

2363, a bill to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes.

S. 2366

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2366, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to establish a permanent, nationwide summer electronic benefits transfer for children program.

S. 2448

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2448, a bill to protect servicemembers in higher education, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 412

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 412, a resolution reaffirming the strong support of the United States Government for freedom of navigation and other internationally lawful uses of sea and airspace in the Asia-Pacific region, and for the peaceful diplomatic resolution of outstanding territorial and maritime claims and disputes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S. 2512. A bill to establish an emergency transportation safety fund for the reconstruction of bridges along the Interstate Highway System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Emergency Interstate Bridge Safety Fund Act, cosponsored by my friend and colleague from Kentucky, Senator PAUL. This bill seeks to authorize additional funding for our Nation's critical transportation infrastructure through spending offsets provided by the repeal of the antiquated Davis-Bacon Act. Last year, the Congressional Budget Office estimated that over 10 years, repealing the Davis-Bacon Act would save the Federal Government some \$13 billion.

Kentucky is home to a number of critical interstate bridges that are in need of replacement, including the Brent Spence Bridge in Northern Kentucky, the I-65 bridge in Louisville, and an I-69 bridge in Henderson. This bill seeks to create a fund to help advance these very types of interstate bridge projects without raising taxes, adding to the deficit, or by authorizing tolling. Federal funding saved through the repeal of the Davis-Bacon Act could be much better spent building a number of interstate bridges that are sorely needed in Kentucky and communities across America. I call on my Senate colleagues to support this

measure to invest in our Nation's critical transportation infrastructure, on which American commerce depends.

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. 2512

*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 "Emergency Interstate Bridge Safety Fund Act".

#### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Davis-Bacon Act requires that workers on all federally funded or federally assisted construction projects be paid what is commonly referred to as a prevailing wage, as calculated by the Wage and Hour Division of the Department of Labor.

(2) According to the Congressional Budget Office, if the Davis-Bacon Act were repealed, the Federal Government could save an estimated \$12,700,000,000 in discretionary outlays from 2015 through 2023.

(3) These savings could be redirected to the reconstruction of closed and functionally obsolete bridges along the Interstate Highway System, which would improve highway safety and interstate commerce.

#### TITLE I—ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNDING

##### SEC. 101. REPEAL OF DAVIS-BACON ACT OF 1931 WAGE REQUIREMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code (40 U.S.C. 3141 et seq.), is repealed.

(b) REFERENCE.—Beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, any reference in any law to a wage requirement under subchapter IV of chapter 31 of title 40, United States Code, shall be null and void.

##### SEC. 102. EMERGENCY INTERSTATE BRIDGE SAFETY FUND.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the Treasury of the United States a trust fund to be known as the "Emergency Interstate Bridge Safety Fund".

(b) TRANSFERS TO EMERGENCY INTERSTATE BRIDGE SAFETY FUND.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall regularly transfer amounts equal to the savings achieved through the repeal of the wage requirements under subsection (a) from the capital budgets of each affected Federal agency to the Emergency Interstate Bridge Safety Fund.

(2) EMERGENCY RELIEF EXPENDITURES.—Section 125(c) of title 23, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(3) EMERGENCY INTERSTATE BRIDGE SAFETY FUND.—Amounts deposited into the Emergency Interstate Bridge Safety Fund established under section 102(a) of the Emergency Interstate Bridge Safety Fund Act are authorized to be obligated to carry out, in priority order, the projects on the current list compiled by the Secretary under section 201(b)(1) of such Act that meet the eligibility requirements set forth in subsection (a)."

#### TITLE II—EMERGENCY INTERSTATE BRIDGE SAFETY PRIORITY LIST

##### SEC. 201. EMERGENCY INTERSTATE BRIDGE PRI- ORITIES.

(a) LIST.—The Secretary of Transportation, in consultation with a representative sample of State and local government transportation officials, shall compile a prioritized list of emergency interstate bridge projects, which will guide the allocation of funding to the States from the Emer-

gency Interstate Bridge Safety Fund established under section 102.

(b) CRITERIA.—In compiling the list under subsection (a), the Secretary of Transportation, in addition to any other criteria established by the Secretary, shall rank the emergency interstate bridge projects in descending order, beginning with projects that—

(1) are part of the Federal interstate highway system;

(2) involve a bridge that is closed or deemed functionally obsolete by the Federal Highway Administration for safety reasons;

(3) have a significant impact on interstate commerce;

(4) would affect a significant volume of traffic; and

(5) have the greatest overall value to the surrounding community.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall submit a report to Congress that includes—

(1) a prioritized list of emergency interstate bridge projects to be funded through the Emergency Interstate Bridge Safety Fund; and

(2) a description of the criteria used to establish the list referred to in paragraph (1).

(d) QUARTERLY UPDATES.—Not less frequently than 4 times per year, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) update the report submitted pursuant to subsection (c);

(2) send a copy of the report to Congress; and

(3) make a copy of the report available to the public through the Department of Transportation's website.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 481—DESIG- NATING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2014 AS "NATIONAL POST-TRAU- MATIC STRESS DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH"

Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. HELLER, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. JOHANNES, Mr. CASEY, Mr. WALSH, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 481

Whereas the brave men and women of the Armed Forces of the United States, who proudly serve the United States, risk their lives to protect the freedom of the people of the United States, and deserve the investment of every possible resource to ensure their lasting physical, mental, and emotional well-being;

Whereas more than 2,600,000 members of the Armed Forces have deployed overseas since the events of September 11, 2001, and have served in places such as Afghanistan and Iraq;

Whereas the Armed Forces of the United States have sustained a historically high operational tempo since September 11, 2001, with many members of the Armed Forces deploying overseas multiple times, placing those members at high risk of post-traumatic stress disorder (referred to in this preamble as "PTSD");

Whereas members of the Armed Forces and veterans who served before September 11, 2001, remain at risk for PTSD and other mental health disorders;

Whereas the Secretary of Veterans Affairs reports that—

(1) since October 2001, more than 310,000 of the approximately 1,000,000 veterans of Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn who have received health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs have been diagnosed with PTSD;

(2) in fiscal year 2013, more than 530,000 of the nearly 6,000,000 veterans who sought care at Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities received treatment for PTSD; and

(3) of veterans who served in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation New Dawn who are receiving health care from the Department of Veterans Affairs, more than 570,000 have received a diagnosis for at least 1 mental health disorder;

Whereas many cases of PTSD remain unreported, undiagnosed, and untreated due to a lack of awareness about PTSD and the persistent stigma associated with mental health conditions;

Whereas exposure to military sexual trauma can lead to PTSD;

Whereas PTSD significantly increases the risk of anxiety, depression, suicide, homelessness, and drug- and alcohol-related disorders and deaths, especially if left untreated;

Whereas public perceptions of PTSD or other mental health disorders create unique challenges for veterans seeking employment;

Whereas the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs—as well as the larger medical community, both private and public—have made significant advances in the identification, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of PTSD and the symptoms of PTSD, but many challenges remain;

Whereas increased understanding of PTSD can help diminish the stigma attached to this mental health disorder, and additional efforts are needed to find further ways—including an examination of how PTSD is discussed in the United States—to reduce this stigma; and

Whereas the designation of a National Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month will raise public awareness about issues related to PTSD, reduce the stigma associated with PTSD, and help ensure that those suffering from the invisible wounds of war receive proper treatment: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) designates June 2014, as “National Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month”;

(2) supports the efforts of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense—as well as the entire medical community—to educate members of the Armed Forces, veterans, the families of members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and the public about the causes, symptoms, and treatment of post-traumatic stress disorder; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Defense.

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

##### COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. TESTER. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 25, 2014, in room SD-628 of the

Dirksen Senate Office Building, at 2:15 p.m., to conduct an oversight hearing entitled “Economic Development: Encouraging Investment in Indian Country.”

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at (202) 224-2251.

#### NATIONAL POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 481.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The assistant bill clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 481) designating the month of June 2014 as “National Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month.”

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

Mr. REID. I ask unanimous consent the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to consider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 481) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, JUNE 24, 2014

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m. Tuesday, June 24, 2014; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that following any leader remarks, the Senate be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m., with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled between the two leaders or their designees; and that following morning business the Senate proceed to executive session under the previous order.

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

#### PROGRAM

Mr. REID. There will be five rollcall votes at 11 a.m. tomorrow.

#### ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, I ask unanimous consent it adjourn under the previous order following the 10-minute remarks from the Senator from Arizona Mr. FLAKE.

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

The Senator from Arizona is recognized.

#### AIR QUALITY STANDARDS

Mr. FLAKE. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss a matter of importance not just to Arizonans but to the people affected across the country by the Environmental Protection Agency’s continuing overreach. Namely, I want to talk about air quality standards that are quite simply unattainable and those that penalize States where Mother Nature—not smokestacks, not factories, not evil industrialists, just Mother Nature—causes these events that affect air quality.

Let me say from the outset we all love and deserve to have clean air, and when I am discussing these particular concerns I want to be clear that I am not in favor of pollution, dirty air or asthma. Instead what I am in favor of is a little more common sense from the EPA.

It won’t come as any surprise to most people that Arizona is a desert State. We have lots of cactus. We have scorpions. I was stung twice last year. In Arizona, just as in most deserts around the world, we have dust storms. These dust storms are not caused by eroding topsoil or overfarming or man. These are naturally occurring events just like tornadoes or blizzards in other parts of the country. When you live in a naturally dusty State, the dust storms sweep across the desert and across State lines. They can obviously cause local and regional air quality issues. The same goes for living in a forest-fire-prone State, which Arizona also is.

States simply cannot be expected to control these issues. Yet despite adopting an “exceptional events rule” and issuing murky guidance, the EPA still forces States to squander resources on these spikes in air pollutants that are outside anybody’s control, with no actual improvement to air quality.

The EPA’s reviews to prove that spikes in air quality are the result of naturally occurring events are arbitrary, cumbersome, and they are costly. Let me give you an example.

In 2011 and 2012, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, the Maricopa County Air Quality Department, and the Maricopa Association of Governments were forced to spend \$675,000 and 790 staff hours to prove to EPA’s satisfaction something that anyone with two eyes could readily see: Dust storms trip the EPA’s air quality sensors—not pollution, dust storms.

The current regulations are entirely up to the EPA’s discretion and they are final and they are not appealable. But in some cases such as those in Arizona, they are a violation of common sense as well.

That is why I am introducing the CLEER Act. The CLEER Act will, among other things, require the EPA’s decisions on those events to be based