

Nebraska State Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3262. A communication from the Staff Director, United States Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the appointment of members to the Utah State Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-3263. A communication from the Director of Regulation Policy and Management, Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Loan Guaranty: Assistance to Eligible Individuals in Acquiring Specially Adapted Housing; Cost-of-Construction Index" (RIN2900-AN26) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 28, 2009; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

EC-3264. A communication from the Senior Advisor for Regulations, Office of Regulations, Social Security Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Payments to Beneficiaries Residing in Vietnam and Cambodia and Other Conforming Changes" (RIN0960-AG62) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on September 24, 2009; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment:

S. 1510. A bill to transfer statutory entitlements to pay and hours of work authorized by the District of Columbia Code for current members of the United States Secret Service Uniformed Division from the District of Columbia Code to the United States Code (Rept. No. 111-86).

S. 692. 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 (Rept. No. 111-87).

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 Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1749. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the possession or use of cell phones and similar wireless devices by Federal prisoners; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WEBB:

S. 1750. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the General of the Army George Catlett Marshall National Historic Site at Dodona Manor in Leesburg, Virginia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHANNIS (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska):

S. 1751. A bill to prohibit the Federal Government from awarding contracts, grants, or other agreements to, providing any other Federal funds to, or engaging in activities that promote the Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now or any other entity which has been indicted for or convicted of violations of laws governing election administration or campaign financing; read the first time.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 1752. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Vet-

erans Affairs to provide wartime disability compensation for certain veterans with Parkinson's disease; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 1753. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase assistance for disabled veterans who are temporarily residing in housing owned by a family member, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

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

S. Res. 301. A resolution designating October 2, 2009, as "World MRSA Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 302. A resolution raising the awareness of the need for crime prevention in communities across the country and expressing support for designation of October 1, 2009 through October 7, 2009 as "Celebrate Safe Communities Week" and October as "Crime Prevention Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BROWN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. KAUFMAN, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. Con. Res. 44. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that a postage stamp should be issued to commemorate the War of 1812 and that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that such a stamp be issued; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 213

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 213, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to ensure air passengers have access to necessary services while on a grounded air carrier, and for other purposes.

S. 254

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 254, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of home infusion therapy under the Medicare Program.

S. 380

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 380, a bill to expand the boundaries of the Thunder Bay National Marine Sanctuary and Underwater Preserve, and for other purposes.

S. 553

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 553, a bill to revise the authorized route of the North Country National Scenic Trail in northeastern Minnesota to include existing hiking

trails along Lake Superior's north shore and in Superior National Forest and Chippewa National Forest, and for other purposes.

S. 565

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 565, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide continued entitlement to coverage for immunosuppressive drugs furnished to beneficiaries under the Medicare Program that have received a kidney transplant and whose entitlement to coverage would otherwise expire, and for other purposes.

S. 584

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 584, a bill to ensure that all users of the transportation system, including pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, children, older individuals, and individuals with disabilities, are able to travel safely and conveniently on and across federally funded streets and highways.

S. 624

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 624, a bill to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis by 2015 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005.

S. 729

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 729, a bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to permit States to determine State residency for higher education purposes and to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes.

S. 797

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 797, a bill to amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act, the Indian Tribal Justice Act, the Indian Tribal Justice Technical and Legal Assistance Act of 2000, and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to improve the prosecution of, and response to, crimes in Indian country, and for other purposes.

S. 812

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 812, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make

permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 823

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 823, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a 5-year carryback of operating losses, and for other purposes.

S. 850

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 850, a bill to amend the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act and the Magnuson—Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to improve the conservation of sharks.

S. 870

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 870, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the credit for renewable electricity production to include electricity produced from biomass for on-site use and to modify the credit period for certain facilities producing electricity from open-loop biomass.

S. 883

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 883, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the Medal of Honor in 1861, America's highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States, to honor the American military men and women who have been recipients of the Medal of Honor, and to promote awareness of what the Medal of Honor represents and how ordinary Americans, through courage, sacrifice, selfless service and patriotism, can challenge fate and change the course of history.

S. 931

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 931, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 1030

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1030, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to eliminate the reduction in the credit rate for certain facilities producing electricity from renewable resources.

S. 1067

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1067, a bill to support sta-

bilization and lasting peace in northern Uganda and areas affected by the Lord's Resistance Army through development of a regional strategy to support multilateral efforts to successfully protect civilians and eliminate the threat posed by the Lord's Resistance Army and to authorize funds for humanitarian relief and reconstruction, reconciliation, and transitional justice, and for other purposes.

S. 1156

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1156, a bill to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to reauthorize and improve the safe routes to school program.

S. 1171

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1171, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to restore State authority to waive the 35-mile rule for designating critical access hospitals under the Medicare Program.

S. 1197

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1197, a bill to establish a grant program for automated external defibrillators in elementary and secondary schools.

S. 1408

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1408, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage alternative energy investments and job creation.

S. 1547

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1547, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, and the United States Housing Act of 1937 to enhance and expand the assistance provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Housing and Urban Development to homeless veterans and veterans at risk of homelessness, and for other purposes.

S. 1595

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1595, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to prohibit the distribution of any check or other negotiable instrument as part of a solicitation by a creditor for an extension of credit, to limit the liability of consumers in conjunction with such solicitations, and for other purposes.

S. 1660

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1660, a bill to amend the Toxic

Substances Control Act to reduce the emissions of formaldehyde from composite wood products, and for other purposes.

S. 1668

At the request of Mr. BENNETT, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1668, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the inclusion of certain active duty service in the reserve components as qualifying service for purposes of Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program, and for other purposes.

S. 1685

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1685, a bill to provide an emergency benefit of \$250 to seniors, veterans, and persons with disabilities in 2010 to compensate for the lack of a cost-of-living adjustment for such year, and for other purposes.

S. 1688

At the request of Mr. BENNETT, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1688, a bill to prevent congressional reapportionment distortions by requiring that, in the questionnaires used in the taking of any decennial census of population, a checkbox or other similar option be included for respondents to indicate citizenship status or lawful presence in the United States.

S. 1698

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1698, a bill to provide grants to the States to improve high schools and raise graduation rates while ensuring rigorous standards, to develop and implement effective school models for struggling students and dropouts, and to improve State policies to raise graduation rates, and for other purposes.

S. 1733

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1733, a bill to create clean energy jobs, promote energy independence, reduce global warming pollution, and transition to a clean energy economy.

S. 1744

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1744, a bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to prescribe regulations to ensure that all crewmembers on air carriers have proper qualifications and experience, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 15

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 15, a joint resolution

proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

S. RES. 297

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 297, a resolution to recognize the Dyke Marsh Wildlife Preserve as a unique and precious ecosystem.

AMENDMENT NO. 2559

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2559 proposed to H.R. 3326, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 1749. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the possession or use of cell phones and similar wireless devices by Federal prisoners; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce the Cell Phone Contraband Act of 2009. This bill would close a loophole that currently exists in Federal law by prohibiting the possession of cell phones and other wireless devices by prisoners in Federal facilities.

Currently, cell phones found in prisons are not specifically defined as contraband material. As a result, guards and inmates found smuggling or in possession of a cell phone in a Federal prison are rarely punished.

This bill would close this loophole by defining cell phones as contraband material under Federal law. As a result, any person smuggling or in possession of a cell phone could potentially serve up to a year in prison.

A cell phone should never be in the hands of a prisoner. The presence of these cell phones poses a grave safety concern for staff, inmates, and the public. We know that inmates use these phones to conduct criminal business outside of prison walls, including directing gang hits, controlling drug trafficking operations and even conducting credit card fraud. Corrections departments across the country are reporting a sharp increase in the number of cell phones being smuggled into prison facilities.

In May, California Inspector General David Shaw released a report on inmate cell phone use in California state prisons. The report found that cell phone seizures have increased tenfold in two years—from 261 in 2006 to 2,811 in 2008. According to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, cell phone and electronic com-

munication device possession, “is one of the most significant problems facing the Department today.”

So far this year, authorities have discovered over 4,000 cell phones among inmates in California prisons. There are presumably thousands more that were not discovered. Smugglers receive hundreds of dollars for each cell phone and more money if the cell phone contains a camera.

Staff members who smuggle cell phones for inmates often receive more in compensation for the contraband phones than they do from their paychecks. The California Inspector General’s report on inmate cell phone use found that inmates pay \$500 to \$1,000 per cell phone and noted that one corrupt correctional officer received approximately \$150,000 in 1 year to smuggle cell phones to inmates.

The cell phone problem is not limited to California. Maryland, Kansas, Massachusetts, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Texas are just some of the states that have reported serious incidents coordinated by an inmate with a cell phone.

In Maryland, an inmate used a cell phone from jail to order the assassination of a witness testifying against him.

In Tennessee, a corrections officer was killed as a result of an inmate using a cell phone to plan an escape.

Department of Homeland Security Assistant Secretary Dora Schriro told my office, and I agree that cell phones in prison are “a more serious threat than drugs or other contraband.”

The problem in our Nation’s Federal prisons is no better. In 2008, the Federal Bureau of Prisons confiscated 1,519 phones from Federal prison camps and 255 cell phones from secure Federal institutions. I expect that these numbers will continue to increase unless we take proactive steps to stop the problem.

In July, I became a cosponsor of the Safe Prisons Communications Act of 2009, authored by Senator KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON. This bill would enable state and Federal prisons to petition the Federal Communications Commission and request to operate a wireless jamming device to block inmates from using cell phones to conduct criminal business from inside prison walls. Before granting permission, the FCC would have to first determine whether the jammer would interfere with emergency or public safety communications outside of the prison walls.

If enacted, the bill will provide another necessary tool in the effort to ensure that the growing problem of cell phones in prison does not turn into an epidemic. It is my hope that this will serve as a strong deterrent to those who would profit from smuggling cell phones and other wireless devices into our Federal prisons.

Our Federal prisons house some of the most dangerous criminals in our Nation. Cell phones allow prisoners to traffic drugs and carry out murders

from within our prisons and that is unacceptable.

I urge my colleagues to support this important 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 printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1749

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 “Cell Phone Contraband Act of 2009”.

SEC. 2. WIRELESS DEVICES IN PRISON.

Section 1971 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)—
(A) in paragraph (4), by striking “or (d)(1)(E)” and inserting “, (d)(1)(E), or (d)(1)(F)”;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking “(d)(1)(F)” and inserting “(d)(1)(G)”;

(2) in subsection (d)(1)—
(A) in subparagraph (E), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) by redesignating subparagraph (F) as subparagraph (G); and

(C) by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following:

“(F) a phone or other device used by a user of commercial mobile service (as defined in section 332(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d))) in connection with such service; and”.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 301—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2, 2009, AS “WORLD MRSA DAY”

Mr. BURRIS (for himself and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 301

Whereas methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (MRSA) causes deadly infections in patients that are receiving treatment in health care facilities and affects numerous individuals within our Nation’s communities;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has estimated that hospital-acquired MRSA infections killed more than 19,000 individuals in the United States in 2006;

Whereas patient and consumer advocacy organizations around the world are lending their voices to a call for leadership and an international commitment to preventing and eradicating MRSA, a disease that has reached pandemic levels and is spreading at an alarming rate;

Whereas patient and consumer advocacy organizations are calling upon health care officials and government leaders to step up and take a more comprehensive approach to stopping MRSA through implementation of a broad and proactive prevention program;

Whereas the MRSA Survivors Network, the first consumer organization in the United States to raise awareness concerning the MRSA epidemic and other such multi-drug resistant health care-acquired infections, has announced that October 2, 2009, has been designated as “World MRSA Day”, which shall be commemorated annually on such date; and