

relative to the Administration's Capital Investment and Leasing Program; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5496. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Deputy Secretary, received on March 13, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-5497. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Central Intelligence Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of action on a nomination and discontinuation of service in an acting role for the position of General Counsel, received on March 17, 2008; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

EC-5498. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Authorized Sources of Narcotic Raw Materials" (RIN1117-AB03) received on March 14, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5499. A communication from the Acting General Counsel, Executive Office for Immigration Review, Department of Justice, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inflation Adjustment for Civil Monetary Penalties Under Sections 274A, 274B, and 274C of the Immigration and Nationality Act" (RIN1125-AA61) received on March 12, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-5500. A communication from the Chairman, Federal Election Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, its Strategic Plan for fiscal years 2008 through 2013; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC-5501. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the activities and accomplishments of the Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense Joint Executive Council; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### 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. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) (by request):

S. 2787. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2009, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. 2788. A bill to impose admitting privilege requirements with respect to physicians who perform abortions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2789. A bill to amend the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, the Global War on Terror, and Hurricane Recovery, 2006 to authorize the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide additional assistance to State and local governments for utility costs resulting from the provision of temporary housing units to evacuees from Hurricane Katrina and other hurricanes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2790. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of comprehensive cancer care planning under the Medicare program and to improve the care furnished to individuals diagnosed with cancer by establishing a Medicare hospice care demonstration program and grants programs for cancer palliative care and symptom management programs, provider education, and related research; to the Committee on Finance.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. Res. 490. A resolution recognizing the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater for 50 years of service to the performing arts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. Res. 491. A resolution recognizing the need and importance of providing additional Federal funds for the Secretary of the Army to carry out hurricane, coastal, and flood protection and hurricane and flood damage reduction activities and related features in the State of Louisiana; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. REID:

S. Res. 492. A resolution amending the majority party's membership on the Select Committee on Ethics for the remainder of the 110th Congress; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 380

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 380, a bill to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

S. 557

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 557, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the depreciation classification of motorsports entertainment complexes.

S. 605

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 605, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote and improve the allied health professions.

S. 702

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 702, a bill to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to State courts to develop and implement State courts interpreter programs.

S. 871

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 871, a bill to establish and provide for the treatment of Individual Development Accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 881

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

S. 911

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors 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. 937

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 937, a bill to improve support and services for individuals with autism and their families.

S. 991

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 991, a bill to establish the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation under the authorities of the Mutual Educational and Cultural Exchange Act of 1961.

S. 1120

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1120, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants for the training of graduate medical residents in preventive medicine and public health.

S. 1125

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1125, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide incentives to encourage investment in the expansion of freight rail infrastructure capacity and to enhance modal tax equity.

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) 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. 1393

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1393, 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. 1462

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1462, a bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to promote the adoption of children with special needs.

S. 1464

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

S. 1484

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) 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. 1627

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1627, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and expand the benefits for businesses operating in empowerment zones, enterprise communities, or renewal communities, and for other purposes.

S. 1655

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 1655, a bill to establish improved mandatory standards to protect miners during emergencies, and for other purposes.

S. 1689

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1689, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income amounts received on account of claims based on certain unlawful discrimination and to allow income averaging for backpay and frontpay awards received on account of such claims, and for other purposes.

S. 1699

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1699, a bill to amend the provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding school library media specialists, and for other purposes.

S. 1750

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1750, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve access to community cancer care by Medicare beneficiaries.

S. 1794

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1794, a bill to amend the Federal Direct Loan Program to provide that interest shall not accrue on Federal Direct Loans for active duty service members and their spouses.

S. 1810

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1810, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the provision of scientifically sound information and support services to patients receiving a positive test diagnosis for Down syndrome or other prenatally and postnatally diagnosed conditions.

S. 1846

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1846, a bill to improve defense cooperation between the Republic of Korea and the United States.

S. 1951

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1951, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure that individuals eligible for medical assistance under the Medicaid program continue to have access to prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 1954

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1954, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to pharmacies under part D.

S. 1963

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1963, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow bonds guaranteed by the Federal home loan banks to be treated as tax exempt bonds.

S. 1995

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1995, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the tax on beer to its pre-1991 level.

S. 2002

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2002, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify certain provisions applicable to real estate investment trusts, and for other purposes.

S. 2059

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) 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. 2123

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) 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. 2219

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2219, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare Program.

S. 2347

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2347, a bill to restore and protect access to discount drug prices for university-based and safety-net clinics.

S. 2369

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2369, a bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide that certain tax planning inventions are not patentable, and for other purposes.

S. 2372

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2372, a bill to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to modify the tariffs on certain footwear.

S. 2401

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2401, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refund of motor fuel excise taxes for the actual off-highway use of certain mobile machinery vehicles.

S. 2426

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2426, a bill to provide for congressional oversight of United States agreements with the Government of Iraq.

S. 2460

At the request of Mrs. DOLE, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2460, a bill to extend by one year the moratorium on implementation of a rule relating to the Federal-State financial partnership under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program and on finalization of a rule regarding graduate medical education under Medicaid and to include a moratorium on the finalization of the outpatient Medicaid rule making similar changes.

S. 2479

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2479, a bill to catalyze change in the care and treatment of diabetes in the United States.

S. 2505

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2517

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2517, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the proceeds of qualified mortgage bonds may be used to provide refinancing for subprime loans, to provide a temporary increase in the volume cap for qualified mortgage bonds, and for other purposes.

S. 2575

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2575, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to remove certain limitations on the transfer of entitlement to basic educational assistance under Montgomery GI Bill, and for other purposes.

S. 2598

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) 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. 2607

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2607, a bill to make a technical correction to section 3009 of the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005.

S. 2618

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) 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. 2654

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2654, a bill to provide for enhanced reimbursement of servicemembers and veterans for certain travel expenses.

S. 2669

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2669, a bill to provide for the implementation of a Green Chemistry Research and Development Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2681

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2681, a bill to require the issuance of medals to recognize the dedication and valor of Native American code talkers.

S. 2705

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) 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. 2715

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) were added as cosponsors of 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. 2721

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of 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. 2755

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2755, a bill to provide funding for summer youth jobs.

S. 2766

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2766, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to address certain discharges incidental to the normal operation of a recreational vessel.

S. 2768

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator

from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2768, a bill to provide a temporary increase in the maximum loan guaranty amount for certain housing loans guaranteed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 2770

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2770, a bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act to strengthen the food safety inspection system by imposing stricter penalties for the slaughter of nonambulatory livestock.

S. 2774

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2774, a bill to provide for the appointment of additional Federal circuit and district judges, and for other purposes.

S. 2783

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2783, a bill to allow for additional flights beyond the perimeter restriction applicable to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport.

S.J. RES. 28

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors 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. 300

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 300, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) should stop the utilization of materials that violate provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between FYROM and Greece regarding "hostile activities or propaganda" and should work with the United Nations and Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals of finding a mutually-acceptable official name for FYROM.

S. RES. 455

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 455, a resolution calling for peace in Darfur.

S. RES. 470

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN), the Senator from Ohio

(Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 470, a resolution calling on the relevant governments, multilateral bodies, and non-state actors in Chad, the Central African Republic, and Sudan to devote ample political commitment and material resources towards the achievement and implementation of a negotiated resolution to the national and regional conflicts in Chad, the Central African Republic, and Darfur, Sudan.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) (by request):

S. 2787. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2009, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, Senator MCCAIN and I are today introducing, by request, the administration's proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2009. As is the case with any bill that is introduced by request, we introduce this bill for the purpose of placing the administration's proposals before Congress and the public without expressing our own views on the substance of these proposals. As chairman and ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, we look forward to giving the administration's requested legislation our most careful review and thoughtful consideration.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2790. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of comprehensive cancer care planning under the Medicare program and to improve the care furnished to individuals diagnosed with cancer by establishing a Medicare hospice care demonstration program and grants programs for cancer palliative care and symptom management programs, provider education, and related research; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I am pleased today to introduce legislation, the Comprehensive Cancer Care Improvement Act, that holds the promise of empowering cancer survivors and improving the quality of cancer care. Each year, more than one million Americans join the ranks of cancer survivors. Overall, nearly 12 million Americans live as cancer survivors. The legislation I am introducing will provide these cancer survivors with vital tools to help them manage their cancer care during active treatment and in the period of survivorship that follows treatment.

Cancer survivors from the state of Louisiana and their physicians have explained to me in compelling fashion the assistance that cancer survivors need to understand and participate in

their treatment, address the side effects of therapy, and transition to cancer survivorship. I am sure that many of my Senate colleagues have heard incredible stories of survivorship from their own constituents. Management of treatment and its potentially serious side effects is a daunting task. The legislation I am introducing seeks to assist cancer survivors in receiving quality care from diagnosis through survivorship.

A dear friend and citizen of Louisiana, Tucker Melancon, has educated me about the necessity that all elements of cancer care be coordinated and that cancer patients be given assistance in managing cancer as a chronic disease. Judge Melancon and I have been friends for more than 20 years, and since 2001 he has demonstrated courage, strength, and good humor as he has undergone treatment for breast cancer. He has inspired me and many others, and it is with pleasure and humility that I introduce a bill that may help cancer survivors like Tucker receive cancer care of the highest quality.

The core provision of the Comprehensive Cancer Care Improvement Act is the establishment of Medicare payment for the development of cancer care plans and survivorship plans for beneficiaries who are diagnosed with cancer. The Institute of Medicine, IOM, in a series of reports issued between 1999 and 2006, has documented the benefits of written plans that explain to cancer survivors all of the elements of active cancer treatment, including the side effects of therapy, and that detail the steps required to monitor the side effects of treatment during survivorship.

What difference does a written plan of care make? Cancer survivors and their caregivers tell us that a written plan facilitates the coordination of care. That means that care plans provide cancer survivors the tools to receive therapy of the highest quality, accompanied by appropriate management of the side effects of treatment and the symptoms of cancer. Most people treated for cancer experience a range of side effects—including depression, pain, nausea, and vomiting—that can be debilitating and difficult to manage. Proper management of those side effects and symptoms can improve cancer survivors' quality of life and optimize their ability to complete treatment. The IOM has described patients who complete cancer treatment as "lost in transition," uncertain how they will receive health care, including essential follow-up care, after active treatment. A written survivorship plan that details all elements of treatment received by a cancer survivor and that provides a roadmap to care after active treatment eases the transition from cancer patient to cancer survivor.

For patients and health care providers, Hurricane Katrina caused significant interruptions in care. Cancer patients in the middle of treatment

were left to find their displaced physicians or to find new cancer care teams. In either case, they suffered from a lack of information about their ongoing treatment or about follow-up care plans. Enactment of the legislation I am introducing today would not address all of the health care delivery problems created by a natural disaster like Katrina, but it would at least put in the hands of patients critical information about their care. With that information, cancer survivors would be better able to continue their care without serious dislocation.

The U.S. Congress has provided its enthusiastic support to the National Institutes of Health for research to improve the treatment of cancer. By introducing the Comprehensive Cancer Care Improvement Act, I call on my colleagues to join me in a parallel effort to improve the quality of care for Medicare beneficiaries diagnosed with cancer. It is in our power to improve the quality of cancer care for Medicare beneficiaries. By improving Medicare, we set a standard of care for all Americans diagnosed with cancer.

I am pleased to lead the Senate effort to advance the Comprehensive Cancer Care Improvement Act. A companion measure has been introduced in the House by Representatives LOIS CAPPS and TOM DAVIS and already enjoys the support of more than 90 House cosponsors. I urge my colleagues to join me today in supporting legislation that will provide cancer patients a helping hand in obtaining quality cancer care.

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. 2790

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Comprehensive Cancer Care Improvement Act of 2008".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Findings.

#### TITLE I—COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CARE UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM

Sec. 101. Coverage of cancer care planning services.

Sec. 102. Demonstration project to provide comprehensive cancer care symptom management services under Medicare.

#### TITLE II—COMPREHENSIVE PALLIATIVE CARE AND SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

Sec. 201. Grants for comprehensive palliative care and symptom management programs.

#### TITLE III—PROVIDER EDUCATION REGARDING PALLIATIVE CARE AND SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT.

Sec. 301. Grants to improve health professional education.

Sec. 302. Grants to improve continuing professional education.