

Jeri Kaylene Somers, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

Armando Omar Bonilla, of the District of Columbia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims for a term of fifteen years.

* Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 576. A bill to increase the threshold for disclosures required by the Securities and Exchange Commission relating to compensatory benefit plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 577. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to eliminate the corn ethanol mandate for renewable fuel; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 578. 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; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mrs. McCASKILL, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 579. A bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 to strengthen the independence of the Inspectors General, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 580. A bill to include community partners and intermediaries in the planning and delivery of education and related programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 581. A bill to provide grants to States to ensure that all students in the middle grades are taught an academically rigorous curriculum with effective supports so that students complete the middle grades prepared for success in secondary school and postsecondary endeavors, to improve State and district policies and programs relating to the academic achievement of students in the middle grades, to develop and implement effective middle grades models for struggling students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BURR, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COATS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. ERNST, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEE, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MORAN, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. RUBIO, Mr.

SCOTT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. SASSE, and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 582. A bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RISCH:

S. 583. A bill to establish certain wilderness areas in central Idaho and to authorize various land conveyances involving National Forest System land and Bureau of Land Management land in central Idaho, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. WARNER):

S. 584. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide the option to receive Medicare Summary Notices electronically, to increase the flexibility and transparency of contracts with medicare administrative contractors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. SANDERS, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 585. A bill to amend the Natural Gas Act with respect to the exportation of natural gas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. KIRK, Ms. AYOTTE, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. NELSON, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. CAPER, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 586. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to foster more effective implementation and coordination of clinical care for people with pre-diabetes, diabetes, and the chronic diseases and conditions that result from diabetes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 587. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Defense to use only human-based methods for training members of the Armed Forces in the treatment of severe combat injuries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. NELSON, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 588. A bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to establish a consumer product safety standard for liquid detergent packets to protect children under the age of five from injury or illness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. PETERS, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 589. A bill to provide an immediate measure to control the spread of aquatic nuisance species from the Mississippi River basin to the Great Lakes basin and to inform long-term measures to prevent the Interbasin transfer of aquatic nuisance species; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. McCASKILL (for herself, Mr. HELLER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. WARNER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. REED, Ms. STABENOW, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 590. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 and the Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime Statistics Act to combat campus sexual violence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 591. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the new markets tax credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, and Mr. UDALL):

S. 592. A bill to improve the transition between experimental permits and commercial licenses for commercial reusable launch vehicles; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 593. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to submit to Congress a report on the efforts of the Bureau of Reclamation to manage its infrastructure assets; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. DONNELLY (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 594. A bill to establish a tiered hiring preference for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 595. A bill to amend the Migratory Bird Treaty Act to prohibit baiting exemptions on certain land; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 596. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to establish a grant program to support the restoration of San Francisco Bay; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. TILLIS:

S. 597. A bill to amend section 706 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 to provide that such section does not authorize the Federal Communications Commission to preempt the laws of certain States relating to the regulation of municipal broadband, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 598. A bill to improve the understanding of, and promote access to treatment for, chronic kidney disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. TOOMEY, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 599. A bill to extend and expand the Medicaid emergency psychiatric demonstration project; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 600. A bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an energy efficiency retrofit pilot program; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself and Mr. Kaine):

S. 601. A bill to direct Federal investment in carbon capture and storage and other clean coal technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 602. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to consider certain time spent by members of reserve components of the Armed Forces while receiving medical care from the Secretary of Defense as active duty for purposes of eligibility for Post-9/11 Educational Assistance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 603. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to

transport individuals to and from facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs in connection with rehabilitation, counseling, examination, treatment, and care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. NELSON):

S. 604. A bill to reauthorize and improve a grant program to assist institutions of higher education in establishing, maintaining, improving, and operating Veteran Student Centers; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 605. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to invest in innovation for education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 606. A bill to extend the right of appeal to the Merit Systems Protection Board to certain employees of the United States Postal Service; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental 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. BOOKER (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PAUL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. PORTMAN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. WICKER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BURR, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. REED, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. SASSE):

S. Res. 88. A resolution celebrating Black History Month; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 89. A resolution congratulating the Oregon Shakespeare Festival on its 80th year; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. AYOTTE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. FISCHER, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 90. A resolution designating February 2015 as "American Heart Month" and February 6, 2015, as "National Wear Red Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. REED, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 91. A resolution designating March 2, 2015, as "Read Across America Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. McCAIN (for himself and Mr. REID):

S. Con. Res. 6. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that John Arthur "Jack" Johnson should receive a posthumous pardon for the racially motivated conviction in 1913 that diminished the athletic, cultural, and historic significance of Jack Johnson and unduly tarnished his reputation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 141

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 141, a bill to repeal the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board.

S. 153

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) was added as a co-sponsor of S. 153, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize additional visas for well-educated aliens to live and work in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 166

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 166, a bill to stop exploitation through trafficking.

S. 207

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) and the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) were added as cosponsors of S. 207, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to use existing authorities to furnish health care at non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities to veterans who live more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest medical facility of the Department that furnishes the care sought by the veteran, and for other purposes.

S. 226

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 226, a bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

S. 233

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 233, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector.

S. 235

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 235, a bill to provide for wild-fire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

S. 258

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 258, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove the 96-hour physician certification requirement for inpatient critical access hospital services.

S. 262

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Sen-

ator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 262, a bill to reauthorize the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act, and for other purposes.

S. 271

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 271, 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. 298

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 298, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to provide States with the option of providing services to children with medically complex conditions under the Medicaid program and Children's Health Insurance Program through a care coordination program focused on improving health outcomes for children with medically complex conditions and lowering costs, and for other purposes.

S. 338

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 338, a bill to permanently reauthorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

S. 358

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 358, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to ensure that women members of the Armed Forces and their families have access to the contraception they need in order to promote the health and readiness of all members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 371

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 371, a bill to remove a limitation on a prohibition relating to permits for discharges incidental to normal operation of vessels.

S. 388

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 388, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to require humane treatment of animals by Federal Government facilities.

S. 396

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from