

ENSIGN) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as co-sponsors of amendment No. 3920 intended to be proposed to S. 3217, an original bill to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 519—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE PRIMARY SAFEGUARD FOR THE WELL-BEING AND PROTECTION OF CHILDREN IS THE FAMILY, AND THAT THE PRIMARY SAFEGUARDS FOR THE LEGAL RIGHTS OF CHILDREN IN THE UNITED STATES ARE THE CONSTITUTIONS OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE SEVERAL STATES, AND THAT, BECAUSE THE USE OF INTERNATIONAL TREATIES TO GOVERN POLICY IN THE UNITED STATES ON FAMILIES AND CHILDREN IS CONTRARY TO PRINCIPLES OF SELF-GOVERNMENT AND FEDERALISM, AND THAT, BECAUSE THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD UNDERMINES TRADITIONAL PRINCIPLES OF LAW IN THE UNITED STATES REGARDING PARENTS AND CHILDREN, THE PRESIDENT SHOULD NOT TRANSMIT THE CONVENTION TO THE SENATE FOR ITS ADVICE AND CONSENT

Mr. DEMINT submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 519

Whereas the Senate affirms the commitment of the people and the Government of the United States to the well-being, protection, and advancement of children, and the protection of the inalienable rights of all persons of all ages;

Whereas the Constitution and laws of the United States and those of the several States are the best guarantees against mistreatment of children in this Nation;

Whereas the Constitution, laws, and traditions of the United States affirm the rights of parents to raise their children and to impart their values and religious beliefs;

Whereas the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted at New York November 20, 1989, and entered into force September 2, 1990, if ratified, would become a part of the supreme law of the land, taking precedence over all State laws and constitutions;

Whereas the United States, and not the several States, would be held responsible for compliance with this Convention if ratified, and as a consequence, the United States would create an incredible expansion of subject matter jurisdiction over all matters concerning children, seriously undermining the constitutional balance between the Federal Government and the governments of the several States;

Whereas Professor Geraldine Van Bueren, the author of the principal textbook on the international rights of the child, and a participant in the drafting of the Convention, has described the "best interest of the child standard" in the treaty as "provid[ing] decision and policy makers with the authority to substitute their own decisions for either the child's or the parents'";

Whereas the Scottish Government has issued a pamphlet to children of that country explaining their rights under the Convention, which declares that children have the right to decide their own religion and that parents can only provide advice;

Whereas the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child has repeatedly interpreted the Convention to ban common disciplinary measures utilized by parents;

Whereas the Government of the United Kingdom was found to be in violation of the Convention by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child for allowing parents to exercise a right to opt their children out of sex education courses in the public schools without a prior government review of the wishes of the child;

Whereas the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child has held that the Governments of Indonesia and Egypt were out of compliance with the Convention because military expenditures were given inappropriate priority over children's programs;

Whereas these and many other interpretations of the Convention by those charged with its implementation and by other authoritative supporters demonstrates that the provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child are utterly contrary to the principles of law in the United States and the inherent principles of freedom;

Whereas the decisions and interpretations of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child would be considered by the Committee to be binding and authoritative upon the United States should the United States Government ratify the Convention, such that the Convention poses a threat to the sovereign rights of the United States and the several States to make final determinations regarding domestic law; and

Whereas the proposition that the United States should be governed by international legal standards in its domestic policy is tantamount to proclaiming that the Congress of the United States and the legislatures of the several States are incompetent to draft domestic laws that are necessary for the proper protection of children, an assertion that is not only an affront to self-government but an inappropriate attack on the capability of legislators in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, adopted at New York November 20, 1989, and entered into force September 2, 1990, is incompatible with the Constitution, the laws, and the traditions of the United States;

(2) the Convention would undermine proper presumptions of freedom and independence for families in the United States, supplanting those principles with a presumption in favor of governmental intervention without the necessity for proving harm or wrongdoing;

(3) the Convention would interfere with the principles of sovereignty, independence, and self-government in the United States that preclude the necessity or propriety of adopting international law to govern domestic matters; and

(4) the President should not transmit the Convention to the Senate for its advice and consent.

SENATE RESOLUTION 520—HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. TESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 520

Whereas Glacier National Park was established as the 10th National Park on May 11, 1910;

Whereas Glacier National Park is part of the Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park, the world's first international peace park;

Whereas Glacier National Park has a total of 25 named glaciers;

Whereas water originating in the park is considered the headwaters of three major drainages;

Whereas Glacier National Park is the core of the "Crown of the Continent Ecosystem", one of the country's largest intact ecosystems;

Whereas Glacier National Park encompasses over 1,000,000 acres, 762 lakes, more than 60 native species of mammals, 277 species of birds, and almost 2,000 plant species;

Whereas Glacier National Park's lands hold great spiritual importance to the Blackfeet and the Salish and Kootenai native peoples;

Whereas the Park contains 110 miles of the Continental Divide Trail;

Whereas the Going-to-the-Sun Road in Glacier National Park was completed in 1932 and is a National Historic Civil Engineering Landmark;

Whereas in 1976 Glacier was dedicated a Biosphere Reserve by UNESCO;

Whereas in 1995 Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park was designated a World Heritage Site; and

Whereas Glacier National Park receives approximately 2,000,000 visitors a year: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the people of the United States should observe and celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of Glacier National Park in Montana on May 11, 2010.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3922. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BROWN, of Ohio, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. FEINGOLD, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. SANDERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end "too big to fail", to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3923. Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3924. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3925. Mr. SHELBY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment

SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3926. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3927. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3928. Mr. BENNETT (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. UDALL, of Colorado, and Mr. LEMIEUX) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3929. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3930. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3931. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BROWN, of Ohio, Mr. KAUFMAN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. NELSON, of Florida, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. INOUE, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. UDALL, of Colorado, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL, of New Mexico, and Mr. REID) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3932. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3933. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3934. Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3935. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3936. Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3937. Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

FEINGOLD, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. SANDERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD, (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, to promote stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 392, strike line 6 and all that follows through the matter following line 2 on page 409, and insert the following:

“(D) to coordinate Federal efforts and develop Federal policy on prudential aspects of international insurance matters, including representing the United States, as appropriate, in the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (or a successor entity) and assisting the Secretary in negotiating Covered Agreements;

“(E) to determine, in accordance with subsection (f), whether State insurance measures are preempted by Covered Agreements;

“(F) to consult with the States (including State insurance regulators) regarding insurance matters of national importance and prudential insurance matters of international importance; and

“(G) to perform such other related duties and authorities as may be assigned to the Office by the Secretary.

“(2) ADVISORY FUNCTIONS.—The Office shall advise the Secretary on major domestic and prudential international insurance policy issues.

“(d) SCOPE.—The authority of the Office shall extend to all lines of insurance except health insurance, as such insurance is determined by the Secretary based on section 2791 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-91), and crop insurance, as established by the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.).

“(e) GATHERING OF INFORMATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the functions required under subsection (c), the Office may—

“(A) receive and collect data and information on and from the insurance industry and insurers;

“(B) enter into information-sharing agreements;

“(C) analyze and disseminate data and information; and

“(D) issue reports regarding all lines of insurance except health insurance.

“(2) COLLECTION OF INFORMATION FROM INSURERS AND AFFILIATES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (3), the Office may require an insurer, or any affiliate of an insurer, to submit such data or information as the Office may reasonably require in carrying out the functions described under subsection (c).

“(B) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, for purposes of subparagraph (A), the term ‘insurer’ means any person that is authorized to write insurance or reinsure risks and issue contracts or policies in 1 or more States.

“(3) EXCEPTION FOR SMALL INSURERS.—Paragraph (2) shall not apply with respect to any insurer or affiliate thereof that meets a minimum size threshold that the Office may establish, whether by order or rule.

“(4) ADVANCE COORDINATION.—Before collecting any data or information under paragraph (2) from an insurer, or any affiliate of an insurer, the Office shall coordinate with

each relevant State insurance regulator (or other relevant Federal or State regulatory agency, if any, in the case of an affiliate of an insurer) to determine if the information to be collected is available from, or may be obtained in a timely manner by, such State insurance regulator, individually or collectively, another regulatory agency, or publicly available sources. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each such relevant State insurance regulator or other Federal or State regulatory agency is authorized to provide to the Office such data or information.

“(5) CONFIDENTIALITY.—

“(A) RETENTION OF PRIVILEGE.—The submission of any nonpublicly available data and information to the Office under this subsection shall not constitute a waiver of, or otherwise affect, any privilege arising under Federal or State law (including the rules of any Federal or State court) to which the data or information is otherwise subject.

“(B) CONTINUED APPLICATION OF PRIOR CONFIDENTIALITY AGREEMENTS.—Any requirement under Federal or State law to the extent otherwise applicable, or any requirement pursuant to a written agreement in effect between the original source of any nonpublicly available data or information and the source of such data or information to the Office, regarding the privacy or confidentiality of any data or information in the possession of the source to the Office, shall continue to apply to such data or information after the data or information has been provided pursuant to this subsection to the Office.

“(C) INFORMATION SHARING AGREEMENT.—Any data or information obtained by the Office may be made available to State insurance regulators, individually or collectively, through an information sharing agreement that—

“(i) shall comply with applicable Federal law; and

“(ii) shall not constitute a waiver of, or otherwise affect, any privilege under Federal or State law (including the rules of any Federal or State Court) to which the data or information is otherwise subject.

“(D) AGENCY DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS.—Section 552 of title 5, United States Code, shall apply to any data or information submitted to the Office by an insurer or an affiliate of an insurer.

“(6) SUBPOENAS AND ENFORCEMENT.—The Director shall have the power to require by subpoena the production of the data or information requested under paragraph (2), but only upon a written finding by the Director that such data or information is required to carry out the functions described under subsection (c) and that the Office has coordinated with such regulator or agency as required under paragraph (4). Subpoenas shall bear the signature of the Director and shall be served by any person or class of persons designated by the Director for that purpose. In the case of contumacy or failure to obey a subpoena, the subpoena shall be enforceable by order of any appropriate district court of the United States. Any failure to obey the order of the court may be punished by the court as a contempt of court.

“(f) PREEMPTION OF STATE INSURANCE MEASURES.—

“(1) STANDARD.—A State insurance measure shall be preempted if, and only to the extent that the Director determines, in accordance with this subsection, that the measure—

“(A) directly treats less favorably a non-United States insurer domiciled in a foreign jurisdiction that is subject to a Covered Agreement than a United States insurer domiciled, licensed, or otherwise admitted in that State; and

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3922. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. BOXER, Mr.