

“(II) award those funds, on a competitive basis, to new or existing applicants consistent with this section; and

“(iii) consolidate and minimize overlap among the programs;

“(D) with respect to an application for assistance under this section, shall—

“(i) promptly post on the website of the Rural Utility Service—

“(I) an announcement that identifies—

“(aa) each applicant;

“(bb) the amount and type of support requested by each applicant; and

“(II) a list of the census block groups or proposed service territory, in a manner specified by the Secretary, that the applicant proposes to service;

“(ii) provide not less than 15 days for broadband service providers to voluntarily submit information about the broadband services that the providers offer in the groups or tracts listed under clause (i)(II) so that the Secretary may assess whether the applications submitted meet the eligibility requirements under this section; and

“(iii) if no broadband service provider submits information under clause (ii), consider the number of providers in the group or tract to be established by reference to—

“(I) the most current National Broadband Map of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration; or

“(II) any other data regarding the availability of broadband service that the Secretary may collect or obtain through reasonable efforts; and

“(E) may establish additional reporting and information requirements for any recipient of any assistance under this section so as to ensure compliance with this section.”;

(5) in subsection (e)—

(A) by redesignating paragraph (2) as paragraph (3); and

(B) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), for purposes of this section, the minimum acceptable level of broadband service for a rural area shall be at least—

“(A) a 4-Mbps downstream transmission capacity; and

“(B) a 1-Mbps upstream transmission capacity.

“(2) ADJUSTMENTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—At least once every 2 years, the Secretary shall review, and may adjust, the minimum acceptable level of broadband service established under paragraph (1) to ensure that high quality, cost-effective broadband service is provided to rural areas over time.

“(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In making an adjustment to the minimum acceptable level of broadband service under subparagraph (A), the Secretary may consider establishing different transmission rates for fixed broadband service and mobile broadband service.”;

(6) in subsection (f), by striking “make a loan or loan guarantee” and inserting “provide assistance”;

(7) in subsection (g), by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

“(2) TERMS.—In determining the term and conditions of a loan or loan guarantee, the Secretary may—

“(A) consider whether the recipient would be serving an area that is unserved; and

“(B) if the Secretary makes a determination in the affirmative under subparagraph (A), establish a limited initial deferral period or comparable terms necessary to achieve the financial feasibility and long-term sustainability of the project.”;

(8) in subsection (j)—

(A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking “loan and loan guarantee”;

(B) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by inserting “grants and” after “number of”; and

(ii) by inserting “, including any loan terms or conditions for which the Secretary provided additional assistance to unserved areas” before the semicolon at the end;

(C) in paragraph (2)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by striking “loan”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “loans and” and inserting “grants, loans, and”;

(D) in paragraph (3), by striking “loan”;

(E) in paragraph (5), by striking “and” at the end;

(F) in paragraph (6), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(G) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) the overall progress towards fulfilling the goal of improving the quality of rural life by expanding rural broadband access, as demonstrated by metrics, including—

“(A) the number of residences and businesses receiving new broadband services;

“(B) network improvements, including facility upgrades and equipment purchases;

“(C) average broadband speeds and prices on a local and statewide basis;

“(D) any changes in broadband adoption rates; and

“(E) any specific activities that increased high speed broadband access for educational institutions, health care providers, and public safety service providers.”;

(9) by redesignating subsections (k) and (l) as subsections (l) and (m), respectively;

(10) by inserting after subsection (j) the following:

“(k) BROADBAND BUILDOUT DATA.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving a grant, loan, or loan guarantee under this section, a recipient of assistance shall provide to the Secretary address-level broadband buildout data that indicates the location of new broadband service that is being provided or upgraded within the service territory supported by the grant, loan, or loan guarantee—

“(A) for purposes of inclusion in the semi-annual updates to the National Broadband Map that is managed by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (referred to in this subsection as the ‘Administration’); and

“(B) not later than 30 days after the earlier of—

“(i) the date of completion of any project milestone established by the Secretary; or

“(ii) the date of completion of the project.

“(2) ADDRESS-LEVEL DATA.—Effective beginning on the date the Administration receives data described in paragraph (1), the Administration shall use only address-level broadband buildout data for the National Broadband Map.

“(3) CORRECTIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit to the Administration any correction to the National Broadband Map that is based on the actual level of broadband coverage within the rural area, including any requests for a correction from an elected or economic development official.

“(B) INCORPORATION.—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Administration receives a correction submitted under subparagraph (A), the Administration shall incorporate the correction into the National Broadband Map.

“(C) USE.—If the Secretary has submitted a correction to the Administration under subparagraph (A), but the National Broadband Map has not been updated to reflect the correct by the date on which the Secretary is making a grant or loan award decision under this section, the Secretary may use the correction submitted under that subparagraph for purposes of making the grant or loan award decision.”;

(11) subsection (l) (as redesignated by paragraph (9))—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) by striking “\$25,000,000” and inserting “\$50,000,000”; and

(ii) by striking “2012” and inserting “2017”; and

(B) in paragraph (2)(A)—

(i) in clause (i), by striking “and” at the end;

(ii) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(iii) set aside at least 1 percent to be used for—

“(I) conducting oversight under this section; and

“(II) implementing accountability measures and related activities authorized under this section.”;

(12) in subsection (m) (as redesignated by paragraph (9))—

(A) by striking “loan or” and inserting “grant, loan, or”;

(B) by striking “2012” and inserting “2017”.

SA 2458. Ms. STABENOW (for Ms. SNOWE) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 488, commending the efforts of the firefighters and emergency response personnel of Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, and Connecticut, who came together to extinguish the May 23, 2012, fire at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard in Kittery, Maine; as follows:

In the fourth whereas clause of the preamble, strike paragraph (18) and insert the following:

“(18) Newington Fire Department, New Hampshire;”.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Tuesday, June 19, 2012, at 10 a.m. in SD-430 Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “Forty Years and Counting: The Triumphs of Title IX.”

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Libby Masiuk of the committee staff on (202) 224-5501.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Thursday, June 21, 2012, at 10 a.m. in SD-430 Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “Olmstead Enforcement Update: Using the ADA to Promote Community Integration.”

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Lee Perselay of the committee staff on (202) 228-3453.

COMMENDING THE FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PERSONNEL—USS “MIAMI” FIRE

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, notwithstanding the adoption of S. Res.

488 and the preamble thereto, I ask unanimous consent that a Snowe amendment to the preamble that is at the desk be agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment (No. 2458) was agreed to, as follows:

In the fourth whereas clause of the preamble, strike paragraph (18) and insert the following:

“(18) Newington Fire Department, New Hampshire;”.

NATIONAL DAY OF THE AMERICAN COWBOY

Ms. STABENOW. I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of and the Senate now proceed to S. Res. 470.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 470) designating July 28, 2012, as “National Day of the American Cowboy.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Ms. STABENOW. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 470) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

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 commu-

nities 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.

POLYCYSTIC KIDNEY DISEASE AWARENESS WEEK

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to S. Res. 495, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 495) designating the period beginning on June 17, 2012, and ending on June 23, 2012, as “Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Week,” and raising awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease and the impact such disease has on patients.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. KOHL. Mr. President, Senator HATCH and I submitted a resolution to increase awareness of Polycystic Kidney Disease, PKD, a life-threatening genetic illness.

PKD is the most common genetic illness, and over 600,000 people have been diagnosed with PKD nationwide. There is no treatment or cure for this devastating disease. Families and friends provide unwavering support to their suffering loved ones.

But there is hope. The PKD Foundation has reported the discovery of specific genes involved in the development of PKD, allowing for the development of clinical trials.

While scientists continue researching to find new treatments and cures for PKD, others are working to bring awareness. Every year, the PKD Foundation holds an annual fundraising walk for PKD. In Wisconsin, where over 11,000 patients are living with the disease, residents gather across the state to take part in this very special walk.

To support these efforts, I propose that Congress increase public awareness of the disease by designating the week of June 17 to 23 of this year as “National Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Week.” We will be taking a positive step toward finding a cure for this disease by increasing awareness.

I trust that my colleagues will see how designating a week to this disease will help those afflicted by polycystic kidney disease, and I hope for my colleagues’ full support of this important resolution.

Ms. STABENOW. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements be printed in the RECORD as if read.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 495) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 495

Whereas polycystic kidney disease, known as “PKD”, is a life-threatening genetic disease, affecting newborns, children, and adults regardless of sex, age, race, geography, income, or ethnicity;

Whereas there are 2 forms of polycystic kidney disease, autosomal dominant (ADPKD), and autosomal recessive (ARPKD), a rare form frequently leading to early death;

Whereas polycystic kidney disease causes multiple cysts to form on both kidneys (ranging in size from a pinhead to a grapefruit), leading to an increase in kidney size and weight;

Whereas polycystic kidney disease is a systemic disease that causes damage to the kidneys and the cardiovascular, endocrine, hepatic, and gastrointestinal systems;

Whereas patients with polycystic kidney disease often experience no symptoms early in the disease, and many patients do not realize they have polycystic kidney disease until other organs are affected;

Whereas symptoms of polycystic kidney disease may include high blood pressure, chronic pain in the back, sides or abdomen, blood in the urine, urinary tract infection, heart disease, and kidney stones;

Whereas polycystic kidney disease is the number 1 genetic cause of kidney failure in the United States;

Whereas more than half of polycystic kidney disease patients will reach kidney failure and require dialysis or a kidney transplant to survive, thus placing an extra strain on dialysis and kidney transplantation resources;

Whereas there is no treatment or cure for polycystic kidney disease; and

Whereas there are thousands of volunteers nationwide dedicated to expanding essential research, fostering public awareness and understanding, educating patients and their families about polycystic kidney disease to improve treatment and care, providing appropriate moral support, and encouraging people to become organ donors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates the period beginning on June 17, 2012, and ending on June 23, 2012, as “Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Week”; and

(2) supports the goals and ideals of Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Week, to raise public awareness and understanding of polycystic kidney disease;

(3) recognizes the need for additional research to find treatments and a cure for polycystic kidney disease; and

(4) encourages the people of the United States and interested groups to support Polycystic Kidney Disease Awareness Week through appropriate ceremonies and activities, to promote public awareness of polycystic kidney disease, and to foster understanding of the impact of such disease on patients and their families.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2012

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. on Tuesday, June 19; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved