

the phase out of the hospice budget neutrality adjustment factor under title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

S. 3487

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3487, a bill to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to expand and improve opportunities for service, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3487, *supra*.

S. 3507

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3507, a bill to provide for additional emergency unemployment compensation.

S. 3512

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3512, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to remove social security account numbers from Medicare identification cards and communications provided to Medicare beneficiaries in order to protect Medicare beneficiaries from identity theft.

S. 3529

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3529, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to provide assistance to foreign countries to promote food security, to stimulate rural economies, and to improve emergency response to food crises, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and for other purposes.

S. 3532

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3532, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the Secretary of the Treasury to establish the standard mileage rate for use of a passenger automobile for purposes of the charitable contributions deduction and to exclude charitable mileage reimbursements from gross income.

S. 3552

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3552, a bill to conserve the United States fish and aquatic communities through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation and improve the quality of life for the people of the United States and for other purposes.

S. 3553

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3553, a bill to exempt certain charitable flights from certain regulations applicable to commercial flights.

S. 3644

At the request of Mr. VITTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3644, a bill to require the Secretary of

Agriculture to provide crop disaster assistance to agricultural producers that suffered qualifying quantity or quality losses for the 2008 crop year due to a natural disaster.

S. 3656

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. 3656, a bill to preserve access to healthcare under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

S. RES. 616

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 616, a resolution reducing maternal mortality both at home and abroad.

S. RES. 664

At the request of Mrs. DOLE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 664, a resolution celebrating the centennial of Union Station in Washington, District of Columbia.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 714

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 714, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to ensure that all dogs and cats used by research facilities are obtained legally.

S. 784

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 784, a bill to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 to require commercial nuclear power plant operators to transfer spent nuclear fuel from the spent nuclear fuel pools of the operators into spent nuclear fuel dry casks at independent spent fuel storage installations of the operators that are licensed by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, to convey to the Secretary of Energy title to all such transferred spent nuclear fuel, to provide for the transfer to the Secretary of the independent spent fuel storage installation operating responsibility of each plant together with the license granted by the Commission for the installation, and for other purposes.

S. 1232

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1232, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to develop a voluntary policy for managing the risk of food allergy

and anaphylaxis in schools, to establish school-based food allergy management grants, and for other purposes.

S. 1936

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1936, a bill to provide for a plebiscite on the future status of Puerto Rico.

S. 2059

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2059, a bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to clarify the eligibility requirements with respect to airline flight crews.

S. 2458

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2458, a bill to promote and enhance the operation of local building code enforcement administration across the country by establishing a competitive Federal matching grant program.

S. 2920

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2920, a bill to reauthorize and improve the financing and entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 3037

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3037, a bill to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to improve the educational awards provided for national service, and for other purposes.

S. 3102

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3102, a bill to establish the Small Business Information Security Task Force, and for other purposes.

S. 3155

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3155, a bill to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, and for other purposes.

S. 3252

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3252, a bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act, to ban abusive credit practices, enhance consumer disclosures, protect underage consumers, and for other purposes.

S. 3462

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3462, a bill to ensure that the courts of the United States may provide an impartial forum for claims brought by United States citizens and others against any railroad organized as a separate legal entity, arising from the transportation of United States citizens and

others to Nazi concentration camps on trains owned or operated by such railroad, and by heirs and survivors of such persons.

S. 3468

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3468, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to continue the ability of hospitals to supply a needed workforce of nurses and allied health professionals by preserving funding for hospital operated nursing and allied health education programs.

S. 3484

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3484, a bill to provide for a delay in the phase out of the hospice budget neutrality adjustment factor under title XVIII of the Social Security Act.

S. 3487

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3487, a bill to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to expand and improve opportunities for service, and for other purposes.

S. 3517

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3517, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Public Health Service Act to provide parity under group health plans and group health insurance coverage for the provision of benefits for prosthetic devices and components and benefits for other medical and surgical services.

S. 3525

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3525, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the "Star-Spangled Banner", and for other purposes.

S. 3527

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3527, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize advance appropriations for certain medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs by providing two-fiscal year budget authority.

S. 3539

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3539, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

S. 3552

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

(Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3552, a bill to conserve the United States fish and aquatic communities through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation and improve the quality of life for the people of the United States and for other purposes.

S. 3610

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3610, a bill to improve the accuracy of fur product labeling, and for other purposes.

S. 3643

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3643, a bill to enhance the capacity of the United States to undertake global development activities, and for other purposes.

S. 3656

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3656, a bill to preserve access to healthcare under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. REID):

S. 3680. A bill to amend the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 to provide for thorium fuel cycle nuclear power generation; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce the Thorium Energy Independence and Security Act of 2008, together with my dear friend and colleague Senator HARRY REID. This is a simple bill that would establish offices at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Department of Energy to regulate domestic thorium nuclear power generation and oversee possible demonstrations of thorium nuclear fuel assemblies.

I am very much in favor of our Nation's nuclear power industry. It is an industry that has successfully relied on mixed oxide uranium fuel for decades, and I foresee a long future for nuclear power. I am particularly excited about the potential of thorium nuclear power as a new source of nuclear power in the future.

Thorium nuclear power has a number of potential benefits over conventional uranium. For one, it is much more abundant in the world and in the United States than uranium. Also, a thorium fuel rod would remain the reactor about three times as long as conventional nuclear fuel, thereby cutting the volume of spent nuclear fuel coming out of reactors by as much as two-thirds. Thorium nuclear fuel could also significantly reduce the possibility that weapons grade material would result from the process. Finally, a tho-

rium fuel cycle can be used as a very effective and efficient means for disposing of existing plutonium stockpiles.

Our Nation has focused mostly on mixed oxide nuclear fuel cycles, and our regulatory structure reflects that. With the growing interest in thorium nuclear power in the world and in the United States, it is time we made sure our government has a regulatory infrastructure in place to accommodate this new generation of nuclear power.

Clearly, we are introducing this legislation late in the 110th Congress. We hope to raise awareness of the bill and generate feedback from interested parties. A number of governments throughout the world are aggressively seeking to establish thorium nuclear power as an element of their power supply. These governments want the benefits of nuclear power, without the difficulties associated with large volumes of waste, much of which can be turned to weapons grade material. Our aim with this legislation is to ensure that the United States does not fall behind the movement. I hope my colleagues will take a look at the potential for thorium power.

By Mr. REID:

S. 3681. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5070 Vegas Valley Drive in Las Vegas, Nevada, as the "Joseph A. Ryan Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize and honor Joseph A. Ryan, a former Postmaster from Las Vegas, NV. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which will designate the U.S. Post Office at 5070 Vegas Valley Drive in Las Vegas, NV, in his name.

Joseph "Joe" Ryan was born in St. Paul, Minnesota, on May 19, 1927. He attended the College of St. Thomas and the University of Minnesota, and went on to do post-graduate work at UCLA, Duke University, and the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. During World War II, Mr. Ryan honorably served our country in the United States Coast Guard, and he later went on to work for Northwest Airlines before joining the United States Postal Service. Prior to serving as the Postmaster for Las Vegas, Mr. Ryan worked as the Postal Service's General Manager of Customer Programs for the Western Region.

Mr. Ryan was appointed Postmaster of Las Vegas in May of 1983 and retired in October of 1992. As Postmaster, Mr. Ryan was responsible for overseeing the many post offices in the Las Vegas valley. The 1980s and early 1990s was a time of tremendous growth in southern Nevada, and under his leadership, eight new post offices opened throughout the community, including the stunning main facility on Sunset Road. During his tenure, Joe was known for his exceptional dedication to customer service and was greatly admired by the