

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petition or memorial was laid before the Senate and was referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-17. A resolution adopted by the legislature of the Province of Batangas, Republic of the Philippines, forwarded by the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, commending and expressing thanksgiving and commendation to the President of the United States, the U.S. Congress, and the American taxpayers for the signing of the U.S. Economic Stimulus Package, which includes \$198 million in benefits to Filipino veterans who fought side-by-side with American soldiers in World War II; to the Committee on Appropriations.

RESOLUTION NO. 169

Whereas, the U.S. Economic Stimulus Package, recently signed into law by President Barack Obama includes some \$198 Million in benefits to Filipino Veterans who fought with American soldiers of World War II;

Whereas, as provided, a one-time payment of \$15,000 for each Filipino Veteran who had since become a U.S. citizen and \$9,000 for non-citizens will be made to former soldiers or their surviving spouses;

Whereas, historically, it is a fact that Filipino Veterans of World War II had been conscripted and fought side-by-side with their American comrades in the Pacific Theater, more specifically in the battle front of Bataan and Corregidor. Quoting Senator Daniel Inouye of the American Senate: "In 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt issued a military order calling on the Commonwealth Army of the Philippines to serve with the U.S. Army in the Far East, entitling Filipino soldiers who served full U.S. Veterans benefits because of their service";

Whereas, the best feature of the provision is its unequivocal recognition of the role played by Filipino Veterans during the World War II. The implication is that it is important enough to stand alongside solutions to Americans' present day economic slump. This rectifies previous "snubs"—laws reneging on promises made to these soldiers as part of the U.S.' post war cost-saving measures, like the U.S. Recession Act of 1946, duly signed by then President Harry S. Truman into law;

Whereas, the measure is hailed by many and is seen as a victory after more than four decades of expectations. The surviving veterans are now in their 80s and 90s, any form of compensation will help make the remaining days of their lives more meaningful;

Now therefore, on motion by Honorable Board Member Florencio A. De Loyola, duly seconded,

Resolved, As it is hereby resolved, to COM-MEND AND EXPRESS ITS SINCEREST THANKS to his Excellency President BARACK OBAMA of the United States of America, the American Congress more particularly the Speaker of the House of Representatives Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Senate President Honorable JOSEPH R. BIDEN JR., Democrat Senator from Hawaii Honorable DANIEL INOUE and the American Taxpayers, in general, for the signing of the U.S. Economic Stimulus Package which includes some \$198 Million in benefits to Filipino Veterans who fought side-by-side with American Soldiers in World War II.

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. McCASKILL (for herself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 848. A bill to recognize and clarify the authority of the States to regulate intra-state helicopter medical services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 849. A bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study on black carbon emissions; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KERRY:

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; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 851. A bill to prohibit the issuance of any lease or other authorization by the Federal Government that authorizes exploration, development, or production of oil or natural gas in any marine national monument or national marine sanctuary or in the fishing grounds known as Georges Bank in the waters of the United States; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. VITTER (for himself and Ms. LANDRIEU):

S. 852. A bill to apply an alternative payment amount under the Medicare program for certain graduate medical education programs established to train residents displaced by natural disasters; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KAUFMAN (for himself, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 853. A bill to designate additional segments and tributaries of White Clay Creek, in the States of Delaware and Pennsylvania, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 854. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to update a program to provide assistance for the planning, design, and construction of treatment works to intercept, transport, control, or treat municipal combined sewer overflows and sanitary sewer overflows, and to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to update certain guidance used to develop and determine the financial capability of communities to implement clean water infrastructure programs; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

S. 855. A bill to establish an Energy Assistance Fund to guarantee low-interest loans for the purchase and installation of qualifying energy efficient property, idling reduction and advanced insulation for heavy trucks, and alternative refueling stations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 856. A bill to establish a commercial truck highway safety demonstration program in the State of Maine, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. VITTER):

S. 857. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a \$1,000 refundable

credit for individuals who are bona fide volunteer members of volunteer firefighting and emergency medical service organizations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 858. A bill to protect the oceans and Great Lakes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. 859. A bill to amend the provisions of law relating to the John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Grant Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. CARPER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KAUFMAN):

S. 860. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a Federal income tax exclusion for assistance provided to participants in State student loan programs for certain health professionals; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BURR, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 861. A bill to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 to require the President to certify that the Yucca Mountain site remains the designated site for the development of a repository for the disposal of high-level radioactive waste, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 862. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to use any amounts repaid by a financial institution that is a recipient of assistance under the Troubled Assets Relief Program for debt reduction; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR:

S. 863. A bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to protect consumers from certain practices in connection with the origination of consumer credit transactions secured by the principal dwelling of the consumer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BURR, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 864. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts for charitable purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNETT:

S. 865. A bill to provide for the sale of the Federal Government's reversionary interest in approximately 60 acres of land in Salt Lake City, Utah, originally conveyed to the Mount Olivet Cemetery Association under the Act of January 23, 1909; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DODD, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 866. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. 867. A bill for the relief of Shirley Constantino Tan; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 868. A bill to repeal certain provisions of the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 869. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to use any amounts repaid by a financial institution that is a recipient of assistance under the Troubled Assets Relief Program for debt reduction; to the Committee on Finance.

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

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; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. GREGG, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. Res. 108. A resolution commending Captain Richard Phillips, the crew of the "Maersk Alabama", and the United States Armed Forces, recognizing the growing problem of piracy off Somalia's coast, and urging the development of a comprehensive strategy to address piracy and its root causes; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. RISCH):

S. Res. 109. A resolution commending the bravery of the girls who attend the Mirwais School for Girls in Kandahar, Afghanistan; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. Res. 110. A resolution congratulating the University of North Carolina Tar Heels basketball team for winning the 2008-2009 NCAA men's basketball championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BROWNBACK, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. MARTINEZ):

S. Con. Res. 18. A concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of World Malaria Day, and reaffirming United States leadership and support for efforts to combat malaria; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 263

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 263, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the enforcement of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, and for other purposes.

S. 306

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from

Utah (Mr. HATCH) 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 Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) 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. 358

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 358, a bill to ensure the safety of members of the United States Armed Forces while using expeditionary facilities, infrastructure, and equipment supporting United States military operations overseas.

S. 386

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 386, a bill to improve enforcement of mortgage fraud, securities fraud, financial institution fraud, and other frauds related to federal assistance and relief programs, for the recovery of funds lost to these frauds, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 386, *supra*.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) were added as cosponsors 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. 475

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 482

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 482, a bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 493

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 493, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the establishment of ABLE accounts for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 527

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 527, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to prohibit the issuance of permits under title V of that Act for certain emissions from agricultural production.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to liability under State and local requirements respecting devices.

S. 553

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) 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. 559

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 559, a bill to provide benefits under the Post-Deployment/Mobilization Respite Absence program for certain periods before the implementation of the program.

S. 565

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) 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. 567

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 567, a bill to repeal the sunset on the reduction of capital gains rates for individuals and on the taxation of dividends of individuals at capital gains rates.

S. 611

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 611, a bill to provide for