

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 913. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand workplace health incentives by equalizing the tax consequences of employee athletic facility use; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. 914. A bill to establish an independent Cures Acceleration Network agency, to sponsor promising translational research to bridge the gap between laboratory discoveries and life-saving therapies, to reauthorize the National Institutes of Health, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 915. A bill to improve port and intermodal supply chain security; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 916. A bill to amend the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 to include certain former nuclear weapons program workers in the Special Exposure Cohort under the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GREGG:

S. 917. A bill to provide assistance to Pakistan under certain conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 918. A bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to add New York to the New England Fishery Management Council, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 919. A bill to amend section 1154 of title 38, United States Code, to clarify the additional requirements for consideration to be afforded time, place, and circumstances of service in determinations regarding service-connected disabilities; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 920. A bill to amend section 11317 of title 40, United States Code, to improve the transparency of the status of information technology investments, to require greater accountability for cost overruns on Federal information technology investment projects, to improve the processes agencies implement to manage information technology investments, to reward excellence in information technology acquisition, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 921. A bill to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, to recognize the interconnected nature of the Internet and agency networks, improve situational awareness of Government cyberspace, enhance information security of the Federal Government, unify policies, procedures, and guidelines for securing information systems and national security systems, establish security standards for Government purchased products and services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental 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. LIEBERMAN:

S. Res. 115. A resolution recognizing the crucial role of assistance dogs in helping wounded veterans live more independent lives, expressing gratitude to The Tower of Hope, and supporting the goals and ideals of creating a Tower of Hope Day; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. Res. 116. A resolution commending the Head Coach of the University of Kansas men's basketball team, Bill Self, for winning the Henry P. Iba Coach of the Year Award presented by the United States Basketball Writers Association and for being named the Sporting News National Coach of the Year and the Big 12 Coach of the Year; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BYRD:

S. Con. Res. 20. A concurrent resolution authorizing the last surviving veteran of the First World War to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol upon his death; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 182

At the request of Mr. BURRIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 182, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) 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 Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) 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. 518

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 518, a bill to establish the Star-Spangled Banner and War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission, and for other purposes.

S. 527

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) 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. 535

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCCH) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors 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.

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 535, *supra*.

S. 541

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 541, a bill to increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and for other purposes.

S. 559

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) 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. 561

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 561, a bill to authorize a supplemental funding source for catastrophic emergency wildland fire suppression activities on Department of the Interior and National Forest System lands, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a cohesive wildland fire management strategy, and for other purposes.

S. 599

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors 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. 614

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

S. 645

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) were added as cosponsors of S. 645, a bill to amend title 32, United States Code, to modify the Department

of Defense share of expenses under the National Guard Youth Challenge Program.

S. 658

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 658, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve health care for veterans who live in rural areas, and for other purposes.

S. 663

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors 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. 700

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 700, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to phase out the 24-month waiting period for disabled individuals to become eligible for Medicare benefits, to eliminate the waiting period for individuals with life-threatening conditions, and for other purposes.

S. 714

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 714, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 731

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors 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. 738

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 738, a bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act to assure meaningful disclosures of the terms of rental-purchase agreements, including disclosures of all costs to consumers under such agreements, to provide certain substantive rights to consumers under such agreements, and for other purposes.

S. 781

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) were added as co-

sponsors of S. 781, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 795

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 795, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to enhance the social security of the Nation by ensuring adequate public-private infrastructure and to resolve to prevent, detect, treat, intervene in, and prosecute elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation, and for other purposes.

S. 828

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 831

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 831, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include service after September 11, 2001, as service qualifying for the determination of a reduced eligibility age for receipt of non-regular service retired pay.

S. 832

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 832, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America, and for other purposes.

S. 835

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 835, a bill to require automobile manufacturers to ensure that not less than 80 percent of the automobiles manufactured or sold in the United States by each such manufacturer to operate on fuel mixtures containing 85 percent ethanol, 85 percent methanol, or biodiesel.

S. 886

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 886, a bill to establish a program to provide guarantees for debt issued by State catastrophe insurance programs to assist in the financial recovery from natural catastrophes.

S. CON. RES. 14

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 14, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REID (for Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Ms.

SNOWE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REED, Mr. NELSON, of Florida, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DODD, Mr. BAYH, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CASEY, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 909. A bill to provide Federal assistance to States, local jurisdictions, and Indian tribes to prosecute hate crimes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, hate crimes harm innocent victims, terrorize entire communities, and threaten the very fabric of our nation. They send a poisonous message that some Americans deserve to be victimized solely because of who they are or who they are perceived to be. Hate crimes offend the fundamental ideals on which Nation was founded. They can not be tolerated in any free society, and it is long past time to enact legislation to correct the deficiencies in the current federal hate crimes statute.

For far too long, law enforcement has been forced to investigate hate crimes with one hand tied behind its back. Now is the time to change this. This bill strengthens the Federal Government's ability to investigate and prosecute hate crimes. It removes the excessive restrictions currently existing in federal law. It offers Federal assistance for investigating and prosecuting hate crimes to State and local law enforcement. It provides training grants for local law enforcement to combat hate crimes committed by juveniles.

The first Federal hate crimes statute was passed over 40 years ago in 1968, soon after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. It authorized the Federal Government to investigate and prosecute crimes committed against individuals because of their race, color, religion, or national origin. The original statute was a major advance in the march of progress, but it is now a generation out of date.

The time has come to stand up for all victims of hate crimes—victims like Matthew Shepard, for whom this bill is named. Matthew died a horrible death in 1998 at the hands of two men who singled him out because of his sexual orientation. Since Matthew's murder, his mother has worked courageously to make sure that we never forget the suffering that her son endured, and to remind Congress that it has a responsibility to protect individuals like her son. Yet today, more than 10 years after Matthew's death—10 years—we still have not modernized our hate crimes laws. How long are we going to wait?

The bill we are introducing today expands the current hate crimes statute