

S. 2711. A bill to improve the enforcement of laws prohibiting the employment of unauthorized aliens and for other purposes.

S. 2712. A bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to complete at least 700 miles of reinforced fencing along the Southwest border by December 31, 2010, and for other purposes.

S. 2713. A bill to prohibit appropriated funds from being used in contravention of section 642(a) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996.

S. 2714. A bill to close the loophole that allowed the 9/11 hijackers to obtain credit cards from United States banks that financed their terrorists activities, to ensure that illegal immigrants cannot obtain credit cards to evade United States immigration laws, and for other purposes.

S. 2715. A bill to amend title 4, United States Code, to declare English as the national language of the Government of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2716. A bill to authorize the National Guard to provide support for the border control activities of the United States Customs and Border Protection of the Departments of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

S. 2717. A bill to provide for enhanced Federal enforcement of, and State and local assistance in the enforcement of, the immigration laws of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2718. A bill to withhold 10 percent of the Federal funding apportioned for highway construction and maintenance from States that issue driver's licenses to individuals without verifying the legal status of such individuals.

S. 2719. A bill to provide that Executive Order 13166 shall have no force or effect, and to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes.

S. 2720. A bill to withhold Federal financial assistance from each country that denies or unreasonably delays the acceptance of nationals of such country who have been ordered removed from the United States and to prohibit the issuance of visas to nationals of such country.

S. 2721. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to prescribe the binding oath or affirmation of renunciation and allegiance required to be naturalized as a citizen of the United States, to encourage and support the efforts of prospective citizens of the United States to become citizens, and for other purposes.

S. 2722. A bill to prohibit aliens who are repeat drunk drivers from obtaining legal status or immigration benefits.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 1424. An act to amend section 712 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, section 2705 of the Public Health Service Act, and section 9812 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require equity in the provision of mental health and substance-related disorder benefits under group health plans.

H.R. 1084. An act to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, and the Foreign Service Act of 1980 to build operational readiness in civilian agencies, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5159. An act to establish the Office of the Capitol Visitor Center within the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, headed by the Chief Executive Officer for Visitor Services, to provide for the effective management and administration of the Capitol Visitor Center, and for other purposes.

EXECUTIVE REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following executive reports of nominations were submitted:

By Mr. BAUCUS for the Committee on Finance.

*Douglas H. Shulman, of the District of Columbia, to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue for the term prescribed by law.

By Mr. LEAHY for the Committee on the Judiciary.

Kevin J. O'Connor, of Connecticut, to be Associate Attorney General.

Gregory G. Katsas, of Massachusetts, to be an Assistant Attorney General.

William Joseph Hawe, of Washington, to be United States Marshal for the Western District of Washington for the term of four years.

Brian Stacy Miller, of Arkansas, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Arkansas.

James Randal Hall, of Georgia, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Georgia.

John A. Mendez, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of California.

Stanley Thomas Anderson, of Tennessee, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee.

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. BROWN (for himself and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 2723. A bill to expand the dental workforce and improve dental access, prevention, and data reporting, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BAYH (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. LUGAR):

S. 2724. A bill to amend the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to require that weather radios be installed in all manufactured homes manufactured or sold in the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. WEBB):

S. 2725. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6892 Main Street in Gloucester, Virginia, as the "Congresswoman Jo Ann S. Davis Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 2726. A bill to amend the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to help offset the costs of intrastate transportation, storage, and distribution of bonus commodities provided to States and food assistance agencies under the emergency food assistance program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 2727. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a temporary moratorium on enforcement of the cap amount on payments for hospice care under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 2728. A bill to establish the Twenty-First Century Water Commission to study and develop recommendations for a comprehensive water strategy to address future water needs; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 2729. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modify Medicare physician reimbursement policies to ensure a future physician workforce, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DOMENICI (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. DOLE):

S. 2730. A bill to facilitate the participation of private capital and skills in the strategic, economic, and environmental development of a diverse portfolio of clean energy and energy efficiency technologies within the United States, to facilitate the commercialization and market penetration of the technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

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

S. Res. 475. A resolution congratulating Iowa State University of Science and Technology on its 150 years of leadership and service to the United States and the world as Iowa's land-grant university; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BIDEN, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. Con. Res. 69. A concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a national day of remembrance for Harriet Tubman; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 22

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors 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. 573

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor 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. 582

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to classify automatic fire sprinkler systems as 5-year property for purposes of depreciation.

S. 613

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 613, a bill to enhance the overseas stabilization and reconstruction capabilities of the United States Government, and for other purposes.

S. 1003

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1003, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to emergency medical services and the quality and efficiency of care furnished in emergency departments of hospitals and critical access hospitals by establishing a bipartisan commission to examine factors that affect the effective delivery of such services, by providing for additional payments for certain physician services furnished in such emergency departments, and by establishing a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Working Group, and for other purposes.

S. 1097

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1097, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the award of a military service medal to members of the Armed Forces who served honorably during the Cold War era.

S. 1343

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1343, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to prevention and treatment of diabetes, and for other purposes.

S. 1428

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1428, a bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to assure access to durable medical equipment under the Medicare program.

S. 1484

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1484, a bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore the Medicare treatment of ownership of oxygen equipment to that in effect before enactment of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

S. 1843

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1843, a bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to clarify that an unlawful practice oc-

curs each time compensation is paid pursuant to a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, and for other purposes.

S. 2033

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2033, a bill to provide for greater disclosure to, and empowerment of, consumers who have entered into a contract for cellular telephone service.

S. 2069

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2069, a bill to increase the United States financial and programmatic contributions to promote economic opportunities for women in developing countries.

S. 2140

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2140, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Francis Collins, in recognition of his outstanding contributions and leadership in the fields of medicine and genetics.

S. 2279

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2279, a bill to combat international violence against women and girls.

S. 2291

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2291, a bill to enhance citizen access to Government information and services by establishing plain language as the standard style of Government documents issued to the public, and for other purposes.

S. 2304

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2304, a bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to provide grants for the improved mental health treatment and services provided to offenders with mental illnesses, and for other purposes.

S. 2565

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2565, a bill to establish an awards mechanism to honor exceptional acts of bravery in the line of duty by Federal law enforcement officers.

S. 2580

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2580, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the participation in higher education of, and to increase opportunities in employment for, residents of rural areas.

S. 2598

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2598, a bill to increase the supply and lower the cost of petroleum by temporarily suspending the acquisition of petroleum for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

S. 2606

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2606, a bill to reauthorize the United States Fire Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 2705

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2705, a bill to authorize programs to increase the number of nurses within the Armed Forces through assistance for service as nurse faculty or education as nurses, and for other purposes.

S. 2712

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2712, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to complete at least 700 miles of reinforced fencing along the Southwest border by December 31, 2010, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 28

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 28, a joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Federal Communications Commission with respect to broadcast media ownership.

S. RES. 473

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 473, a resolution designating March 26, 2008, as "National Support the Troops and Their Families Day" and encouraging the people of the United States to participate in a moment of silence to reflect upon the service and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces both at home and abroad, as well as the sacrifices of their families.

AMENDMENT NO. 4104

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4104 proposed to 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 4109

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4109 proposed to S. 2663, a bill to reform the Consumer Product Safety Commission to provide greater protection for children's products, to improve the screening of non-compliant consumer products, to improve the effectiveness of consumer product recall programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4130

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4130 proposed to 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.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. WEBB):

S. 2725. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6892 Main Street in Gloucester, Virginia, as the "Congresswoman Jo Ann S. Davis Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, on October 6, 2007, the people of Virginia's First Congressional District lost one of its most respected and admired leaders, a dedicated Member of Congress and loyal friend, Representative Jo Ann Davis.

Today, I am proud to have Senator JIM WEBB join me in introducing a bill to honor our dear colleague. This legislation would designate the United States Post Office at 6892 Main Street in Gloucester, Virginia, as the "Congresswoman Jo Ann S. Davis Post Office." Representative ROBERT WITTMAN has introduced companion legislation in the House of Representatives.

Born in North Carolina, Jo Ann Davis attended Hampton Roads Business College in Virginia and later obtained her real estate license and real estate broker's license over the next several years. In 1990, she started her own company, Jo Ann Davis Realty, and followed this successful endeavor with a run for public office in 1997. Serving as a Delegate in the Virginia General Assembly for 4 years, Jo Ann Davis became the first Republican woman to serve Virginia in the U.S. Congress after winning her election in 2000.

Representative Davis was a relentless champion for the needs of the First District. It was my privilege to work with her on many matters, ranging from national defense to the environment, and in that regard, she worked hard to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay. Also, I commend her

diligent leadership in the removal of the James River Reserve Fleet from Newport News. From her support for the Rappahannock River Valley National Wildlife Refuge to her concern with the preservation of Dragon Run or providing funding for oyster restoration, she always put the quality of Virginia's environment above politics.

With sincere passion and concern, Representative Davis worked to improve our Nation's armed services and the lives of the men and women who bravely answer the call to duty. She provided strong representation for the communities in and surrounding the Naval Surface Warfare Center at Dahlgren and the Marine Corps base at Quantico, ensuring that these facilities continue to make important contributions to protecting the nation and to the economic foundations of their respective areas. Her initiative to increase the life insurance benefit paid to survivors of military members and her advocacy on behalf of the rights and benefits of Federal employees will continue to be appreciated in the years ahead.

I have always admired Representative Davis for her strong convictions and the tenacity that she brought to bear in acting on them. She fought a courageous struggle against cancer, and I will miss her insights and her friendship in our Virginia Congressional Delegation.

I am pleased to offer this small token of recognition and gratitude for someone who has given so much to the Commonwealth and her country.

I close with a personal note that we both shared interests in equestrian activities. There is an old English saying that "the outside of the horse is good for the inside of the man." As an avid, accomplished rider, she often quipped with me that the saying applies equally to a woman. She loved the noble horse.

I join with my colleagues from the Commonwealth and from the entire U.S. Congress in expressing my deepest sympathies to her husband, her two sons, and her extended family. They remain in our thoughts and prayers.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 2726. A bill to amend the Emergency Food Assistance Act of 1983 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to help offset the costs of intrastate transportation, storage, and distribution of bonus commodities provided to States and food assistance agencies under the emergency food assistance program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, I rise today to talk about a crisis that is facing a growing number of Americans every day. That crisis is hunger. In this country, as food prices continue to rise, more and more American families find themselves desperately in need of help just to put food on the table for themselves and their families.

In 2006 alone, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA, reported that 35.5 million Americans did not have enough money or resources to get food for at least some period during the year. This figure was an increase of 400,000 over 2005 and an increase of 2.3 million since 2000. And, with the fragile state of our economy, we can only assume that these figures for 2007 and 2008 will be even more disturbing. The only recourse for these millions of people is to turn to Federal food assistance programs and emergency food banks for their basic food needs.

Unfortunately, as recent articles in national publications like the USA Today and the New York Times have highlighted, there is a critical lack of food inventories available in local food pantries across the country. Rising demand, sharp drops in Federal supplies of excess commodities, and declining donations have forced food banks to cut back on rations, and in some cases, close their doors. In short, America's food banks are facing critical shortages now.

As a member of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, I had a hand in helping to create a new farm bill. This bill, as passed by the Senate, will help food banks by providing additional annual funding to shore up food bank supplies. But, as we continue to conference this bill with the House, there are further steps we can take to help ensure that food banks can continue to fulfill their mission.

That is why today I am pleased to join with Senator SNOWE to introduce the Bonus TEFAP Assistance Act of 2008. This act will provide critical support needed to ensure food assistance agencies, already in desperate need of supplies, can take full advantage of the distributions of bonus food commodities supplied by USDA through the Emergency Food Assistance Program, TEFAP. By helping to offset the intrastate storage, transportation, and distribution costs the food assistance agencies incur to distribute these bonus food surpluses, the act will ensure the commodities will be able to reach the greatest number of needy individuals.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program began in 1981 as a temporary program with dual purposes; it was intended to help reduce the Federal food inventories and storage costs while also assisting the needy. Because of the program's success in helping distribute food to those in need, in 1988, after much of the Federal inventory was depleted, the Hunger Prevention Act authorized funds to be appropriated to purchase food for TEFAP.

Under current-day TEFAP, the USDA provides States and food assistance agencies with food commodities bought specifically for the program and with funding to help cover distributing agencies' intrastate storage, handling, and distribution costs. In addition, when available, USDA provides any excess food not needed to fulfill other