

H.R. 762. An act to validate final patent number 27-2005-0081, and for other purposes.

H.R. 934. An act to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands.

H.R. 1044. An act to provide for the administration of Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

The message also announced that pursuant to 10 U.S.C. 9355(a), amended by Public Law 108-375, and the order of the House of January 6, 2009, the Speaker appoints the following Members of the House of Representatives to the Board of Visitors to the United States Air Force Academy: Mr. POLIS of Colorado, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, and Mr. LAMBORN of Colorado.

#### MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 762. An act to validate final patent number 27-2005-0081, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 934. An act to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1044. An act to provide for the administration of Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. BINGAMAN, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1462. an original bill to promote clean energy technology development, enhanced energy efficiency, improved energy security, and energy innovation and workforce development, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-48).

By Mr. KERRY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 345. a bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2012, to rename the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 as the “Tropical Forest and Coral Conservation Act of 2009”, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-49).

By Mr. KERRY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with amendments:

S. 954. a bill to authorize United States participation in the replenishment of resources of the International Development Association, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-50).

By Mr. KERRY, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, without amendment:

S. 955. a bill to authorize United States participation in, and appropriations for the United States contribution to, the African Development Fund and the Multilateral Debt Relief Initiative, to require budgetary disclosures by multilateral development banks, to

encourage multilateral development banks to endorse the principles of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-51).

By Mr. SCHUMER, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, with amendments:

S. 1415. a bill to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to ensure that absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters are aware of their voting rights and have a genuine opportunity to register to vote and have their absentee ballots cast and counted, and for other purposes.

#### 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 Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 1458. A bill to encourage the development and implementation of a comprehensive, global strategy for the preservation and reunification of families and the provision of permanent parental care for orphans; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. VITTER):

S. 1459. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for cooperative governing of individual health insurance coverage offered in interstate commerce; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 1460. A bill to amend title VII of the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for college retention challenge grants; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1461. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat trees and vines producing fruit, nuts, or other crops as placed in service in the year in which it is planted for purposes of special allowance for depreciation; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 1462. An original bill to promote clean energy technology development, enhanced energy efficiency, improved energy security, and energy innovation and workforce development, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BURRIS:

S. 1463. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a National Organ and Tissue Donor Registry Resource Center, to authorize grants for State organ and tissue donor registries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 1464. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to establish the transfer of any nuclear weapon, device, material, or technology to terrorists as a crime against humanity; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. BURRIS):

S. 1465. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to require child care providers to provide to parents information regarding whether such providers carry liability insurance; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 1466. A bill to establish the position of Deputy United States Trade Representative for Trade Enforcement and a Trade Enforcement Division in the Office of the United States Trade Representative, to establish a Chief Manufacturing Negotiator in the Office of the United States Trade Representative, to strengthen enforcement of United States intellectual property rights at United States borders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. McCASKILL:

S. 1467. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide coverage under Traumatic Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance for adverse reactions to vaccinations administered by the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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

S. 1468. A bill to increase access to adult education to provide for economic growth; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 1469. A bill to provide for the administration of Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes; 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. JOHANNS:

S. Res. 212. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that any savings under the Medicare program should be invested back into the Medicare program, rather than creating new entitlement programs; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. Res. 213. A resolution recognizing the historical significance of the city of Santa Fe, New Mexico on the occasion of its 400th anniversary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. Res. 214. A resolution congratulating Lucas Glover on winning the 2009 United States Open golf tournament; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VITTER, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. Res. 215. A resolution designating August 8, 2009, as “National Marina Day”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself and Ms. MIKULSKI):

S. Res. 216. A resolution acknowledging the 25th anniversary of the nomination of Representative Geraldine A. Ferraro as the first woman selected by a major political party to run for the Office of the Vice President; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 251

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 251, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to permit targeted interference with mobile radio services within prison facilities.

S. 348

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 348, a bill to amend section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 to provide that funds received as universal service contributions and the universal service support programs established pursuant to that section are not subject to certain provisions of title 31, United States Code, commonly known as the Antideficiency Act.

S. 384

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) 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. 390

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 390, a bill to expand the authority of the Secretary of the Air Force to convey certain relocatable military housing units to Indian tribes located in Idaho and Nevada.

S. 461

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 461, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 461, *supra*.

S. 475

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) 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. 491

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) 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. 535

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) 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. 572

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 572, a bill to provide for the issuance of a "forever stamp" to honor the sacrifices of the brave men and women of the armed forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

S. 575

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 575, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to develop plans and targets for States and metropolitan planning organizations to develop plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector, and for other purposes.

S. 662

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 662, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for reimbursement of certified midwife services and to provide for more equitable reimbursement rates for certified nurse-midwife services.

S. 694

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 694, a bill to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to require mental health screenings for members of the Armed Forces who are deployed in connection with a contingency operation, and for other purposes.

S. 775

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 775, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the availability of appropriated funds for international partnership contact activities conducted by the National Guard, and for other purposes.

S. 823

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors 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. 831

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) 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 New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) 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. 883

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) 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. 908

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 908, a bill to amend the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 to enhance United States diplomatic efforts with respect to Iran by expanding economic sanctions against Iran.

S. 944

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 944, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretaries of the military departments to give wounded members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces the option of remaining on active duty during the transition process in order to continue to receive military pay and allowances, to authorize members to reside at their permanent places of residence during the process, and for other purposes.

S. 951

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. 951, a bill to authorize the President, in conjunction with the 40th anniversary of the historic and first lunar landing by humans in 1969, to award gold medals on behalf of the United States Congress to Neil A. Armstrong, the first human to walk

on the moon; Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin Jr., the pilot of the lunar module and second person to walk on the moon; Michael Collins, the pilot of their Apollo 11 mission's command module; and, the first American to orbit the Earth, John Herschel Glenn Jr.

S. 1067

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1067, a bill to support stabilization 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. 1072

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1072, a bill to amend chapter 1606 of title 10, United States Code, to modify the basis utilized for annual adjustments in amounts of educational assistance for members of the Selected Reserve.

S. 1161

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1161, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize programs to increase the number of nurse faculty and to increase the domestic nursing and physical therapy workforce, and for other purposes.

S. 1169

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1169, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of autism under TRICARE.

S. 1214

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1214, a bill to conserve fish and aquatic communities in the United States through partnerships that foster fish habitat conservation, to improve the quality of life for the people of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1239

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1239, a bill to amend section 340B of the Public Health Service Act to revise and expand the drug discount program under that section to improve the provision of discounts on drug purchases for certain safety net providers.

S. 1274

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 1274, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to ensure that the prohibition on disclosure of maritime transportation security information is not used inappropriately to shield certain other information from public disclosure, and for other purposes.

S. 1304

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1304, a bill to restore the economic rights of automobile dealers, and for other purposes.

S. 1318

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 1318, a bill to prohibit the use of stimulus funds for signage indicating that a project is being carried out using those funds.

S. 1321

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1321, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit for property labeled under the Environmental Protection Agency Water Sense program.

S. 1331

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1331, a bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to index for inflation the payment rate for payments under the milk income loss contract program.

S. 1398

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1398, a bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to increase the payment rate for certain payments under the milk income loss contract program as an emergency measure.

S. 1415

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) were added as cosponsors of S. 1415, a bill to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to ensure that absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters are aware of their voting rights and have a genuine opportunity to register to vote and have their absentee ballots cast and counted, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 17

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 17, a joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 14

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 14, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. CON. RES. 25

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 25, a concurrent resolution recognizing the value and benefits that community health centers provide as health care homes for over 18,000,000 individuals, and the importance of enabling health centers and other safety net providers to continue to offer accessible, affordable, and continuous care to their current patients and to every American who lacks access to preventive and primary care services.

S. RES. 210

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 210, a resolution designating the week beginning on November 9, 2009, as National School Psychology Week.

AMENDMENT NO. 1469

At the request of Mr. CARPER, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1469 proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1476

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1476 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1484

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from

Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1484 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1494

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1494 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1504

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1504 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1515

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1515 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1517

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1517 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1526

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1526 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of

the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1528

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1528 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1534

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1534 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1554

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1554 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1557

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1557 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1558

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1558 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe

military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1561

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1561 intended to be proposed to S. 1390, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 1458. A bill to encourage the development and implementation of a comprehensive, global strategy for the preservation and reunification of families and the provision of permanent parental care for orphans; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I rise to introduce a bill called the Families for Orphans Act that Senator INHOFE and I are sponsoring.

We are very fortunate, indeed, to have a Secretary of State who is quite knowledgeable about this subject. The office we seek to create would be housed within the Department of State under the watchful eye of Secretary Hillary Clinton, who did so much work on this subject when she was a Member of the Senate and even prior to her service in the Senate as First Lady of both Arkansas and the United States. So I am particularly happy we would be recommending what is, I think, a very appropriate establishment of an office within the Office of the Secretary of State.

This bill has been discussed for several years here. We have had several opportunities for debate on the floor. But a great coalition has come together, representing advocates for orphans around the world, to come together in a unified way to make a strong argument that this kind of office should indeed be established. There are some very compelling reasons why this should be.

First of all, right now in our system, there is no coordination in the Office of the Secretary of State or in the Department of State for policies related to orphans. This is an alarming situation because the number of orphans is growing exponentially in the world due to an increase in conflicts in many parts of the world; severe droughts and natural disasters that are causing families to be separated, children from adults; and the AIDS epidemic. Some people have referred to it as a factory that produces orphans. And you can understand the nature of that disease.

So the actions we take relative to trying to get a more coordinated policy are very important, and that is what this bill seeks to do.