

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. COBURN, Mr. NELSON, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WARNER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 632. A bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 to repeal a duplicative program relating to inspection and grading of catfish; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 633. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for coverage under the beneficiary travel program of the Department of Veterans Affairs of certain disabled veterans for travel in connection with certain special disabilities rehabilitation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 634. A bill to allow members of the Armed Forces and National Guard to defer principal on Federal student loans for a certain period in connection with receipt of orders for mobilization for war or national emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. WARNER, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. TOOMEY, and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 635. A bill to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual written privacy notice requirement; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

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

S. 636. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to allow certain hospitals in Puerto Rico to qualify for incentives for adoption and meaningful use of certified EHR Technology under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 637. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the expansion, intensification, and coordination of the programs and activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to Tourette syndrome; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 638. A bill to amend the Federal anti-trust laws to provide expanded coverage and to eliminate exemptions from such laws that are contrary to the public interest with respect to railroads; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 639. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to specify the circumstances in which a person may acquire geolocation information and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 640. A bill to reauthorize the programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development for housing assistance for Native Hawaiians; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

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

S. 641. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical

schools, nursing schools, and other programs, to promote education in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ENZI:

S. 642. 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; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 643. A bill to strengthen employee cost savings suggestions programs within the Federal Government; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 644. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to prevent the abuse of dextromethorphan, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 645. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reaffirm the United States historic commitment to protecting refugees who are fleeing persecution or torture; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 646. A bill to create the National Endowment for the Oceans to promote the protection and conservation of United States ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes ecosystems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. NELSON (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. 647. A bill to modify the prohibition on recognition by United States courts of certain rights relating to certain marks, trade names, or commercial names; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 648. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to support teacher and school professional training on awareness of student mental health conditions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. REID:

S. 649. A bill to ensure that all individuals who should be prohibited from buying a firearm are listed in the national instant criminal background check system and require a background check for every firearm sale, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 650. A bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to preserve consumer and employer access to licensed independent insurance producers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S.J. Res. 12. A joint resolution to consent to certain amendments enacted by the legislature of the State of Hawaii to the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. REID, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. HEINRICH, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

S. Res. 86. A resolution honoring the accomplishments and legacy of Cesar Estrada Chavez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mr. PRYOR):

S. Res. 87. A resolution designating April 4, 2013, as "National Association of Junior Auxiliaries Day"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. Res. 88. A resolution providing for members on the part of the Senate of the Joint Committee on Printing and the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. CASEY):

S. Res. 89. A resolution designating March 25, 2013, as "National Cerebral Palsy Awareness Day"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 195

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) 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. 380

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 380, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize and update the National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative for grants to address the problems of individuals who experience trauma and violence related stress.

S. 381

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 381, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the "Doolittle Tokyo Raiders", for outstanding heroism, valor, skill, and service to the United States in conducting the bombings of Tokyo.

S. 411

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 411, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 413

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 413, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to include human trafficking as a part 1 violent crime for purposes of the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program.

S. 424

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr.

ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 424, a bill to amend title IV of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a National Pediatric Research Network, including with respect to pediatric rare diseases or conditions.

S. 475

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 475, a bill to reauthorize the Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act of 2004, to provide assistance to Best Buddies to support the expansion and development of mentoring programs, and for other purposes.

S. 477

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 477, a bill to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act to modify a provision relating to gaming on land acquired after October 17, 1988.

S. 496

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 496, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to change the Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure rule with respect to certain farms.

S. 516

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 535

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 535, a bill to require a study and report by the Small Business Administration regarding the costs to small business concerns of Federal regulations.

S. 536

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 536, a bill to require a study and report by the Comptroller General of the United States regarding the costs of Federal regulations.

S. 541

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 541, a bill to prevent human health threats posed by the consumption of equines raised in the United States.

S. 554

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 554, a bill to provide for a biennial budget process and a biennial appropriations process and to enhance oversight and the performance of the Federal Government.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 577

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 577, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the distribution of additional residency positions, and for other purposes.

S. 579

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 579, a bill to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to obtain observer status for Taiwan at the triennial International Civil Aviation Organization Assembly, and for other purposes.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

S. 596

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 596, a bill to establish pilot projects under the Medicare program to provide incentives for home health agencies to furnish remote patient monitoring services that reduce expenditures under such program.

S. 603

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 603, a bill to repeal the annual fee on health insurance providers enacted by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. RES. 77

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Maryland

(Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 77, a resolution expressing the sense of Congress relating to the commemoration of the 180th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the United States and the Kingdom of Thailand.

AMENDMENT NO. 136

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 136 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 138

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 138 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 139

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 139 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 141

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 141 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 146

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr.

MORAN) and the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 146 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 148

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 148 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 149

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 149 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 152

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 152 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 156

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 156 proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 158

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 158 proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolu-

tion setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 161

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 161 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 162

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 162 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 163

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 163 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 177

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 177 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 184

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 184 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the

congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 185

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 185 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 186

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 186 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 187

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 187 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 188

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 188 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 189

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 189 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 190

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr.

WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 190 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 191

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 191 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 192

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 192 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 195

At the request of Mr. COATS, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 195 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

AMENDMENT NO. 202

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 202 proposed to S. Con. Res. 8, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2014, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2013, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2015 through 2023.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 641. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, and other programs, to promote education in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss the critical need in today's health care workforce for additional training related to palliative care. Palliative care is an interdisciplinary model of care focused on relieving the pain, stress and other debilitating symptoms of serious illness, such as cancer, cardiac disease, respiratory disease, kidney failure, Alzheimer's, AIDS, ALS, and MS. Its goal is to relieve suffering and provide the best possible quality of life for patients and their families.

Many people mistakenly believe that palliative care is only beneficial when a cure is not possible. Actually, palliative care is not dependent on a life-limiting prognosis and may actually help individuals recover by relieving symptoms such as pain, anxiety or loss of appetite while they are undergoing sometimes difficult medical treatments or procedures, such as surgery or chemotherapy. Palliative care is provided by a team of doctors, nurses, social workers, and other specialists who work with a patient's other health care providers to provide an extra layer of support, including assistance with difficult medical decision-making and coordination of care among specialists. Palliative care is appropriate for people of any age and at any stage in an illness, whether that illness is curable, chronic or life-threatening.

There is a specific type of palliative care, called hospice, for people for whom a cure is no longer possible and who likely have 6 months or less to live. Hospice care can be provided at one's home, a hospice facility, a hospital or a nursing home. Hospice care is about giving patients control, dignity and comfort so they have the best possible quality of life during the time they have. Hospice care also provides support and grief therapy for loved ones whose struggles are often cast aside or forgotten during treatment.

A growing evidence base has demonstrated that palliative care, including hospice, improves quality, controls cost and enhances patient and family satisfaction for the rapidly expanding population of individuals with serious or life-threatening illness. Palliative care may also prolong the lives of some seriously ill patients.

Over the last 10 years, the number of hospital-based palliative care programs has more than doubled due to the in-

creasing number of Americans living with serious, complex and chronic illnesses and the realities of the care responsibilities faced by their families. Studies suggest that in states with more hospital-based palliative care programs, patients are less likely to die in the hospital, are likely to spend fewer days in the ICU, have better pain management and higher satisfaction with their health care.

As usual, Oregon is ahead of the curve and I'm proud to say that in a 2011 report ranking states on their citizens' access to hospital-based palliative care programs, Oregon was among the seven states who earned an "A" rating, with 88 percent of Oregon hospitals offering palliative care.

Unfortunately, many seriously ill patients and their families lack the type of access available to Oregonians. Palliative care is a relatively new medical specialty and more must be done to ensure an adequate, well-trained palliative care workforce is available to provide comprehensive symptom management, intensive communication and a level of care coordination that addresses the episodic and long-term nature of serious, chronic illness. I believe that, with Federal support, we can help address the workforce gap between those currently practicing in palliative care and hospice and the number of health care professionals required to care for this expanding patient population. That is why today I am introducing the "Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act" or PCHETA. This authoring legislation focuses on three key areas to grow the palliative care and hospice workforce: education centers to expand interdisciplinary training in palliative and hospice care; training of physicians who plan to teach palliative medicine and fellowships to encourage re-training for mid-career physicians; and academic career awards and career incentive awards to support physicians and other health care providers who provide palliative and hospice care training.

With this legislation, patients and families who are facing serious or life-threatening illness will have access to the high-quality palliative care and hospice services that can maximize their quality of life. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 645. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reaffirm the United States historic commitment to protecting refugees who are fleeing persecution or torture; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, today I am pleased to reintroduce the Refugee Protection Act. The Senate will soon turn to comprehensive immigration reform and the changes to the refugee system contained in this bill are a critical component of fixing our broken immigration system. As we address the