

Army nomination of John D. Muther, to be Colonel.

Army nominations beginning with Stephen L. Aki and ending with D060701, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 14, 2008.

Army nominations beginning with Earl E. Abonadi and ending with X0007, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 14, 2008.

Army nominations beginning with Jeffrey W. Abbott and ending with D060688, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on July 14, 2008.

Marine Corps nomination of Bryan K. Wood, to be Lieutenant Colonel.

Navy nominations beginning with David R. Brown and ending with Timothy R. White, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 19, 2008.

Navy nominations beginning with Bradley A. Appleman and ending with Florencio J. Yuzon, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 19, 2008.

Navy nominations beginning with Sue A. Adamson and ending with Julie L. Working, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 19, 2008.

Navy nominations beginning with Mark R. Boone and ending with John C. Williams, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 19, 2008.

Navy nominations beginning with Christopher G. Adams and ending with Nicolas D. I. Yamodis, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 19, 2008.

Navy nominations beginning with Alan L. Adams and ending with Georges E. Younes, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 19, 2008.

Navy nominations beginning with Craig L. Abraham and ending with Christopher M. Wise, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 19, 2008.

Navy nominations beginning with Calliope E. Allen and ending with Patrick E. Young, which nominations were received by the Senate and appeared in the Congressional Record on June 19, 2008.

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. REID (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. BIDEN):

S. 3297. A bill to advance America's priorities; read the first time.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. VITTER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. WICKER, Ms. CANTWELL, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 3298. A bill to clarify the circumstances during which the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and applicable States may require permits for discharges from certain vessels, and to require the Administrator to conduct a study of discharges

incidental to the normal operation of vessels; considered and passed.

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

S. 3299. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the demonstration project on adjustable rate mortgages and the demonstration project on hybrid adjustable rate mortgages; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 3300. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for temporary improvements to the Medicare inpatient hospital payment adjustment for low-volume hospitals and to provide for the use of the non-wage adjusted PPS rate under the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JOHNSON:

S. 3301. An original bill making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2009, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Appropriations; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SMITH, Mr. JOHNSON, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 3302. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior to enter into cooperative agreements with State foresters authorizing State foresters to provide certain forest, rangeland, and watershed restoration and protection services; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. THUNE):

S. 3303. A bill to require automobile manufacturers to ensure that not less than 80 percent of the automobiles manufactured or sold in the United States by each manufacturer to operate on fuel mixtures containing 85 percent ethanol, 85 percent methanol, or biodiesel; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 3304. A bill to designate the North Palisade in the Sierra Nevada in the State of California as "Brower Palisade" in honor of the late David Brower; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 3305. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Army to establish, modify, charge, and collect recreation fees with respect to land and water administered by the Corps of Engineers; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 3306. A bill to ban the exportation of crude oil produced on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 3307. A bill to provide veterans with individualized notice about available benefits, to streamline application processes for the benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REID, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3308. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to permit facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be designated as voter registration agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BROWN:

S. Res. 617. A resolution honoring the life and recognizing the accomplishments of Eric Nord, co-founder of the Nordson Corporation, innovative businessman and engineer, and generous Ohio philanthropist; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. Res. 618. A resolution recognizing the tenth anniversary of the bombings of the United States embassies in Nairobi, Kenya and Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and memorializing the citizens of the United States, Kenya, and Tanzania whose lives were claimed as a result of the al Qaeda led terrorist attacks; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mr. COLEMAN):

S. Res. 619. A resolution expressing support for a constructive dialogue on human rights issues between the United States and Bahrain; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. OBAMA):

S. Con. Res. 94. A concurrent resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the integration of the United States Armed Forces; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 400

At the request of Mr. SUNUNU, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 400, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that dependent students who take a medically necessary leave of absence do not lose health insurance coverage, and for other purposes.

S. 626

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 626, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for arthritis research and public health, and for other purposes.

S. 972

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 972, a bill to provide for the reduction of adolescent pregnancy, HIV rates, and other sexually transmitted diseases, and for other purposes.

S. 1232

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1232, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to develop a voluntary policy for managing the risk of food allergy and anaphylaxis in schools, to establish school-based food allergy management grants, and for other purposes.

S. 1492

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1492, a bill to improve the quality of federal and state data regarding the availability and quality of broadband services and to promote the deployment of affordable broadband services to all parts of the Nation.

S. 1603

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1603, a bill to authorize Congress to award a gold medal to Jerry Lewis, in recognition of his outstanding service to the Nation.

S. 1846

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

S. 1954

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) 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. 2080

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2080, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to ensure that sewage treatment plants monitor for and report discharges of raw sewage, and for other purposes.

S. 2314

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2314, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make geothermal heat pump systems eligible for the energy credit and the residential energy efficient property credit, and for other purposes.

S. 2579

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) 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. 2599

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2599, a bill to provide enhanced education and employment opportunities for military spouses.

S. 2681

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Wyoming

(Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2681, a bill to require the issuance of medals to recognize the dedication and valor of Native American code talkers.

S. 2766

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2836

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2836, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include service after September 11, 2001, as service qualifying for the determination of a reduced eligibility age for receipt of non-regular service retired pay.

S. 2844

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2844, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to modify provisions relating to beach monitoring, and for other purposes.

S. 2919

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2919, a bill to promote the accurate transmission of network traffic identification information.

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2919, *supra*.

S. 2920

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor 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. 3080

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3080, a bill to ensure parity between the temporary duty imposed on ethanol and tax credits provided on ethanol.

S. 3164

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3164, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce fraud under the Medicare program.

S. 3167

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3167, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the conditions under which veterans, their surviving spouses, and their children may be

treated as adjudicated mentally incompetent for certain purposes.

S. 3224

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3224, a bill to increase the quantity of solar photovoltaic electricity by providing rebates for the purchase and installation of an additional 10,000,000 photovoltaic systems by 2018.

S. 3252

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3252, a bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act, to ban abusive credit practices, enhance consumer disclosures, protect underage consumers, and for other purposes.

S. 3263

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3263, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2009 through 2013 to promote an enhanced strategic partnership with Pakistan and its people, and for other purposes.

S. 3268

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3268, a bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act, to prevent excessive price speculation with respect to energy commodities, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 43

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 43, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to marriage.

S.J. RES. 44

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 44, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule set forth as requirements contained in the August 17, 2007, letter to State Health Officials from the Director of the Center for Medicaid and State Operations in the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services and the State Health Official Letter 08-003, dated May 7, 2008, from such Center.

S. CON. RES. 82

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 82, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. RES. 331

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 331, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Turkey should end its military occupation of the Republic of Cyprus, particularly because Turkey's pretext has been refuted by over 13,000,000 crossings of the divide by Turkish-Cypriots and Greek Cypriots into each other's communities without incident.

S. RES. 580

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 580, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on preventing Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability.

AMENDMENT NO. 4979

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4979 intended to be proposed to S. 3001, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. BIDEN):

S. 3297. A bill to advance America's priorities; read the first time.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, today I am introducing along with Senators LEAHY, LIEBERMAN, FEINSTEIN, INOUE, KENNEDY, BOXER, and BIDEN, an important bill, with provisions in a variety of areas—from advancing medical research in critical areas, to cracking down on child exploitation, to promoting important U.S. foreign policy goals, to helping improve America's understanding about the oceans. What unites this diverse package of bills? One thing—unprecedented obstructionism.

The bills in this package include initiatives that have broad bipartisan support. Initiatives that have passed the House by 411 to 3; by 422 to 2; by 416 to 0. Many of these initiatives had such strong bipartisan support that they passed the House and Senate Committee by voice vote or even by unanimous consent.

Under normal circumstances, they would have passed the Senate through a simplified and expedited unanimous consent process and become law. Maybe some would have required a period of brief debate before passing the Senate.

But, instead of allowing the will of the Congress and the American people to be heard, Republicans have obstructed one bill after another. Here are just a few examples of the legislation that this bill includes—and that Republicans are preventing from becoming law:

The Emmitt Till Unsolved Crimes bill: Would help heal old wounds and solve crimes that have continued to be unsolved and unpunished since the Civil Rights era.

The Runaway and Homeless Youth bill: Would provide grants for health care, education and workforce programs, and housing programs for runaways and homeless youth.

The Combating Child Exploitation bill: Would provide grants to train law enforcement to use technology to track individuals who trade child pornography. Establishes an Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force within the Office of Justice Programs.

The ALS Registry bill: Would create a centralized database to help doctors and scientists treat and hopefully find a cure for ALS/Lou Gehrig's Disease, which afflicts 5,600 Americans every year.

The Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Act: Would enhance cooperation in research, rehabilitation and quality of life for people who suffer from paralysis. Not only will this bill accelerate the discovery of better treatments and cures, but help improve the daily lives of the 2 million Americans who await a cure.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. These bills address important American priorities, have broad—virtually unanimous—bipartisan support, yet, all have fallen victim to just one or two Republicans.

Senate Democrats are not willing to allow this obstruction of a few to block the will of the Congress and the American people any longer. Republicans will have a choice: Will they join the side of the American people, or continue to stand beside one or two colleagues intent on blocking progress? I hope Republicans will end their obstruction and work with Democrats this week to pass this crucial and long-overdue legislation.

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 placed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3297

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Advancing America's Priorities Act”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title.

TITLE I—HEALTHCARE PROVISIONS

Subtitle A—ALS Registry Act

Sec. 1001. Short title.

Sec. 1002. Amendment to the Public Health Service Act.

Sec. 1003. Report on registries.

Subtitle B—Christopher and Dana Reeve Paralysis Act

Sec. 1101. Short title.

PART I—PARALYSIS RESEARCH

Sec. 1111. Expansion and coordination of activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on paralysis.

PART II—PARALYSIS REHABILITATION RESEARCH AND CARE

Sec. 1121. Expansion and coordination of activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research with implications for enhancing daily function for persons with paralysis.

PART III—IMPROVING QUALITY OF LIFE FOR PERSONS WITH PARALYSIS AND OTHER PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

Sec. 1131. Programs to improve quality of life for persons with paralysis and other physical disabilities.

Subtitle C—Stroke Treatment and Ongoing Prevention Act

Sec. 1201. Short title.

Sec. 1202. Amendments to Public Health Service Act regarding stroke programs.

Sec. 1203. Pilot project on telehealth stroke treatment.

Sec. 1204. Rule of construction.

Subtitle D—Melanie Blocker Stokes MOTHERS Act

Sec. 1301. Short title.

PART I—RESEARCH ON POSTPARTUM CONDITIONS

Sec. 1311. Expansion and intensification of activities.

Sec. 1312. Sense of Congress regarding longitudinal study of relative mental health consequences for women of resolving a pregnancy.

PART II—DELIVERY OF SERVICES REGARDING POSTPARTUM CONDITIONS

Sec. 1321. Establishment of program of grants.

Sec. 1322. Certain requirements.

Sec. 1323. Technical assistance.

PART III—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 1331. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 1332. Report by the Secretary.

Sec. 1333. Limitation.

Subtitle E—Vision Care for Kids Act of 2008

Sec. 1401. Short title.

Sec. 1402. Findings.

Sec. 1403. Grants regarding vision care for children.

Subtitle F—Prenatally and Postnatally Diagnosed Conditions Awareness Act

Sec. 1501. Short title.

Sec. 1502. Purposes.

Sec. 1503. Amendment to the Public Health Service Act.

TITLE II—JUDICIARY PROVISIONS

Subtitle A—Reconnecting Homeless Youth Act of 2008

Sec. 2101. Short title.

Sec. 2102. Findings.

Sec. 2103. Basic center program.

Sec. 2104. Transitional living grant program.

Sec. 2105. Grants for research evaluation, demonstration, and service projects.

Sec. 2106. Coordinating, training, research, and other activities.

Sec. 2107. Sexual abuse prevention program.

Sec. 2108. National homeless youth awareness campaign.

Sec. 2109. Conforming amendments.

Sec. 2110. Performance standards.

Sec. 2111. Government Accountability Office study and report.