

EC-2265. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Revisions to Framework Adjustment 50 to the Northeast Multispecies Fishery Management Plan and Sector Annual Catch Entitlements; Updated Annual Catch Limits for Sectors and the Common Pool for Fishing Year 2013" (RIN0648-BC97) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 2, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2266. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Magnuson-Stevens Act Provisions, Fisheries of the Northeastern United States; Northeast (NE) Multispecies Fishery; Framework Adjustment 48; Final Rule; Correction" (RIN0648-BC27) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 2, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2267. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Crab Rationalization Program" (RIN0648-BC25) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 2, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2268. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Regulatory Programs, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Fisheries Off West Coast States; Coastal Pelagic Species Fisheries; Annual Specifications" (RIN0648-XC392) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 2, 2013; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC-2269. A communication from the Acting Chief of the Trade and Commercial Regulations Branch, Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Inadmissibility of Consumer Products and Industrial Equipment Non-compliant with Applicable Energy Conservation or Labeling Standards" (RIN1515-AD82) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 2, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2270. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Transition Relief for Employees and Related Individuals Eligible to Enroll in Eligible Employer-Sponsored Health Plans for Non-Calendar Plan Years that Begin in 2013 and End in 2014" (Notice 2013-42) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2271. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Application of Wash Sale Rules to Money Market Fund Shares" (Notice 2013-48) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2272. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the

report of a rule entitled "Guidance Regarding Deferred Discharge of Indebtedness Income of Corporations and Deferred Original Issue Discount Deductions" ((RIN1545-BI96) (TD 9622)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2273. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Application of Section 108(i) to Partnerships and S Corporations" ((RIN1545-BI99) (TD 9623)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2013; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2274. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the semiannual report on the continued compliance of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan with the 1974 Trade Act's freedom of emigration provisions, as required under the Jackson-Vanik Amendment; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-2275. A communication from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Lacey Act Implementation Plan; Definitions for Exempt and Regulated Articles" ((RIN0579-AD11) (Docket No. APHIS-2009-0018)) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on July 9, 2013; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

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. KIRK:

S. 1297. A bill to establish the Government Transformation Commission to review and make recommendations regarding cost control in the Federal Government, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BEGICH:

S. 1298. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to adjust the limits on expensing of certain depreciable business assets; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin):

S. 1299. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, with respect to the operation of vehicles on certain Wisconsin highways, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. HELLER):

S. 1300. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to provide for the conduct of stewardship end result contracting projects; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 1301. A bill to provide for the restoration of forest landscapes, protection of old growth forests, and management of national forests in the eastside forests of the State of Oregon; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 1302. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for

cooperative and small employer charity pension plans; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 1303. A bill to amend certain appropriations Acts to repeal the requirement directing the Administrator of General Services to sell Federal property and assets that support the operations of the Plum Island Animal Disease Center in Plum Island, New York, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BEGICH:

S. 1304. A bill to promote strategic sourcing principles within the Federal Government; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1305. A bill to provide for the conveyance of the Forest Service Lake Hill Administrative Site in Summit County, Colorado; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1306. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in order to improve environmental literacy to better prepare students for postsecondary education and careers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 1307. A bill to provide for evidence-based and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention to help build individual, family, and community strength and resiliency to ensure that youth lead productive, safe, healthy, gang-free, and law-abiding lives; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COONS:

S. 1308. A bill to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to encourage the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WYDEN (by request):

S. 1309. A bill to withdraw and reserve certain public land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior for military uses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. HELLER, Mr. VITTER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. ENZI, and Mr. CORKER):

S. 1310. A bill to require Senate confirmation of Inspector General of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. REID:

S. Res. 196. A resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Thirteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 109

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr.

FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 109, a bill to preserve open competition and Federal Government neutrality towards the labor relations of Federal Government contractors on Federal and federally funded construction projects.

S. 234

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

S. 240

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 240, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the per fiscal year calculation of days of certain active duty or active service used to reduce the minimum age at which a member of a reserve component of the uniformed services may retire for non-regular service.

S. 326

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 326, a bill to reauthorize 21st century community learning centers, and for other purposes.

S. 346

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 346, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit veterans who have a service-connected, permanent disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces entitled to such travel.

S. 501

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 501, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and increase the exclusion for benefits provided to volunteer firefighters and emergency medical responders.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors 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. 629

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms.

MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor 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. 669

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 669, a bill to make permanent the Internal Revenue Service Free File program.

S. 734

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 734, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation.

S. 825

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 825, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of services for homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 967

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) 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. 1039

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1039, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry scholarship to include spouses of members of the Armed Forces who die in the line of duty, and for other purposes.

S. 1068

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1068, a bill to reauthorize and amend the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002, and for other purposes.

S. 1073

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1073, a bill to amend the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 to improve the coordination of refinery outages, and for other purposes.

S. 1078

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from Arkan-

sas (Mr. PRYOR) were added as cosponsors of S. 1078, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to provide certain TRICARE beneficiaries with the opportunity to retain access to TRICARE Prime.

S. 1114

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1114, a bill to provide for identification of misaligned currency, require action to correct the misalignment, and for other purposes.

S. 1130

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1130, a bill to require the Attorney General to disclose each decision, order, or opinion of a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court that includes significant legal interpretation of section 501 or 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 unless such disclosure is not in the national security interest of the United States and for other purposes.

S. 1171

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1171, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to allow a veterinarian to transport and dispense controlled substances in the usual course of veterinary practice outside of the registered location.

S. 1182

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1182, a bill to modify the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 to require specific evidence for access to business records and other tangible things, and provide appropriate transition procedures, and for other purposes.

S. 1188

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1188, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the definition of full-time employee for purposes of the individual mandate in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. 1204

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1204, a bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to protect rights of conscience with regard to requirements for coverage of specific items and services, to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit certain abortion-related discrimination in governmental activities, and for other purposes.

S. 1241

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr.

HELLER) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) were added as cosponsors of S. 1241, a bill to establish the interest rate for certain Federal student loans, and for other purposes.

S. 1242

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1242, a bill to amend the Fair Housing Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1292

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 1292, a bill to prohibit the funding of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. CON. RES. 13

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 13, a concurrent resolution commending the Boys & Girls Clubs of America for its role in improving outcomes for millions of young people and thousands of communities.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. HELLER):

S. 1300. A bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to provide for the conduct of stewardship end result contracting projects; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. President, on behalf of Senators MCCAIN, CRAPO, RISCH, HELLER, and myself I am pleased to introduce the Stewardship Contracting Reauthorization and Improvement Act.

As we continue to search for ways to prevent future wildland fire tragedies, it is worth noting that the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management, BLM, are about to lose one of their most valuable tools in that ongoing fight.

The tool, known as stewardship contracting, allows the Forest Service and BLM—in collaboration with State and local governments, tribal agencies, and non-governmental organizations—to enter into contracts with public or private entities to carry out a variety of land-management projects, including those that can reduce the risk of wildland fire.

Stewardship contracts have been particularly useful in Arizona. The Forest Service awarded the first such 10-year contract to the White Mountain Stewardship Project in 2004, and the largest contract, the Four Forest Restoration Initiative, began in 2012. Unless Congress acts, the authority to enter into these agreements will expire at the end of September. Our legislation would

not only extend the authority for Federal agencies to enter into these agreements, but it builds on past experiences to make commonsense improvements.

For example, it would give the Forest Service and BLM flexibility when establishing cancellation ceilings. A cancellation ceiling represents the amount of money the government would have to pay its contracting partner if the contract were cancelled. Typically, the government has to obligate the full amount at the inception of the contract. As noted in a 2008 GAO report, cancellation ceilings that require agencies to obligate large sums can serve as an impediment to long-term landscape-scale contracts, precisely the types of agreements that most significantly reduce wildfire risks.

Using Defense Department acquisition regulations as a model, our bill solves this problem by allowing Federal agencies to obligate funds in stages that are economically or programmatically viable. It would also require those agencies to notify the House and Senate natural resource committees, as well as the Office of Management and Budget, if the agencies propose contracts that do not fully cover the cancellation ceiling amount. Any extra value from a contract would be dedicated to first satisfying outstanding cancellation-related liabilities before being used to fund other stewardship projects. Finally, our bill incorporates key fire-liability provisions from timber sale contracts into the stewardship model, establishing parity between the two instruments.

Stewardship contracting and the resulting partnerships have helped restore forests, reduce the risk of out-of-control wildfires, and protect rural communities. I thank Senators MCCAIN, CRAPO, RISCH, and HELLER for their support and leadership. It is my hope that our colleagues will act quickly to extend and improve this important land-management tool.

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. 1300

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 “Stewardship Contracting Reauthorization and Improvement Act”.

SEC. 2. STEWARDSHIP END RESULT CONTRACTING PROJECTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title VI of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6591) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 602. STEWARDSHIP END RESULT CONTRACTING PROJECTS.

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

“(1) CHIEF.—The term ‘Chief’ means the Chief of the Forest Service.

“(2) DIRECTOR.—The term ‘Director’ means the Director of the Bureau of Land Management.

“(b) PROJECTS.—Until September 30, 2023, the Chief and the Director, via agreement or contract as appropriate, may enter into stewardship contracting projects with private persons or other public or private entities to perform services to achieve land management goals for the national forests and the public lands that meet local and rural community needs.

“(c) LAND MANAGEMENT GOALS.—The land management goals of a project under subsection (b) may include—

“(1) road and trail maintenance or obliteration to restore or maintain water quality;

“(2) soil productivity, habitat for wildlife and fisheries, or other resource values;

“(3) setting of prescribed fires to improve the composition, structure, condition, and health of stands or to improve wildlife habitat;

“(4) removing vegetation or other activities to promote healthy forest stands, reduce fire hazards, or achieve other land management objectives;

“(5) watershed restoration and maintenance;

“(6) restoration and maintenance of wildlife and fish; or

“(7) control of noxious and exotic weeds and reestablishing native plant species.

“(d) AGREEMENTS OR CONTRACTS.—

“(1) PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE.—A source for performance of an agreement or contract under subsection (b) shall be selected on a best-value basis, including consideration of source under other public and private agreements or contracts.

“(2) CONTRACT FOR SALE OF PROPERTY.—A contract entered into under this section may, at the discretion of the Secretary of Agriculture, be considered a contract for the sale of property under such terms as the Secretary may prescribe without regard to any other provision of law.

“(3) TERM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Chief and the Director may enter into a contract under subsection (b) in accordance with section 3903 of title 41, United States Code.

“(B) MAXIMUM.—The period of the contract under subsection (b) may exceed 5 years but may not exceed 10 years.

“(4) OFFSETS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Chief and the Director may apply the value of timber or other forest products removed as an offset against the cost of services received under the agreement or contract described in subsection (b).

“(B) METHODS OF APPRAISAL.—The value of timber or other forest products used as an offset under subparagraph (A)—

“(i) shall be determined using appropriate methods of appraisal commensurate with the quantity of products to be removed; and

“(ii) may—

“(I) be determined using a unit of measure appropriate to the contracts; and

“(II) may include valuing products on a per-acre basis.

“(5) CANCELLATION CEILINGS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The Chief and the Director may obligate funds to cover any potential cancellation or termination costs for an agreement or contract under subsection (b) in stages that are economically or programmatically viable.

“(B) NOTICE.—

“(i) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 30 days before entering into a multiyear agreement or contract under subsection (b) that includes a cancellation ceiling in excess of \$25,000,000, but does not include proposed funding for the costs of cancelling the agreement or contract up to the cancellation ceiling established in the agreement or contract, the Chief and the Director shall submit to