

reduced rate of excise tax on beer produced domestically by certain qualifying producers.

S. 971

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor 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. 987

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) 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. 1048

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1048, a bill to revoke the charters for the Federal National Mortgage Corporation and the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation upon resolution of their obligations, to create a new Mortgage Finance Agency for the securitization of single family and multifamily mortgages, and for other purposes.

S. 1272

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1272, a bill to provide that certain requirements of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act do not apply if the American Health Benefit Exchanges are not operating on October 1, 2013.

S. 1279

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1279, a bill to prohibit the revocation or withholding of Federal funds to programs whose participants carry out voluntary religious activities.

S. 1303

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 1310

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1310, a bill to require Senate confirmation of

Inspector General of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 18

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 18, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to clarify the authority of Congress and the States to regulate corporations, limited liability companies or other corporate entities established by the laws of any State, the United States, or any foreign state.

S.J. RES. 19

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 19, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

S. CON. RES. 15

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 15, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the Chained Consumer Price Index should not be used to calculate cost-of-living adjustments for Social Security or veterans benefits, or to increase the tax burden on low- and middle-income taxpayers.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 1315. A bill to prohibit the Secretary of the Treasury from enforcing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010; read the first time.

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. 1315

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 "Keep the IRS Off Your Health Care Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) On May 10, 2013, the Internal Revenue Service admitted that it singled out advocacy groups, based on ideology, seeking tax-exempt status.

(2) This action raises pertinent questions about the agency's ability to implement and oversee the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152).

(3) This action could be an indication of future Internal Revenue Service abuses in relation to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, given that

it is their responsibility to enforce a key provision, the individual mandate.

(4) Americans accept the principle that patients, families, and doctors should be making medical decisions, not the Federal Government.

SEC. 3. PROHIBITING ENFORCEMENT OF PPACA AND HCERA.

The Secretary of the Treasury, or any delegate of the Secretary, shall not implement or enforce any provisions of or amendments made by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148) or the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Public Law 111-152).

By Mr. CORNYN:

S. 1316. A bill to repeal the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board; read the first time.

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. 1316

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 "Protecting Seniors' Access to Medicare Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. REPEAL OF THE INDEPENDENT PAYMENT ADVISORY BOARD.

Effective as of the enactment of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Public Law 111-148), sections 3403 and 10320 of such Act (including the amendments made by such sections) are repealed, and any provision of law amended by such sections is hereby restored as if such sections had not been enacted into law.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 197—RECOMMENDING THE POSTHUMOUS AWARD OF THE NAVY CROSS TO LIEUTENANT THOMAS M. CONWAY OF WATERBURY, CONNECTICUT

Mr. MURPHY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 197

Whereas, on July 16, 1945, the USS Indianapolis departed San Francisco carrying the trigger and radioactive core for the atomic bomb Little Boy, destined to be dropped on Hiroshima;

Whereas upon completing its delivery mission to Tinian Island on July 26, the USS Indianapolis proceeded to Okinawa in order to join a larger naval fleet in preparation for an invasion of the Japanese mainland;

Whereas in the early hours of July 30, the USS Indianapolis was critically damaged by 2 torpedoes from a Japanese submarine;

Whereas the USS Indianapolis sunk as a result of the damage, killing some 300 of the 1,196 sailors aboard;

Whereas most of the estimated 900 survivors relied only on their kapok life jackets and belts and some did not even have that equipment;

Whereas Lieutenant (Chaplain) Thomas M. Conway and the rest of the remaining crew were set adrift in the shark-infested waters

with no way of further notifying Navy command;

Whereas with complete disregard for his own safety, Lieutenant Conway swam back and forth among terrified crew members, administered aid to them, dragged loners back to the growing mass of survivors, organized prayer groups, and urged the increasingly dehydrated and delirious men not to give up hope of rescue;

Whereas Lieutenant Conway expired on the third day, shortly before the remaining 321 sailors were rescued after being spotted by Navy pilots;

Whereas the sinking of the USS Indianapolis was the single greatest loss of life at sea in the history of the Navy;

Whereas the successful completion of the mission of the USS Indianapolis was critical to ending World War II; and

Whereas Lieutenant Conway risked his own life in order to retrieve fellow sailors and went from lifeboat to lifeboat in shark-infested waters to tend to the dying and dispirited, acting in a manner far above the call of duty: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors Lieutenant Conway for his heroics, which were above reproach, reflect great credit upon himself, and upheld the highest traditions of the U.S. Navy;

(2) recognizes that the courageous and selfless actions of Lieutenant Conway saved the lives of many of his fellow sailors;

(3) concurs that the actions of Lieutenant Conway are in the spirit and tradition of the Navy Cross; and

(4) recommends that Lieutenant Conway posthumously be awarded the Navy Cross.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to conduct a hearing entitled, "Reauthorization of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission," during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013 at 2:30 a.m. in room SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013 at 2:30 p.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold a hearing entitled, "E-Rate 2.0: Connecting Every Child to the Transformative Power of Technology."

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room SD-215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Health Information Technology: A Building Block to Quality Health Care.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013 at 10 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013 at 2:30 p.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "The Department of Homeland Security at 10 Years: Harnessing Science and Technology to Protect National Security and Enhance Government Efficiency."

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on July 17, 2013, at 1 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "From Selma to Shelby County: Working Together to Restore the Protections of the Voting Rights Act."

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013, at 3 p.m. in room 428A Russell Senate Office building to conduct a hearing entitled "Small Business Tax Reform: Making the Tax Code Work for Entrepreneurs and Startups."

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room SR-418 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION, PRODUCT SAFETY, AND INSURANCE

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and

Transportation be authorized to hold a meeting during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The Committee will hold a hearing entitled, "The Expansion of Internet Gambling: Assessing Consumer Protection Concerns."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Shining a Light on the Consumer Debt Industry."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SEAPOWER

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Seapower of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013, at 9:30 a.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on July 17, 2013 p.m.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Carly Rush and Colby Steele, interns with my HELP Committee staff, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the debate on the confirmation of Thomas Perez.

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

COMMEMORATING THE RE-LAUNCHING OF 172-YEAR-OLD CHARLES W. MORGAN

Mr. WHITEHOUSE. I ask unanimous consent the Judiciary Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. Res. 183 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 assistant legislative clerk read the title as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 183), commemorating the relaunching of 172-year-old Charles W. Morgan by Mystic Seaport: The Museum of America and the Sea.

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