

Lorin Johnston's acts of selflessness and heroism in the line of duty exemplify the meaning of true public service. As a former mayor of Chattanooga, I am particularly proud and grateful for the bravery and dedication of officers like Lorin Johnston who enter into harm's way in order to keep us safe.

As we honor Officer Johnston, we also remember Sergeant Tim Chapin, a 26-year veteran of the Chattanooga Police Department, for paying the ultimate sacrifice.

I am proud to join my fellow Tennesseans in congratulating Officer Johnston on this well-deserved honor and in remembering law enforcement officers across the country who go above and beyond the call of duty to keep our communities safe.●

RECOGNIZING THE NEVADA MILITARY SUPPORT ALLIANCE

● Mr. HELLER. Madam President, today I wish to recognize an organization from my home State of Nevada whose continuous support of military servicemen and women and their families is truly inspiring. Their unwavering commitment to military families across the Silver State is unmatched and demonstrates their passion for those in need.

Members of our military serve the United States to preserve and protect our freedom, and for that I am forever grateful. They dedicate their lives to serving this great nation and constantly make sacrifices to ensure the safety of our country. Generations of Americans enjoy greater peace and security because of the tireless efforts of these brave men and women.

The Nevada Military Support Alliance provides comfort and care, both personal and financial, to the families and survivors of Nevada's fallen and returning patriots. When a soldier does come home from a war zone, returning to civilian life is not an easy task. Both the soldier and their families experience an incredible amount of stress during this transition. This is where the Nevada Military Support Alliance steps in. They offer unprecedented levels of assistance for Nevada military members and their families for the rarities of challenges they face on a day-to-day basis.

We can never do enough for our nation's veterans, but with the help of the Nevada Military Support Alliance, we can ensure that more assistance is provided. Their continued dedication to our active military, veterans, and their families is unparalleled and stands as an example for us all.

As the Nevada Military Support Alliance celebrates their Second Annual Gala this weekend, I want to thank them for everything they have given to Nevada's men and women in uniform and for ensuring that support is provided for these heroes. We owe our veterans and their families a great deal of gratitude for their personal sacrifices.

On behalf of everyone who enjoys the freedoms that are unique to our great nation, thank you.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Mr. Pate, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:03 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, and requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 5326. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes.

H.R. 5652. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2013.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The President pro tempore (Mr. INOUE) reported that he had signed the following enrolled bill, which was previously signed by the Speaker of the House:

H.R. 2668. An act to designate the station of the United States Border Patrol located at 2136 South Naco Highway in Bisbee, Arizona, as the "Brian A. Terry Border Patrol Station".

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 5326. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 5652. An act to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 201 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2013.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. KYL, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 3173. A bill to allow funds under title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to be used to provide training to school personnel regarding how to recognize child sexual abuse; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 3174. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a vocational and technical entrepreneurship development program; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 3175. A bill to amend subchapter III of chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, to authorize certain employees to be automatically enrolled to increase contributions to Thrift Savings Plan accounts; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 3176. A bill to provide that the President must seek congressional approval before engaging members of the United States Armed Forces in military humanitarian operations; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 459. A resolution commending the 1st Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division upon its completion of a deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom; to the Committee on Armed Services.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 351

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) 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. 368

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 368, a bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to suspend a limitation on the period for which certain borrowers are eligible for guaranteed assistance.

S. 957

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 957, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of rehabilitative services for veterans with traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes.

S. 960

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 960, a bill to provide for a study on issues relating to access to intravenous immune globulin (IVG) for Medicare beneficiaries in all care settings and a demonstration project to examine the benefits of providing coverage and payment for items and services necessary to administer IVG in the home.

S. 1299

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1299, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of Lions Clubs International.

S. 1461

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1461, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the Food and Drug Administration's jurisdiction over certain tobacco products, and to protect jobs and small businesses involved in the sale, manufacturing and distribution of traditional and premium cigars.

S. 1577

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1577, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase and make permanent the alternative simplified research credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1591

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) were added as cosponsors 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. 1647

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1647, a bill to repeal the sunset on the reduction of capital gains rates for individuals and on the taxation of dividends of individuals at capital gain rates.

S. 1872

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors 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. 1882

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1882, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure that valid generic drugs may enter the market.

S. 1993

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1993, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Lena Horne in recognition of her achievements and contributions to American culture and the civil rights movement.

S. 2010

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2010, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 2046

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2046, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to modify the requirements of the visa waiver program and for other purposes.

S. 2066

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2066, a bill to recognize the heritage of recreational fishing, hunting, and shooting on Federal public land and ensure continued opportunities for those activities.

S. 2103

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2103, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect pain-capable unborn children in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes.

S. 2146

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2146, a bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to create a market-oriented standard for clean electric energy generation, and for other purposes.

S. 2165

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2165, a bill to enhance strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2165, *supra*.

S. 2179

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr.

REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2179, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve oversight of educational assistance provided under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense, and for other purposes.

S. 2205

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2205, a bill to prohibit funding to negotiate a United Nations Arms Trade Treaty that restricts the Second Amendment rights of United States citizens.

S. 2222

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2222, a bill to require the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to take certain actions to reduce excessive speculation in energy markets.

S. 2246

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2246, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to provide off-base transition training, and for other purposes.

S. 2325

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2325, a bill to authorize further assistance to Israel for the Iron Dome anti-missile defense system.

S. 2344

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2344, a bill to extend the National Flood Insurance Program until December 31, 2012.

S. 2367

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2367, a bill to strike the word "lunatic" from Federal law, and for other purposes.

S. 3079

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3079, a bill to make participation in the American Community Survey voluntary, except with respect to certain basic questions, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 39

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 39, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

S. RES. 380

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 380, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate regarding the importance of preventing the Government of Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons capability.

S. RES. 401

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 401, a resolution expressing appreciation for Foreign Service and Civil Service professionals who represent the United States around the globe.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. KYL, Mrs. HUTCHISON, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 3173. A bill to allow funds under title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to be used to provide training to school personnel regarding how to recognize child sexual abuse; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of myself and Senator HUTCHISON, to introduce bipartisan legislation that would expand No Child Left Behind professional development funding to include training for teachers and school personnel on how to recognize signs of sexual abuse in students.

According to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System, 695,000 children were victims of maltreatment in 2010. Approximately 9.2 percent, or 63,940 children, were victims of sexual abuse; this is an increase from 7.6 percent in 2009.

Recent events have shown that warning signs of sexual abuse in children are being missed. The vast majority of States mandate that teachers report suspicions of child abuse, yet not all States require teachers to participate in training.

According to the National Child Abuse and Neglect Data System, 60 percent of all reports of child abuse and neglect are made by professionals, yet only 16 percent of abuse and neglect is reported by education personnel.

Given the amount of time teachers and school personnel spend with children, it is of absolute importance that the warning signs of child sexual abuse be identified, reported, and acted on. It is critical to make sure all school personnel have access to training on how to recognize child sexual abuse.

The Helping Schools Protect Our Children Act of 2012 expands the list of allowable uses for Elementary and Secondary Education Act, ESEA, Title II funding to permit States to use this funding to train teachers, principals, and other school personnel on how to recognize child sexual abuse. Under current law, Title II provides grants to States for a variety of purposes related to recruitment, retention, and professional development of K-12 teachers and principals. Our bill would allow professional development funds in schools to be used to provide teachers with the tools to recognize child sexual abuse.

I am proud that Senator KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, Senate Minority Whip JON

KYL, and my colleague Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG have joined me as original cosponsors on this bill.

It is essential that as mandated reporters, school personnel should have the proper training to recognize child abuse. When there are no witnesses, what happens behind closed doors in an abusive home can scar a child for a lifetime. The more we learn to recognize the signs of abuse or neglect, the better we will foster a safe environment for young people to learn and grow.

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. 3173

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 "Helping Schools Protect Our Children Act of 2012".

SEC. 2. TRAINING TEACHERS TO RECOGNIZE CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE.

(a) STATE ACTIVITIES.—Section 2113(c) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6613(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(19) Providing training for all school personnel, including teachers, principals, and pupil services personnel, regarding how to recognize child sexual abuse."

(b) LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCY ACTIVITIES.—Section 2123(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6623(a)) is amended by inserting after paragraph (8) the following:

"(9) Providing training for all school personnel, including teachers, principals, and pupil services personnel, regarding how to recognize child sexual abuse."

(c) ELIGIBLE PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES.—Subpart III of part A of title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 2132(a), by striking "the activities" and inserting "activities"; and

(2) in section 2134(a)—

(A) in paragraph (1)(B), by striking "and" after the semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (2)(C), by striking the period at the end and inserting "or"; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

"(3) providing training for school personnel, including teachers, principals, and pupil services personnel, regarding how to recognize child sexual abuse."

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 3174. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to direct the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a vocational and technical entrepreneurship development program; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Vocational and Technical Entrepreneurship Development Act to provide critically needed support to help expand entrepreneurship education programs for young adults. At a time when young adults ages 18-24 face an unemployment rate of approximately twice the national average, it is more important than ever to provide additional resources to help

them start their own business. Young entrepreneurs need our help to give them the skills necessary to turn their passion into a successful career.

The Vocational and Technical Entrepreneurship Development Act provides support through small business development centers for high schools, technical schools, and nonprofit organizations serving young adults to develop and implement entrepreneurship education programs. Entrepreneurs who have access to business education programs are more likely to succeed, which often translates to jobs not only for them but for their communities as well. Small businesses are the engine of our economy and the ingenuity of young American entrepreneurs will continue to help drive our economic growth in the future. It is critical that we do everything possible to support our young entrepreneurs and harness their great ideas today that will turn into jobs tomorrow. I ask my colleagues to support job growth and the entrepreneurs who are the future of our economy by supporting this legislation.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 3175. A bill to amend subchapter III of chapter 84 of title 5, United States Code, to authorize certain employees to be automatically enrolled to increase contributions to Thrift Savings Plan accounts; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Save More Tomorrow Act of 2012. This act seeks to make a modest, commonsense modification to the Thrift Savings Plan, or TSP, which is the tax-deferred, defined contribution plan for Federal employees, similar to private sector 401(k) plans.

The Save More Tomorrow Act would build on the Thrift Savings Plan Enhancement Act of 2009, which was enacted with support from large, bipartisan majorities in Congress. Under the Thrift Savings Plan Enhancement Act, new Federal employees are automatically enrolled in the TSP unless they opt out, with a default employee contribution rate of 3 percent of basic pay. This legislation would adjust the TSP's automatic enrollment mechanism to allow it to automatically increase employee contributions, unless the employee chooses a different contribution rate. To accomplish this, the bill authorizes the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, the agency that administers the TSP, to pair the current auto enrollment at 3 percent with automatic escalation of 1 percent per year, for at least 2 consecutive years following the first year of enrollment. This promotes a goal of the Federal Employees' Retirement System Act of 1986, often referred to as FERSA, which was designed to encourage Federal employees to save at least 5 percent of their pay in the TSP.

This "three plus one plus one" model closely mirrors the model Congress