

S. Res. 39. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONRAD, from the Committee on the Budget, without amendment:

S. Res. 41. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget.

By Mrs. BOXER, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. Res. 42. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. DODD, from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. Res. 43. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LEVIN, from the Committee on Armed Services, without amendment:

S. Res. 44. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. KOHL, from the Special Committee on Aging, without amendment:

S. Res. 45. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Special Committee on Aging.

By Mr. SCHUMER, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

S. Res. 46. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, without amendment:

S. Res. 47. A resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 160. A bill to provide the District of Columbia a voting seat and the State of Utah an additional seat in the House of Representatives.

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. LEVIN:

S. 419. A bill for the relief of Luay Lufti Hadad; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. 420. A bill for the relief of Josephina Valera Lopez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 421. A bill to impose a temporary moratorium on the phase out of the Medicare hospice budget neutrality adjustment factor; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. LANDRIEU, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 422. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular

diseases in women; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. FEINGOLD, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. BURR):

S. 423. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize advance appropriations for certain medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs by providing two-fiscal year budget authority, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DODD, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. INOUE, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 424. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate discrimination in the immigration laws by permitting permanent partners of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents to obtain lawful permanent resident status in the same manner as spouses of citizens and lawful permanent residents and to penalize immigration fraud in connection with permanent partnerships; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 425. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for the establishment of a traceability system for food, to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Poultry Products Inspections Act, the Egg Products Inspection Act, and the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide for improved public health and food safety through enhanced enforcement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BENNETT:

S. 426. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide for progressive indexing and longevity indexing of Social Security old-age insurance benefits for newly retired and aged surviving spouses to ensure the future solvency of the Social Security program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 427. 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; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. DODD):

S. 428. A bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 429. A bill to ensure the safety of imported food products for the citizens of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 430. A bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to reauthorize that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 431. A bill to establish the Temporary Economic Recovery Adjustment Panel to curb excessive executive compensation at firms receiving emergency economic assist-

ance; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 432. A bill to amend the Morris K. Udall Scholarship and Excellence in National Environmental and Native American Public Policy Act of 1992 to honor the legacy of Stewart L. Udall, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself and Mr. UDALL of Colorado):

S. 433. A bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a renewable electricity standard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S.J. Res. 10. A joint resolution supporting a base Defense Budget that at the very minimum matches 4 percent of gross domestic product; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 38. A resolution commemorating the life and legacy of President Abraham Lincoln on the bicentennial of his birth; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LEAHY:

S. Res. 39. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Judiciary; from the Committee on the Judiciary; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KAUFMAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. MENENDEZ, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. Res. 40. A resolution designating September 2009 as "Campus Fire Safety Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CONRAD:

S. Res. 41. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget; from the Committee on the Budget; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. Res. 42. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Environment and Public Works; from the Committee on Environment and Public Works; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. DODD:

S. Res. 43. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. LEVIN:

S. Res. 44. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Armed Services; from the Committee on Armed Services; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. KOHL:

S. Res. 45. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Special Committee on Aging; from the Special Committee on Aging; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 46. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on

Rules and Administration; from the Committee on Rules and Administration; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. Res. 47. A resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. Res. 48. A resolution honoring the sesquicentennial of Oregon statehood; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 61

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 61, a bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code with respect to modification of certain mortgages on principal residences, and for other purposes.

S. 252

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 252, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance the capacity of the Department of Veterans Affairs to recruit and retain nurses and other critical health-care professionals, to improve the provision of health care veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 354

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 354, 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. 371

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 371, a bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to allow citizens who have concealed carry permits from the State in which they reside to carry concealed firearms in another State that grants concealed carry permits, if the individual complies with the laws of the State.

S. 394

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 394, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide the same capital gains treatment for art and collectibles as for other investment property and to provide that a deduction equal to fair market value shall be allowed for charitable contributions of literacy, musical, artistic, or scholarly compositions created by the donor.

S. 416

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator

from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 416, a bill to limit the use of cluster munitions.

S. 417

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 417, a bill to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act.

S. CON. RES. 3

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 3, a concurrent resolution honoring and praising the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

S. RES. 20

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 20, a resolution celebrating the 60th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 421. A bill to impose a temporary moratorium on the phase out of the Medicare hospice budget neutrality adjustment factor; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I have sought recognition today to introduce the Medicare Hospice Protection Act, which will place a one-year moratorium on a final rule issued by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, CMS, reducing payments to hospice providers and ensure Medicare beneficiaries' access to hospice care.

More than 1.3 million Americans depend on hospice for high quality and compassionate end-of-life care each year. Unfortunately, on October 1, 2008, CMS issued a final rule to reduce hospice reimbursement rates in Medicare. This reduction of the hospice wage index will take \$2.1 billion out of hospice care for Medicare beneficiaries over the next 5 years.

The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, MedPAC, is currently examining the payment system for hospice care. We must allow MedPAC to complete this important review of the hospice Medicare benefit and make payment recommendations, which is expected in 2009. The Hospice Protection Act, introduced by myself and Senators HARKIN, WYDEN, ROBERTS, and ROCKEFELLER, will maintain access to hospice care for seniors.

Hospice is an efficient and cost-effective health care model. Hospice provides individuals at the end of their lives, as well as their families, with comfort and compassion when they are needed most. Hospice care enables a person to retain his or her dignity and maintain quality of life during the end of life. An independent Duke University study in 2007 showed that patients

receiving hospice care cost the Medicare program about \$2,300 less than those who did not, resulting in an annual savings of more than \$2 billion.

In April 28, 2008, just before the Notice of Proposed Rule Making was released, a bipartisan group of more than 40 Senators wrote to Secretary Leavitt and asked him to stop further action and wait for MedPAC recommendations on hospice payment issues. On July 28, 2008, before the final rule was released, Senators HARKIN, WYDEN, ROBERTS and I wrote to White House Chief of Staff Joshua Bolton, to urge him to stop the regulation from being finalized and to consider the burden that this regulation will put on the hospice community.

Access to quality compassionate hospice care is critical for Medicare beneficiaries. I ask my fellow Senators to join me in support of the Hospice Protection Act and to work toward its swift passage.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BAYH, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 422. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss a critical health issue affecting too many women: heart disease, a disease that surprisingly affects more women than men.

As women, we tend to be great at taking care of everyone around us—our children, our spouses, our aging parents. Unfortunately, we do not do nearly as well taking care of ourselves sometimes. I suspect we all know women who have been to their doctors or to emergency rooms exhibiting symptoms of heart attack, only to be told they were suffering from “stress” or indigestion.

For women, there are a lot of misconceptions about heart disease, but here are the facts.

Heart disease and stroke actually kill more women each year than men.

Heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of death for women in the United States and in Michigan. According to the Michigan Department of Community Health, a third of all deaths in women are due to cardiovascular disease.

One in three adult women has some form of cardiovascular disease.