

report for the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-6201. A communication from the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Farm Credit Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Administration's Semiannual Report of the Inspector General and the Semiannual Management Report on the Status of Audits for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 31, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6202. A communication from the Chairman of the National Credit Union Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Semi-Annual Report of the Inspector General for the period from October 1, 2011 through March 21, 2012; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-6203. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Financial Assistance, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disaster Assistance Loan Program; Maximum Term for Disaster Loans to Small Businesses with Credit Available Elsewhere" (RIN3245-AG42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 17, 2012; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

EC-6204. A communication from the Deputy General Counsel, Office of Size Standards, Small Business Administration, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Small Business Size Standards: Transportation and Warehousing" (RIN3245-AG08) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on May 17, 2012; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEVIN, from the Committee on Armed Services:

Special Report entitled "Inquiry into Counterfeit Electronic Parts in the Department of Defense Supply Chain" (Rept. No. 112-167).

#### 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 Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 3207. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for relief in civil actions for violations of the protections on credit extended to members of the Armed Forces and their dependents; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 3208. A bill to reauthorize the Multi-national Species Conservation Funds Semipostal Stamp, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 3209. A bill to provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 3210. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the treatment under

contracting goals and preferences of the Department of Veterans Affairs for small businesses owned by veterans of small businesses after the death of a disabled veteran owner, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 3211. A bill to authorize the President to determine the appropriate export controls of satellites and related items based on the national security and foreign policy objectives of the United States, and for other purposes; 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. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. Res. 468. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate with respect to childhood stroke and recognizing May as "National Pediatric Stroke Awareness Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. RISCHE, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. Res. 469. A resolution honoring the entrepreneurial spirit of small business concerns in the United States during National Small Business Week, which begins on May 20, 2012; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 491

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 491, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of the Armed Forces of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law, and for other purposes.

S. 507

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 507, a bill to provide for increased Federal oversight of prescription opioid treatment and assistance to States in reducing opioid abuse, diversion, and deaths.

S. 1507

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1507, a bill to provide protections from workers with respect to their right to select or refrain from selecting representation by a labor organization.

S. 1551

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1551, a bill to establish a smart card pilot program under the Medicare program.

S. 1578

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms.

SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1578, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act with respect to consumer confidence reports by community water systems.

S. 1696

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1696, a bill to improve the Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program.

S. 1749

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1749, a bill to establish and operate a National Center for Campus Public Safety.

S. 1872

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) 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. 1878

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1878, a bill to assist low-income individuals in obtaining recommended dental care.

S. 1884

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1884, a bill to provide States with incentives to require elementary schools and secondary schools to maintain, and permit school personnel to administer, epinephrine at schools.

S. 1910

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1910, a bill to provide benefits to domestic partners of Federal employees.

S. 1979

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1979, a bill to provide incentives to physicians to practice in rural and medically underserved communities and for other purposes.

S. 2047

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2047, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to make demonstration grants to eligible local educational agencies for the purpose of reducing the student-to-school nurse ratio in public elementary schools and secondary schools.

S. 2066

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

PORTMAN) 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. 2116

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 2116, a bill to count revenues from military and veteran education programs toward the limit on Federal revenues that certain proprietary institutions of higher education are allowed to receive for purposes of section 487 of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

S. 2138

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2138, a bill to establish a pilot program to evaluate the cost-effectiveness and project delivery efficiency of non-Federal sponsors as the lead project delivery team for authorized civil works flood control and navigation construction projects of the Corps of Engineers.

S. 2165

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2165, a bill to enhance strategic cooperation between the United States and Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 2320

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2320, a bill to direct the American Battle Monuments Commission to provide for the ongoing maintenance of Clark Veterans Cemetery in the Republic of the Philippines, and for other purposes.

S. 2371

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2371, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to permit employers to pay higher wages to their employees.

S. 2374

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2374, a bill to amend the Helium Act to ensure the expedient and responsible draw-down of the Federal Helium Reserve in a manner that protects the interests of private industry, the scientific, medical, and industrial communities, commercial users, and Federal agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 3048

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio, the name of the Senator from Rhode Is-

land (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3048, a bill to provide for a safe, accountable, fair, and efficient banking system, and for other purposes.

S. 3188

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3188, a bill to increase the authorized number of Weapons of Mass Destruction Civil Support Teams.

S. 3199

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3199, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to stimulate international tourism to the United States and for other purposes.

S. RES. 435

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 435, a resolution calling for democratic change in Syria, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2107

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2107 intended to be proposed to S. 3187, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs and medical devices, to establish user-fee programs for generic drugs and biosimilars, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2108

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2108 intended to be proposed to S. 3187, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs and medical devices, to establish user-fee programs for generic drugs and biosimilars, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2111

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2111 intended to be proposed to S. 3187, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to revise and extend the user-fee programs for prescription drugs and medical devices, to establish user-fee programs for generic drugs and biosimilars, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. TESTER:

S. 3209. A bill to provide for the settlement of the water rights claims of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, water is the foundation for life. That is true in

every community, but especially in American Indian Country. Water plays a particularly important role in Native American life—past and present—in history, culture and religion. That is why I am proud to introduce the Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes of the Fort Belknap Indian Community Water Rights Settlement Act of 2012.

Not every issue relating to this important compact is resolved. I very much appreciate the perspective of those who say that changes are still needed. My goal in introducing this legislation is to get all interested parties to negotiate on the issues that must still be resolved. By introducing this bill today, the Ft. Belknap Indian community, surrounding counties and the State of Montana indicate to the United States that we are ready to negotiate in earnest. During that process, Montanans and I will work to gain support from the Department of the Interior, State of Montana, the Tribe, and local communities as we address individual concerns.

The current federal policy to determine Indian water rights is to negotiate, rather than litigate. Montana has had a similar policy since it created the Montana Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission in 1979. Both governments recognize that litigating every water right on Montana's vast Indian reservations is cost prohibitive and time consuming. Negotiated settlements are cheaper for everybody. They are much faster than litigation. They allow individuals to participate in the outcome. They provide a greater degree of certainty to everybody involved. Folks working on this settlement and I intend this legislation to fulfill the spirit of those policies.

Since the Supreme Court's 1908 decision in *Winters*, the United States has had a responsibility to provide water to the land it reserves for specific purposes, such as reservations for American Indian homelands. This legislation fulfills that responsibility. It will empower the Tribe to create jobs and stronger communities by improving critical infrastructure.

More importantly, it strikes the proper balance to achieve a fair, equitable, and final settlement of claims to water rights in the State of Montana between the State, the Tribe, and the United States for the benefit for the Tribe and allottees.

There is more work to do to ensure that all interested parties can support a final agreement. I understand that. However, hundreds of hours of deliberation over more than a decade have been put into shaping the terms of this Compact and Settlement. Although we have made good progress during that time, we still have a lot of work left. I look forward to working with my tribal, local, state and federal partners to get this done. It is the right thing to do for the United States, the Tribe and the State of Montana.

In 2001, as a member of the Montana legislature, I was happy to support