

tort reform. That is the same thing that was passed by the House of Representatives and that would save \$74 billion over 10 years.

All told, all the savings generated would be \$2.6 trillion—not \$1.2 trillion—\$2.6 trillion over 10 years. So do not let anyone tell you, we cannot get there from here. Clearly, we can get there from here.

We use the remaining amount to beef up the military to get back to our 4-percent level. I believe if we were to talk to the average American, they would say: Yes, let's go ahead and do this. Why aren't we doing it now?

Let me mention one other thing before I conclude; that is, we have something called the WARN Act. What that does is require the employers—who know because of sequestration there are going to be layoffs—to give pink slips at least 60 days prior to the time that will happen. Under sequestration, if they do not adopt my act, if they do that, then those pink slips would have to be out there by the 2nd of November.

The President does not want that to happen. He does not want the Obama sequestration to be pointed out and identified as to what is causing them to lose their jobs, so he is trying to get companies not to comply with the WARN Act.

Clearly, the WARN Act says “an employer shall not order a plant closing or mass layoff until the end of a 60-day period after the employer serves written notice of such an order.”

The WARN Act states—this is very significant because if there are companies out there that are listening to the President when he is asking them not to issue the pink slips, this is what would happen to them—it states that “any employer who orders a plant closing or mass layoff in violation of Section 3 . . . shall be liable to each aggrieved employee who suffers an employment loss as a result of such closing or layoff.”

In other words, if they do not do it, then that opens the doors for all the trial lawyers to come in. Just imagine the cases. At Lockheed Martin, they say they are going to have to let go of some 120,000 people. If they had a class action suit, each one who was let go would receive something like \$1,000. That would be \$120 million that company would have to pay. I cannot imagine the board of directors of any company anywhere in America not complying with this legal act called the WARN Act.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. CASEY, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts):

S. 3477. A bill to ensure that the United States promotes women's meaningful inclusion and participation in mediation and negotiation processes undertaken in order to prevent, mitigate, or resolve violent conflict and implements the United States National

Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2012 with Senators HUTCHISON, CASEY, SNOWE, SHAHEEN, GILLIBRAND and SCOTT BROWN. A companion bill was also introduced in the House of Representatives today by Representatives CARNAHAN, BERMAN and SCHAKOWSKY.

This important legislation will help codify the United States National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security, which was released by the Obama administration in December, 2011, to help further ongoing U.S. initiatives regarding women, peace, and security and the objectives of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, UNSCR 1325.

UNSCR 1325 calls on all countries to establish national action plans aimed at promoting the inclusion of women in conflict resolution efforts and peace-building institutions, such as police services.

This is essential because women and girls are disproportionately impacted by violence and armed conflict. But at the same time, we know that women are critical to helping prevent violence before it occurs and resolving crises once they begin. Furthermore, evidence shows that integrating women into peace-building processes helps promote democracy and ensure the likelihood of a peace process succeeding.

With the National Action Plan on Women, Peace, and Security, the U.S. joins the more than 37 other countries who have released similar National Action Plans recognizing women's contributions to peace building and committing to support women's inclusion in all aspects of peace processes.

As Chair of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on International Operations and Organizations, Human Rights, Democracy, and Global Women's Issues, I am proud of the Obama Administration for undertaking this important initiative, and remain committed to continuing to promote the full inclusion of women in all aspects of peace-building efforts.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to pass this important legislation.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 535—RECOGNIZING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE MOVEMENT IS LIFE CAUCUS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 535

Whereas arthritis is the number one cause of disability in the United States, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Pre-

vention, affecting 50,000,000 Americans, and among the leading reasons for doctors' visits and missed work;

Whereas the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention finds that in 2003 arthritis cost the United States economy \$128,000,000,000 annually in medical costs and lost wages;

Whereas 27,000,000 Americans suffer from osteoarthritis (the most common form of arthritis) and almost 80 percent have some degree of movement limitation;

Whereas the onset of chronic joint pain and osteoarthritis can lead to disability and a loss of personal independence;

Whereas, women along with African Americans and Latinos, the two largest racial and ethnic minority groups in the United States, face more severe osteoarthritis and disability, yet receive less than optimal access to diagnostic, medical, and surgical intervention than do other groups;

Whereas women and minorities experiencing chronic diseases (such as diabetes, obesity, and heart disease (all medical conditions positively impacted by physical activity)) struggle disproportionately with undiagnosed and diagnosed osteoarthritis;

Whereas there is a lack of awareness about the connection between musculoskeletal health disparities, increasing physical inactivity levels and disparities in diabetes, obesity, and heart disease among women, African-Americans and Latinos, which have a significant impact on increasing health care costs and workforce productivity;

Whereas the first Movement is Life National Summit in September 2010 facilitated a national dialogue among stakeholders engaged in the continuum of care of women, African Americans, and Latinos, about musculoskeletal health disparities;

Whereas the National Movement is Life Work Group Caucus has been established and the third annual meeting will be held this September 16-18, 2012 in Washington, D.C.;

Whereas the National Movement is Life Work Group Caucus will facilitate the development of action plans to help reduce musculoskeletal health disparities; and

Whereas the National Movement is Life Work Group Caucus seeks to promote early intervention, slow musculoskeletal disease progression, reduce disability, and encourage physical activity and daily movement in order to improve the health of those currently disadvantaged as well as the overall health of the nation: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the musculoskeletal health disparities present among women, African Americans, and Latinos;

(2) acknowledges the dangers posed to these populations, from rising inactivity levels and the impact on increased risk of chronic diseases such as diabetes, obesity, and heart disease;

(3) seeks to raise public awareness in these communities about osteoarthritis and the importance of early intervention;

(4) encourages physical activity and daily movement, in order to limit the exasperation of related chronic diseases and loss of independence; and

(5) commends the Movement is Life National Caucus for its efforts in creating a dialogue which draws attention to these health disparities which continue to impact our national economy and many lives around the country.

SENATE RESOLUTION 536—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 9, 2012, AS “NATIONAL FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS AWARENESS DAY”

Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, and Mr. BEGICH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 536

Whereas the term “fetal alcohol spectrum disorders” includes a broader range of conditions than the term “fetal alcohol syndrome” and has replaced the term “fetal alcohol syndrome” as the umbrella term describing the range of effects that can occur in an individual whose mother consumed alcohol during her pregnancy;

Whereas fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are the leading cause of cognitive disability in Western civilization, including the United States, and are 100 percent preventable;

Whereas fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are a major cause of numerous social disorders, including learning disabilities, school failure, juvenile delinquency, homelessness, unemployment, mental illness, and crime;

Whereas the incidence rate of fetal alcohol syndrome is estimated at 1 out of every 500 live births and the incidence rate of fetal alcohol spectrum disorders is estimated at 1 out of every 100 live births;

Whereas, in February 1999, a small group of parents with children who suffer from fetal alcohol spectrum disorders united to promote awareness of the devastating consequences of alcohol consumption during pregnancy by establishing International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day;

Whereas September 9, 1999, became the first International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day;

Whereas Bonnie Buxton of Toronto, Canada, the co-founder of the first International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day, asked “What if . . . a world full of FAS/E [Fetal Alcohol Syndrome/Effect] parents all got together on the ninth hour of the ninth day of the ninth month of the year and asked the world to remember that, during the 9 months of pregnancy, a woman should not consume alcohol . . . would the rest of the world listen?”; and

Whereas, on the ninth day of the ninth month of each year since 1999, communities around the world have observed International Fetal Alcohol Syndrome Awareness Day: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 9, 2012, as “National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day”; and

(2) calls on the people of the United States to observe National Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders Awareness Day with—

(A) appropriate ceremonies—

(i) to promote awareness of the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol;

(ii) to increase compassion for individuals affected by prenatal exposure to alcohol;

(iii) to minimize the effects of prenatal exposure to alcohol; and

(iv) to ensure healthier communities across the United States; and

(B) a moment of reflection during the ninth hour of September 9, 2012, to remember that a woman should not consume alcohol during the 9 months of her pregnancy.

SENATE RESOLUTION 537—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. TESTER, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. WEBB, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 537

Whereas ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all gynecologic cancers;

Whereas ovarian cancer is the 5th leading cause of cancer deaths among women in the United States;

Whereas approximately 22,000 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer this year, and 15,500 will die from the disease;

Whereas these deaths are those of our mothers, sisters, daughters, family members, and community leaders;

Whereas the mortality rate for ovarian cancer has not significantly decreased since the “War on Cancer” was declared, more than 40 years ago;

Whereas all women are at risk for ovarian cancer, and 90 percent of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer do not have a family history that puts them at higher risk;

Whereas some women, such as those with a family history of breast or ovarian cancer, are at higher risk for developing the disease;

Whereas the Pap test is sensitive and specific to the early detection of cervical cancer, but not to ovarian cancer;

Whereas, as of the date of agreement to this resolution, there is no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer;

Whereas many people are unaware that the symptoms of ovarian cancer often include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms, and several other symptoms that are easily confused with other diseases;

Whereas, in June 2007, the first national consensus statement on ovarian cancer symptoms was developed to provide consistency in describing symptoms to make it easier for women to learn and remember the symptoms;

Whereas there are known methods to reduce the risk of ovarian cancer, including prophylactic surgery, oral contraceptives, and breast-feeding;

Whereas, due to the lack of a reliable early detection test, 75 percent of cases of ovarian cancer are detected at an advanced stage, making the overall 5-year survival rate only 45 percent;

Whereas there are factors that are known to reduce the risk for ovarian cancer and that play an important role in the prevention of the disease;

Whereas awareness of the symptoms of ovarian cancer by women and health care providers can lead to a quicker diagnosis;

Whereas, each year during the month of September, the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance and its partner members hold a number of events to increase public awareness of ovarian cancer; and

Whereas September 2012 should be designated as “National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month” to increase the awareness of the public regarding the cancer:

Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

SENATE RESOLUTION 538—DESIGNATING SEPTEMBER 2012 AS “NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. TESTER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. WICKER, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. KIRK, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 538

Whereas countless families in the United States live with prostate cancer;

Whereas 1 in 6 males in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer during his lifetime;

Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer and the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths among males in the United States;

Whereas, in 2012, the American Cancer Society estimates that 241,740 males will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, and 28,170 males will die from the disease;

Whereas 30 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in males under the age of 65;

Whereas, approximately every 14 seconds, a male in the United States turns 50 years old and increases his odds of developing cancer, including prostate cancer;

Whereas African-American males suffer from a prostate cancer death rate that is more than twice the death rate of White males from prostate cancer;

Whereas obesity is a significant predictor of the severity of prostate cancer;

Whereas the probability that obesity will lead to death and high cholesterol levels is strongly associated with advanced prostate cancer;

Whereas males in the United States with 1 family member diagnosed with prostate cancer have a 33 percent chance of being diagnosed with the disease, males with 2 family members diagnosed have an 83 percent chance, and males with 3 family members diagnosed have a 97 percent chance;

Whereas screening by a digital rectal examination and a prostate-specific antigen blood test can detect the disease at the early stages, increasing the chances of survival for more than 5 years to nearly 100 percent;

Whereas only 27.8 percent of males survive more than 5 years if diagnosed with prostate cancer after the cancer has metastasized;

Whereas there are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer while the cancer is in the early stages, making screening critical;

Whereas ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment; and

Whereas educating people in the United States, including health care providers, about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of males and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates September 2012 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”; and

(2) declares that steps should be taken—

(A) to raise awareness about the importance of screening methods for, and treatment of, prostate cancer;