

S. CON. RES. 33

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 33, a concurrent resolution celebrating the 100th anniversary of the enactment of the Smith-Lever Act, which established the nationwide Cooperative Extension System.

S. RES. 369

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 369, a resolution to designate May 22, 2014 as "United States Foreign Service Day" in recognition of the men and women who have served, or are presently serving, in the Foreign Service of the United States, and to honor those in the Foreign Service who have given their lives in the line of duty.

S. RES. 418

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 418, a resolution to honor Gallaudet University, a premier institution of higher education for deaf and hard of hearing people in the United States, on the occasion of its 150th anniversary and to recognize the impact of the University on higher education.

AMENDMENT NO. 2962

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2962 intended to be proposed to S. 2199, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2963

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2963 intended to be proposed to S. 2199, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. SCOTT):

S. 2234. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow employers a credit against income tax for employees who participate in qualified apprenticeship programs; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BOOKER. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce with my colleague, Senator TIM SCOTT of South Carolina, the Leveraging and Energizing America's Apprenticeship Programs or LEAP Act, which provides a tax credit to employers to help increase the number of registered apprenticeships in the U.S. and put more young Americans to work.

Today, there are still more than 10 million unemployed Americans, and our young people continue to be especially hard hit. Nearly six years after the start of the Great Recession, 16

percent of 16 to 24 year olds are without a job. The numbers are far worse among youth of color and for those without college degrees.

Yet 4 million jobs remain unfilled in the U.S., and part of the reason is that key gaps persist between the skills of young adults and workforce needs. By 2020, the United States is expected to experience a shortage of 3 million workers with associate's degrees or higher and 5 million workers with technical certificates and credentials.

Apprenticeships are a proven way to help young people develop in-demand skills and to meet the needs of employers, yet they comprise just 0.2 percent of the U.S. workforce.

While competitor nations around the world are investing in robust apprenticeship programs, the U.S., by contrast, had just 358,000 active, registered apprenticeships in 2012. That is 7 percent of what England offered when adjusted for population. In Germany, nearly half of all young people go through apprenticeship programs.

We can't let America continue to lag behind. That's why Senator SCOTT and I are introducing the LEAP Act, an initiative that provides a paid-for Federal tax credit to businesses to develop apprenticeship programs that are registered with the Department of Labor or a state apprenticeship agency. The bill addresses the fact that the average age of apprentices is currently as high as 29 years, by offering a tax credit of \$1,500 for apprentices under the age of 25. The tax credit for apprentices 25 or over is \$1,000. The cost of the tax credits are offset by a provision that cuts printing waste by barring the Federal Government from producing publications that are available online, unless the printing is for seniors, Medicare recipients or communities with limited Internet access.

A thriving apprenticeship system should be an essential element of an effective workforce development strategy; registered apprenticeship programs help individuals attain a recognized post-secondary credential and provide workers with the education and on-the-job training needed to succeed.

Studies show that apprenticeships are a wise investment for both participants and the U.S. government: individuals who complete registered apprenticeship programs earn over \$240,000 more over their careers than people who did not participate in such programs, and the tax return on every Federal Government dollar invested in registered apprenticeship programs is \$27.

Our future competitiveness—our economic strength as a nation—depends on the innovation and skill of our workforce. I am proud to join with Senator SCOTT in putting forward this bipartisan legislation that will create opportunities for more Americans to learn the in-demand skills that will help meet employers' needs and fuel our economy. I look forward to working with my colleagues to build support for and pass this bill.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 35—PROVIDING FOR A CONDITIONAL ADJOURNMENT OR RECESS OF THE SENATE AND AN ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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

S. CON. RES. 35

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That when the Senate recesses or adjourns on any day from Thursday, April 10, 2014, through Thursday, April 24, 2014, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand recessed or adjourned until 12:00 noon on Monday, April 28, 2014, or such other time on that day as may be specified by its Majority Leader or his designee in the motion to recess or adjourn, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 2 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first; and that when the House adjourns on any legislative day from Thursday, April 10, 2014, through Thursday, April 24, 2014, on a motion offered pursuant to this concurrent resolution by its Majority Leader or his designee, it stand adjourned until 2:00 p.m. on Monday, April 28, 2014, or until the time of any reassembly pursuant to section 3 of this concurrent resolution, whichever occurs first.

SEC. 2. (a) The Majority Leader of the Senate or his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the Senate, shall notify the Members of the Senate to reassemble at such place and time he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the Senate adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by its Majority Leader or his designee, the Senate shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

SEC. 3. (a) The Speaker of his designee, after consultation with the Minority Leader of the House, shall notify Members of the House to reassemble at such place and time he may designate if, in his opinion, the public interest shall warrant it.

(b) After reassembling pursuant to subsection (a), when the House adjourns on a motion offered pursuant to this subsection by its Majority Leader or his designee, the House shall again stand adjourned pursuant to the first section of this concurrent resolution.

AUTHORITIES FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LEAHY. 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, April 9, 2014, at 10 a.m. in room SR-253 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "From Here to Mars."

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

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION

Mr. LEAHY. 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, April 9, 2014, at 2:30 p.m. in room SR-253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. LEAHY. 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, on April 9, 2014, at 10 a.m. in room SD-430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "Addressing Primary Care Access and Workforce Challenges: Voices from the Field."

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

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on, April 9, 2014, in room SD-628 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:30 p.m. to conduct a hearing entitled "Indian Education Series: Indian Students in Public Schools—Cultivating the Next Generation."

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, April 9, 2014, at 10 a.m. in room SH-216 of the Hart Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled "Examining the Comcast-Time Warner Cable Merger and the Impact on Consumers."

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 9, 2014, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled "Election Administration: Making Voter Rolls More Complete and More Accurate."

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 9, 2014, at 10:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 9, 2014, at 11 a.m. in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "The Fiscal Year 2015 Budget for the Small Business Administration."

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Airland of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 9, 2014, at 9:15 a.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 9, 2014, at 10 a.m.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

Mr. LEAHY. 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 April 9, 2014, at 2:30 p.m.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask that Alexandra Merrill, my intern, be given floor privileges for the duration of the day.

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

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Micah Murphy, a Navy fellow assigned to the office of Senator MCCAIN, be granted floor privileges for the remainder of the 113th Congress.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider the following nominations: Calendar Nos. 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, and all nominations placed on the Secretary's desk in the Marine Corps; that the nominations be confirmed en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate; that no further motions be in order to any of the nominations; that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action and the Senate then resume legislative session.

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

The nominations considered and confirmed en bloc are as follows:

IN THE AIR FORCE

The following Air National-Guard of the United States officers for appointment in the Reserve of the Air Force to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., sections 12203 and 12212:

To be brigadier general

Colonel David P. Baczewski
Colonel Jeffrey W. Burkett
Colonel Conrad C. Caldwell, III
Colonel Jeffrey B. Cashman
Colonel Charles W. Chappuis
Colonel Joel A. Clark
Colonel Patrick J. Cobb
Colonel Thomas B. Cucchi
Colonel John B. Daniel
Colonel George M. Degnon
Colonel William D. DeHaes
Colonel William D. Dockery, Jr.
Colonel Andrew E. Halter
Colonel Timothy J. Harmeson
Colonel Paul G. Havel
Colonel Jill L. Hendra
Colonel Alan K. Hodgdon
Colonel Joseph M. Jabara
Colonel Wendy K. Johnson
Colonel Timothy M. Jones
Colonel Thomas J. Kennett
Colonel Kerry L. Muehlenbeck
Colonel Timothy A. Mullen
Colonel John W. Ogle, III
Colonel Ryan T. Okahara
Colonel Russell A. Rushe
Colonel David P. San Clemente
Colonel Diana M. Shoop
Colonel Jesse T. Simmons, Jr.
Colonel David A. Simon
Colonel Mark C. Snyder
Colonel John G. Sotos
Colonel Ronald C. Stamps
Colonel Randolph J. Staudenraus
Colonel Scott A. Studer
Colonel Michael R. Taheri
Colonel Ronald B. Turk
Colonel Steven C. Warren
Colonel Roger E. Williams, Jr.
Colonel Ronald W. Wilson
Colonel Bryan F. Witeof
Colonel Brett A. Wyrick
Colonel Ricky G. Yoder

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be general

Lt. Gen. John E. Hyten

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Air Force to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601:

To be lieutenant general

Maj. Gen. Wendy M. Masiello

IN THE NAVY

The following named officer for appointment as Chief of Chaplains, United States Navy, and appointment to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 5142:

To be rear admiral

Rear Adm. (lh) Margaret G. Kibben

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated under title 10, U.S.C., section 624:

To be rear admiral (lower half)

Capt. Brent W. Scott

The following named officer for appointment in the United States Navy to the grade indicated while assigned to a position of importance and responsibility under title 10, U.S.C., section 601: