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 130, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend reasonable cost contracts under Medicare.

S. 185

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

S. 294

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

S. 329

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 329, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage for cardiac rehabilitation and pulmonary rehabilitation services.

S. 367

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 367, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to prohibit the import, export, and sale of goods made with sweatshop labor, and for other purposes.

S. 376

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 376, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 399

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors 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. 431

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

S. 492

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 492, a bill to promote stabilization and reconstruction efforts in Somalia, to establish a Special Envoy for Somalia to strengthen United States support to the people of Somalia in their efforts to establish a lasting peace and form a democratically elected and stable central government, and for other purposes.

S. 609

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) 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. 625

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 625, a bill to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products.

S. 717

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 717, a bill to repeal title II of the REAL ID Act of 2005, to restore section 7212 of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, which provides States additional regulatory flexibility and funding authorization to more rapidly produce tamper- and counterfeit-resistant driver's licenses, and to protect privacy and civil liberties by providing interested stakeholders on a negotiated rulemaking with guidance to achieve improved 21st century licenses to improve national security.

S. 860

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 860, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States the option to provide Medicaid coverage for low-income individuals infected with HIV.

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. 860, *supra*.

S. 881

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were

added as cosponsors of S. 881, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 901

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) were added as cosponsors 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. 906

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 906, a bill to prohibit the sale, distribution, transfer, and export of elemental mercury, and for other purposes.

S. 911

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 911, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to advance medical research and treatments into pediatric cancers, ensure patients and families have access to the current treatments and information regarding pediatric cancers, establish a population-based national childhood cancer database, and promote public awareness of pediatric cancers.

S. 932

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 932, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize physical therapists to evaluate and treat Medicare beneficiaries without a requirement for a physician referral, and for other purposes.

S. 940

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 940, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the subpart F exemption for active financing income.

S. 941

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors 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. 1038

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1038, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand workplace health incentives by equalizing the tax consequences of employee athletic facility use.

S. 1146

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) 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. 1172

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1172, a bill to reduce hunger in the United States.

S. 1223

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1223, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to support efforts by local or regional television or radio broadcasters to provide essential public information programming in the event of a major disaster, and for other purposes.

S. 1233

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1233, a bill to provide and enhance intervention, rehabilitative treatment, and services to veterans with traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes.

S. 1254

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1254, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the reductions in social security benefits which are required in the case of spouses and surviving spouses who are also receiving certain government pensions shall be equal to the amount by which two-thirds of the total amount of the combined monthly benefit (before reduction) and monthly pension exceeds \$1,200, adjusted for inflation.

S. 1295

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 1310

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 1317

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1317, a bill to posthumously award a congressional gold medal to Constance Baker Motley.

S. 1337

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1337, a bill to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to provide for equal coverage of mental health services under the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

S. 1353

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1353, a bill to nullify the determinations of the Copyright Royalty Judges with respect to webcasting, to modify the basis for making such a determination, and for other purposes.

S. 1382

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) were added as cosponsors of S. 1382, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide the establishment of an Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry.

S. 1406

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1406, a bill to amend the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 to strengthen polar bear conservation efforts, and for other purposes.

S. 1416

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1416, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the deduction for mortgage insurance premiums.

S. 1430

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1430, a bill to authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of \$20,000,000 or more in Iran's energy sector, and for other purposes.

S. 1444

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1444, a bill to provide for free mailing privileges for personal correspondence and parcels sent to members of the Armed Forces serving on active duty in Iraq or Afghanistan.

S. 1448

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr.

WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1448, a bill to extend the same Federal benefits to law enforcement officers serving private institutions of higher education and rail carriers that apply to law enforcement officers serving units of State and local government.

S. 1457

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1457, a bill to provide for the protection of mail delivery on certain postal routes, and for other purposes.

S. 1460

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. 1460, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Development Act of 2002 to support beginning farmers and ranchers, and for other purposes.

S. 1464

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1464, a bill to establish a Global Service Fellowship Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1502

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1502, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to encourage owners and operators of privately-held farm, ranch, and forest land to voluntarily make their land available for access by the public under programs administered by States and tribal governments.

S. 1529

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1529, a bill to amend the Food Stamp Act of 1977 to end benefit erosion, support working families with child care expenses, encourage retirement and education savings, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 14

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 14, a joint resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Attorney General Alberto Gonzales no longer holds the confidence of the Senate and of the American people.

S. RES. 82

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr.

AKAKA) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 82, a resolution designating August 16, 2007 as "National Airborne Day".

S. RES. 203

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 203, a resolution calling on the Government of the People's Republic of China to use its unique influence and economic leverage to stop genocide and violence in Darfur, Sudan.

S. RES. 206

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 206, a resolution to provide for a budget point of order against legislation that increases income taxes on taxpayers, including hardworking middle-income families, entrepreneurs, and college students.

AMENDMENT NO. 1174

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1174 intended to be proposed to S. 1348, a bill to provide for comprehensive immigration reform and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 1539. A bill to designate the post office located at 309 East Linn Street, Marshalltown, Iowa, as the "Major Scott Nisely Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I am introducing a bill honoring and memorializing a fallen Iowa hero. Scott Nisely had served his country in Iraq just short of a year when, on September 30, 2006, he was killed in combat.

Scott Nisely served his country in many capacities during his lifetime. He devoted his life to his family, church, and country and has positively affected numerous lives. Scott Nisely's military service includes about 25 years with the U.S. Marine Corps, starting as an ROTC student, then 12 years on active duty, almost 9 years in the Marine Corps Reserve during which he achieved the rank of major. Most recently, he took a significant decrease in rank to serve his country once again in the Iowa Army National Guard for about 4 years until he was killed in combat. His public service also includes 12 years with the U.S. Postal Service. In addition, Scott served his community by his participation in the First Baptist Church's music ministry as a drummer. He was a devoted father who walked his daughter down the aisle for her wedding right before his deployment to Iraq. The wedding had

been moved up because Sarah, his daughter, wanted him in her wedding and was worried he wouldn't return home.

In recognition of this devoted family man and public servant, the bill I am introducing with the support of my colleague from Iowa, Senator HARKIN, would name the post office located at 309 East Linn Street in Marshalltown, IA, the Major Scott Nisely Post Office. The idea came from Scott's coworkers at the Marshalltown Post Office and it is indeed a fitting tribute. Representative LATHAM is introducing identical legislation in the House of Representatives today with the support of the other members of Iowa's House delegation. I am pleased to be able to propose this small token of recognition and gratitude for someone who has given so much to his country, and I urge its swift consideration.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, today I join with my senior colleague from Iowa, Senator GRASSLEY, in introducing a bill to name the Marshalltown Post Office in honor of MAJ Scott Nisely, who was killed in action in Iraq on September 30, 2006.

Major Nisely enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps in 1981 and served in Operation Desert Storm. In 1994, he moved to Marshalltown, IA, with his family and worked at the Iowa Veterans Home as well as at the Marshalltown and Des Moines Post Offices. Because of his love for his country and the military, Major Nisely took a demotion to join the Iowa National Guard and was sent to Iraq in 2005.

Major Nisely was a dedicated husband and father, beloved for his sense of humor and positive attitude. Having served in Operation Desert Storm, he was already a respected Marine veteran and a hero to his family and friends. But with our Armed Forces engaged in Iraq, he once again felt compelled to fight for his country. Major Nisely served in two wars, set a sterling example of selfless service to country, and paid the ultimate price while fighting in Iraq. I am proud to join my colleague in naming the post office in Marshalltown the Major Scott Nisely Post Office, in honor of this fallen hero.

By Mrs. DOLE (for herself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BURR, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. ALLARD):

S. 1540. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for the transportation of food for charitable purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, today is the sixth National Hunger Awareness Day—a day to reflect on the fact that in this Nation alone more than 35 million people are experiencing hunger or are at risk for hunger. It is also a day to recognize the tremendous efforts of individuals who graciously give their time and resources to help those in need.

Hunger is far too prevalent, but I think Washington Post columnist

David Broder hit the nail on the head when he wrote: "America has some problems that defy solution. This one does not. It just needs caring people and a caring government, working together." I agree, the battle to end hunger in our country is a campaign that cannot be won in months or even a few years, but it is a victory within reach. And I am motivated to do what I can to make a positive difference in this fight against hunger—both in the United States and beyond our borders.

In America—the land of prosperity and plenty—some people have the misconception that hunger plagues only far-away, undeveloped nations. The reality is that hunger is a silent enemy lurking within 1 in 10 U.S. households. In my home State of North Carolina alone, nearly 1 million of our 8.8 million residents are struggling with food security issues. In recent years, once-thriving North Carolina towns have been economically crippled by the shuttering of textile mills and furniture factories. People have lost their jobs—and sometimes their ability to put food on the table. I know this scenario is not unique to North Carolina, as many American manufacturing jobs have moved overseas. While many folks are finding new employment, these days a steady income doesn't necessarily provide for three square meals a day.

To help struggling families and individuals, our nation is blessed to have many faith-based and other nonprofit service organizations that work to fight hunger. Over the last year, I have toured a number of these organizations in my home State—such as MANNA FoodBank in Asheville, Second Harvest Food Bank of Metrolina in Charlotte, and Meals on Wheels of Senior Services in Winston-Salem. I also have visited the DC Central Kitchen here in Washington—just a few blocks from the Capitol. At each of these organizations, I am inspired by the dedicated staff and volunteers who have such a passion for helping others.

Another hunger relief organization that I hold in the highest regard is the Society of St. Andrew, which gleans produce from farms and then packages, processes and transports excess food to feed hungry people across the country. When I think of gleanings, I often think of Ruth in the Old Testament. Her story takes place during a famine in Bethlehem, and Ruth gleaned so that her family could eat. In Biblical times, farmers were encouraged to leave crops in their fields for the poor and for travelers. It is a practice we should be utilizing much more extensively today—considering that in this country, 27 percent of all the food produced annually is lost at the retail, consumer, and food service levels. This means we are wasting about 3,044 pounds of good food every second.

The Society of St. Andrew recently passed a milestone—saving and distributing a total of 500 million pounds of food since 1983. This translates into