

spectrum disorders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 2799. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand and improve health care services available to women veterans, especially those serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 2800. A bill to increase the incentives for employers to hire qualified ex-felons by enhancing the effectiveness of the work opportunity tax credit, to reduce the backlog of applications pending certification under the work opportunity tax credit program, to enhance the effectiveness of the Federal bonding program, to enhance the effectiveness of the Federal bonding program, and to authorize a pilot program for employment-focused re-entry projects; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REID (for Mrs. CLINTON):

S. 2801. A bill to help families avoid foreclosure and stay in their homes by encouraging reasonable and responsible modifications for unworkable and impractical mortgage loans, and to help preserve the rights of investors by reaffirming the basic obligations of their investment agents to achieve the most beneficial outcomes for their clients and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2802. A bill to establish a commission to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 2803. A bill to amend the Act entitled "An Act authorizing associations of producers of aquatic products" to include persons engaged in the fishery industry as charter boats or recreational fishermen, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself and Mr. MARTINEZ):

S. 2804. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Everglades National Park, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 2805. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Commissioner of Reclamation, to assess the irrigation infrastructure of the Rio Grande Pueblos in the State of New Mexico and provide grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, the Rio Grande Pueblos to repair, rehabilitate, or reconstruct existing infrastructure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 2806. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to reconsider the decision of the Administrator to deny the request of the State of California to regulate greenhouse gas emissions from new motor vehicles, and to complete further proceedings in accordance with the decision of the Supreme Court in *Massachusetts v. Environmental Protection Agency*; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 2807. A bill to protect the liberty and property of all Americans; read the first time.

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 2808. A bill to require that citizens within a National Heritage Area are informed of

the designation and that government officials must receive permission to enter private property; read the first time.

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 2809. A bill to ensure that there are no adverse effects of a National Heritage Area designation to local communities and homeowners; read the first time.

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 2810. A bill to require an annual report detailing the amount of property the Federal government owns and the cost of government land ownership to taxpayers; read the first time.

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 2811. A bill to require citizens' approval of Federal government land grabs; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. Res. 496. A resolution honoring the 60th anniversary of the commencement of the carving of the Crazy Horse Memorial; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WARNER, Mr. OBAMA, and Mrs. McCASKILL):

S. Res. 497. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 5 through 11, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. REID:

S. Res. 498. A resolution designating April 8, 2008, as "National Cushing's Syndrome Awareness Day"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 367

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

S. 380

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) 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. 431

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

S. 519

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 519, a bill to modernize and expand the reporting requirements relating to child pornography, to expand cooperation in combating child pornography, and for other purposes.

S. 689

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 689, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory.

S. 941

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 941, a bill to increase Federal support for Community Health Centers and the National Health Service Corps in order to ensure access to health care for millions of Americans living in medically underserved areas.

S. 960

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 960, a bill to establish the United States Public Service Academy.

S. 969

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 969, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to modify the definition of supervisor.

S. 989

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) 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. 1175

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1175, a bill to end the use of child soldiers in hostilities around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 1223

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

S. 1605

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1605, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect and preserve access of Medicare beneficiaries in rural areas to health care providers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1646

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) and the Senator from

Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1646, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to require the Secretary of Agriculture to make cost-share and incentive payments for innovative fuels management conservation practices, including prescribed grazing management on private grazing land and practices that complement commensurate public land, to prevent the occurrence and spread of, and damages caused by, wildfires fueled by invasive species.

S. 1795

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1795, a bill to improve access to workers' compensation programs for injured Federal employees.

S. 1843

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) 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 occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, and for other purposes.

S. 1846

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

S. 1921

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1921, a bill to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1954

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) 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. 1998

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1998, a bill to reduce child marriage, and for other purposes.

S. 2056

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2056, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore financial stability to Medicare anesthesiology teaching programs for resident physicians.

S. 2058

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S.

2058, a bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to close the Enron loophole, prevent price manipulation and excessive speculation in the trading of energy commodities, and for other purposes.

S. 2069

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) 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. 2141

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2141, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and extend the Fetal Alcohol Syndrome prevention and services program, and for other purposes.

S. 2166

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2166, a bill to provide for greater responsibility in lending and expanded cancellation of debts owed to the United States and the international financial institutions by low-income countries, and for other purposes.

S. 2347

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) 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. 2352

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2352, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide Medicare beneficiaries greater choice with regard to accessing hearing health services and benefits.

S. 2376

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2376, a bill to establish a demonstration project to provide for patient-centered medical homes to improve the effectiveness and efficiency in providing medical assistance under the Medicaid program and child health assistance under the State Children's Health Insurance Program.

S. 2453

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2453, a bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to clarify requirements relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of national origin.

S. 2510

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2510, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide revised standards for quality assurance in screening and evaluation of gynecologic cytology preparations, and for other purposes.

S. 2523

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2523, a bill to establish the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund in the Treasury of the United States to provide for the construction, rehabilitation, and preservation of decent, safe, and affordable housing for low-income families.

S. 2579

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2579, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the United States Army in 1775, to honor the American soldier of both today and yesterday, in wartime and in peace, and to commemorate the traditions, history, and heritage of the United States Army and its role in American society, from the colonial period to today.

S. 2602

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2602, a bill to amend the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008, to terminate the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to deduct amounts from certain States.

S. 2608

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2608, a bill to make improvements to the Small Business Act.

S. 2618

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) 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. 2652

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2652, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Defense to make a grant to the National World War II Museum Foundation for facilities and programs of America's National World War II Museum.

S. 2705

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) 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. 2717

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of 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. 2723

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2723, a bill to expand the dental workforce and improve dental access, prevention, and data reporting, and for other purposes.

S. 2746

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2746, a bill to amend section 552(b)(3) of title 5, United States Code (commonly referred to as the Freedom of Information Act) to provide that statutory exemptions to the disclosure requirements of that Act shall specifically cite to the provision of that Act authorizing such exemptions, to ensure an open and deliberative process in Congress by providing for related legislative proposals to explicitly state such required citations, and for other purposes.

S. 2766

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) 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. 2769

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2769, a bill to authorize appropriate use of information in the Firearms Trace Database, and for other purposes.

S. 2771

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2771, a bill to require the president to call a White House Conference on Children and Youth in 2010.

S. 2785

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS)

were added as cosponsors of S. 2785, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Security Act to preserve access to physicians' services under the Medicare program.

S. 2794

At the request of Mr. VITTER, his name was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 2794, a bill to protect older Americans from misleading and fraudulent marketing practices, with the goal of increasing retirement security.

S.J. RES. 28

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) 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. 456

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 456, a resolution directing the United States to undertake bilateral discussions with Canada to negotiate an agreement to conserve populations of large whales at risk of extinction that migrate along the Atlantic seaboard of North America.

S. RES. 481

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 481, a resolution designating April 2008 as "National Autism Awareness Month" and supporting efforts to increase funding for research into the causes and treatment of autism and to improve training and support for individuals with autism and those who care for individuals with autism.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. COLEMAN):

S. 2795. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a nationwide health insurance purchasing pool for small businesses and the self employed that would offer a choice of private health plans and make health coverage more affordable, predictable, and accessible; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. 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. 2795

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 "Small Business Health Options Program Act of 2008" or the "SHOP Act".

SEC. 2. AMENDMENT TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.

The Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 201 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"TITLE XXX—SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH OPTIONS PROGRAM

"SEC. 3001. DEFINITIONS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—In this title:

"(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Administrator' means the Administrator appointed under section 3002(a).

"(2) SMALL BUSINESS HEALTH BOARD.—The term 'Small Business Health Board' means the Board established under section 3002(d).

"(3) EMPLOYEE.—The term 'employee' has the meaning given such term under section 3(6) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(6)). Such term shall not include an employee of the Federal Government.

"(4) EMPLOYER.—The term 'employer' has the meaning given such term under section 3(5) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(5)), except that such term shall include employers who employed an average of at least 1 but not more than 100 employees (who worked an average of at least 35 hours per week) on business days during the year preceding the date of application, and shall include self-employed individuals with either not less than \$5,000 in net earnings or not less than \$15,000 in gross earnings from self-employment in the preceding taxable year. Such term shall not include the Federal Government.

"(5) HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE.—The term 'health insurance coverage' has the meaning given such term in section 2791.

"(6) HEALTH INSURANCE ISSUER.—The term 'health insurance issuer' has the meaning given such term in section 2791.

"(7) HEALTH STATUS-RELATED FACTOR.—The term 'health status-related factor' has the meaning given such term in section 2791(d)(9).

"(8) PARTICIPATING EMPLOYER.—The term 'participating employer' means an employer that—

"(A) elects to provide health insurance coverage under this title to its employees; and

"(B) is not offering other comprehensive health insurance coverage to such employees.

"(b) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN RULES IN DETERMINATION OF EMPLOYER SIZE.—For purposes of subsection (a)(3):

"(1) APPLICATION OF AGGREGATION RULE FOR EMPLOYERS.—All persons treated as a single employer under subsection (b), (c), (m), or (o) of section 414 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 shall be treated as 1 employer.

"(2) EMPLOYERS NOT IN EXISTENCE IN PRECEDING YEAR.—In the case of an employer which was not in existence for the full year prior to the date on which the employer applies to participate, the determination of whether such employer meets the requirements of subsection (a)(4) shall be based on the average number of employees that it is reasonably expected such employer will employ on business days in the employer's first full year.

"(3) PREDECESSORS.—Any reference in this subsection to an employer shall include a reference to any predecessor of such employer.

"(c) WAIVER AND CONTINUATION OF PARTICIPATION.—

"(1) WAIVER.—The Administrator may waive the limitations relating to the size of an employer which may participate in the health insurance program established under this title on a case by case basis if the Administrator determines that such employer makes a compelling case for such a waiver.