

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 214

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) 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 Florida (Mr. NELSON) 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. 339

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 339, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 418

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 418, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol.

S. 1069

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1069, a bill to suspend temporarily the duty on certain footwear, and for other purposes.

S. 1273

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1273, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act with regard to certain exemptions under that Act for direct care workers and to improve the systems for the collection and reporting of data relating to the direct care workforce, and for other purposes.

S. 1409

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1409, a bill to intensify efforts to identify, prevent, and recover payment error, waste, fraud, and abuse within Federal spending.

S. 1454

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1454, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for extended months of Medicare coverage of immunosuppressive drugs for kidney transplant patients and other renal dialysis provisions.

S. 1591

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Alaska

(Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1591, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Raoul Wallenberg, in recognition of his achievements and heroic actions during the Holocaust.

S. 1773

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1773, a bill to promote local and regional farm and food systems, and for other purposes.

S. 1872

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1872, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 2071

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2071, a bill to grant the Secretary of the Interior permanent authority to authorize States to issue electronic duck stamps, and for other purposes.

S. 2134

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2134, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for certain requirements relating to the retirement, adoption, care, and recognition of military working dogs, and for other purposes.

S. 2162

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2162, a bill to provide for the redevelopment of abandoned and foreclosed-upon properties and for the stabilization of affected neighborhoods, and for other purposes.

S. 2172

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2172, a bill to remove the limit on the anticipated award price for contracts awarded under the procurement program for women-owned small business concerns, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 310

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 310, a resolution designating 2012 as the "Year of the Girl" and Congratulating Girl Scouts of the USA on its 100th anniversary.

S. RES. 376

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 376, a resolution commemorating the 225th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution of the United States and recognizing the contributions of the National Society of

the Sons of the American Revolution and the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution.

AMENDMENT NO. 1760

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1760 intended to be proposed to S. 1813, a bill to reauthorize Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 2183. A bill to provide funding for the Fugitive Extradition and Apprehension Trust Fund; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I am introducing legislation today that will help address the serious problem of fugitives who commit violent crimes in the United States and then flee to foreign countries.

This problem was highlighted by a recent investigative series in the Chicago Tribune newspaper. The Tribune reported on a number of horrible crimes that were allegedly committed in Illinois by suspects who now live openly in foreign countries. The Tribune identified at least 129 criminal suspects who have fled from northern Illinois over the last decade who remain at-large abroad. This problem appears to be growing steadily as our world becomes increasingly interconnected. The stories in the Tribune series are heartbreaking.

Here is one example. In 2000, 19-year-old Alma Chavez was living in Pilsen with her family and studying to become a nurse. After she broke up with her boyfriend, Raul Andrade Tolentino, he came looking for her one early morning at her house. As he later confessed, Tolentino stabbed Alma several times with a knife. As she lay dying in her living room, Alma called 911, and the police responded and found Tolentino. After he was arrested, Tolentino was then released on a \$20,000 bond. Just over a month later, Tolentino fled Illinois and eventually went to Mexico.

Intent on bringing his daughter's killer back to the U.S. justice system, Alma's father Bonifacio Chavez repeatedly went to Mexico, spending his money to track down leads on Tolentino and interview informants to learn his whereabouts. Even though Alma's father eventually found Tolentino's new town in Mexico, and U.S. authorities issued an arrest warrant in 2007, Bonifacio Chavez died without seeing Tolentino face the murder charge in Illinois. To this day, Tolentino remains free, and the rest of the Chavez family is still waiting for him to be prosecuted.

This is just one of the many cases brought to light by the Tribune series. What has struck me most about these international fugitive cases is the deep

sense of injustice, prolonged grief, and sometimes fear that victims like the Chavez family experience. They suffer not just from the original crime, but also from the years they spend waiting, sometimes fruitlessly, for those responsible to face justice.

Illinois is not alone in experiencing a problem with international fugitives. This affects states across our country. In 2003, the Justice Department estimated that there were several thousand U.S. fugitives located abroad but only 1,413 were being sought for extradition. These numbers are unacceptable, and we must do more to ensure that these fugitives are captured and brought back.

When a criminal suspect flees across our country's border, it often requires the involvement of the local police or sheriffs, the local prosecutor, the U.S. Marshals, FBI, the Justice Department, INTERPOL, and usually some combination of these agencies, to track down and extradite the suspect. These proceedings can be complicated, lengthy, and expensive. And when the agencies involved do not cooperate effectively, information can get lost between them or the process can become stalled for years.

In January, I hosted a summit in Chicago to discuss ways to improve the apprehension and extradition of international fugitives. In attendance were Deputy Attorney General James Cole, U.S. Attorney Patrick Fitzgerald, U.S. Marshal Darryl McPherson, Cook County State's Attorney Anita Alvarez, Cook County Sheriff Tom Dart, and representatives from numerous other Federal, State and local agencies. With all of the stakeholders together in one room, we identified several key steps that would improve the situation, including more training for local agencies on handling fugitive cases; improved tracking of these cases; increased coordination between federal, state and local agencies; more resources dedicated to fugitive cases; and removing barriers to extradition with other countries.

It was a very constructive meeting. I am pleased to report that progress is being made on all of these fronts. This week the Justice Department will hold two International Fugitive Apprehension Trainings for Chicago-area law enforcement and prosecutors. The trainings, led by the U.S. Attorney's Office, will give guidance to local agencies on how to locate international fugitives and bring them to justice.

To track fugitive cases better, many of the Illinois law enforcement agencies and prosecutor offices have committed to reviewing their fugitive cases to ensure that their investigations and files are up-to-date. This will ensure that cases do not fall off the radar screen.

At the summit, I learned that local agencies were not sure which federal agency they should turn to first for assistance in a fugitive case. That question has now been answered by the Jus-

tice Department. The U.S. Marshals have been designated the first point of contact for Illinois agencies with fugitive cases.

Also, the summit highlighted how information-sharing and coordination between Federal, State and local agencies has been a problem in the past. But that is being improved. The Great Lakes Regional Fugitive Task Force, based in Chicago, is led by the U.S. Marshals and provides a major source of information, resources and support to local law enforcement agencies in Illinois. The Task Force also helps provide much-needed funding to our local law enforcement agencies to buy equipment such as cars and radios and to pay for overtime. This type of funding is critical to ensuring that agencies can devote the resources needed to investigate and prosecute complicated and expensive fugitive cases.

Right now, our Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies are doing the best they can with limited budgets during these difficult times. Giving them a little extra help will go a long way towards improving their collaboration and their enforcement. We can provide this help at the federal level by increasing the funding for the primary agencies that take part or assist local agencies in the capture and extradition of international fugitives—the U.S. Marshals, U.S. Attorneys, and the Office of International Affairs.

The bill I am introducing today, the Bringing Justice to Fugitives Act, would allow the Attorney General to use the money from forfeited bonds in federal criminal cases for these agencies' fugitive apprehension efforts.

Under the bill, this money can be used by the U.S. Marshals to enhance their fugitive task forces and investigations. It can be used by U.S. Attorney's Offices to conduct trainings and pursue prosecutions. And it can be used by the Justice Department's Office of International Affairs to enhance extradition efforts.

The amount of money involved is not huge—around \$1-3 million per year is collected in federal bond forfeiture money. But a little money can go a long way in fugitive cases. Right now, the money from forfeited bonds is deposited into the Crime Victims Fund. It makes up just a tiny fraction of the total Fund. Dedicating these forfeited bond funds for fugitive apprehensions will help victims by bringing more perpetrators to justice without unduly sacrificing any of the programs which receive money from the Crime Victims Fund.

My legislation does not touch any of the other sources of funding for the Crime Victims Fund, and I will work closely with crime victim support groups to ensure that their efforts are not hindered by this legislation.

The bill also establishes an important principle that when criminal suspects flee, we will use their forfeited bond money to arrest them and bring them back. The victims of fugitive

crimes deserve that justice. Because most fugitives are prosecuted by states, this legislation also plays a critical role by serving as a model for states to follow.

I hope that the state and local jurisdictions will take similar action by pursuing steps to make bond forfeiture funds available for fugitive capture and extradition. The bottom line is that when people are hurt by violent crime, often one of their first wishes is to see their perpetrator go through the criminal justice process. The Bringing Fugitives to Justice Act will help these victims by guaranteeing that our law enforcement agencies will step up their efforts to capture more fugitives and bring them to justice.

Finally, I want to mention that I am working to remove barriers to extradition that the Tribune series highlighted. For example, the Tribune pointed out that our extradition treaty with Mexico should be revisited so that U.S. crimes like reckless homicide can be treated as extraditable offenses. We also need to address differences in the two countries' statute of limitations periods, which can limit extradition in some cases.

I met at the end of February with the Mexican Ambassador, Arturo Sarukhan, to discuss the need to work on these aspects of our extradition treaty. The Ambassador, and Mexico in general, have been constructive partners in our extradition efforts, and I am grateful for this positive relationship. I also urged the Ambassador to make sure that the cases highlighted by the Tribune were being pursued to the best of Mexico's ability. While I cannot share any details about specific cases, I am reassured that that message has been received.

In short, while international fugitive cases still pose many challenges, we are continuing to work to improve the system at the state, local, Federal and international level. We are making progress, and the legislation I am introducing today will help.

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. 2183

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 "Bringing Fugitives to Justice Act".

SEC. 2. FUGITIVE EXTRADITION AND APPREHENSION TRUST FUND.

(a) FUGITIVE EXTRADITION AND APPREHENSION TRUST FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is created in the Treasury a separate account to be known as the Fugitive Extradition and Apprehension Trust Fund (referred to in this section as the "trust fund"). There shall be deposited in the trust fund the proceeds of forfeited appearance bonds, bail bonds, and collateral collected under section 3146 of title 18, United States Code.

(2) **USE OF FUNDS.**—Amounts deposited in the trust fund pursuant to paragraph (1) shall be obligated and expended by the Attorney General for the following purposes:

(A) To the United States Marshals Service to enhance efforts to investigate and apprehend fugitives from justice.

(B) To the Offices of the United States Attorneys to enhance efforts to investigate and prosecute fugitives from justice.

(C) To the Office of International Affairs in the Department of Justice to coordinate the investigation and extradition or other legal rendition of international fugitives from justice.

(3) **REALLOCATION.**—Any portion of an amount available under this subsection which is not obligated by the Attorney General by the end of the fiscal year in which funds are made available for allocation, shall be reallocated for award in the next fiscal year.

(b) **FISCAL YEAR.**—Amounts shall be deposited in the trust fund established in subsection (a) beginning in fiscal year 2013.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE CRIME VICTIMS FUND.

Section 1402(b) of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (42 U.S.C. 10601) is amended by—

- (1) striking paragraph (3); and
- (2) redesignating paragraphs (4) and (5) as paragraphs (3) and (4).

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

S. 2184. A bill to provide exclusive funding to support fisheries and the communities that rely upon them, to clear unnecessary regulatory burdens and streamline Federal fisheries management, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today, along with Senator SNOWE, Senator WHITEHOUSE, Senator SCOTT BROWN and Commerce Committee Chairman ROCKEFELLER, I am introducing the Fisheries Investment and Regulatory Relief Act of 2012. In the House, I am very pleased that Congressmen BARNEY FRANK and FRANK GUINTA will be introducing similar legislation.

In Massachusetts, commercial fishing supports more than 77,000 jobs. Recreational fishing is also an important part of our maritime economy and our local research institutions are world-renowned.

However, today our fishermen continue to face economic peril and they are deeply frustrated by science and research they do not trust. We have to put the broken pieces back together and restore both trust in Washington and economic security for this industry and the brave fishermen who get up every day and go out on those boats to make a living for their families.

In short, we need a new path. It starts by remaking the scientific research process and transforming it into something that does a much better job of including our fishermen in the data collection that forms the foundation of the rules and regulations that can determine their future.

We can take an important first step in improving the relationship between our fishermen and Federal regulators

by passing the Fisheries Investment and Regulatory Relief Act.

The cornerstone of this bill is returning the use of Saltonstall-Kennedy funds to our fishermen, as was the original intent of its creators. In 1954, Leverett Saltonstall and John F. Kennedy, Democratic and Republican Senators from Massachusetts, created the Saltonstall-Kennedy fund for fisheries research and development. Under their law, 30 percent of the duties on imported fish products was required to be transferred to a grant program to benefit the U.S. fishing industry. It was meant to be a permanent appropriation to promote science, research, and the development of American fisheries. But over years of tight budgets the use of these funds has gotten off track: to fund other priorities, the money has been going to places other than it was originally intended.

In 2010, the funds collected from the import of fishery products is estimated to be \$376.6 million. Thirty percent of that total is approximately \$113 million that should be used to improve science and help our fisheries. Unfortunately last year, only \$8.4 million of that \$113 million was used by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration—NOAA—for grants for fisheries research and development projects. The remaining funds were used by NOAA for their operations. This simply can not continue, especially given the current situation facing our fisheries. Our bill will restore the investment to help the fishermen and communities for whom Senators Saltonstall and Kennedy originally intended it to protect.

The New England fishing industry has been facing a serious crisis due to declining fish stocks and increasing Federal regulations. The transition to a new management plan has increased mistrust between fishermen and the Federal Government to the highest it has ever been during my 27 years in the Senate.

The Gulf of Maine cod crisis we are currently facing is emblematic of this distrust. Within 3 years of each other, two radically different stock assessments were released—the first assessment showed a species on the rise while the most recent survey shows a dramatic decline. Many of our fishermen do not believe in the new numbers because they have not been included in the process. This bill would provide local stakeholders with funding to help develop the accurate and credible science and stakeholder participation that we need.

By giving stakeholders the ability to determine how Saltonstall-Kennedy funds get spent, this bill would let New England decide what the unmet priorities in our fisheries research are and give them the funds necessary to do something about them. It could pay for things like side-by-side trawl surveys, done in cooperation with NOAA and our fishermen, so that we can find out if there are fish that are being missed by NOAA vessels and make sure that

data gets into the assessments. It would allow for money to go into figuring out if there are more advanced tools, like long-range sonar and other fish imaging capabilities, which could do a better job at determining how many fish are in the sea. And by giving preference to public-private partnerships, it can help rebuild trust between fishermen and Federal regulators.

Most importantly, it helps give our local fishing communities a bigger role in making these decisions.

We know that every region has specific priorities that they would like to see funded. Under this bill, money from the Saltonstall-Kennedy Act would be used to implement regional fishery investment plans, which would be developed by the Regional Fishery Management Councils, released in the Federal Register for public comment, and approved by the Secretary of Commerce. The priorities would include everything from more frequent stock assessments, better recreational data, to crucial habitat restoration.

This legislation will help give our fishermen a better chance to develop a clear, open dialogue with Federal regulators to determine we are up against and what we can do to fix it. It will help preserve our fishermen's livelihoods, their families' economic security and help ensure our fishing industry can survive for future generations. Most importantly, at a time of bitter division, it will restore trust—the rock upon which good governing has always been built.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 394—COMMEMORATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITALIAN UNIFICATION AND THE BEGINNING OF WARM AND ABIDING RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES AND ITALY

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. BARASSO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. CASEY, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 394

Whereas it has been 150 years since March 17, 1861, when the parliament of a united Italy proclaimed Victor Emmanuel II their king;

Whereas the story of the Italian Risorgimento, in particular Giuseppe Garibaldi's heroic adventures, have inspired generations of Americans;

Whereas, between 1880 to 1920, an estimated 4,000,000 Italian immigrants arrived in the United States to settle and help build our Nation;

Whereas today there are almost 18,000,000 Americans of Italian ancestry whose contributions to our society are diverse and profound;

Whereas Italy has been a loyal NATO ally and a major strategic partner for over 60 years;