

SATURN Electronic Counter-Counter Measure for integration into Radio Communications Equipment; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7287. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the certification involving the temporary export of a commercial communications satellite to Russia and Kazakhstan for launch in the amount of \$50,000,000 or more; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-7288. A communication from the Rules Administrator, Office of General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Prisons, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Intensive Confinement Center Program Final Rule" (RIN1120-AB39) received on July 24, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7289. A communication from the Rules Administrator, Office of General Counsel, Federal Bureau of Prisons, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inmate Work and Performance Pay Program: Reduction in Pay for Drug and Alcohol-Related Disciplinary Offenses Final Rule" (RIN1120-AB33) received on July 24, 2008; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-7290. A joint communication from the Secretary of Labor and the Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Annual Report of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7291. A communication from the Secretary and Director, Office of Secretary and Administration, Postal Regulatory Commission, the report of a nomination for the position of Commissioner, Postal Regulatory Commission received on July 24, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7292. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Changes in Flood Determinations" (44 CFR Part 65) received on July 24, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7293. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community Eligibility" (73 CFR Part 64) received on July 24, 2008; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7294. A communication from the Administrator, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, notification that the cost of response and recovery efforts for FEMA-3287-EM in the State of California has exceeded the \$5,000,000 limit; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-7295. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Letter Report: Sufficiency Certification for the Washington Convention Center Authority's Projected Revenues and Excess Reserve to Meet Projected Operating and Debt Service Expenditures and Reserve Requirements for Fiscal Year 2009"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the na-

ture of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

H.R. 4056. A bill to establish an awards mechanism to honor Federal law enforcement officers injured in the line of duty.

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1703. A bill to prevent and reduce trafficking in persons.

S. 2756. A bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a permanent background check system.

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. VITTER:

S. 3346. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that wages earned, and self-employment income derived, by individuals while such individuals were not citizens or nationals of the United States and were illegally in the United States shall not be credited for coverage under the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program under such title; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 3347. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to create a demonstration project to fund additional secondary school counselors in troubled title I schools to reduce the dropout rate; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. COBURN:

S. 3348. A bill to provide for the investigation of certain unsolved civil rights crimes, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 3349. A bill to increase energy assistance for low-income persons, to extend energy tax incentives, and for other purpose; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 3350. A bill to provide that claims of the United States to certain documents relating to Franklin Delano Roosevelt shall be treated as waived and relinquished in certain circumstances; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 3351. A bill to enhance drug trafficking interdiction by creating a Federal felony for operating or embarking in a submersible or semi-submersible vessel without nationality and on an international voyage; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. REID (for Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 3352. A bill to temporarily extend the programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965; considered and passed.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Con. Res. 95. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a site to be selected by the Secretary of the Army should be provided for a memorial marker to honor the memory of the 40 members of the Armed Forces who lost their lives in the air

crash at Bakers Creek, Australia, on June 14, 1943; to the Committee on Armed Services.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 535

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 535, a bill to establish an Unsolved Crimes Section in the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, and an Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Investigative Office in the Civil Rights Unit of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and for other purposes.

S. 604

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 604, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to limit increases in the certain costs of health care services under the health care programs of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 648

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 648, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reduce the eligibility age for receipt of non-regular military service retired pay for members of the Ready Reserve in active federal status or on active duty for significant periods.

S. 1177

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1177, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to establish a national uniform multiple air pollutant regulatory program for the electric generating sector.

S. 1201

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1201, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to reduce emissions from electric powerplants, and for other purposes.

S. 1437

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1437, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the semicentennial of the enactment of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

S. 1492

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) 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. 1576

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1576, a bill to amend the Public Health

Service Act to improve the health and healthcare of racial and ethnic minority groups.

S. 1581

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1581, a bill to establish an interagency committee to develop an ocean acidification research and monitoring plan and to establish an ocean acidification program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

S. 1661

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1661, a bill to communicate United States travel policies and improve marketing and other activities designed to increase travel in the United States from abroad.

S. 1738

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1738, a bill to establish a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute predators.

S. 1846

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

S. 1924

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1924, a bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any of certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employee's duty.

S. 2092

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2092, a bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to improve protections for employees and retirees in business bankruptcies.

S. 2173

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2173, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve standards for physical education.

S. 2270

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cospon-

sor of S. 2270, a bill to include health centers in the list of entities eligible for mortgage insurance under the National Housing Act.

S. 2433

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2433, a bill to require the President to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to further the United States foreign policy objective of promoting the reduction of global poverty, the elimination of extreme global poverty, and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goal of reducing by one-half the proportion of people worldwide, between 1990 and 2015, who live on less than \$1 per day.

S. 2458

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2458, a bill to promote and enhance the operation of local building code enforcement administration across the country by establishing a competitive Federal matching grant program.

S. 2510

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor 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. 2585

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2585, a bill to provide for the enhancement of the suicide prevention programs of the Department of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 2609

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. 2609, a bill to establish a Global Service Fellowship Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2643

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2643, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to promulgate regulations to control hazardous air pollutant emissions from electric utility steam generating units.

S. 2668

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2668, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove cell phones from listed property under section 280F.

S. 2708

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New York

(Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2708, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to attract and retain trained health care professionals and direct care workers dedicated to providing quality care to the growing population of older Americans.

S. 2723

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2723, a bill to expand the dental workforce and improve dental access, prevention, and data reporting, and for other purposes.

S. 2836

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors 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. 2839

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2839, a bill to provide emergency relief for United States businesses and industries currently employing temporary foreign workers and for other purposes.

S. 2851

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2851, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the penalty on the understatement of taxpayers' liability by tax return preparers.

S. 2920

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) 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. 3108

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3108, a bill to require the President to call a White House Conference on Food and Nutrition.

S. 3140

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3140, a bill to provide that 4 of the 12 weeks of parental leave made available to a Federal employee shall be paid leave, and for other purposes.

S. 3198

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3198, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, with respect to the navigation of submersible or semi-submersible vessels without nationality.

S. 3245

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3245, a bill to increase public confidence in the justice system and address any unwarranted racial and ethnic disparities in the criminal process.

S. 3257

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3257, a bill to extend immigration programs to promote legal immigration and for other purposes.

S. 3337

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3337, a bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out conservation reserve program notice CRP-598, entitled the "Voluntary Modification of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Contract for Critical Feed Use".

S.J. RES. 45

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 45, a joint resolution expressing the consent and approval of Congress to an inter-state compact regarding water resources in the Great Lakes—St. Lawrence River Basin.

S. RES. 618

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. RES. 624

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 624, a resolution designating August 2008 as "National Truncy Prevention Month".

S. RES. 625

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 625, a resolution designating August 16, 2008, as National Airborne Day.

S. RES. 627

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Sen-

ator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. DOLE), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 627, a resolution welcoming home Keith Stansell, Thomas Howes, and Marc Gonsalves, three citizens of the United States who were held hostage for over five years by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) after their plane crashed on February 13, 2003.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 3349. A bill to increase energy assistance for low-income persons, to extend energy tax incentives, and for other purpose; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Energy Assistance Act of 2008, legislation which would assist people who want to invest in energy conservation and alternative energy technologies and help set us on a path toward energy independence.

As I visit communities around the State of Maine, I hear time and again that the high cost of energy is causing a crisis for many of our citizens. Rapidly increasing prices for home heating oil, gasoline and diesel fuel are a huge burden for many families, truckers, and small businesses. High oil prices affect virtually every corner of the economy, in Maine and throughout the country, and are a significant cause of the current economic downturn.

Mr. President, I am concerned that in this difficult economy, investments in energy conservation and alternative energy improvements are simply too costly for many American families and small businesses. For example, under the present code, taxpayers who install energy efficient windows receive a 10 percent tax credit, up to \$200, and taxpayers who install solar water heating systems receive a credit of 30 percent, up to a total of \$2000. In both instances, the investment which must be made by the taxpayer far exceeds the credit amount.

With oil prices as high as they are, most families and small businesses are already scrimping and saving to make ends meet, and they do not have the money to finance the gap between the tax credit we provide and the cost of the investment. Ironically, the higher oil prices climb, the harder it will be for taxpayers to bridge this gap.

The legislation I am introducing today calls for additional loan authority to support current Federal programs that help families and small businesses finance energy efficiency improvements. It also would provide much-needed grants for low-income individuals who cannot benefit from either tax credits or low-interest loans. These proposals, taken together, would

go a long way toward achieving greater energy efficiency and reducing our Nation's dependence on foreign oil.

The loan authority I am proposing would expand existing Federal programs that make low-interest loans to individuals and small businesses for energy efficiency improvements. This new loan authority would be made available through a new energy assistance revolving loan fund within the Treasury Department. Individuals who make less than 115 percent of the median area income would be able to apply for low-interest loans to cover the difference between the tax credits available for energy efficiency improvements and up to 90 percent of the cost of those improvements. The Federal agencies can make these loans directly, or through their lender networks.

USDA, HUD, and other Federal agencies already have programs that can make loans of this kind to individuals. Small businesses can seek low-interest loans for energy efficiency improvements under existing loan programs such as the SBA's 7(a) program. The revolving loan fund called for by my bill will enable these agencies to offer more loans to the individuals and small businesses.

It is also important that we provide assistance to low-income individuals who do not have the income to benefit from tax credits, or who cannot afford to finance energy improvements even with low-interest loans. These individuals, especially, are still reeling from last winter's high energy prices, and it is critically important that they receive assistance before cold weather sets in again. To help those who are most in need, my bill would provide an additional \$500 million in funding this year for grants for energy efficiency, weatherization, and renewable energy technology, and would double funding for the Weatherization Assistance Program. These grants will finance investments that will decrease energy prices for these citizens for years to come and are a wise investment.

My legislation also includes several proposals I have long advocated. I have included these proposals so that this bill captures an overall picture of the energy challenges that our Nation faces. For example, this bill extends important tax incentives for renewable energy and energy efficiency that have expired, or are about to expire. These provisions include the renewable energy production tax credit, Clean Renewable Energy Bonds, tax benefits for energy efficient buildings, products and power plants, the tax credit for Plug-In Hybrid vehicles, the exemption from the heavy vehicles excise tax for idling reduction units and advanced insulation, and energy efficiency tax credits for homes.

My bill would also provide a \$500 tax credit to help consumers purchase and install new clean burning stoves, as well as efficient, clean wood pellet stoves, similar to a bill I introduced