

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 3098. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes.

S. 3101. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to extend expiring provisions under the Medicare program, to improve beneficiary access to preventive and mental health services, to enhance low-income benefit programs, and to maintain access to care in rural areas, including pharmacy access, and for other purposes.

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 Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 3102. A bill to establish the Small Business Information Security Task Force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself and Mr. LUGAR) (by request):

S. 3103. A bill to amend the Iran, North Korea, and Syria nonproliferation Act to allow certain extraordinary payments in connection with the International Space Station; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Con. Res. 87. A concurrent resolution congratulating the Republic of Latvia on the 90th anniversary of its declaration of independence; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 186

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 186, a bill to provide appropriate protection to attorney-client privileged communications and attorney work product.

S. 411

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 411, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide credit rate parity for all renewable resources under the electricity production credit.

S. 507

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 507, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for reimbursement of certified midwife

services and to provide for more equitable reimbursement rates for certified nurse-midwife services.

S. 712

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 712, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to equalize the exclusion from gross income of parking and transportation fringe benefits and to provide for a common cost-of-living adjustment, and for other purposes.

S. 881

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) 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 name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) 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. 1465

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1465, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of certain medical mobility devices approved as class III medical devices.

S. 2337

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2337, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow long-term care insurance to be offered under cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements and to provide additional consumer protections for long-term care insurance.

S. 2401

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) 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. 2666

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2666, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage investment in affordable housing, and for other purposes.

S. 2704

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 2704, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of services of qualified respiratory therapists performed under the general supervision of a physician.

S. 2760

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2760, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to enhance the national defense through empowerment of the National Guard, enhancement of the functions of the National Guard Bureau, and improvement of Federal-State military coordination in domestic emergency response, and for other purposes.

S. 2858

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2858, a bill to establish the Social Work Reinvestment Commission to provide independent counsel to Congress and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on policy issues associated with recruitment, retention, research, and reinvestment in the profession of social work, and for other purposes.

S. 2862

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2862, a bill to provide for National Science Foundation and National Aeronautics and Space Administration utilization of the Arecibo Observatory.

S. 2920

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2920, a bill to reauthorize and improve the financing and entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 2955

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2955, a bill to authorize funds to the Local Initiatives Support Corporation to carry out its Community Safety Initiative.

S. 3073

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3073, a bill to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to improve procedures for the collection and delivery of absentee ballots of absent overseas uniformed services voters, and for other purposes.

S. 3092

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from California

(Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3092, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to ensure sufficient resources and increase efforts for research at the National Institutes of Health relating to Alzheimer's disease, to authorize an education and outreach program to promote public awareness and risk reduction with respect to Alzheimer's disease (with particular emphasis on education and outreach in Hispanic populations), and for other purposes.

S. 3098

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3098, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 86

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 86, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States, through the International Whaling Commission, should use all appropriate measures to end commercial whaling in all of its forms and seek to strengthen measures to conserve whale species.

S. RES. 575

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 575, a resolution expressing the support of the Senate for veteran entrepreneurs.

S. RES. 580

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 580, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 3102. A bill to establish the Small Business Information Security Task Force, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, I rise today, with Senator JOHN KERRY, to introduce the Small Business Information Security Act of 2008. Not only is this a bipartisan bill in the United States Senate, but it is also a bicameral bill. Congressmen MANZULLO and MICHAUD are also introducing companion legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives. This bill would establish within the Small Business Administration, SBA, a Small Business Infor-

mation Security Task Force to advise the SBA and help small businesses both understand the unique information security challenges they face, and identify resources to help meet those challenges.

As ranking member of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, one of my goals is to ensure small businesses are protected from the mounting information security threats they face every day. This legislation will create a clearinghouse of information, resources, and tools—compiled by a task force consisting of public and private sector experts in the field—that will ease the complexity, confusion, and cost often associated with enhancing information security measures within a small business. The task force will continually update information and resources as new technologies and threats arise.

Currently, small business owners turn to the SBA for resources regarding a number of aspects, but information security resources remain largely unavailable within the agency. This legislation will present an opportunity for the SBA to develop and create a repository of data to help small business owners meet their information security needs. This legislation will enable industry experts to come together and immediately provide meaningful strategies to enable small businesses to safeguard their customer's personal information.

Computer networks are increasingly susceptible to hackers, intruders, and other cyber criminals. In fact, in my home state of Maine, the retail supermarket chain, Hannaford Bros., was recently affected by an intrusion into their computer system which led to the exposure of 4.2 million credit and debit card numbers. What many people do not realize is that a breach like Hannaford's impacts not only the millions of customers whose personal data was compromised, but it also has serious downstream impact on our Nation's small businesses. For example, throughout Maine there are many small banks; these banks are responsible for protecting and alerting their depositors upon fraudulent activity. Following the Hannaford breach, many small banks had to replace their customers' credit and debit cards, clearly a costly enterprise that diverts resources from more productive activities, such as small business lending. The bill we are introducing today will help ameliorate this problem.

Unfortunately, these attacks are becoming more frequent and more severe, and the perpetrators are becoming harder to identify and bring to justice. According to a survey by the Small Business Technology Institute, more than half of all small businesses in the U.S. experienced a security breach in the last year. Furthermore, the study concludes that nearly one-fifth of small businesses do not use virus-scanning for e-mail, over 60 percent do not protect their wireless networks with

encryption, and two-thirds of small businesses do not have an information security plan.

As these statistics illustrate, small businesses are increasingly at risk of data breaches and other forms of malicious attacks on their information technology infrastructure. Cyber attacks launched by a small group of people can devastate America financially, it is conceivable that a few individuals working together could disable millions of computers at a cost of hundreds of millions to the U.S. economy. Cyber-criminals can hold hostage not just a few individuals, but millions of small businesses. This legislation provides best practices to help small business owners decrease the risk cyber attacks pose to their customers.

The information security threat posed to our Nation's small businesses is serious, and our efforts to prevent and reduce this risk carry a tremendous sense of urgency. We must continue to focus on ways we can protect small businesses, and their customers, from the serious consequences of cyber crimes. In order to take an important first step, I encourage all of my colleagues to support this critical legislation, and I hope we can see this commonsense legislation enacted into law as expeditiously as possible.

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. 3102

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 Information Security Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act—

(1) the terms "Administration" and "Administrator" mean the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof, respectively;

(2) the term "small business concern" has the same meaning as in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632); and

(3) the term "task force" means the task force established under section 3(a).

SEC. 3. INFORMATION SECURITY TASK FORCE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator shall establish a task force, to be known as the Small Business Information Security Task Force, to address the information technology security needs of small business concerns.

(b) DUTIES.—The task force shall—

(1) identify—

(A) the information technology security needs of small business concerns; and

(B) the programs and services provided by the Federal Government, State Governments, and nongovernment organizations that serve those needs;

(2) assess the extent to which the programs and services identified under paragraph (1)(B) serve the needs identified under paragraph (1)(A);

(3) make recommendations to the Administrator on how to more effectively serve the needs identified under paragraph (1)(A) through—