

of chapter 83 and chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, respectively, to ensure the inclusion of certain positions; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 986. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to regulate the subsidies paid to rum producers in Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CASEY, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 987. A bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 988. A bill to ensure that local educational agencies and units of local governments are compensated for tax revenues lost when the Federal Government takes land into trust for the benefit of a federally recognized Indian tribe or an individual Indian; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 989. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to require the exclusion of data of an exceedance or violation of a national ambient air quality standard caused by a prescribed fire in the Flint Hills Region, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 990. A bill to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Ms. MIKULSKI:

S. 991. A bill to ensure efficient performance of agency functions; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 992. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish direct care registered nurse-to-patient staffing ratio requirements in hospitals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 993. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prevent the extension of the tax collection period merely because the taxpayer is a member of the Armed Forces who is hospitalized as a result of combat zone injuries; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 994. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to protect States that have in effect laws or orders with respect to pay-to-play reform, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KIRK:

S. 995. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit public officials from engaging in undisclosed self-dealing; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts):

S. 996. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the new markets tax credit through 2016, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 997. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to extend a water contract be-

tween the United States and the East Bench Irrigation District; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 998. A bill to amend title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, in the case of airline pilots who are required by regulation to retire at age 60, to compute the actuarial value of monthly benefits in the form of a life annuity commencing at age 60; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. HATCH, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. CORNYN):

S.J. Res. 12. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to give States the right to repeal Federal laws and regulations when ratified by the legislatures of two-thirds of the several States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. BURR, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. KERRY, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 181. A resolution designating May 15, 2011, as "National MPS Awareness Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. CORKER, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BURR, and Mrs. HAGAN):

S. Res. 182. A resolution expressing the condolences of the United States to the victims of the devastating tornadoes that touched down in the South in April 2011, commending the resiliency of the people of the affected States, including the people of the States of Alabama, Tennessee, Mississippi, Georgia, Virginia, and North Carolina, and committing to stand by the people affected in the relief and recovery efforts; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KERRY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. Res. 183. A resolution designating May 14, 2011, as "National Police Survivors Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. Res. 184. A resolution recognizing the life and service of the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, distinguished former Senator from the State of Minnesota and former Vice President of the United States, upon the 100th anniversary of his birth; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COATS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. KYL):

S. Con. Res. 17. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that Taiwan should be accorded observer status in the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 214

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Washington

(Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 214, a bill to amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to require oil polluters to pay the full cost of oil spills, and for other purposes.

S. 215

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 215, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require oil polluters to pay the full cost of oil spills, and for other purposes.

S. 277

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 277, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care, medical services, and nursing home care to veterans who were stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, while the water was contaminated at Camp Lejeune, and for other purposes.

S. 296

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 296, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to provide the Food and Drug Administration with improved capacity to prevent drug shortages.

S. 351

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 351, a bill to authorize the exploration, leasing, development, and production of oil and gas in and from the western portion of the Coastal Plain of the State of Alaska without surface occupancy, and for other purposes.

S. 352

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 352, a bill to authorize the exploration, leasing, development, production, and economically feasible and prudent transportation of oil and gas in and from the Coastal Plain in Alaska.

S. 384

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 384, a bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to extend the authority of the United States Postal Service to issue a semipostal to raise funds for breast cancer research.

S. 425

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of permanent national surveillance systems for multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, and other neurological diseases and disorders.

S. 489

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 489, a bill to require certain mortgagees to evaluate loans for modifications, to establish a grant program for State and local government mediation programs, and for other purposes.

S. 510

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 510, a bill to prevent drunk driving injuries and fatalities, and for other purposes.

S. 543

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 543, a bill to restrict any State or local jurisdiction from imposing a new discriminatory tax on cell phone services, providers, or property.

S. 584

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 584, a bill to establish the Social Work Reinvestment Commission to provide independent counsel to Congress and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on policy issues associated with recruitment, retention, research, and reinvestment in the profession of social work, and for other purposes.

S. 603

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 603, a bill to modify the prohibition on recognition by United States courts of certain rights relating to certain marks, trade names, or commercial names.

S. 648

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 648, a bill to require the Commissioner of Social Security to revise the medical and evaluation criteria for determining disability in a person diagnosed with Huntington's Disease and to waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility for individuals disabled by Huntington's Disease.

S. 657

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 657, a bill to encourage, enhance, and integrate Blue Alert plans throughout the United States in order to disseminate information when a law enforcement officer is seriously injured or killed in the line of duty.

S. 658

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 658, a bill to provide for the preservation of the Department of Defense of documentary evidence of the

Department of Defense on incidents of sexual assault and sexual harassment in the military, and for other purposes.

S. 672

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 672, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 696

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 696, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to treat Vet Centers as Department of Veterans Affairs facilities for purposes of payments or allowances for beneficiary travel to Department facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 737

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 737, a bill to replace the Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection with a 5-person Commission, to bring the Bureau into the regular appropriations process, and for other purposes.

S. 742

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 742, a bill to amend chapters 83 and 84 of title 5, United States Code, to set the age at which Members of Congress are eligible for an annuity to the same age as the retirement age under the Social Security Act.

S. 755

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 755, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an offset against income tax refunds to pay for restitution and other State judicial debts that are past-due.

S. 781

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 781, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to conform the definition of renewable biomass to the definition given the term in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

S. 824

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 824, a bill to provide for enhanced mortgage-backed and asset-backed security investor protections, to prevent foreclosure fraud, and for other purposes.

S. 838

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 838, a bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to clarify the ju-

risdiction of the Environmental Protection Agency with respect to certain sporting good articles, and to exempt those articles from a definition under that Act.

S. 890

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 890, a bill to establish the supplemental fraud fighting account, and for other purposes.

S. 906

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 906, a bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions and to provide for conscience protections, and for other purposes.

S. 931

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 931, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the rules relating to fractional charitable donations of tangible personal property.

S. 939

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 939, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that the volume cap for private activity bonds shall not apply to bonds for facilities for the furnishing of water and sewage facilities.

S. 940

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 940, a bill to reduce the Federal budget deficit by closing big oil tax loopholes, and for other purposes.

S. 947

At the request of Mr. JOHANNES, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 947, a bill to provide end user exemptions from certain provisions of the Commodity Exchange Act and the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and for other purposes.

S. 950

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 950, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to repeal a prohibition on allowing States to use toll revenues as State matching funds for Appalachian Development Highway projects.

S. 951

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 951, a bill to improve the provision of Federal transition, rehabilitation, vocational, and unemployment benefits to members of the Armed

Forces and veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 952

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 952, a bill to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children and for other purposes.

S. 953

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 953, a bill to authorize the conduct of certain lease sales in the Outer Continental Shelf, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to modify the requirements for exploration, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 953, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 953, *supra*.

S. RES. 180

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 180, a resolution expressing support for peaceful demonstrations and universal freedoms in Syria and condemning the human rights violations by the Assad regime.

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 180, *supra*.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS ON MAY 11, 2011

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. 953. A bill to authorize the conduct of certain lease sales in the Outer Continental Shelf, to amend the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act to modify the requirements for exploration, and for other purposes; read the first time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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. 953

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Offshore Production and Safety Act of 2011”.

SEC. 2. OIL SPILL RESPONSE AND CONTAINMENT.

(a) RESPONSE PLANS.—The Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 9 the following:

“SEC. 10. EXPLORATION PLANS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, in the case of each exploration plan submitted after the date of enactment of this act, the Secretary shall require the incorporation into the exploration plan of a third-party reviewed response plan that describes the means and timeline for containment and termination of an ongoing discharge of oil (other than a de minimis discharge, as determined by the Secretary) at the depth at which the exploration, development, or production authorized under the exploration plan is to take place.

“(b) TECHNOLOGICAL FEASIBILITY.—Before determining whether to approve a new exploration plan under subsection (a), the Secretary shall certify the technological feasibility of methods proposed to be used under a response plan described in that paragraph, as demonstrated by the potential lessee through simulation, demonstration, or other means.”.

(b) PUBLIC/PRIVATE TASK FORCE ON OIL SPILL RESPONSE AND MITIGATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Energy, acting through the Office of Science of the Department of Energy, shall use available funds in the Ultra-Deepwater and Unconventional Natural Gas and Other Petroleum Research Fund established under section 999H of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16378), and such other funds as are necessary, to conduct a study, in collaboration with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department, on means of improving prevention methodologies and technological responses to oil spills and mitigating the effects of oil spills on natural habitat.

(2) TASK FORCE.—As part of the study required under this subsection, the Secretary shall convene a task force composed of representatives of the private sector, institutions of higher education, and the National Academy of Sciences—

(A) to assess the prevention methodologies and technological response to the blowout and explosion of the mobile offshore drilling unit Deepwater Horizon that occurred on April 20, 2010, and resulting hydrocarbon releases into the environment;

(B) to assess the adequacy of existing technologies for prevention and responses to deep water oil spills; and

(C) to recommend means of improving prevention methodologies and technological responses to future oil spills (including drilling relief wells) and mitigating the effects of the oil spills on natural habitat.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress, the President, the Secretary of Homeland Security, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Defense a report that describes the results of the study conducted under this subsection, including a recommended standard for technological best practices for prevention of and responses to oil spills, practice drills for emergency responses, and any other recommendations.

(c) STUDY ON FEDERAL RESPONSE TO OIL SPILLS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of existing capabilities and legal authorities of

the Federal Government to prevent and respond to oil spills.

(2) DEEPWATER HORIZON INCIDENT.—As part of the study required under this subsection, the Comptroller General of the United States shall assess the extent to which the capabilities and authorities described in paragraph (1) have been fully used in the response to the blowout and explosion of the mobile offshore drilling unit Deepwater Horizon that occurred on April 20, 2010, and resulting hydrocarbon releases into the environment.

(3) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report that describes the results of the study conducted under this subsection, including any recommendations.

SEC. 3. CONDUCT OF CERTAIN PROPOSED OIL AND GAS LEASE SALES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR THE 2007–2012 5-YEAR OCS PLAN.—The term “Environmental Impact Statement for the 2007–2012 5-Year OCS Plan” means the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program: 2007–2012 prepared by the Secretary and dated April 2007.

(2) MULTI-SALE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT.—The term “Multi-Sale Environmental Impact Statement” means the Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed OCS Oil and Gas Lease Sales 193, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 212, 215, and 218, 213, 216, and 222 prepared by the Secretary and dated September 2008.

(3) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(b) REQUIREMENT TO CONDUCT CERTAIN PROPOSED OIL AND GAS LEASE SALES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In accordance with section 8 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337), the Secretary shall conduct—

(A) as soon as practicable, but not later than 120 days, after the date of enactment of this Act, offshore oil and gas lease sale 216;

(B) as soon as practicable, but not later than 240 days, after the date of enactment of this Act, offshore oil and gas lease sale 218;

(C) as soon as practicable, but not later than 1 year, after the date of enactment of this Act, offshore oil and gas lease sale 220;

(D) as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, but not later than June 1, 2012, offshore oil and gas lease sale 222;

(E) not later than September 1, 2012, offshore oil and gas lease sale 209; and

(F) not later than December 31, 2012, offshore oil and gas lease sale 212.

(2) PROHIBITION ON CONFLICTS WITH MILITARY OPERATIONS.—The Secretary shall not make any tract available for leasing under paragraph (1)(C) if the President, acting through the Secretary of Defense, determines that drilling activity on the tract would create an unreasonable conflict with military operations.

(3) ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW.—For the purposes of lease sale 193 and each of the lease sales authorized under subparagraphs (A), (B), (D), (E), and (F) of paragraph (1), the Environmental Impact Statement for the 2007–2012 5-Year OCS Plan and the Multi-Sale Environmental Impact Statement shall be considered to satisfy the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.).

SEC. 4. APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF DRILLING PERMITS.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 11 of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1340) is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting the following:

“(d) DRILLING PERMITS.—