

Mr. Novtony, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 527. An act to amend the Helium Act to complete the privatization of the Federal helium reserve in a competitive market fashion that ensures stability in the helium markets while protecting the interests of American taxpayers, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 527. An act to amend the Helium Act to complete the privatization of the Federal helium reserve in a competitive market fashion that ensures stability in the helium markets while protecting the interests of American taxpayers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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 Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 856. A bill to foster stability in Syria, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. COONS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 857. A bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to permit leave to care for a same-sex spouse, domestic partner, parent-in-law, adult child, sibling, grandchild, or grandparent who has a serious health condition; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 858. A bill to provide for an earlier start for State health care coverage innovation waivers under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BENNET:

S. 859. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to provide for the conducts of activities to detect, and respond in a timely manner to, threats to animal health; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. COWAN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 860. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to improve energy programs; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S. 861. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide guidance and clarification regarding issuing new and renewal permits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. AYOTTE (for herself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BLUNT, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. PAUL):

S. 862. A bill to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an

additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 863. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to repeal time limitations on the eligibility for use of educational assistance under All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program, to improve veterans education outreach, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. RISCH, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. MORAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. VITTER):

S. 864. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize technical assistance to small public water systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. HELLER, Mr. WARNER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. REED, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 865. A bill to provide for the establishment of a Commission to Accelerate the End of Breast Cancer; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 866. A bill to make improvements to the transitional program covered business method patents, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 867. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for pharmacy benefits manager standards under the Medicare prescription drug program, to establish basic audit standards of pharmacies, to further transparency of payment methodology to pharmacies, and to provide for recoupment returns to Medicare; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. Res. 128. 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; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. HELLER, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WARNER, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 129. A resolution recognizing the significance of May 2013 as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month as an important time to celebrate the significant contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the history of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 85

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 85, a bill to provide incentives for States to invest in practices and technology that are designed to expedite voting at the polls and to simplify voter registration.

S. 138

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 138, a bill to prohibit discrimination against the unborn on the basis of sex or gender, and for other purposes.

S. 232

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) were added as cosponsors of S. 232, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on medical devices.

S. 278

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 278, a bill to replace the Budget Control Act sequester for fiscal year 2013 by eliminating tax loopholes.

S. 345

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 345, a bill to reform the Federal sugar program, and for other purposes.

S. 375

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

S. 381

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) 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. 423

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 423, a bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to extend funding for family-to-family health information centers to help families of children with disabilities or special health care needs make informed choices about health care for their children.

S. 460

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) 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 Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 462, a bill to enhance the strategic partnership between the United States and Israel.

S. 496

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) 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. 539

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 539, 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. 541

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 541, a bill to prevent human health threats posed by the consumption of equines raised in the United States.

S. 617

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 617, a bill to provide humanitarian assistance and support a democratic transition in Syria, and for other purposes.

S. 623

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 623, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure the continued access of Medicare beneficiaries to diagnostic imaging services.

S. 629

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 629, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of the Armed Forces of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law, and for other purposes.

S. 653

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 653, a bill to provide for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia.

S. 654

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr.

RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 654, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 679

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 679, a bill to promote local and regional farm and food systems, and for other purposes.

S. 689

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 689, a bill to reauthorize and improve programs related to mental health and substance use disorders.

S. 690

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 690, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

S. 692

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 692, a bill to rescind certain Federal funds identified by States as unwanted and use the funds to reduce the Federal debt.

S. 700

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 700, a bill to ensure that the education and training provided members of the Armed Forces and veterans better assists members and veterans in obtaining civilian certifications and licenses, and for other purposes.

S. 709

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 709, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, leading to better care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

S. 724

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 724, a bill to provide flexibility to agencies on determining what employees are essential personnel in implementing the sequester.

S. 742

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 742, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 754

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 754, a bill to amend the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 to include farmed shellfish as specialty crops.

S. 759

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 759, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for amounts paid by a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces for a new State license or certification required by reason of a permanent change in the duty station of such member to another State.

S. 769

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 769, a bill to designate as wilderness certain Federal portions of the red rock canyons of the Colorado Plateau and the Great Basin Deserts in the State of Utah for the benefit of present and future generations of people in the United States.

S. 777

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 777, a bill to restore the previous policy regarding restrictions on use of Department of Defense medical facilities.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 789, a bill to grant the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Special Service Force, in recognition of its superior service during World War II.

S. 792

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 792, a bill to strengthen the enforcement of background checks with respect to the use of explosive materials.

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 792, *supra*.

S. 810

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 810, a bill to require a pilot program on an online computerized assessment to

enhance detection of behaviors indicating a risk of suicide and other mental health conditions in members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 813

At the request of Mr. TESTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 813, a bill to require that Peace Corps volunteers be subject to the same limitations regarding coverage of abortion services as employees of the Peace Corps with respect to coverage of such services, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 813, *supra*.

S. 815

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. COWAN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 815, a bill to prohibit the employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity.

S. 827

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 827, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require oil polluters to pay the full cost of oil spills, and for other purposes.

S. 828

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 828, a bill to amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to require oil polluters to pay the full cost of oil spills, and for other purposes.

S. 843

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas

(Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 843, a bill to limit the amount of ammunition purchased or possessed by certain Federal agencies for a 6-month period.

S.J. RES. 10

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) 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.J. RES. 13

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 13, a joint resolution amending title 36, United States Code, to designate July 26 as United States Intelligence Professionals Day.

S. RES. 69

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 69, a resolution calling for the protections of religious minority rights and freedoms in the Arab world.

S. RES. 91

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 91, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week.

S. RES. 126

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 126, a resolution recognizing the teachers of the United States for their contributions to the development and progress of our country.

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 126, *supra*.

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 126, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. WARNER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 126, *supra*.

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 126, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. COONS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 126, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 126, *supra*.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S. 861. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide guidance and clarification regarding issuing new and renewal permits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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. 861

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

SECTION 1. NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM.

(a) APPLICABILITY OF GUIDANCE.—Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(s) APPLICABILITY OF GUIDANCE.—

“(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

“(A) GUIDANCE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘guidance’ means draft, interim, or final guidance issued by the Administrator.

“(ii) INCLUSIONS.—The term ‘guidance’ includes—

“(I) the comprehensive guidance issued by the Administrator and dated April 1, 2010;

“(II) the proposed guidance entitled ‘Draft Guidance on Identifying Waters Protected by the Clean Water Act’ and dated April 28, 2011;

“(III) the final guidance proposed by the Administrator and dated July 21, 2011; and

“(IV) any other document or paper issued by the Administrator through any process other than the notice and comment rule-making process.

“(B) NEW PERMIT.—The term ‘new permit’ means a permit covering discharges from a structure—

“(i) that is issued under this section by a permitting authority; and

“(ii) for which an application is—

“(I) pending as of the date of enactment of this subsection; or

“(II) filed on or after the date of enactment of this subsection.

“(C) PERMITTING AUTHORITY.—The term ‘permitting authority’ means—

“(i) the Administrator; or

“(ii) a State, acting pursuant to a State program that is equivalent to the program under this section and approved by the Administrator.

“(2) PERMITS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in making a determination whether to approve a new permit or a renewed permit, the permitting authority—

“(i) shall base the determination only on compliance with regulations issued by the Administrator or the permitting authority; and

“(ii) shall not base the determination on the extent of adherence of the applicant for the new permit or renewed permit to guidance.

“(B) NEW PERMITS.—If the permitting authority does not approve or deny an application for a new permit by the date that is 270 days after the date of receipt of the application for the new permit, the applicant may operate as if the application were approved in accordance with Federal law for the period of time for which a permit from the same industry would be approved.

“(C) SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETENESS.—In determining whether an application for a new permit or a renewed permit received under this paragraph is substantially complete, the permitting authority shall use standards for determining substantial completeness of similar permits for similar facilities submitted in fiscal year 2007.”

(b) STATE PERMIT PROGRAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1342) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

“(b) STATE PERMIT PROGRAMS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—At any time after the promulgation of the guidelines required by section 304(d)(2), the Governor of each State desiring to administer a permit program for