

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. BEGICH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 608. A resolution supporting the establishment of a President's Youth Council; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1423

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) 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. 2207

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2207, a bill to require the Office of the Ombudsman of the Transportation Security Administration to appoint passenger advocates at Category X airports to assist elderly and disabled passengers who believe they have been mistreated by TSA personnel and for other purposes.

S. 2247

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2247, a bill to amend the Federal Reserve Act to improve the functioning and transparency of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal Open Market Committee, and for other purposes.

S. 3477

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) 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. 3626

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3626, a bill to provide financing assistance for qualified water infrastructure projects, and for other purposes.

S. 3628

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3628, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to raise awareness of, and to educate breast cancer patients anticipating surgery regarding, the availability and coverage of breast reconstruction, prostheses, and other options.

S. 3647

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3647, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve and enhance the capabilities of the Armed Forces to prevent and respond to sexual assault and sexual harassment in the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 45

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 45, a joint resolution amending title 36, United States Code, to designate June 19 as "Juneteenth Independence Day".

AMENDMENT NO. 2930

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2930 intended to be proposed to S. 3254, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3004

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3004 intended to be proposed to S. 3254, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3054

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3054 proposed to S. 3254, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3196

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3196 proposed to S. 3254, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3249

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3249 intended to be proposed to S. 3254, an original bill to au-

thorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3262

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, his name and the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3262 proposed to S. 3254, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3285

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, her name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3285 proposed to S. 3254, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. 3652. A bill to allow acceleration certificates awarded under the Patents for Humanity Program to be transferable; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, our intellectual property system in the United States is the envy of the world and the engine of economic growth. By granting inventors exclusive rights in their discoveries for a limited time, the patent system incentivizes research and development by independent inventors and large multinational companies. Consumers benefit from new technologies, and our economy benefits from continued investment.

I am introducing legislation today that will encourage patent holders to apply their intellectual property to address global humanitarian needs. This has long been an interest of mine. In 2006, I introduced legislation that would have created a statutory license to manufacture and export life saving medicines to eligible, developing countries.

Today's legislation, rather than creating a statutory license, improves on a program created by United States Patent and Trademark Office, PTO, earlier this year. The PTO's "Patents for Humanity" Program provides rewards to selected patent holders who apply their technology to a humanitarian issue that significantly affects the public health or quality of life of an impoverished population. Those who receive the award are given a certificate to accelerate certain PTO processes.

Following a Judiciary Committee hearing in June, I asked Director Kappos whether the program would be more effective, and more attractive to patent owners, if the acceleration certificate were transferable to a third party. He responded that it would, particularly for small businesses. The Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act of 2012 simply makes these acceleration certificates transferable.

Director Kappos described the Patents for Humanity Program as one that provides business incentives for humanitarian endeavors. All Senators should support both the approach and the objective.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3652

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Patents for Humanity Program Improvement Act of 2012”.

SEC. 2. TRANSFERABILITY OF ACCELERATION CERTIFICATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—A holder of an acceleration certificate issued pursuant to the Patents for Humanity Program (established in the notice entitled “Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program”, published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012)), or any successor thereto, of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, may transfer (including by sale) the entitlement to such acceleration certificate to another person.

(b) REQUIREMENT.—An acceleration certificate transferred under subsection (a) shall be subject to any other applicable limitations under the notice entitled “Humanitarian Awards Pilot Program”, published at 77 Fed. Reg. 6544 (February 8, 2012), or any successor thereto.

By Mr. REID:

S. 3654. A bill to create equal footing for tribal economic development; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

S. 3654

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GAMING ACTIVITIES.

Section 207 of Public Law 100–89 (25 U.S.C. 737) is repealed.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 608—SUPPORTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A PRESIDENT'S YOUTH COUNCIL

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. BEGICH, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BINGAMAN,

and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 608

Whereas the unique perspectives and insights of young people, especially young people who have participated in a public policy-related program, outreach initiative, internship, fellowship, or congressionally sponsored youth advisory council, are essential to ensure that investments made by the Federal Government in youth services are effective and efficient;

Whereas existing outreach and engagement mechanisms of the Federal Government are often designed in ways that inhibit participation by, and lead to the under-representation of, young people in the policy-making process; and

Whereas numerous Members of Congress, Governors, State legislatures, mayors, and city councils have created youth councils that have proven to be an effective means of receiving input from young people, which leads to more effective and efficient investments in youth services: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the establishment with private funds of a President's Youth Council to—

(A) advise the President and the executive branch on the perspectives of young people;

(B) suggest ways to make investments by the Federal Government in youth services more effective and efficient; and

(C) provide recommendations on issues that will affect the long-term future of the United States;

(2) recommends that the members of the President's Youth Council be young people who—

(A) are appointed by the President, the majority leader and minority leader of the Senate, and the Speaker and minority leader of the House of Representatives;

(B) are between 16 and 24 years of age;

(C) have participated in a public policy-related program, outreach initiative, internship, fellowship, or congressionally sponsored youth advisory council;

(D) can constructively contribute to policy deliberations;

(E) can conduct outreach to solicit the views and perspectives of peers; and

(F) have backgrounds that reflect the racial, socioeconomic, and geographic diversity of the United States; and

(3) recommends that the President's Youth Council as a whole undertake activities to solicit the unique views and perspectives of young people and bring those views and perspectives to the attention of Congress and the head of each department or agency of the Federal Government.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3309. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1947, to prohibit attendance of an animal fighting venture, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3309. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1947, to prohibit attendance of an animal fighting venture, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 2, line 21, insert “knowingly” before “cause”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 4, 2012, at 2:30 p.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on December 4, 2012, at 2:30 p.m.

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

INTERNATIONAL PARENTAL CHILD ABDUCTION

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 528, S. Res. 543.

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

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 543) to express the sense of the Senate on international parental child abduction.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution, which had been reported from the Committee on Foreign Relations, with amendments in the nature of a substitute to the preamble and the resolutions as follows:

[Strike the parts shown in boldface brackets and insert in lieu thereof the parts shown in italic.]

S. RES. 543

Whereas international parental child abduction is a tragic and common occurrence;

Whereas the abduction of a child by one parent is a heartbreaking loss for the left-behind parent and deprives the child of a relationship with 2 loving parents;

Whereas, according to the Report on Compliance with the Hague Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction of the United States Department of State from April 2010, research shows that abducted children are at risk of significant short- and long-term problems, including “anxiety, eating problems, nightmares, mood swings, sleep disturbances, [and] aggressive behavior”;

Whereas, according to that report, left-behind parents may also experience substantial psychological and emotional issues, including feelings of “betrayal, sadness over the loss of their children or the end of their marriage, anger toward the other parent, anxiety, sleeplessness, and severe depression”, as well as financial strain while fighting for the return of a child;

Whereas, since 1988, the United States, which has a treaty relationship under the Convention on the Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction, done at The Hague October 25, 1980 (TIAS 11670) (referred to in this preamble as the “Hague Abduction Convention”) with 69 other countries, has agreed with its treaty partners to follow the terms of the Hague Abduction Convention;