

S. 812. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 813. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to apply the protections of the Act to teaching and research assistants; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 814. A bill to provide for the conveyance of a parcel of land held by the Bureau of Prisons of the Department of Justice in Miami Dade County, Florida, to facilitate the construction of a new educational facility that includes a secure parking area for the Bureau of Prisons, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 815. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to exempt surviving spouses of United States citizens from the numerical limitations described in section 201 of such Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. TESTER, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. BENNETT):

S. 816. A bill to preserve the rights granted under second amendment to the Constitution in national parks and national wildlife refuge areas; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 817. A bill to establish a Salmon Stronghold Partnership program to conserve wild Pacific salmon and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HATCH, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 818. A bill to reauthorize the Enhancing Education Through Technology Act of 2001, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 819. A bill to provide for enhanced treatment, support, services, and research for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 820. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance the automobile assistance allowance for veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 821. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from collecting certain copayments from veterans who are catastrophically disabled, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 822. A bill to support the recruitment and retention of volunteer firefighters and emergency medical services personnel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. HATCH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. ENSIGN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

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; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 824. A bill to establish a Jobs Creation Coordinator in the Department of Commerce to ensure that agencies in the Department use resources in a manner that maximizes the maintenance and creation of jobs in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 825. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore, increase, and make permanent the exclusion from gross income for amounts received under qualified group legal services plans; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 826. A bill to promote renewable energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 827. A bill to establish a program to reunite bondholders with matured unredeemed United States savings bonds; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 828. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to provide loan guarantees for projects to construct renewable fuel pipelines, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. VITTER:

S. Res. 98. A resolution designating each of April 15, 2009, and April 15, 2010, as "National TEA Party Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. Res. 99. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Government of Uzbekistan should immediately enforce its existing domestic legislation and fulfill its international commitments aimed at ending state-sponsored forced and child labor; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. Res. 100. A resolution expressing the support of the Senate for the establishment of an Urban Youth Sport Initiative in partnership with the United States Olympic Committee; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Mrs. HAGAN):

S. Res. 101. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the tragic events at the Pinelake Health and Rehab Center in Carthage, North Carolina on Sunday, March 29, 2009; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. BENNETT):

S. Res. 102. A resolution providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Res. 103. A resolution to authorize testimony and document production in *Richard Bowen v. Department of the Navy (MSPB)*; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Mr. SPECTER):

S. Con. Res. 17. A concurrent resolution authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor Center for the unveiling of a bust of Sojourner Truth; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 27

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 27, a bill to establish the Daniel Webster Congressional Clerkship Program.

S. 266

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 266, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce the coverage gap in prescription drug coverage under part D of such title based on savings to the Medicare program resulting from the negotiation of prescription drug prices.

S. 306

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 306, a bill to promote biogas production, and for other purposes.

S. 343

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 343, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage services of qualified respiratory therapists performed under the general supervision of a physician.

S. 384

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 384, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to provide assistance to foreign countries to promote food security, to stimulate rural economies, and to improve emergency response to food crises, to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, and for other purposes.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 442

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 442, a bill to impose a limitation on lifetime aggregate limits imposed by health plans.

S. 454

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Nebraska

(Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 454, a bill to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, and for other purposes.

S. 467

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 467, a bill to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to establish Encore Service Programs, Encore Fellowship Programs, and Silver Scholarship Programs, and for other purposes.

S. 469

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 469, a bill to amend chapter 83 of title 5, United States Code, to modify the computation for part-time service under the Civil Service Retirement System.

S. 475

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 475, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to guarantee the equity of spouses of military personnel with regard to matters of residency, and for other purposes.

S. 484

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 484, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 514

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 514, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to enhance vocational rehabilitation benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 515

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 515, a bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.

S. 534

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 534, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce cost-sharing under part D of such title for certain non-institutionalized full-benefit dual eligible individuals.

S. 535

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from New

Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 535, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 546

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 546, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

S. 584

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) 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. 599

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 599, 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 certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employee's duty.

S. 605

At the request of Mr. KAUFMAN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 605, a bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission to reinstate the uptick rule and effectively regulate abusive short selling activities.

S. 614

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 614, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots ("WASP").

S. 622

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 622, a bill to ensure parity between the temporary duty imposed on ethanol and tax credits provided on ethanol.

S. 633

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 633, a bill to establish a program for tribal colleges and universities within the Department of Health and Human Services and to amend the Na-

tive American Programs Act of 1974 to authorize the provision of grants and cooperative agreements to tribal colleges and universities, and for other purposes.

S. 661

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 661, a bill to strengthen American manufacturing through improved industrial energy efficiency, and for other purposes.

S. 663

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 663, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish the Merchant Mariner Equity Compensation Fund to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II.

S. 729

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) 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. 731

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 731, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for continuity of TRICARE Standard coverage for certain members of the Retired Reserve.

S. 753

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 753, a bill to prohibit the manufacture, sale, or distribution in commerce of children's food and beverage containers composed of bisphenol A, and for other purposes.

S. 773

At the request of Mr. BAYH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 773, a bill to ensure the continued free flow of commerce within the United States and with its global trading partners through secure cyber communications, to provide for the continued development and exploitation of the Internet and intranet communications for such purposes, to provide for the development of a cadre of information technology specialists to improve and maintain effective cybersecurity defenses against disruption, and for other purposes.

S. 778

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 778, a bill to establish, within the Executive Office of the President, the Office of National Cybersecurity Advisor.

S. 780

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. 780, a bill to amend the Andean Trade Preference Act to add Paraguay to the list of countries that are eligible to be designated as beneficiary countries and ATPDEA beneficiary countries.

S. RES. 72

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 72, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding drug trafficking in Mexico.

S. RES. 92

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 92, a resolution honoring the accomplishments and legacy of Cesar Estrada Chavez.

AMENDMENT NO. 742

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 742 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 755

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 755 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 764

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 764 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth

the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 765

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNIS) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 765 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 784

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 784 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 785

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 785 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 786

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 786 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 787

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 787 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 792

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 792 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting

forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 799

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 799 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 799 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 803

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 803 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 808

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 808 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 810

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 810 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 819

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 819 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 821

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 821 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original

concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 825

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 825 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 838

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 838 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 841

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 841 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 843

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 843 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 852

At the request of Mr. JOHANNS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 852 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 864

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 864 intended to

be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 870

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 870 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 872

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 872 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 873

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 873 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 875

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 875 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 876

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 876 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 881

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 881 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 890

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 890 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 904

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 904 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 905

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 905 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 916

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 916 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 920

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 920 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the

congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 921

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 921 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 784. A bill to provide for the recognition of certain Native communities and the settlement of certain claims under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise to introduce a bill to allow five Southeast Alaska communities to finally be allowed to form urban corporations under the terms of 1971's Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, the Unrecognized Southeast Alaska Native Communities Recognition and Compensation Act.

At the very beginning of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 there are a series of findings and declarations of congressional policy that explain the underpinnings of this landmark legislation.

The first clause reads, "There is an immediate need for a fair and just settlement of all claims by Natives and Native groups of Alaska, based on aboriginal land claims." The second clause states, "The settlement should be accomplished rapidly, with certainty, in conformity with the real economic and social needs of Natives."

Mr. President, 37, going on 38, years have passed since the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act became law and still the Native peoples of five communities in Southeast Alaska—Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, Tenakee and Haines—the five "landless communities" are still waiting for their fair and just settlement.

The Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act awarded \$966 million and 44 million acres of land to Alaska Natives and provided for the establishment of Native Corporations to receive and manage such funds and lands. The beneficiaries of the settlement were issued stock in one of 13 regional Alaska Native corporations—12 based in Alaska. Most beneficiaries also had the option to enroll and receive stock in a village, group or urban corporation.

For reasons that still defy clear explanation the Native peoples of the

"landless communities," were not permitted by the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to form village or urban corporations. These communities were excluded from this benefit even though they did not differ significantly from other communities in Southeast Alaska that were permitted to form village or urban corporations under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act. For example, Ketchikan had more Native residents in 1970, the year of a member census, than Juneau, which was permitted to form the Goldbelt urban corporation. This finding was confirmed in a February 1994 report submitted by the Secretary of the Interior at the direction of the Congress. That study was conducted by the Institute of Social and Economic Research at the University of Alaska.

The Native people of Southeast Alaska have recognized the injustice of this oversight for more than 34 years. An independent study issued more than 12 years ago confirms that the grievance of the landless communities is legitimate. Legislation has been introduced in the past sessions of Congress to remedy this injustice. Hearings have been held and reports written. Yet legislation to right the wrong has inevitably stalled out. This December marks the 38th anniversary of Congress' promise to the Native peoples of Alaska, the promise of a rapid and certain settlement. And still the landless communities of Southeast Alaska are landless.

I am convinced that this cause is just, it is right, and it is about time that the Native peoples of the five landless communities receive what has been denied them for so long.

The legislation that I am introducing today would enable the Native peoples of the five "landless communities" to organize five "urban corporations," one for each unrecognized community. These newly formed corporations would be offered and could accept the surface estate to 23,040 acres of land—one township as granted all other village corporations. Sealaska Corporation, the regional Alaska Native Corporation for Southeast Alaska, would receive title to the subsurface estate to the designated lands. The urban corporations would each receive a lump sum payment to be used as start-up funds for the newly established corporation. The Secretary of the Interior would determine other appropriate compensation to redress the inequities faced by the unrecognized communities.

It is long past time that we return to the Native peoples of Southeast Alaska a small slice of the aboriginal lands that were once theirs alone. It is time that we open our minds and open our hearts to correcting this injustice that has gone on far too long and finally give the Native peoples of Southeast Alaska the rapid and certain settlement for which they have been waiting.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 785. A bill to establish a grant program to encourage retooling of entities in the timber industry in Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise to speak about a bill that I have introduced, the Southeast Alaska Timber Industry Retooling and Restructuring Act, which is intended to stimulate employment in Southeast Alaska, by helping firms that have focused on the region's timber industry to modernize or branch out into new industries.

In 1954, the US Department of Agriculture encouraged the development of a sawmill and pulp mill timber industry in the Tongass National Forest in Southeast Alaska, which at 16.98 million acres is the largest national forest in America. From the startup of the pulp mills in Ketchikan and in Sitka in 1961 to passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act in 1980, the Tongass was producing about 600 million board feet of timber a year, generating 3,500 direct and 2,500 indirect jobs and providing the largest number of year-round jobs in the region.

But following passage of ANILCA that created 14 wilderness areas covering about 4.9 million acres and the follow up Tongass Timber Reform Act of 1990 that placed another 727,762 acres into protected non-road status and created another 12 wilderness areas containing 300,000 acres, the timber harvest and thus timber industry-related employment plummeted in the region—an area nearly the size of Maine. While the two pulp mills closed in the mid 1990's, sawmills have tried to survive on the then anticipated 268 mmbf of allowable timber harvest. But a litany of Federal forest policy changes from the Clinton-era roadless policy, to changes in Forest Service sale and road policies, to sale delays caused by litigation have resulted in harvest levels falling to 28 million board feet from Federal lands and less than 50 million from private lands in 2008. That harvest level is far below the 192 mmbf reached in 2006 and about half of the 144 mmbf of 2007. Recent years have been drastically down from the 495 million board feet harvested from all lands as recently as 1997.

Year round timber employment, according to U.S. Forest Service in 2007, the last year of current full data, was 402 jobs, just 13 percent of the employment of a decade earlier. The impacts on the region's economy have been clearly documented. According to a report by The McDowell Group consultants, total timber-related payroll in 2007 hit just \$17 million, compared to \$300 million in 1990. Currently, according to the State of Alaska, unemployment in December 2008 has reached 16.5 percent on Prince of Wales Island, the resource base for traditional southern timber operations, and 24.6 percent in the Hoonah and Angoon area, the former resource base for central timber