

S. 964

At the request of Mrs. McCASKILL, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 964, a bill to require a comprehensive review of the adequacy of the training, qualifications, and experience of the Department of Defense personnel responsible for sexual assault prevention and response for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 967

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 967, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify various authorities relating to procedures for courts-martial under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes.

S. 971

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 971, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to exempt the conduct of silvicultural activities from national pollutant discharge elimination system permitting requirements.

S. 976

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 976, a bill to provide for education of potential military recruits on healthy body weight and to facilitate and encourage exercise in potential military recruits, and for other purposes.

S. 987

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 987, a bill to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media.

S. 999

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 999, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide social service agencies with the resources to provide services to meet the urgent needs of Holocaust survivors to age in place with dignity, comfort, security, and quality of life.

S. 1028

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1028, a bill to reauthorize and improve the Older Americans Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

S. 1053

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 1053, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to strengthen and protect Medicare hospice programs.

S. 1091

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1091, a bill to provide for the issuance of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Semipostal Stamp.

S. 1096

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 1096, a bill to establish an Office of Rural Education Policy in the Department of Education.

S.J. RES. 15

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 15, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

S. RES. 154

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISC), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. McCONNELL), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 154, a resolution supporting political reform in Iran and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1025

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1025 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1118

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1118 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1163

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from North Da-

kota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1163 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

AMENDMENT NO. 1166

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1166 intended to be proposed to S. 954, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2018.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. KING, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1124. A bill to establish requirements with respect to bisphenol A; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, scientific studies continue to show cause for concern about the chemical Bisphenol-A, BPA, especially the effects on babies and young children. Endocrine disrupting chemicals alter the function of the body's hormonal system. BPA is a synthetic estrogen, which means that it mimics this hormone when in the body. While studies continue to examine the exact effects this endocrine disrupting chemical has on humans, consumers deserve more information. They have the right to know if it is in the food products they purchase for their families.

The BPA in Food Packaging Right to Know Act requires that food packaging that uses BPA include a clear label informing consumers. The label would read, "This food packaging contains BPA, an endocrine-disrupting chemical." This basic message would allow individuals to make informed decisions about the products they purchase.

BPA is most commonly found in food products, such as the lining of cans. Parents are busy enough caring for their children and juggling what feels like a hundred things at the same time. Having factual information about whether the food they are buying at the grocery store contains BPA, a potentially harmful chemical, shouldn't be one more thing they have to go to great lengths to figure out.

This legislation also directs the Department of Health and Human Services, HHS, to do a safety assessment of food containers containing BPA to determine if there is reasonable certainty that no harm will come from long-term low dose exposure to BPA as well as high dose exposure.

This safety standard would also be used to evaluate proposed uses of alternatives to BPA. There is no use in replacing BPA in products if what we are replacing it with is just as bad or worse for human health.

The President's Cancer Panel focused on reducing the environmental cancer risk in its 2008- 2009 Annual Report. BPA is just one of many chemicals

that pose a potential environmental cancer risk, with links to various cancers and also potentially affecting how well cancer treatments work. This panel, appointed by former President George W. Bush, decided that even though studies are ongoing, they had enough information to state that “the true burden of environmentally induced cancer has been grossly underestimated.”

I agree with this finding and strongly believe that as scientific studies continue to seek definitive answers to the role of chemical exposure in adversely affecting human health, the very least that consumers deserve is the right to know what chemicals, such as BPA, are in the products they are purchasing. The panel specifically mentions concern that even though studies continue to link BPA with a variety of diseases, it still remains in products.

I am particularly concerned about the negative health effects to children who are exposed to chemicals both while they are developing in the womb and in the first few years of their lives. Children are particularly susceptible to toxins while their bodies are developing at such a rapid pace. A recent study by researchers at the University of California, Berkeley, stated that fetuses and pregnant women may be particularly susceptible to BPA exposure. The study found that exposure to BPA may have an effect on thyroid function, and suggests continued studies to confirm these findings.

An article published in *Health Affairs* in 2011 estimated that the annual cost of diseases that can be attributed to negative environmental exposures was more than \$76 billion per year in 2008. The incidence of endocrine system-related diseases continues to rise, and animal studies have shown adverse health effects in connection with exposure to BPA.

A recent study by researchers at the Columbia Center for Children's Environmental Health examined a link between BPA exposure and an increased risk for asthma in young children. They found that there was an elevated risk associated with BPA exposure and more research is needed to determine specific links.

BPA is one of the most pervasive chemicals in modern life. This chemical is used in thousands of consumer products and the most common exposure is through the lining of food packaging—like cans of green beans and ready-made soups. As with so many other chemicals in consumer products, BPA has been added to our products without knowing if it is safe or not.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the BPA in Food Packaging Right to Know Act to stand up for the right of consumers to make informed choices about the food products they buy for their families. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this important issue.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 1125. A bill to require the Secretary of State to submit to Congress reports on water sharing with Mexico; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. CORNYN. 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. 1125

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Working to Address Treaty Enforcement Rapidly for Texas Act”.

SEC. 2. REPORTS ON WATER SHARING WITH MEXICO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall submit to Congress a report—

(1) not later than 45 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and quarterly thereafter, describing efforts by Mexico to meet the treaty obligations of Mexico to deliver water to the Rio Grande, in accordance with the treaty between the United States and Mexico entitled “Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande” (done at Washington, February 3, 1944); and

(2) not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter, describing the benefits to the United States of the document entitled “Interim International Cooperative Measures in the Colorado River Basin through 2017 and Extension of Minute 318 Cooperative Measures to Address the Continued Effects of the April 2010 Earthquake in the Mexicali Valley, Baja California” (done at Coronado, California, November 20, 2012 (commonly referred to as “Minute Number 319”)).

(b) ACTION BY SECRETARY OF STATE.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of State shall not extend Minute Number 319 if the Secretary fails to comply with the requirements of this Act.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. COWAN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 1126. A bill to aid and support pediatric involvement in reading and education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I introduce with my colleague, Senator GRASSLEY, the Prescribe-a-Book Act. I thank Senators STABENOW, COWAN, and BLUMENTHAL for joining us as original cosponsors of this bipartisan bill.

Literacy skills are the foundation for success in school and in life. Developing and building these skills begins at home, with parents as the first teachers.

Our legislation would create a federal pediatric early literacy grant initiative based on the long-standing, successful Reach Out and Read program. The program would award grants on a competitive basis to high-quality non-profit entities to train doctors and nurses to discuss with parents the importance of reading aloud to their children and to give books to children at pediatric check-ups from six months to five

years of age, with a priority for children from low-income families. It builds on the relationship between parents and medical providers and helps families and communities encourage early literacy skills so children enter school prepared for success in reading.

The pediatric literacy model implemented by Reach Out and Read has consistently demonstrated effectiveness in increasing family engagement and boosting children's reading proficiency. Research published in peer-reviewed, scientific journals has found that parents who have participated in the program are significantly more likely to read to their children and include more children's books in their home, and that children served by the program show an increase of 4–8 points on vocabulary tests. I have seen up-close the positive impact of this program on children and their families when visiting a number of Rhode Island's Reach Out and Read sites.

The Prescribe a Book Act would leverage federal dollars to expand pediatric literacy initiatives so that more young children reap the developmental benefits of having books at home and being read to by their parents. Federal grant funding for Reach Out and Read through the Department of Education helped build a successful public-private partnership that has been matched by tens of millions of dollars from the private sector and state governments. The Prescribe a Book Act would establish a formal authorization for activities modeled on this type of successful partnership.

I urge our colleagues to join us in co-sponsoring the Prescribe a Book Act, and to work to include its provisions in the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 1127. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding school libraries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I introduce with my colleagues Senators COCHRAN, MURRAY, and WHITEHOUSE, the Strengthening Kids' Interest in Learning and Libraries Act.

Since 1965, more than 60 education and library studies have produced clear evidence that school libraries staffed by qualified librarians have a positive impact on student academic achievement. Knowing how to find and use information are essential skills for college and careers. A good school library, staffed by a trained school librarian, is where students develop and hone these skills.

Our bipartisan legislation would reauthorize and strengthen the Improving Literacy through School Libraries program of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, the only federal

initiative explicitly dedicated to supporting and enhancing our nation's school libraries. The key improvements to the program include ensuring that elementary, middle, and high school students are served; expanding professional development to include digital literacy instruction and reading and writing instruction across all grade levels; focusing on coordination and shared planning time between teachers and librarians; awarding grants for a period of three years; and ensuring that books and materials are appropriate for and gain the interest of students with special learning needs, including English learners.

The SKILLS Act would also strengthen Title I by asking state and school district plans to address the development of effective school library programs to help students gain digital literacy skills, master the knowledge and skills in the challenging academic content standards adopted by the state, and graduate from high school ready for college and careers. Additionally, the legislation would broaden the focus of training, professional development, and recruitment activities under Title II to include school librarians.

Absent a clear federal investment, the libraries in many of our high poverty schools will languish with outdated materials and technology, and in turn, students would be cut off from a vital information hub that connects them to the tools they need to develop critical thinking and research skills necessary for success. This is a true equity issue, which is why I will continue to fight to sustain our federal investment in this area and why renewing and strengthening the school library program is of critical importance.

I urge our colleagues to join us in co-sponsoring the bipartisan Strengthening Kids' Interest in Learning and Libraries Act, and to work together to ensure that it becomes a part of the upcoming reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 164—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 30, 2013, AS A NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS PROGRAM WORKERS

Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S. RES. 164

Whereas, since World War II, hundreds of thousands of men and women, including uranium miners, millers, and haulers, have served the United States by building nuclear weapons for the defense of the United States;

Whereas those dedicated workers paid a high price for their service to develop a nuclear weapons program for the benefit of the

United States, including by developing disabling or fatal illnesses;

Whereas the Senate recognized the contribution, service, and sacrifice those patriotic men and women made for the defense of the United States in Senate Resolution 151, 111th Congress, agreed to May 20, 2009, Senate Resolution 653, 111th Congress, agreed to September 28, 2010, Senate Resolution 275, 112th Congress, agreed to September 26, 2011, and Senate Resolution 519, 112th Congress, agreed to August 1, 2012;

Whereas a national day of remembrance time capsule has been crossing the United States, collecting artifacts and the stories of nuclear weapons program workers relating to the nuclear defense era of the United States, and a remembrance quilt has been constructed to memorialize the contribution of those workers;

Whereas the stories and artifacts reflected in the time capsule and the remembrance quilt reinforce the importance of recognizing nuclear weapons program workers; and

Whereas those patriotic men and women deserve to be recognized for the contribution, service, and sacrifice they have made for the defense of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 30, 2013, as a national day of remembrance for the nuclear weapons program workers, including uranium miners, millers, and haulers, of the United States; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to support and participate in appropriate ceremonies, programs, and other activities to commemorate October 30, 2013, as a national day of remembrance for past and present workers in the nuclear weapons program of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 165—CALLING FOR THE RELEASE FROM PRISON OF FORMER PRIME MINISTER OF UKRAINE YULIA TYMOSHENKO IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS RULING

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 165

Whereas, in August 1991, the Ukrainian Parliament declared independence from the Soviet Union and approved decrees to mint its own currency and take command of all Soviet military units on its soil;

Whereas, in December 1991, 90 percent of Ukrainians voted in a referendum to support independence from the Soviet Union;

Whereas Ukraine has experienced increased economic and political cooperation with Europe and the United States since its independence from the Soviet Union;

Whereas, in 1996, Ukraine adopted its first democratic constitution that included basic freedoms of speech, assembly, religion, and press;

Whereas in 2004, Ukrainians organized a series of historic protests, strikes, and sit-ins known as the "Orange Revolution" to protest electoral fraud in the 2004 presidential election;

Whereas Yulia Tymoshenko was a leader of the Orange Revolution and was first elected as Prime Minister in 2005;

Whereas, in the 2010 presidential election, incumbent President Viktor Yushchenko won only 5.5 percent in the first round of voting, which left former Prime Minister Viktor

Yanukovich and then Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko to face one another in a run-off election;

Whereas Mr. Yanukovich defeated Ms. Tymoshenko by a margin of 49 percent to 44 percent;

Whereas, on October 11, 2011, Ms. Tymoshenko was found guilty and sentenced to seven years in prison on charges that she abused her position as Prime Minister in connection with a Russian natural gas contract;

Whereas, on January 26, 2012, the Parliamentary Assembly Council of Europe (PACE) passed a resolution (1862) that declared that the articles under which Ms. Tymoshenko was convicted were "overly broad in application and effectively allow for ex post facto criminalization of normal political decision making";

Whereas, on May 30, 2012, the European Parliament passed a resolution (C153/21) deplo-
ring the sentencing of Ms. Tymoshenko;

Whereas, on September 22, 2012, the United States Senate passed a resolution (S. Res 466, 112th Congress) that condemned the selective and politically motivated prosecution and imprisonment of Yulia Tymoshenko, called for her release, and called on the Department of State to institute a visa ban against those responsible for the imprisonment of Ms. Tymoshenko and the other political leaders associated with the 2004 Orange Revolution;

Whereas, on April 7, 2013, President of Ukraine Viktor Yanukovich pardoned former interior minister Yuri Lutsenko and several other opposition figures allied with Ms. Tymoshenko;

Whereas, on April 30, 2013, the European Court of Human Rights, which settles cases of rights abuses after plaintiffs have exhausted appeals in their home country courts, ruled that Ms. Tymoshenko's pre-trial detention had been arbitrary; that the lawfulness of her detention had not been properly reviewed; that her right to liberty had been restricted; and, that she had no possibility to seek compensation for her unlawful deprivation of liberty;

Whereas, on April 30, 2013, Department of State Spokesman Patrick Ventrell reiterated the United States call that Ms. Tymoshenko "be released and that the practice of selective prosecution end immediately" in light of the European Court of Human Rights decision;

Whereas Ukraine hopes to sign an association agreement with the European Union during the Eastern Partnership Summit in November 2013; and

Whereas, after the European Court of Human Rights ruling, European Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs chairman Elmar Brok stated that "Ukraine is still miles away from fulfilling European standards" and must "end its selective justice" before signing the association agreement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) calls on the Government of Ukraine to release former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko from imprisonment in light of the April 2013 European Court of Human Rights verdict;

(2) calls on the European Union members to include the release of Ms. Tymoshenko from imprisonment as an important criterion for signing an association agreement with Ukraine at the upcoming Eastern Partnership Summit in Lithuania;

(3) expresses its belief and hope that Ukraine's future rests with stronger ties to Europe, the United States, and others in the community of democracies; and

(4) expresses its concern and disappointment that the continued selective and politically motivated imprisonment of former