

EC-5221. A communication from the Ombudsman, Energy Employees Compensation Program, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5222. A communication from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Child Welfare Outcomes 2002-2005: Report to Congress"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-5223. A communication from the Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Performance and Accountability Highlights"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5224. A communication from the Director, Office of Government Ethics, transmitting, pursuant to law, an annual report relative to privacy and security for fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5225. A communication from the Secretary, Federal Trade Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Accounting for Laws that Apply Differently to the United States Postal Service and its Private Competitors"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5226. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17-291, "Rhode Island Metro Plaza Revenue Bonds Approval Act of 2008" received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5227. A communication from the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Quarterly Report for January 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5228. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prevailing Rate Systems: Definition of the Municipality of Bayamon, PR, to a Nonappropriated Fund Federal Wage System Wage Area" (RIN3206-AL43) received on February 14, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5229. A communication from the Director, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Prevailing Rate Systems: Abolishment of Rock Island, Illinois, as a Nonappropriated Fund Federal Wage System Wage Area" (RIN3206-AL44) received on February 14, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5230. A communication from the Director, Office of the Combined Federal Campaign, Office of Personnel Management, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Solicitation of Federal Civilian and Uniformed Service Personnel for Contributions to Private Voluntary Organizations—Eligibility and Public Accountability Standards" ((RIN3206-AL47) (5 CFR Part 950)) received on February 14, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5231. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Letter Report: Certification of the Fiscal Year 2008 Total Non-Dedicated Local Source Revenues in Support of the District's \$333,840,000 General Obligation Bonds (Series 2007C)"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5232. A communication from the Executive Director, White House Commission on

Remembrance, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Commission's Annual Report on the National Moment of Remembrance for fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5233. A communication from the White House Liaison, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Attorney General, received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5234. A communication from the White House Liaison, Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of action on the nomination for the position of Assistant Attorney General, received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5235. A communication from the White House Liaison, Office of Legal Policy, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the designation of an acting officer for the position of Assistant Attorney General, received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5236. A communication from the White House Liaison, Civil Rights Division, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination and designation of an acting officer for the position of Assistant Attorney General, received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5237. A communication from the White House Liaison, Tax Division, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination and action on the nomination for the position of Assistant Attorney General, received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5238. A communication from the White House Liaison, Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of action on a nomination, received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5239. A communication from the White House Liaison, Civil Division, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Attorney General, received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5240. A communication from the White House Liaison, Office of the Associate Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Associate Attorney General, received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5241. A communication from the White House Liaison, Office of the Deputy Attorney General, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Deputy Attorney General, received on February 21, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. MENENDEZ:

S. 2667. A bill to direct the Attorney General to make an annual grant to the A Child Is Missing Alert and Recovery Center to assist law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 2668. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove cell phones from listed property under section 280F; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. PRYOR, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 2669. A bill to provide for the implementation of a Green Chemistry Research and Development Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. Res. 461. A resolution designating March 1, 2008 as "World Friendship Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 394

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 394, a bill to amend the Humane Methods of Livestock Slaughter Act of 1958 to ensure the humane slaughter of nonambulatory livestock, and for other purposes.

S. 396

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 396, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat controlled foreign corporations in tax havens as domestic corporations.

S. 431

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

S. 588

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 588, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the Medicare caps on graduate medical education positions for States with a shortage of residents.

S. 911

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) 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. 988

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S.

988, a bill to extend the termination date for the exemption of returning workers from the numerical limitations for temporary workers.

S. 989

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 989, a bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to clarify that the value of certain funeral and burial arrangements are not to be considered available resources under the supplemental security income program.

S. 1069

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1069, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act regarding early detection, diagnosis, and treatment of hearing loss.

S. 1494

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1494, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the special diabetes programs for Type I diabetes and Indians under that Act.

S. 1738

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1738, a bill to establish a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute predators.

S. 1780

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1780, a bill to require the FCC, in enforcing its regulations concerning the broadcast of indecent programming, to maintain a policy that a single word or image may be considered indecent.

S. 1838

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1838, a bill to provide for the health care needs of veterans in far South Texas.

S. 1945

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1945, a bill to provide a Federal income tax credit for Patriot employers, and for other purposes.

S. 2119

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2119, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in com-

memoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. 2123

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2123, a bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

S. 2182

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2182, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to mental health services.

S. 2368

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2368, a bill to provide immigration reform by securing America's borders, clarifying and enforcing existing laws, and enabling a practical employer verification program.

S. 2505

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2505, a bill to allow employees of a commercial passenger airline carrier who receive payments in a bankruptcy proceeding to roll over such payments into an individual retirement plan, and for other purposes.

S. 2533

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2533, a bill to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act.

S. 2544

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2544, a bill to provide for a program of temporary extended unemployment compensation.

S. 2566

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2566, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a Federal income tax credit for certain home purchases.

S. 2590

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2590, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the National Park Service, to designate the Dr. Norman E. Borlaug Birthplace and Childhood Home in Cresco, Iowa, as a National Historic Site and as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 2614

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

MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2614, a bill to facilitate the development, demonstration, and implementation of technology for the use in removing carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

S. 2618

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2618, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for research with respect to various forms of muscular dystrophy, including Becker, congenital, distal, Duchenne, Emery-Dreifuss, Facioscapulohumeral, limb-girdle, myotonic, and oculopharyngeal muscular dystrophies.

S. 2627

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2627, a bill to provide for a biennial budget process and a biennial appropriations process and to enhance oversight and the performance of the Federal Government.

S. 2633

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 2633, a bill to provide for the safe redeployment of United States troops from Iraq.

S. 2634

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. 2634, a bill to require a report setting forth the global strategy of the United States to combat and defeat al Qaeda and its affiliates.

S. 2636

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2636, a bill to provide needed housing reform.

S. 2662

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2662, a bill to respond to a medicare funding warning.

S. 2663

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2663, a bill to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission to provide greater protection for children's products, to improve the screening of noncompliant consumer products, to improve the effectiveness of consumer product recall programs, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 252

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr.

WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 252, a resolution recognizing the increasingly mutually beneficial relationship between the United States of America and the Republic of Indonesia.

S. RES. 449

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 449, a resolution condemning in the strongest possible terms President of Iran Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's statements regarding the State of Israel and the Holocaust and calling for all member States of the United Nations to do the same.

S. RES. 455

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 455, a resolution calling for peace in Darfur.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 2668. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove cell phones from listed property under section 280F; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today Senator ENSIGN and I are introducing the MOBILE Cell Phone Act, Modernize Our Bookkeeping in the Law for Employees' Cell Phone Act 2008. The purpose of this legislation is to update the tax treatment of cell phones and mobile communication devices.

During the past 20 years, the use of cell phone and mobile communication devices has skyrocketed. Cell phones are no longer viewed as an executive perk or a luxury item. They no longer resemble suitcases or are hardwired to the floor of an automobile. Cell phone and mobile communication devices are now part of daily business practices at all levels.

In 1989, Congress passed a law, which added cell phones to the definition of listed property under section 280F(d)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986. Treating cell phones as listed property requires substantial documentation in order for cell phones to benefit from accelerated depreciation and not be treated as taxable income to the employee. This documentation is required to substantiate that the cell phone is used for business purposes more than 50 percent of the time. Generally, listed property is property that inherently lends itself to personal use, such as automobiles.

Back in 1989, cell phone technology was an expensive technology worthy of detailed logsheets. At that time, it was difficult to envision cell phones that

could be placed in a pocket or handbag. Congress was skeptical about the daily business use of cell phones.

Technological advances have revolutionized the cell phone and mobile communication device industries. Twenty years ago, no one could have imagined the role BlackBerries play in our day-to-day communications. Cell phones and mobile communication devices are now widespread throughout all types of businesses. Employers provide their employees with these devices to enable them to remain connected 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The cost of the devices has been reduced, and most providers offer unlimited airtime for one monthly rate.

Recently, the Internal Revenue Service reminded field examiners of the substantiation rules for cell phones as listed property. The current rule requires employers to maintain expensive and detailed logs, and employers caught without cell phone logs could face tax penalties.

The MOBILE Cell Phone Act of 2008 updates the tax treatment of cell phones and mobile communication devices by repealing the requirement that employers maintain detailed logs. The tax code should keep pace with technological advances. There is no longer a reason that cell phones and mobile communication devices should be treated differently from office phones or computers.

I urge my colleagues to support this commonsense change.

Mr. President, 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. 2668

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 "Modernize Our Bookkeeping In the Law for Employee's Cell Phone Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. REMOVAL OF CELLULAR TELEPHONES (OR SIMILAR TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT) FROM LISTED PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 280F(d)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code (defining listed property) is amended by inserting "and" at the end of clause (iv), by striking clause (v), and by redesignating clause (vi) as clause (v).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 461—DESIGNATING MARCH 1, 2008 AS "WORLD FRIENDSHIP DAY"

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 461

Whereas it should be the goal of all Americans to promote international understanding and good will;

Whereas personal friendships among individual citizens can foster greater understanding among nations and cultures;

Whereas people all over the world have travelled or opened their homes as hosts in order to promote international understanding;

Whereas nonprofit organizations such as Friendship Force International, which was founded in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1977, have helped to promote such international exchanges;

Whereas, today, there are more than 35,000 members of Friendship Force International in 40 States and 58 foreign countries who are building bridges across the cultural barriers that separate people; and

Whereas, in order to celebrate on an annual basis the cause of peace through international understanding, March 1, 2008 should be recognized as World Friendship Day: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors those who promote international understanding and good will in the world; and

(2) designates March 1, 2008 as "World Friendship Day", and asks people everywhere to mark and celebrate the day appropriately.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4085. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2663, to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission to provide greater protection for children's products, to improve the screening of noncompliant consumer products, to improve the effectiveness of consumer product recall programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4086. Mr. NELSON of Florida (for Mr. INOUE (for himself and Mr. STEVENS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 428, to amend the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4085. Ms. KLOBUCHAR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 2663, to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission to provide greater protection for children's products, to improve the screening of noncompliant consumer products, to improve the effectiveness of consumer product recall programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. —. INDUSTRY-SPONSORED TRAVEL BAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Act, as amended by section 30 of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"SEC. 42. PROHIBITION ON INDUSTRY-SPONSORED TRAVEL.

"(a) PROHIBITION.—Notwithstanding section 1353 of title 31, United States Code, no Commissioner or employee of the Commission shall accept payment or reimbursement for travel, subsistence, or related expenses with respect to attendance by a Commissioner or employee at any meeting or similar function relating to official duties of a Commissioner or an employee, from a person—

"(1) seeking official action from, doing business with, or conducting activities regulated by, the Commission; or