

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 3595. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exception from the passive loss rules for investments in high technology research small business pass-thru entities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 3596. A bill to make the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass available at a discount to veterans; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 3597. A bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to increase and adjust for inflation the maximum value of articles that may be imported duty-free by one person on one day, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 3598. A bill to protect elder adults from exploitation and financial crime, to prevent elder adult abuse and financial exploitation, and to promote safety for elder adults; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 3599. A bill to streamline and address overlap in the Federal workforce investment system, steer Federal training dollars toward skills needed by industry, establish incentives for accountability through a Pay for Performance pilot program, and provide new access to the National Directory of New Hires, to measure performance and better connect the unemployed to jobs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN):

S. 3600. A bill to expand the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act of 2006 to increase accountability and transparency in Federal spending, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 3601. A bill to provide tax relief with respect to the Hurricane Isaac disaster area; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 3602. A bill to repeal the nutrition entitlement programs and establish a food stamp block grant program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 3603. A bill to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs clinic in Sunrise, Florida, as the "William 'Bill' Kling Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KOHL (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 3604. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the implementation of prescriber education programs and to establish requirements relating to the administration of antipsychotics to residents of skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. HAGAN (for herself, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. RISK, Mr. CARPER, Mr. VITTER, Mr. COONS, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 3605. A bill to clarify Congressional intent regarding the regulation of the use of pesticides in or near navigable waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 3606. A bill to establish an improved regulatory process for injurious wildlife to pre-

vent the introduction and establishment in the United States of nonnative wildlife and wild animal pathogens and parasites that are likely to cause harm; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. VITTER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 3607. A bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline; read the first time.

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. 571. A resolution congratulating the Nunaka Valley Little League Junior girls softball team on winning the 2012 Little League Junior Softball World Series; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. TESTER):

S. Res. 572. A resolution designating September 2012 as the "National Month of Voter Registration"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. TOOMEY):

S. Res. 573. A resolution designating the third week of January 2013, as "Teen Cancer Awareness Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. AYOTTE, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KIRK, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. JOHANNES):

S. Res. 574. A resolution calling on the United Nations to take concerted actions against leaders in Iran for their statements calling for the destruction of another United Nations Member State, Israel; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 166

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 166, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory.

S. 306

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 306, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 722

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 722, a bill to strengthen and protect Medicare hospice programs.

S. 738

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 738, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for

Medicare coverage of comprehensive Alzheimer's disease and related dementia diagnosis and services in order to improve care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias by improving detection, diagnosis, and care planning.

S. 810

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 810, a bill to prohibit the conducting of invasive research on great apes, and for other purposes.

S. 847

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 847, a bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to ensure that risks from chemicals are adequately understood and managed, and for other purposes.

S. 998

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 998, a bill to amend title IV of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, in the case of airline pilots who are required by regulation to retire at age 60, to compute the actuarial value of monthly benefits in the form of a life annuity commencing at age 60.

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) were added as cosponsors of S. 1301, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2012 through 2015 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for other purposes.

S. 1381

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1381, a bill to provide for the expansion of Federal efforts concerning the prevention, education, treatment, and research activities related to Lyme and other tick-borne disease, including the establishment of a Tick-Borne Diseases Advisory Committee.

S. 1423

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1423, a bill to clarify the orphan drug exception to the annual fee on branded prescription pharmaceutical manufacturers and importers.

S. 1683

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1683, a bill to provide the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and the Department of the Treasury with authority to more aggressively

enforce trade laws relating to textile and apparel articles, and for other purposes.

S. 1718

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1718, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to the application of Medicare secondary payer rules for certain claims.

S. 1796

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1796, a bill to make permanent the Internal Revenue Service Free File program.

S. 1840

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1840, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to expand and intensify programs of the National Institutes of Health with respect to translational research and related activities concerning Down syndrome, and for other purposes.

S. 1872

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1884

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) 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. 2189

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2189, a bill to amend the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 and other laws to clarify appropriate standards for Federal antidiscrimination and antiretaliation claims, and for other purposes.

S. 2283

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2283, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to include procedures for requests from Indian tribes for a major disaster or emergency declaration, and for other purposes.

S. 2347

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2347, a bill to amend title

XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure the continued access of Medicare beneficiaries to diagnostic imaging services.

S. 2374

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) 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. 3079

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name 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. 3237

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3237, a bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission to Accelerate the End of Breast Cancer.

S. 3250

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) were added as cosponsors of S. 3250, a bill to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to provide for Debbie Smith grants for auditing sexual assault evidence backlogs and to establish a Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Registry, and for other purposes.

S. 3257

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3257, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit the use of public funds for political party conventions, and to provide for the return of previously distributed funds for deficit reduction.

S. 3289

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3289, a bill to expand the Medicaid home and community-based services waiver to include young individuals who are in need of services that would otherwise be required to be provided through a psychiatric residential treatment facility, and to change references in Federal law to mental retardation to references to an intellectual disability.

S. 3338

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) and the Senator

from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3338, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make the provision of technical services for medical imaging examinations and radiation therapy treatments safer, more accurate, and less costly.

S. 3341

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3341, a bill to require a quadrennial diplomacy and development review, and for other purposes.

S. 3394

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 3394, a bill to address fee disclosure requirements under the Electronic Fund Transfer Act, to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act with respect to information provided to the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 3394, *supra*.

S. 3430

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3430, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to foster more effective implementation and coordination of clinical care for people with pre-diabetes and diabetes.

S. 3444

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Ohio, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3444, a bill to require that textile and apparel articles acquired for use by executive agencies be manufactured from articles, materials, or supplies entirely grown, produced, or manufactured in the United States.

S. 3463

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3463, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce the incidence of diabetes among Medicare beneficiaries.

S. 3477

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 3494

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. LEVIN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 3494, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to qualify formerly homeless individuals who are full-time students for purposes of low income housing tax credit.

S. 3522

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3522, a bill to provide for the expansion of affordable refinancing of mortgages held by the Federal National Mortgage Association and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation.

S. 3525

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3525, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

S. 3546

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3546, a bill to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to reauthorize a provision to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages.

S. 3551

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3551, a bill to require investigations into and a report on the September 11–13, 2012, attacks on the United States missions in Libya, Egypt, and Yemen, and for other purposes.

S. 3560

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) were added as cosponsors of S. 3560, a bill to provide for scientific frameworks with respect to recalcitrant cancers.

S. 3565

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3565, a bill to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.

S. 3567

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3567, a bill to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of a National Women's History Museum, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 41

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, her name was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 41, a joint resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the nuclear program of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

S. CON. RES. 50

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 50, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding actions to preserve and advance the multistakeholder governance model under which the Internet has thrived.

S. RES. 453

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 453, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that supporting seniors and individuals with disabilities is an important responsibility of the United States, and that a comprehensive approach to expanding and supporting a strong home care workforce and making long-term services and supports affordable and accessible in communities is necessary to uphold the right of seniors and individuals with disabilities in the United States to a dignified quality of life.

S. RES. 543

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 543, a resolution to express the sense of the Senate on international parental child abduction.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED:

S. 3582. A bill to improve quality and accountability for educator preparation programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, we know that public education lays the foundation for economic growth and the ongoing vitality of our democracy.

We also know that there is more work to be done to improve our schools. To achieve this goal, we need to focus on the professionals who have the greatest impact on student learning at school—teachers and principals.

Last year, I introduced the Effective Teaching and Leading Act to support teachers, librarians, and principals currently on the job through a comprehensive system of induction, professional development, and evaluation.

Today, I am pleased to be introducing the Educator Preparation Reform Act with Representative HONDA to improve how we prepare teachers, principals, and other educators so that

they can be effective right from the start.

Our legislation builds on the success of the Teacher Quality Partnership Program, which I helped author. We have added a specific focus on principals with the addition of a residency program for new principals.

Improving instruction is a team effort, with principals at the helm. This bill better connects teacher preparation with principal preparation. The Educator Preparation Reform Act will also allow partnerships to develop preparation programs for other areas of instructional need, such as for school librarians, counselors, or other academic support professionals.

The bill revamps the accountability and reporting requirements for teacher preparation programs to provide greater transparency on key quality measures such as admissions standards, requirements for clinical practice, placement of graduates, retention in the field of teaching, and teacher performance, including student learning outcomes.

All programs, whether traditional or alternative routes to certification, will report on the same measures.

Under this legislation, states will be required to identify at-risk and low performing programs and provide them with technical assistance and a timeline for improvement. Programs that are at-risk or low performing will be restricted in their ability to offer TEACH grants. States would be encouraged to close programs that do not improve.

The Educator Preparation Reform Act refocuses the state set-aside for higher education in Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act on activities to support the development and implementation of performance assessments to measure new teachers' readiness for the classroom and for technical assistance for struggling teacher preparation programs.

We have been fortunate to work with many stakeholders in developing the key provisions of this legislation. Organizations that have endorsed the Educator Preparation Reform Act include: the Alliance for Excellent Education, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, American Association of State Colleges and Universities, American Council on Education, American Psychological Association, Association of American Universities, Association of Jesuit Colleges and Universities, Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, Council for Christian Colleges and Universities, First Focus Campaign for Children, Higher Education Consortium for Special Education, Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities, National Association of Elementary School Principals, National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities, National Association of Secondary School Principals, National Association of State Directors of Special Education,