

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. REID, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 733. A bill to exempt children of certain Filipino World War II veterans from the numerical limitations on immigrant visas and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. AYOTTE:

S. 734. A bill to provide for the equitable distribution of Universal Service funds to rural States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 735. A bill to require that any trade agreement eligible for expedited consideration by Congress include requirements with respect to paying adequate wages and maintaining sustainable production methods, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 736. A bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require disclosure to States of the basis of determinations under such Act, to ensure use of information provided by State, tribal, and county governments in decisionmaking under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 737. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to extend the application of the Medicare payment rate floor to primary care services furnished under Medicaid and to apply the rate floor to additional providers of primary care services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 738. A bill to reduce the risks associated with genetically altered salmon in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. PAUL:

S. Res. 100. A resolution to provide sufficient time for legislation to be read; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

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

S. Res. 101. A resolution relating to proceedings of the Senate in the event of a partial or full shutdown of the Federal Government; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 23

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 23, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, with respect to the definition of “widow” and “widower”, and for other purposes.

S. 149

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr.

GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 149, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on medical devices.

S. 163

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 163, a bill to establish a grant program to help State and local law enforcement agencies reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with autism and other disabilities.

S. 164

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 164, a bill to increase the rates of pay under the General Schedule and other statutory pay systems and for prevailing rate employees by 3.8 percent, and for other purposes.

S. 178

At the request of Mr. DAINES, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

S. 299

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 299, a bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba.

S. 301

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 301, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of Boys Town, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 301, *supra*.

S. 352

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 352, a bill to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate, and for other purposes.

S. 370

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 370, a bill to require breast density reporting to physicians and patients by facilities that perform mammograms, and for other purposes.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) were added as cosponsors of S. 423, a bill to amend

the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual written privacy notice requirement.

S. 467

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 467, a bill to reduce recidivism and increase public safety, and for other purposes.

S. 539

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 539, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 568

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) were added as cosponsors of S. 568, a bill to extend the trade adjustment assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 570

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 570, a bill to improve access to oral health care for vulnerable and underserved populations.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions.

S. 599

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 599, a bill to extend and expand the Medicaid emergency psychiatric demonstration project.

S. 628

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 628, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the designation of maternity care health professional shortage areas.

S. 636

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to reduce prescription drug misuse and abuse.

S. 637

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 637, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 650

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr.

SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 650, a bill to extend the positive train control system implementation deadline, and for other purposes.

S. 665

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 665, a bill to encourage, enhance, and integrate Blue Alert plans throughout the United States in order to disseminate information when a law enforcement officer is seriously injured or killed in the line of duty, is missing in connection with the officer's official duties, or an imminent and credible threat that an individual intends to cause the serious injury or death of a law enforcement officer is received, and for other purposes.

S. 681

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 273

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 273 intended to be proposed to S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

AMENDMENT NO. 279

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 279 intended to be proposed to S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

AMENDMENT NO. 290

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 290 intended to be proposed to S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

AMENDMENT NO. 297

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 297 intended to be proposed to S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 724. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to provide enhanced penalties for marketing candy-flavored controlled substances to minors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join Senator GRASSLEY in re-introducing the Protecting Kids from Candy-Flavored Drugs Act of 2015,

formerly known as the Saving Kids from Dangerous Drugs Act.

For years, law enforcement has seen drug dealers flavor and market their illegal drugs to entice minors, using techniques like combining drugs with chocolate and fruit flavors, and even packaging them to look like actual candy and soda. This bill would address this serious and dangerous problem by providing stronger penalties when drug dealers alter controlled substances by combining them with beverages or candy products, marketing or packaging them to resemble legitimate products, or flavoring or coloring them, all with the intent to sell the drugs to minors.

Recent reports by law enforcement and by the media demonstrate the need for this legislation. Last year, a captain in the Drugs and Vice Division of an Oregon police department told my office that he "routinely encounter[s]" ecstasy; it is "often found packaged with cartoon characters on the labeling[,] shaped in pacifier form[,] or with the outline of various animals stamped [on the] drug when in pill form." He continued that "[c]andy bracelets of MDMA [ecstasy] are also common. Various unique colors of pills are also frequently encountered with the clear intent to market and make the drug appealing to the young."

Also last year, a narcotics team member in an Oregon sheriff's office told my office that he frequently encounters gummy bears laced with Xanax. The "only customers are juveniles," according to the officer. He noted that if a youth gets hooked, he will become a regular customer.

Law enforcement has made several notable busts of large productions of candied or flavored drugs. In January 2013, the Drug Enforcement Administration seized THC-laden soft drinks, cookies, brownies, and candy from two phony medical marijuana dispensaries in my home state of California. These dispensaries grossed an estimated \$3.5 million annually. The names of the products seized show how the purveyors of these drugs marketed them under names that resembled popular soda and candy products: bottles were labeled "7 High," "Dr. Feelgood," and "Laughing Lemonade"; cookies and brownies had such names as "White Chip Hash Brownie" and "Reese's Crumbled Hash Brownie; and candy was named "Jolly Stones THC Medicated Hard Candies" and "Stone Candy."

Around Halloween 2013, police seized more than 40 pounds of THC-laced candy from a campus apartment at West Chester University, outside of Philadelphia. This candy was vividly colored, in a virtual rainbow assortment—pink, yellow, orange, blue, and red. When college students are peddling these drugs, it is not hard to see how minors can become targets of the operation.

Many recent incidents involve methamphetamine, a drug whose users face

a "very high" risk of "developing psychotic symptoms—hallucinations and delusions," according to a recent Harvard Medical School publication. A 2007 article in USA Today entitled "DEA: Flavored meth use on the rise" stated that "[r]eports of candy-flavored methamphetamine are emerging around the nation, stirring concern among police and abuse prevention experts that drug dealers are marketing the drug to younger people." In March of 2012, police in Chicago warned parents about a drug that "looks and smells like candy," called "strawberry quick" or "strawberry meth." Because of the drug's similarity to candy, police urged parents to tell their children not to take candy from anyone, not even a classmate.

Regrettably, this is a problem that has persisted for many years, with drug dealers trying various methods to lure kids to try many dangerous drugs. The dealers' logic is simple: the best way to create a life-long customer is to hook that person when he or she is young. According to an Indiana sheriff quoted in a 2007 article entitled "Fruity meth aimed at kids," flavoring a drug like methamphetamine makes it "more attractive to teens, because it takes away meth's normally bitter taste, and some dealers will tell potential users this meth is safer, and has less side effects."

That is why the practice of flavoring or coloring drugs to entice youth is so dangerous. It deceives the young customer into believing that he or she is not actually ingesting drugs, or at least not ingesting drugs that are as potent as non-flavored drugs. One in three teens already believes there is "only a slight or no risk in trying [methamphetamine]," according to the 2007 National Meth Use & Attitudes Survey. When you flavor methamphetamine or market it as candy or soda, the number of teens who believe that the drug is not harmful is surely higher.

The size and sophistication of some of these operations is particularly alarming. In March of 2006, DEA discovered large-scale marijuana cultivation and production facilities in Emeryville and Oakland, CA. Thousands of marijuana plants, and hundreds of marijuana-related soda, candy, and other products were seized from the drug dealers' facilities. The products were designed and packaged to look like legitimate products, including an item called "Munchy Way" candy bars.

Similarly, in March of 2008, Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, agents seized cocaine near Modesto, CA, that was valued at \$272,400; a significant quantity had been flavored like cinnamon, coconut, lemon, or strawberry. After that raid, one DEA agent stated that "[a]ttempting to lure new, younger customers to a dangerous drug by adding candy 'flavors' is an unconscionable marketing technique."

I completely agree. That is why we need to act now to stop those who alter