such agreements, and for other purposes.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1271, a bill to direct the President to establish guidelines for the United States foreign assistance programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1282

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1282, a bill to reduce risks to the financial system by limiting banks' ability to engage in certain risky activities and limiting conflicts of interest, to reinstate certain Glass-Steagall Act protections that were repealed by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1302

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 1320

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1320, a bill to establish a tiered hiring preference for members of the reserve components of the armed forces.

S. 1332

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1332, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 1369

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1369, a bill to provide additional flexibility to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to establish capital standards that are properly tailored to the unique characteristics of the business of insurance, and for other purposes.

S. 1405

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1405, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of certain ambulance add-on payments under the Medicare program.

S. 1445

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1445, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of optometrists in the National Health Service Corps scholarship and loan repayment programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1456

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1456, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Shimon Peres.

S. 1457

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1457, a bill to exempt the aging process of distilled spirits from the production period for purposes of capitalization of interest costs.

S. 1476

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1476, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the denial of deduction for certain excessive employee remuneration, and for other purposes.

S. 1490

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1490, a bill to delay the application of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. RES. 203

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 203, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding efforts by the United States to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. HAGAN):

S. 1494. A bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to improve child safety and reduce the incidence of preventable infant deaths in child care settings; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of myself and Senator COLLINS, to introduce the Child Care Infant Mortality Act. This is bipartisan legislation that would allow states participating in the Child Care Development Block Grant, CCDBG, to use part of this funding for child safety training.

Currently, states participating in Child Care Development Block Grant, CCDBG, are required to set aside at least 4 percent of funds to improve the quality of the programs offered in their states. Our bill would simply ensure that strategies to enhance child safety, including disseminating information related to prevention strategies for sudden unexpected infant death, are included in as an allowable use of funds.

According to the Centers for Disease Control, CDC, and the American Academy of Pediatrics, half of the approximately 4,500 SUID cases in the United States are entirely preventable with effective training and implementation of correct sleep practices. It is estimated that child care settings account for 20 percent of all SUID fatalities in the United States. Life-saving sleep strategies, first aid and CPR are successful in preventing infant death and are easily implementable; yet training is not currently an allowable use of funds under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act.

Nationally, over 4,500 infants die suddenly with no immediate obvious cause every year. These deaths are not highly publicized by the media because of the severe pain it causes families. A large percentage of child care providers are unaware of the risks of sleep associated infant deaths until they come face-to-face with a death of a child under their care. The more aware providers are of safe sleep practices, the more likely they are to follow suggested guidelines. In particular, posting safe-sleep practices and offering required training can further cut the number of infants we lose every year to sudden unexpected infant death. Beyond safe sleep practices, child care provider training in CPR and first aid will allow providers to identify and address potentially harmful situations for infants.

The Child Care Infant Mortality Prevention Act of 2013 expands the list of allowable uses for CCDBG funding to permit states to use this funding on activities to improve child care quality. Our bill would also require the Secretary to update and make widely available-training, instructional materials, and other information on safe sleep practices and other sudden unexpected infant death prevention strategies.

I am proud that Senator SUSAN COLLINS has joined me as an original cosponsor of this bill.

It is essential that this issue is addressed by building upon the existing structure and capacity of the networks of Child Care providers participating in the Child Care and Development Block Grant. It is critical that we work to ensure that child safety is a primary goal of the block grant, and that appropriate and adequate training on safe sleep practices, first aid, and CPR are included in the training regimen promoted by this Act.

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. 1494

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 ''Child Care Infant Mortality Prevention Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) For millions of today's working families, child care is an essential ingredient of their success. Child care helps children, families, and communities prosper, and helps the Nation maintain its competitive edge.

(2) Close to 12,000,000 children under age 5, and 10,000,000 over the age of 5, are in some type of child care setting each day.

(3) More than 60 percent of children are cared for regularly in a child care setting.

(4) Recent polls of working parents found that parents are primarily concerned about safety and quality of care, followed by cost.

(5) Nationally, the most common form of death among post-neonatal infants under age 1 is death occurring during sleep, as a result of incorrect sleeping practices.

(6) According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, each year in the United States, more than 4,500 infants die suddenly of no immediately obvious cause. Half of these sudden unexpected infant deaths are due to Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, the leading cause of sudden unexpected infant deaths and all deaths among infants who are not younger than 1 month but younger than 12 months.

(7) Researchers estimate that child care settings account for at least 20 percent of sudden unexpected infant deaths in the United States.

(8) In its 2011 report on child care center licensing regulations, Child Care Aware of America, formerly known as the National Association of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies, noted that—

(A) extensive research and recommendations from organizations like the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention favor simple life-saving safe sleep strategies to eliminate serious risk factors for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and sudden unexpected infant death; and

(B) the strategies noted in subparagraph (A) are not universally required under the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 nor in the majority of State child care regulations.

SEC. 3. GOALS.

Section 658A(b)(5) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858 note) is amended to read as follows:

''(5) to ensure the health, safety, development and well-being of children in programs supported under this subchapter and to assist States in improving the overall quality of child care services and programs by implementing the health, safety, licensing, and oversight standards established in State law (including regulations).''.

SEC. 4. APPLICATION AND PLAN.

Section 658E(c)(2)(F) of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 6858c(c)(2)(F)) is amended by striking clause (iii) and all that follows and inserting the following:

''(iii) minimum health and safety training appropriate to the provider setting, including training on cardiopulmonary resuscitation, first aid, safe sleep practices and other sudden unexpected infant death prevention strategies.''.

SEC. 5. ACTIVITIES TO PROMOTE CHILD SAFETY AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF CHILD CARE.

Section 658G of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858e) is amended—

(1) by striking ''choice, and'' and inserting ''choice,''; and

(2) by striking the period and inserting ''training (including training in safe sleep practices, first aid, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation), and other activities designed to ensure and improve the health and safety of children receiving child care services under this subchapter.''.

SEC. 6. DISSEMINATION OF MATERIALS AND INFORMATION ON SAFE SLEEP AND OTHER SUDDEN UNEXPECTED INFANT DEATH PREVENTION STRATEGIES.

Section 658K of the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9858i) is amended—

(1) by striking the section header and inserting the following:

''SEC. 658K. REPORTS, AUDITS, AND INFORMATION.''

; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) INFORMATION ON SUDDEN UNEXPECTED INFANT DEATH PREVENTION STRATEGIES.—The Secretary, working with the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Director of the Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, shall—

''(1) update training, instructional materials, and other information on safe sleep practices and other sudden unexpected infant death prevention strategies; and

''(2) widely distribute the training, materials, and information to parents, child care providers, pediatricians, home visitors, community colleges, and other individuals and entities.''.

By Mr. KIRK:

S. 1496. A bill to enhance taxpayer accountability at public transportation agencies; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, I rise to address a crisis of confidence at Chicagoland's suburban commuter railroad—Metra. Metra plays a vital role for our area—reducing congestion and carrying thousands of suburban residents to and from Chicago each day. But recent developments highlight a troubled transit system and a misuse of public dollars.

Earlier this summer it was reported that Metra CEO Alex Clifford received a severance package worth nearly $750,000 following allegations of political influence at the agency. Clifford received $442,237 alone just to buyout the remaining term of his contract, on top of $307,390 for an additional 12 months if he is unable to find new employment.

This is a gross misuse of public dollars. With this action, Metra's former CEO makes more than President Obama, who currently makes $400,000 a year. I asked the Congressional Research Service how this golden parachute ranks compared to the annual salary of the top ten largest transit agencies in the country, and the results were surprising. Each of the top 10 largest transit systems pays their chief executive no more than $350,000, meaning Metra, the 24th largest transit agency in the country, had the highest earning CEO.

Fortunately federal taxpayer dollars did not contribute to Clifford's golden parachute. But Metra is expected to receive more than $135 million in federal capital dollars. If our local government bodies can't be trusted to be good stewards of the public, then the Congress should step in to put in place reasonable taxpayer protections.

Today I have introduced the Public Transportation Accountability Act which for the first time will put limits on executive compensation at public transit agencies that receive federal funds. No executive or employee of a transit agency would be able to receive annual compensation that is greater than that of the President of the United States. This is a common sense bill that sadly is necessary to safeguard taxpayers' pocketbooks.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 222—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL SAVE FOR RETIREMENT WEEK, INCLUDING RAISING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE VARIOUS TAX-PREFERRED RETIREMENT VEHICLES AND INCREASING PERSONAL FINANCIAL LITERACY

Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Mr. ENZI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 222

Whereas people in the United States are living longer, and the cost of retirement is increasing significantly;

Whereas Social Security remains the bedrock of retirement income for the great majority of the people of the United States but was never intended by Congress to be the sole source of retirement income for families;

Whereas recent data from the Employee Benefit Research Institute indicates that, in the United States, less than 3/5 of workers or their spouses are saving for retirement, and the amount that workers have saved for retirement is much less than the amount they need to adequately fund their retirement years;

Whereas the financial literacy of workers in the United States is important to their understanding of the need to save for retirement;

Whereas saving for retirement is a key component of overall financial health and security during retirement years, and the importance of financial literacy in planning for retirement must be advocated;

Whereas many workers may not be aware of their options in saving for retirement or may not have focused on the importance of, and need for, saving for retirement;

Whereas, although many employees have access through their employers to defined benefit and defined contribution plans to assist them in preparing for retirement, many of those employees may not be taking advantage of those plans at all or to the full extent allowed by Federal law;

Whereas saving for retirement is necessary even during economic downturns or market declines, which makes continued contributions all the more important;

Whereas all workers, including public and private sector employees, employees of tax-exempt organizations, and self-employed individuals, can benefit from developing personal budgets and financial plans that include retirement savings strategies that take advantage of tax-preferred retirement savings vehicles; and