Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2276, a bill to permit Federal officers to remove cases involving crimes of violence to Federal court.

S. 2288

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2288, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to preserve consumer and employer access to licensed independent insurance producers.

S. 2554

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2554, a bill to amend title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to extend the authorization of the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program through fiscal year 2017.

S. 2620

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2620, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program and the increased payments under the Medicare low-volume hospital program.

S. 3049

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3049, a bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to expand the definition of homeless veteran for purposes of benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 3083

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3083, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require certain nonresident aliens to provide valid immigration documents to claim the refundable portion of the child tax credit.

S. 3205

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3205, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that persons renouncing citizenship for a substantial tax avoidance purpose shall be subject to tax and withholding on capital gains, to provide that such persons shall not be admissible to the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3221

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3221, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to permit employers to pay higher wages to their employees.

S.J. RES. 40

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 40, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rules submitted by the Department of the Treasury and the Internal Revenue Service relating to the reporting requirements for interest that relates to the deposits maintained at United States offices of certain financial institutions and is paid to certain nonresident alien individuals.

AMENDMENT NO. 2117

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2117 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. 2118

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2118 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. 2119

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2119 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. 2146

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2146 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. WYDEN:

S. 3225. A bill to require the United States Trade Representative to provide documents relating to trade negotiations to Members of Congress and their staff upon request, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, right now, the Obama Administration is in the process of negotiating what might prove to be the most far-reaching economic agreement since the World Trade Organization was established nearly twenty years ago.

The goal of this agreement—known as the Trans Pacific Partnership, TPP—is to economically bind together the economies of the Asia Pacific. It involves countries ranging from Australia, Singapore, Vietnam, Peru, Chile and the United States and holds the potential to include many more countries, like Japan, Korea, Canada, and Mexico. If successful, the agreement will set norms for the trade of goods and services and includes disciplines related to intellectual property, access to medicines, Internet governance, investment, government procurement, worker rights and environmental standards.

If agreed to, TPP will set the tone for our nation's economic future for years to come, impacting the way Congress intervenes and acts on behalf of the American people it represents.

It may be the U.S. Trade Representative's, USTR, current job to negotiate trade agreements on behalf of the United States, but Article 1 Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution gives Congress—not the USTR or any other member of the Executive Branch—the responsibility of regulating foreign commerce. It was our Founding Fathers' intention to ensure that the laws and policies that govern the American people take into account the interests of all the American people, not just a privileged few.

Yet, the majority of Congress is being kept in the dark as to the substance of the TPP negotiations, while representatives of U.S. corporations—like Halliburton, Chevron, PHRMA, Comcast, and the Motion Picture Association of America—are being consulted and made privy to details of the agreement. As the Office of the USTR will tell you, the President gives it broad power to keep information about the trade policies it advances and negotiates, secret. Let me tell you, the USTR is making full use of this authority.

As the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee's Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness, my office is responsible for conducting oversight over the USTR and trade negotiations. To do that, I asked that my staff obtain the proper security credentials to view the information that USTR keeps confidential and secret. This is material that fully describes what the

USTR is seeking in the TPP talks on behalf of the American people and on behalf of Congress. More than two months after receiving the proper security credentials, my staff is still barred from viewing the details of the proposals that USTR is advancing.

We hear that the process by which TPP is being negotiated has been a model of transparency. I disagree with that statement. And not just because the Staff Director of the Senate subcommittee responsible for oversight of international trade continues to be denied access to substantive and detailed information that pertains to the TPP talks.

Congress passed legislation in 2002 to form the Congressional Oversight Group, or COG, to foster more USTR consultation with Congress. I was a senator in 2002. I voted for that law and I can tell you the intention of that law was to ensure that USTR consulted with more Members of Congress not less.

In trying to get to the bottom of why my staff is being denied information, it seems that some in the Executive Branch may be interpreting the law that established the COG to mean that only the few Members of Congress who belong to the COG can be given access to trade negotiation information, while every other Member of Congress, and their staff, must be denied such access. So, this is not just a question of whether or not cleared staff should have access to information about the TPP talks, this is a question of whether or not the administration believes that most Members of Congress can or should have a say in trade negotiations.

Again, having voted for that law, I strongly disagree with such an interpretation and find it offensive that some would suggest that a law meant to foster more consultation with Congress is intended to limit it. But given that the TPP negotiations are currently underway and I—and the vast majority of my colleagues and their staff—continue to be denied a full understanding of what the USTR is seeking in the agreement, we do not have time to waste on a protracted legal battle over this issue. Therefore, I am introducing legislation to clarify the intent of the COG statute.

The legislation, I propose, is straightforward. It gives all Members of Congress and staff with appropriate clearance access to the substance of trade negotiations. Finally, Members of Congress who are responsible for conducting oversight over the enforcement of trade agreements will be provided information by the Executive Branch indicating whether our trading partners are living up to their trade obligations. Put simply, this legislation would ensure that the representatives elected by the American people are afforded the same level of influence over our nation's policies as the paid representatives of PHRMA, Halliburton and the Motion Picture Association.

My intent is to do everything I can to see that this legislation is advanced quickly and becomes law, so that elected Members of Congress can do what the Constitution requires and what their constituents expect.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 3231. A bill to provide for the issuance and sale of a semipostal by the United States Postal Service to support effective programs targeted at improving permanency outcomes for youth in foster care; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, as we recognize May as National Foster Care Month, we should take a minute to think about what foster care means for children in America. We currently have over 408,000 children in our foster care system due to abuse or neglect by their biological families, with 107,000 as eligible for adoption. Every year nearly 28,000 of these children age out of our foster care system with no place to call home. On average, foster children spend over 3 years in the system and around 16 percent languish in the foster care system for over 5 years. These numbers are a stark reminder that we must do more to connect children in our foster care system with a safe, loving, and permanent home.

I have worked with my colleague Senator GRASSLEY on a bipartisan bill that will provide supplemental funds to programs that directly impact children in our foster care system. The Families for Foster Youth Stamp Act will provide additional funding for the Court Improvement Program and the Adoption Opportunities Program by giving an easy option for individuals to pay a few cents more for their postage stamps if they choose to.

By providing a boost in resources to the Court Improvement Program, states can enhance their capacity to serve children in the system, build upon best practices, and improve the quality of representation our children receive. Funds going to the Adoption Opportunities Program will support programs that target improvement in permanency outcomes for youth in foster care through adoption, guardianship, or kinship care. We know that youth who are served by effective programs targeting permanent placement options have shown to be more likely to find a forever family than the national average. No teenager should exit our foster care system alone, facing possible homelessness and without the type of support system that only a family can provide. The Families for Foster Youth Stamp Act provides a unique funding option to supplement programs that make a real and tangible difference in the lives of our most at-risk children.

A number of organizations are supportive of this bill, including the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children, Children's Action Network, Children's Advocacy Institute, Child Welfare League of America, First Focus Campaign for Children, Foster Club, National Association of Council for Children, National Children's Alliance, National Council for Adoption, Northwest Adoption Exchange, The Adoption Exchange, and Voice for Adoption.

I would like to recognize Senators GRASSLEY, LANDRIEU, CARDIN, WYDEN, and COCHRAN as original cosponsors of this bill. I look forward to continued progress in developing a more effective child welfare system and ask all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3233. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the enforcement of employment and reemployment rights of members of the uniformed services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SERVICEMEMBERS ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT OF 2012

Mr. CASEY. Mr. President, the brave men and women serving our country in the military, the National Guard and the Reserves have sacrificed time away from their families, jobs and lives throughout Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Even upon their safe return, many of these men and women suffer physical, personal, and financial effects from their deployment and time in combat. This is compounded when our servicemembers return home from their deployment or service to find that their employers will not promptly reinstate them in their civilian jobs, as required by the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act of 1994, USERRA. Although USERRA should protect servicemembers against this type of discrimination, the process for filing a complaint can be unwieldy and expensive. No single Federal agency has oversight over this process, and investigations can drag on for months, including while servicemembers are deployed overseas. Our military personnel and their families should not be burdened by this additional stress and financial strain.

Pennsylvania has the nation's largest Army National Guard and fourth-largest Air National Guard. We owe it to these brave men and women to renew America's social commitment to the National Guard and Reserve, and to update National Guard and Reserve programs and benefits to reflect the operation tempo of their service. This is why I am today reintroducing the Servicemembers Access to Justice Act, which would eliminate loopholes and strengthen protections in the current law. Furthermore, this bill would bring a newfound clarity and understanding of the law for courts and employers.

The Servicemembers Access to Justice Act makes it easier for our servicemembers to fight for their USERRA rights in court if their employer requires them to relinquish them in order to be hired for or keep their job. This legislation would mandate studies of current employer education programs and solicit recommendations for ways in which government agencies could cooperate to enhance employer education. Additionally, the Servicemembers Access to Justice Act would enhance the remedies available to servicemembers who prove their rights under USERRA were violated, by adding increased penalties for willful violations.

We owe it to our servicemembers to ensure the fair enforcement of their employment rights. These men and women deserve our gratitude, and I am committed to supporting them during and after their service. Please join me in supporting this legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 470—DESIGNATING JULY 28, 2012, AS ''NATIONAL DAY OF THE AMERICAN COWBOY''

Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JOHANNS, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REID of Nevada, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. TESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 470

Whereas pioneering men and women, recognized as ''cowboys'', helped establish the American West;

Whereas the cowboy embodies honesty, integrity, courage, compassion, respect, a strong work ethic, and patriotism;

Whereas the cowboy spirit exemplifies strength of character, sound family values, and good common sense;

Whereas the cowboy archetype transcends ethnicity, gender, geographic boundaries, and political affiliations;

Whereas the cowboy is an excellent steward of the land and its creatures, who lives off the land and works to protect and enhance the environment;

Whereas cowboy traditions have been a part of American culture for generations;

Whereas the cowboy continues to be an important part of the economy through the work of many thousands of ranchers across the United States who contribute to the economic well-being of every State;

Whereas millions of fans watch professional and working ranch rodeo events annually, making rodeo one of the most-watched sports in the United States;

Whereas membership and participation in rodeo and other organizations that promote and encompass the livelihood of cowboys span every generation and transcend race and gender;

Whereas the cowboy is a central figure in literature, film, and music and occupies a central place in the public imagination;

Whereas the cowboy is an American icon; and

Whereas the ongoing contributions made by cowboys and cowgirls to their communities should be recognized and encouraged: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates July 28, 2012, as ''National Day of the American Cowboy''; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, I am proud to submit a resolution today to designate Saturday, July 28, 2012 as National Day of the American Cowboy. My late colleague, Senator Craig Thomas, began the tradition of honoring the men and women known as ''cowboys'' seven years ago when he introduced the first resolution to designate the fourth Saturday of July as National Day of the American Cowboy. I am proud to carry on Senator Thomas's tradition.

The resolution celebrates the history of cowboys in America and recognizes the important work today's cowboys are doing in the United States. The cowboy Spirit is about honesty, integrity, courage, and patriotism, and cowboys are models of strong character, sound family values, and good common sense. The first cowboys relied on hard work and persistence to make their living in a tough country. Today's cowboys haven't changed all that much from the first wranglers and ranch hands who started herding cattle on the Great Plains.

Cowboys continue to make important contributions to our economy, Western culture and my home State of Wyoming today. They live and work in every State to manage nearly 100 million cattle. Cowboys work hard, but they also play hard. Rodeo is a sport that tests skill with a rope or challenges a cowboy's ability to stay on the back of bucking rough stock for 8 long seconds. Rodeos across the nation draw millions of fans every year.

This year's resolution designates July 28, 2012, as the National Day of the American Cowboy. I look forward to celebrating this day, and I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the important role cowboys play in our country.

SENATE RESOLUTION 471—COMMENDING THE EFFORTS OF THE WOMEN OF THE AMERICAN RED CROSS CLUBMOBILES FOR EXEMPLARY SERVICE DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. PRYOR, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. BOXER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 471

Whereas, during the Second World War, the American Red Cross was charged by the United States Armed Forces with providing recreational services to the soldiers serving in the war;

Whereas Harvey Gibson, the Red Cross Commissioner to Great Britain during the war, conceived of the Clubmobiles in 1942 as a means of providing hot coffee, fresh doughnuts, and a vital connection to home to thousands of servicemen at dozens of airfields, bases, and camps throughout Great Britain during the buildup to D-Day;

Whereas thousands of young women, from every State in the United States, volunteered to serve in the Clubmobiles, and were chosen after a rigorous interview process in which less than 20 percent of applicants were selected;

Whereas, less than 1 month after the invasion of Normandy, France in June 1944, 80 Clubmobiles and 320 American Red Cross volunteers crossed the English Channel and began providing coffee, doughnuts, and a friendly smile to servicemen fighting on the front lines;

Whereas the Clubmobile volunteers saw service across Europe in France, Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, and Germany, and later in the Far East, touching the lives of hundreds of thousands of United States servicemen until victory was achieved;

Whereas, during the war, the American Red Cross purchased enough flour to produce more than 1,500,000,000 doughnuts, many served from the windows of a Clubmobile;

Whereas a visit from a Clubmobile, which could serve gallons of coffee and hundreds of doughnuts every minute, was often the most significant morale boost available to servicemen at war;

Whereas 52 women of the American Red Cross, some of whom served on the Clubmobiles, perished during the war as a result of their service; and

Whereas 70 years have passed since the Clubmobiles were founded, and only a few women who served in the Clubmobiles remain to share their stories: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the exemplary and courageous service and sacrifice of each of the patriotic women of the United States who served in the American Red Cross Clubmobiles during the Second World War;

(2) honors the Clubmobile women who lost their lives during the Second World War;

(3) calls upon historians of the Second World War to recognize and describe the service of the Clubmobiles, and to not let this important piece of United States history be lost; and

(4) urges the American Red Cross to publicly commemorate the stories of the Clubmobiles and the amazing women who served in them.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2150. Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. VITTER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3187, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2151. Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3187, supra.

SA 2152. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3187, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.