

DODD, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. Res. 530. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "National Women's Health Week 2010", and for other purposes; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. BROWN of Ohio):

S. Res. 531. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Hepatitis Awareness Month and World Hepatitis Day; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 354

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 354, a bill to provide that 4 of the 12 weeks of parental leave made available to a Federal employee shall be paid leave, and for other purposes.

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1301, a bill to direct the Attorney General to make an annual grant to the A Child Is Missing Alert and Recovery Center to assist law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing children, and for other purposes.

S. 1445

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1445, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the health of children and reduce the occurrence of sudden unexpected infant death and to enhance public health activities related to stillbirth.

S. 2749

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2749, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve access to nutritious meals for young children in child care.

S. 2768

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2768, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board for fiscal years 2011 and 2012, and for other purposes.

S. 3039

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3039, a bill to prevent drunk driving injuries and fatalities, and for other purposes.

S. 3058

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3058, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the special diabetes programs for Type I diabetes and Indians under that Act.

S. 3342

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3342, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to establish a demonstration project to promote collaborations to improve school nutrition.

AMENDMENT NO. 3889

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3889 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 3939

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3939 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 3986

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3986 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.

AMENDMENT NO. 4019

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4019 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.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INOUE, from the Committee on Appropriations, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute and an amendment to the title:

H.R. 4899. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for disaster relief and summer jobs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 111-188).

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3377. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the multifamily transitional housing loan program of the Department of Veterans Affairs by requiring the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to issue loans for the construction of, rehabilitation of, or acquisition of land for multifamily transitional housing projects instead of guaranteeing loans for such purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise today to offer legislation that would improve the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, Multifamily Transitional Housing Loan program. This program, established in 1998 and supported with a \$48 million appropriation in 1999, was intended to encourage additional development of transitional housing units for homeless veterans. Despite the good intention, the program was viewed as too rigid by community providers who turned elsewhere for assistance. In fact, only one loan was ever guaranteed under the program until VA discontinued it 2 years ago. The legislation I am introducing today would modify the program to give it the flexibility that community providers say is needed. The bill is cost neutral, relying only on money that Congress already has appropriated.

According to VA more than 107,000 veterans are homeless on any given night, including an estimated 1,589 in my home state of North Carolina. Many veterans are considered homeless or at risk due to their poverty, lack of support systems, and poor living conditions.

Even though we have seen a decrease in the number of homeless veterans from previous years, there is still work to be done. Make no mistake; the goal is not only to end homelessness but provide sustainable solutions to prevent veterans from, again, falling through the cracks. One area that will continue to play an important role in keeping veterans off the streets is the provision of transitional housing units coupled with onsite supportive services.

There are a number of VA programs that encourage the development of transitional housing units for homeless veterans. One such program, as I previously mentioned, was established by Congress in 1998—the Multifamily Transitional Housing Loan Guarantee Program. It was designed to encourage lenders to make low-interest loans, backed by a VA guaranty, available to homeless providers for the acquisition, construction, and improvement of transitional housing units. One provider, the St. Leo Campus for Veterans in Chicago, IL, operated by Catholic Charities, availed themselves of a VA-backed housing loan. However, St. Leo's experience is illustrative of why no other provider was able to secure a

loan and why the program was ultimately discontinued.

The St. Leo Campus for Veterans provides 141 studio units, each containing its own kitchen and full bathroom, to formerly homeless veterans as well as supportive services to help them become self-sufficient. On the St. Leo Campus, VA operates a clinic to provide outpatient services. In order to get financing for the St. Leo Campus, Catholic Charities obtained funding from ten sources, to include the VA-backed loan, various state-supported tax credits, and other creative funding sources.

Needless to say, the St. Leo Campus has been faced with numerous operational challenges that are typical of a provider servicing the homeless population. What exacerbates the challenge is the rigidity of the original VA loan program. Without flexibility in loan terms and conditions, St. Leo Campus struggles to make ends meet, bringing into question the sustainability of the project. To provide the necessary services to homeless veterans, St. Leo Campus has relied on one-time grants and donations which, in a difficult economy, are a highly volatile source of revenue. Flexibility in the terms of its VA-loan, as my bill would provide, would give St. Leo Campus and other homeless providers a chance to weather some of these cyclical funding challenges.

Recognizing the financing challenges many have in serving this unique population, my bill provides VA with the authority to issue loans under terms that are far more flexible than the original program. The legislation tracks each of the recommendations made in a report to VA regarding how the Multi-Family Transitional Housing Loan Program could be improved.

Specifically, the legislation would give VA greater flexibility in the types of loans it may offer and the conditions attached to repayment, including payment deferral, interest only payments, and debt forgiveness. It would give VA the authority to sell, lease, or operate a multifamily transitional housing project in the event of default. It would preempt any Federal, State, or local housing statute that limits a project from offering preferential treatment to veterans. Lastly, it would clarify that projects financed with a VA loan may include space for job training programs, other types of residential units, or other uses that the Secretary determines necessary for the sustainability of the multifamily transitional housing projects.

Transitional housing developed using VA-issued loans under my bill would still come with a requirement that a provider make available supportive services to reduce the likelihood of veterans again becoming homeless. These would include health care services; daily living services; personal financial planning; transportation services; income support services; fiduciary and representative payee services; legal

services; child care; housing counseling; and other services necessary for maintaining independent living.

Finally, I again reiterate that this legislation calls for no new appropriation. It relies exclusively on \$48 million appropriated, (but unspent), in 1999 to meet the administrative expenses and initial lending capital VA will require. As homeless providers make payments to extinguish any loan balance, VA will have the Opportunity to make additional loans.

I am committed to doing all we can to end homelessness among veterans. But I am also committed to doing it in a way that is not duplicative and fully utilizes money the American people have already put forward. I ask my colleagues for their support of my bill.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3377

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. CONVERSION OF MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM TO LOAN ISSUANCE PROGRAM.**

(a) AUTHORITY TO ISSUE LOANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2051 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) by striking “The” and inserting “(1) The”; and

(ii) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) The Secretary shall, utilizing funds available in the Multifamily Transitional Housing Loan Program Revolving Fund under section 2055 of this title, issue not less than five loans that meet the requirements of this subchapter.”;

(B) in subsection (b)—

(i) in paragraph (1), by striking “under subsection (a)” and inserting “under subsection (a)(1)”; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by striking “under subsection (a)” and inserting “under subsection (a)(1)”; and

(iii) in paragraph (3), by inserting “or issued” after “guaranteed”;

(C) in subsection (c), by inserting “or issued” after “guaranteed”; and

(D) in subsection (g), by inserting “or issued” after “guaranteed”.

(2) AUTHORITY TO DELEGATE APPROVAL AUTHORITY.—Subsection (c) of such section, as amended by paragraph (1)(C) of this subsection, is amended—

(A) by striking “A loan” and inserting “(1) A loan”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) The Secretary may delegate approval under paragraph (1) to a State or local government entity.”.

(3) SUNSET OF AUTHORITY TO ISSUE LOAN GUARANTEES.—Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(h) The Secretary may not guarantee under subsection (a)(1) any loan that is closed after the date of the enactment of this subsection. The termination by this subsection of the authority to guarantee loans under this subsection shall not affect the validity of any loan guaranteed under this subchapter before the date of the enactment of this subsection and is in force on that date.”.

(4) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 2052(d) of such title is amended by inserting “or issue” after “whether to guarantee”.

(B) Section 2053(a) of such title is amended by inserting “or issued” after “is guaranteed”.

(C) Section 2054(a) of such title is amended—

(i) in the first sentence, by inserting “or issued” after “guaranteed”; and

(ii) in the last sentence, by inserting “or loan” after “guarantee”.

(5) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(A) The heading of subchapter VI of chapter 20 of such title is amended by striking “LOAN GUARANTEE FOR”.

(B) The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter is amended by striking the item relating to subchapter VI and inserting the following new item:

“SUBCHAPTER VI—MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING”.

(b) MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM REVOLVING FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter VI of chapter 20 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

**“§ 2055. Multifamily Transitional Housing Loan Program Revolving Fund**

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a revolving fund known as the ‘Department of Veterans Affairs Multifamily Transitional Housing Loan Program Revolving Fund’ (in this section referred to as the ‘Fund’).

“(b) ELEMENTS.—There shall be deposited in the Fund the following, which shall constitute the assets of the Fund:

“(1) Amounts paid into the Fund under any provision of law or regulation established by the Secretary imposing fees on persons or entities issued a loan under this subchapter.

“(2) All other amounts received by the Secretary incident to operations relating to the issuance of loans under this subchapter, including—

“(A) collections of principal and interest on loans issued by the Secretary under this subchapter;

“(B) proceeds from the sale, rental, use, or other disposition of property acquired under this subchapter; and

“(C) penalties collected pursuant to this subchapter.

“(3) Amounts appropriated or otherwise made available before the date of the enactment of this section for purposes of activities under this subchapter, including amounts appropriated for such purposes under title I of the Department of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000 (Public Law 106-74; 113 Stat. 1049).

“(c) USE OF FUNDS.—The Fund shall be available to the Secretary, without fiscal year limitation, for all operations relating to the issuance of loans under this subchapter, consistent with the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.).”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of chapter 20 of such title is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 2054 the following new item:

“2055. Multifamily Transitional Housing Loan Program Revolving Fund.”.

(c) CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO DETERMINE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF LOANS.—Subsection (a)(6) of section 2052 of such title is amended by inserting “including with respect to forbearance, deferral, and loan forgiveness,” after “determines are reasonable,”.

(d) CLARIFICATION OF TYPES OF SPACES THAT MAY BE INCLUDED IN COVERED MULTIFAMILY TRANSITIONAL HOUSING PROJECTS.—Subsection (c)(1) of such section 2052 is amended by striking “or job training programs” and inserting “job training programs, other types of residential units, or other uses that the Secretary considers necessary for the sustainability of the project”.

(e) LOAN DEFAULTS.—Section 2053 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) The Secretary may impose such penalties or require such collateral as the Secretary considers necessary—

“(1) to discourage default on a loan issued under this subchapter; or

“(2) to mitigate harm to the Department from default on a loan issued under this subchapter.

“(d) The Secretary shall administer any property coming under the jurisdiction of the Secretary by reason of default on a loan issued or guaranteed under this subchapter in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Secretary for that purpose. Such administration of property may include selling, renting, or otherwise disposing of property as the Secretary considers appropriate.”.

(f) PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT OF VETERANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter VI of chapter 20 of such title, as amended by subsection (b), is further amended by adding at the end the following new section:

**“§ 2056. Preferential treatment of veterans**

“No provision of Federal or State law may prohibit a multifamily transitional housing project described in section 2052(b) of this title from offering preferential treatment to veterans.”.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections at the beginning of such chapter, as amended by subsection (b), is further amended by adding at the end the following new item:

“2056. Preferential treatment of veterans.”.

(g) TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.—Section 2052 of such title is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2), by striking “counseling” both places it appears and inserting “counseling”; and

(2) in subsection (d)(2), by striking “, as assessed under section 107 of Public Law 102-405”.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 526—DESIGNATING MAY 16 THROUGH MAY 22, 2010, AS “NATIONAL SEARCH AND RESCUE WEEK”

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 526

Whereas the National Association for Search and Rescue and local search and rescue units across the United States have designated May 16 through May 22, 2010, as “National Search and Rescue Week”;

Whereas the Senate recognizes the importance of search and rescue services that are provided by both salaried and volunteer citizens through county sheriff offices and military entities;

Whereas throughout the history of the United States, search and rescue personnel have served the people of this Nation by

helping to save the lives of fellow citizens who are lost or injured;

Whereas search and rescue personnel continually offer educational services that provide individuals with the survival knowledge necessary to live safely in diverse environments, from mountains to deserts and across both the urban and remote areas of this Nation;

Whereas search and rescue personnel train continually in order to maintain mission readiness and to be able to address complex search and rescue situations with both knowledge and skill;

Whereas search and rescue personnel are instrumental during national emergencies or natural disasters, as they are willing and able to respond and remain on missions for many weeks;

Whereas search and rescue personnel are required to be focused and dedicated in order to carry out missions that involve personal sacrifice of time, finance, and property, and place their own lives in danger;

Whereas in the United States, more than 500 individuals have sacrificed their lives during search and rescue missions or training; and

Whereas search and rescue personnel shall always be recognized as essential to protecting the lives of the citizens of this Nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates May 16 through May 22, 2010, as “National Search and Rescue Week”; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe this week with appropriate ceremonies and activities that promote awareness and appreciation of the role that search and rescue personnel perform in their communities so “that others may live”.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 527—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF AN APPROPRIATE DATE AS “NATIONAL CHILDHOOD STROKE AWARENESS DAY”

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

S. RES. 527

Whereas a stroke, also known as a cerebrovascular accident, is an acute neurologic injury that occurs when the blood supply to a part of the brain is interrupted by a clot in the artery or a burst of the artery;

Whereas a stroke is a medical emergency that can cause permanent neurologic damage or even death if not promptly diagnosed and treated;

Whereas 1 out of every 4,000 live births, and 11 out of every 100,000 children overall, have a stroke each year;

Whereas an individual can have a stroke before birth;

Whereas a stroke is among the top 10 causes of death for children in the United States;

Whereas 20 to 40 percent of children who experience a stroke die as a result;

Whereas stroke may recur in 20 percent of children;

Whereas the average time from onset of symptoms to diagnosis of a child having had a stroke is 72 hours;

Whereas no medication has been Federally approved for pediatric stroke treatment;

Whereas many children who experience a stroke will suffer serious, long-term neurological disabilities, including hemiplegia (which is paralysis of 1 side of the body) seizures, speech and vision problems, and learning difficulties;

Whereas such disabilities may require ongoing physical, occupational, and speech therapies, as well as surgeries;

Whereas the permanent health concerns and treatments resulting from strokes that occur during childhood and young adulthood have a considerable impact on children, families, and society;

Whereas very little is known about the cause, treatment, and prevention of childhood stroke;

Whereas medical research is the only means by which the people of the United States can identify and develop effective treatment and prevention strategies for childhood stroke;

Whereas early diagnosis and treatment of childhood stroke greatly improves the chances that the affected child will recover and not experience a recurrence; and

Whereas the Pediatric Stroke Network, Inc. should be commended for being the first online support group for families affected by pediatric stroke to be registered with the American Heart Association and for the ongoing legislative and awareness endeavors of the group: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of an appropriate date as “National Childhood Stroke Awareness Day”; and

(2) urges the people of the United States to support the efforts, programs, services, and advocacy of organizations that work to enhance public awareness of childhood stroke.

### SENATE RESOLUTION 528—DESIGNATING MAY 15, 2010, AS “NATIONAL MPS AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. BURR, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. KERRY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 528

Whereas mucopolysaccharidosis (referred to in this resolution as “MPS”) are a group of genetically determined lysosomal storage diseases that render the human body incapable of producing certain enzymes needed to break down complex carbohydrates;

Whereas MPS diseases cause complex carbohydrates to be stored in almost every cell in the body and progressively cause cellular damage;

Whereas the cellular damage caused by MPS—

(1) adversely affects the human body by damaging the heart, respiratory system, bones, internal organs, and central nervous system; and

(2) often results in mental retardation, short stature, corneal damage, joint stiffness, loss of mobility, speech and hearing impairment, heart disease, hyperactivity, chronic respiratory problems, and, most importantly, a drastically shortened life span;

Whereas symptoms of MPS are usually not apparent at birth;

Whereas, without treatment, the life expectancy of an individual afflicted with MPS begins to decrease at a very early stage in the life of the individual;

Whereas research has resulted in the development of limited treatments for some MPS diseases;

Whereas promising advancements in the pursuit of treatments for additional MPS diseases are underway as of the date of agreement to this resolution;

Whereas, despite the creation of new remedies, the blood-brain barrier continues to be