

the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-769. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Suspension of Community Eligibility" ((44 CFR Part 64) (Docket No. FEMA-2012-0003)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 7, 2013; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-770. A communication from the Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget, Executive Office of the President, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "OMB Report to the Congress on the Joint Committee Sequestration for Fiscal Year 2013"; to the Committee on the Budget.

EC-771. A communication from the Director of Congressional Affairs, Office of Enforcement, Nuclear Regulatory Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revision of NRC Enforcement Policy" (NRC-2013-0014) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-772. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Tennessee; 110(a) (1) and (2) Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 9787-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC-773. A communication from the Director of the Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Kentucky; 110(a) (1) and (2) Infrastructure Requirements for the 2008 8-Hour Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards" (FRL No. 9788-6) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 5, 2013; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 54. A bill to increase public safety by punishing and deterring firearms trafficking.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 511. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to enhance the Small Business Investment Company Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 512. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to aid gifted and talented and high-ability learners by empowering the Nation's teachers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. INHOFE:

S. 513. A bill to clarify the role of the Cherokee Nation of Oklahoma regarding the maintenance of the W.D. Mayo Lock and Dam in the State of Oklahoma; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 514. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide additional educational assistance under Post-9/11 Educational Assistance to veterans pursuing a degree in science, technology, engineering, math, or an area that leads to employment in a high-demand occupation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BROWN:

S. 515. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the Yellow Ribbon G.I. Education Enhancement Program to cover recipients of Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry scholarship, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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

S. 516. A bill to reduce disparities and improve access to effective and cost efficient diagnosis and treatment of prostate cancer through advances in testing, research, and education, including through telehealth, comparative effectiveness research, and identification of best practices in patient education and outreach particularly with respect to underserved racial, ethnic and rural populations and men with a family history of prostate cancer, to establish a directive on what constitutes clinically appropriate prostate cancer imaging, and to create a prostate cancer scientific advisory board for the Office of the Chief Scientist at the Food and Drug Administration to accelerate real-time sharing of the latest research and accelerate movement of new medicines to patients; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEE, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 517. A bill to promote consumer choice and wireless competition by permitting consumers to unlock mobile wireless devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BEGICH:

S. 518. A bill to authorize the issuance of H2O nonimmigrant visas for aliens temporarily performing labor in the seafood processing industry; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 519. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to improve early education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BEGICH (for himself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 520. A bill to strengthen Federal consumer protection and product traceability with respect to commercially marketed seafood, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 521. A bill to require the Secretary of Defense to award grants to fund research on orthotics and prosthetics; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 522. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to award grants to estab-

lish, or expand upon, master's degree or doctoral degree programs in orthotics and prosthetics, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. Res. 74. A resolution supporting the goals of International Women's Day; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 54

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 54, a bill to increase public safety by punishing and deterring firearms trafficking.

S. 123

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 123, a bill to modernize voter registration, promote access to voting for individuals with disabilities, protect the ability of individuals to exercise the right to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

S. 141

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 141, a bill to make supplemental agricultural disaster assistance available for fiscal years 2012 and 2013, and for other purposes.

S. 183

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) was added as a cosponsor of S. 183, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for fairness in hospital payments under the Medicare program.

S. 195

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 195, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend projects relating to children and violence to provide access to school-based comprehensive mental health programs.

S. 210

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) were added as cosponsors of S.

210, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, with respect to fraudulent representations about having received military declarations or medals.

S. 234

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 234, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 289

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 289, a bill to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration.

S. 294

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 294, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the disability compensation evaluation procedure of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for veterans with mental health conditions related to military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 296

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 296, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate discrimination in the immigration laws by permitting permanent partners of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents to obtain lawful permanent resident status in the same manner as spouses of citizens and lawful permanent residents and to penalize immigration fraud in connection with permanent partnerships.

S. 310

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 310, a bill to jump-start economic recovery through the formation and growth of new businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 313

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 313, 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. 315

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr.

KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 315, a bill to reauthorize and extend the Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research, and Education Amendments of 2008.

S. 370

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 370, a bill to improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.

S. 375

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 375, a bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

S. 392

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 392, a bill to support and encourage the health and well-being of elementary school and secondary school students by enhancing school physical education and health education.

S. 445

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 445, a bill to improve security at State and local courthouses.

S. 460

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 460, a bill to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

S. 462

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 462, a bill to enhance the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel.

S. 463

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 463, a bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to modify the definition of the term "biobased product".

S. 464

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 464, a bill to declare English as the official language of the United

States, to establish a uniform English language rule for naturalization, and to avoid misconstructions of the English language texts of the laws of the United States, pursuant to Congress' powers to provide for the general welfare of the United States and to establish a uniform rule of naturalization under article I, section 8, of the Constitution.

S. 469

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 469, a bill to assist the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in stabilizing the Home Equity Conversion Mortgage program.

S. 470

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 470, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require that the Purple Heart occupy a position of precedence above the new Distinguished Warfare Medal.

S. 478

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 478, a bill to clarify that the revocation of an alien's visa or other documentation is not subject to judicial review.

S. 485

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 485, a bill to exempt certain class A CDL drivers from the requirement to obtain a hazardous material endorsement while operating a service vehicle with a fuel tank containing 3,785 liters (1,000 gallons) or less of diesel fuel.

S. 492

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 492, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require States to recognize the military experience of veterans when issuing licenses and credentials to veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 495

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 495, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require Federal agencies to hire veterans, to require States to recognize the military experience of veterans when issuing licenses and credentials to veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 500

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 500, a bill to amend the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to apply payroll taxes to remuneration and earnings from self-employment up to the contribution and benefit base and to remuneration in excess of \$250,000.

S. 504

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 504, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure that valid generic drugs may enter the market.

S. 505

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 505, a bill to prohibit the use of drones to kill citizens of the United States within the United States.

S.J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 10, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women.

S. CON. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 6, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. RES. 4

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 4, a resolution to limit certain uses of the filibuster in the Senate to improve the legislative process.

S. RES. 65

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 65, a resolution strongly supporting the full implementation of United States and international sanctions on Iran and urging the President to continue to strengthen enforcement of sanctions legislation.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 511. A bill to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to enhance the Small Business Investment Company Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to introduce

the Expanding Access to Capital for Entrepreneurial Leaders Act, or the EXCEL Act. This legislation will enhance the already successful Small Business Investment Company, SBIC, program at the Small Business Administration, SBA, that has helped over 100,000 small businesses. The best part of this bill is that the EXCEL Act should not cost the taxpayer anything.

The SBA runs a venture capital program by guaranteeing money borrowed by qualified investment funds who invest in small businesses. The qualified funds, or Small Business Investment Companies, SBICs, are privately owned and operated, but licensed and regulated by the SBA. Using a combination of private investments and the loans guaranteed by the SBA, typically at a ratio of \$2 in guaranteed funds for every \$1 of private capital, SBICs make longterm investments in American small businesses. In order to participate in the program, funds pay licensing fees which serve to cover all SBIC program costs. As a result, the core SBIC program, Debenture SBICs, not only boasts a strong success rate, but also incurs no cost to the U.S. government. Since the program's inception, over \$50 billion has been invested in over 100,000 small businesses.

In the last Congress, the former Ranking Member of the Small Business Committee, Senator Olympia Snowe, and I conducted a roundtable with 14 participants from the SBA, SBICs, SBIC investors, and small businesses to elicit suggestions on enhancing the program. Out of that was born the EXCEL Act.

The EXCEL Act is a bipartisan effort encompassing much-needed changes that will allow the SBIC program to meet growing demand and will make improvements so that more small businesses can access capital.

First, the EXCEL Act raises the SBIC program authorization level from \$3 billion to \$4 billion and pegs it to inflation. This change is long overdue—the ceiling has been at \$3 billion for some time, despite inflation and the impressive growth in the SBIC program. To illustrate: the program grew 50 percent in fiscal year 2011 alone. In order to meet demand, we need to give the program room to grow.

Secondly, the EXCEL Act will encourage successful investors by raising the limit on “families of funds.” Family of funds refers to a team of SBIC fund managers who operate several funds. These are currently limited to \$225 million of SBA-guaranteed debt. However, SBIC fund managers who manage more than one fund generally see better investment results. The EXCEL Act will encourage that kind of success by giving families of funds a higher limit of \$350 million, which will be indexed to inflation.

Next, the EXCEL Act improves transparency and accountability in the program. The legislation requires that the SBA make public how effective individual SBICs are in their small busi-

ness investments, guaranteeing that SBA-backed money is being used responsibly.

Finally, the EXCEL Act promotes outreach, thereby ensuring that the maximum possible number of small businesses can benefit from the SBIC program. The legislation encourages outreach to community banks and other lenders, states and municipalities, and asks the SBA to make their SBIC website more user-friendly.

The EXCEL Act contains a number of commonsense provisions that have had support across the aisle. It enhances a program with proven success in providing capital to small businesses, and does so with the expectation that it will not add a dime to the deficit. Let us get this bill passed. Let us help small businesses excel.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEE, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 517. A bill to promote consumer choice and wireless competition by permitting consumers to unlock mobile wireless devices, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I am introducing bipartisan legislation that will help promote competition in the wireless industry and restore consumer choice. From 2006 until last year, an exemption to the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, DMCA, permitted cell phone users to “unlock” their cell phones when their contract expired, allowing them to change wireless providers and thereby promoting consumer choice. This exemption has enhanced competition in the cell phone market, but it was allowed to expire last year.

Over the past few weeks and months, consumers have spoken clearly—they want to retain the right to transfer their cell phones between wireless providers, if they so choose, when their contracts expire. I agree, which is why today I am pleased to introduce the Unlocking Consumer Choice and Wireless Competition Act, along with Senator GRASSLEY, Senator HATCH, Senator LEE and Senator FRANKEN, who chairs the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology and the Law. We are working closely with Chairman GOODLATTE and members of the House Judiciary Committee to pass commonsense legislation and provide consumers with better choice.

The Unlocking Consumer Choice and Wireless Competition Act reestablishes the Library of Congress's rule permitting cell phone unlocking. It also directs the Library to undertake a new proceeding to consider whether to broaden this exemption to allow unlocking of other wireless devices such as tablets. At a time when the line between phone and tablet is beginning to blur, it makes sense for the Library to consider extending this exemption to those devices as well.