

or academic achievement standards of a State.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 170. A bill to recognize the heritage of recreational fishing, hunting, and recreational shooting on Federal public land and ensure continued opportunities for those activities; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the bipartisan Recreational Fishing and Hunting Opportunities Act.

My bill is cosponsored by my friend from West Virginia, Senator MANCHIN, and is a commonsense, bipartisan piece of legislation. It enjoys support from over 39 separate organizations from the hunting, shooting, recreational fishing and wildlife conservation community. In addition, my staff has worked diligently with environmental and conservation organizations such as the Wilderness Society and the National Parks Conservation Association to alleviate their concerns with previous versions of the bill by removing references to the Wilderness Act and the National Environmental Policy Act. Furthermore, this legislation specifically exempts National Park Units, National Wildlife Refuges and land held in trust for the benefit of Native Americans.

Our bill would acknowledge the importance of hunting and fishing on our BLM lands and in our National Forests by requiring hunting and fishing to be recognized activities on those lands. We are talking about traditional American activities, and they are activities that deserve the same consideration as other traditional uses of our public lands. Our legislation would establish an "open unless closed" policy for recreational hunting, fishing and shooting on BLM and Forest Service land. It is important to note, though, that this would not give these activities special priority, but merely level the current playing field between these traditional activities and other uses of our public lands.

I would like to thank Senator MANCHIN, an original cosponsor of this bill, for his and his staff's hard work in moving this bill forward. It is our hope that this bill will receive quick but careful consideration as many sportsmen across this country have been eagerly awaiting passage of this measure for quite a long time.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 20—DESIGNATING CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. REID of Nevada submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 20

*Resolved*, The Senator from New Jersey, Mr. Menendez, shall be the Chairman of the

Committee on Foreign Relations for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until his successor is chosen.

Sec. 2. *Provided*, That this resolution shall be effective upon the resignation of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kerry).

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 325, to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until May 19, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 325, to ensure the complete and timely payment of the obligations of the United States Government until May 19, 2013, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

#### SEC. \_\_\_\_ FISCAL YEAR 2013 BUDGET SEQUESTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the budget sequester of the security category required by section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 for fiscal year 2013 shall be implemented as determined by the Secretary of Defense.

(b) REPORT.—On the date of the commencement of the budget sequester described in subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall submit a report to Congress detailing the reductions to discretionary appropriations in the security category required by this section.

#### SEC. \_\_\_\_ TRANSFER AUTHORITY FOR FUNDING OF DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE UNDER CONTINUING RESOLUTION AND SEQUESTER CONSISTENT WITH AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED BY NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In the event in fiscal year 2013 of a sequester during funding for the Department of Defense by continuing resolution, the Secretary of Defense may transfer amounts appropriated for the Department of Defense by the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 (Public Law 112-175) among accounts of the Department of Defense.

(b) TRANSFERS CONSISTENT WITH AMOUNTS AUTHORIZED BY PL 112-239.—In the event of any transfers under subsection (a), the total amount in any account of the Department of Defense that is available for obligation and expenditure in fiscal year 2013 may not exceed the amount authorized to be appropriated for that account for that fiscal year by applicable provisions of division A of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 (Public Law 112-239).

(c) NOTICE TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 15 days after any transfer under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report setting forth a description of the transfer, including the amount of the transfer and the accounts from and to which the funds were transferred.

(d) TRANSFER AUTHORITY.—The transfer authority provided by subsection (a) is in addition to any other transfer authority provided by law.

(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) The term "congressional defense committees" has the meaning given that term in section 101(a)(16) of title 10, United States Code.

(2) The term "sequester during funding for the Department of Defense by continuing resolution" means the coming into effect of discretionary spending reductions under section 251A of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 pursuant to section 251(a)(1) of that Act while funding for the Department of Defense is provided by section 101(a)(3) of the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013.

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Thursday, January 31, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room SD-430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "Pension Savings: Are Workers Saving Enough for Retirement?"

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Michael Kreps of the committee staff on (202) 224-5111.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 29, 2013, at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing entitled "30 Million New Patients and 11 Months to Go: Who Will Provide Their Primary Care?" on January 29, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. NELSON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on January 29, 2013, at 3 p.m.

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

#### PRIVILEGES

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Ben Smitton and Rich Vickers of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

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

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Bryan Seeley,

a Department of Justice detailee on the Judiciary Committee staff be given Senate floor privileges for the remainder of calendar year 2013.

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

#### LETTER OF RESIGNATION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair lays before the Senate the letter of resignation of Senator JOHN F. KERRY of Massachusetts, effective Friday, February 1, at 4 p.m.

Without objection, the letter is deemed read and spread upon the Journal.

The letter follows:

U.S. SENATE,

Washington, DC, January 29, 2013.

Hon. JOSEPH R. BIDEN,  
President of the United States Senate, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. VICE PRESIDENT: This letter is to inform you that with great gratitude to the people of Massachusetts for the privilege of serving them for over 28 years and with great pride in what I have been able to contribute to Massachusetts and our country, I hereby resign my seat in the United States Senate effective Friday, February 1st at 4:00 p.m. in order to assume the responsibility of Secretary of State.

Respectfully,

JOHN F. KERRY.

#### NATIONAL STALKING AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 14, and the Senate proceed to its consideration.

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

The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 14) raising awareness and encouraging prevention of stalking by designating January 2013 as "National Stalking Awareness Month."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 14) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in the RECORD of Thursday, January 24, 2013, under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### DESIGNATING CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 20, submitted earlier today.

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

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 20) designating Chairman of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 20) was agreed to.

(The resolution is printed in today's RECORD under "Submitted Resolutions.")

#### MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 177

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I understand there is a bill at the desk, and I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title for the first time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 177) to repeal the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 entirely.

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I now ask for a second reading and, in order to place the bill on the calendar under the provisions of rule XIV, I object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection having been heard, the bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

#### ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2013

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, January 30, 2013; that following the prayer and the pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and the Senate proceed to a period of morning business for 2 hours with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the majority controlling the first hour and the Republicans controlling the final hour; further, that at 2:30 p.m. Senator KERRY be recognized for up to 30 minutes for the purpose of delivering his farewell address.

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

#### PROGRAM

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, I congratulate the Presiding Officer on becoming the senior Senator from Massachusetts in almost record time.

We hope to complete consideration of the debt limit legislation before the end of the week.

#### ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. BROWN. Madam President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent that it adjourn under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6:47 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, January 30, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

#### CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 29, 2013:

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

JOHN FORBES KERRY, OF MASSACHUSETTS, TO BE SECRETARY OF STATE.