

S. Res. 53. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. BLUNT, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

S. Res. 54. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. BURR, from the Select Committee on Intelligence, without amendment:

S. Res. 55. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. ENZI, from the Committee on the Budget, without amendment:

S. Res. 57. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget.

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. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. UDALL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 299. A bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 300. A bill to provide for auditable financial statements for the Department of Defense, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. FISCHER:

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; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MARKLEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 302. A bill to establish in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State a Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBT Peoples; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. ROBERTS:

S. 303. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide that individuals having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for Federal employment; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. NELSON, Mr. HELLER, Mrs. McCASKILL, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 304. A bill to improve motor vehicle safety by encouraging the sharing of certain information; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BURR, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. COATS, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KIRK, Mr. MORAN, Mr.

PORTMAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 305. A bill to protect American job creation by striking the Federal mandate on employers to offer health insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 306. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage the use of 529 plans and Coverdell education savings accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 307. A bill to amend title III of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment and implementation of guidelines on best practices for diagnosis, treatment, and management of mild traumatic brain injuries (MTBIs) in school-aged children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 308. A bill to reauthorize 21st century community learning centers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. FLAKE, Ms. AYOTTE, and Mr. LEE):

S. 309. A bill to prohibit earmarks; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. 310. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for the costs of painting portraits of officers and employees of the Federal Government; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. KIRK):

S. 311. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 312. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding school libraries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 313. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to add physical therapists to the list of providers allowed to utilize locum tenens arrangements under Medicare; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. KIRK, and Mr. BROWN):

S. 314. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of pharmacist services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HELLER (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 315. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for the purchase of hearing aids; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. ALEXANDER, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. 316. A bill to amend the charter school program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. Kaine, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 317. A bill to improve early education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 318. A bill to prioritize funding for the National Institutes of Health to discover treatments and cures, to maintain global leadership in medical innovation, and to restore the purchasing power the NIH had after the historic doubling campaign that ended in fiscal year 2003; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 319. A bill to designate a mountain in the State of Alaska as Mount Denali; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BROWN, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 320. A bill to authorize the collection of supplemental payments to increase congressional investments in medical research, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 321. A bill to revoke the charter of incorporation of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma at the request of that tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. AYOTTE (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BLUNT, and Mr. COONS):

S. 322. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain compensation received by public safety officers and their dependents from gross income; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 323. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for the costs of official portraits of Members of Congress, heads of executive agencies, and heads of agencies and offices of the legislative branch; 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. McCAIN:

S. Res. 53. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Armed Services; from the Committee on Armed Services; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. BLUNT:

S. Res. 54. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on Rules and Administration; from the Committee on Rules and Administration; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. BURR:

S. Res. 55. A resolution authorizing expenditures by the Select Committee on Intelligence; from the Select Committee on Intelligence; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Ms. WARREN):

S. Res. 56. A resolution designating January 2015 as “National Blood Donor Month”; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ENZI:

S. Res. 57. A resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Budget; from the Committee on the Budget; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. CAPITO, and Mr. BROWN):

S. Res. 58. A resolution recognizing January 2015 as “National Mentoring Month”; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 165

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 165, a bill to extend and enhance prohibitions and limitations with respect to the transfer or release of individuals detained at United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and for other purposes.

S. 167

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 167, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide for the conduct of annual evaluations of mental health care and suicide prevention programs of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to require a pilot program on loan repayment for psychiatrists who agree to serve in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 167, *supra*.

S. 192

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 192, a bill to reauthorize the Older Americans Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

S. 198

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 198, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules relating to inverted corporations.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to restore Americans' individual liberty by striking the Federal mandate to purchase insurance.

S. 235

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as co-sponsors of S. 235, a bill to provide for wildfire suppression operations, and for other purposes.

S. 257

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO), the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) were added as cosponsors of S. 257, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Secu-

rity Act with respect to physician supervision of therapeutic hospital outpatient services.

S. 265

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 265, a bill to expand opportunity through greater choice in education, and for other purposes.

S. 275

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 275, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of home as a site of care for infusion therapy under the Medicare program.

S. 292

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 292, a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to require publication on the Internet of the basis for determinations that species are endangered species or threatened species, and for other purposes.

S. 293

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 293, a bill to amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to establish a procedure for approval of certain settlements.

S. 294

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 294, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

S. 295

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 295, a bill to amend section 2259 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 297

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 297, a bill to revive and expand the Intermediate Care Technician Pilot Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 92

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 92 proposed to S. 1, a bill to approve the Keystone XL Pipeline.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CARDIN, Mr.

COONS, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CASEY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 302. A bill to establish in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor of the Department of State a Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBT Peoples; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. President, throughout my career, I have been proud to stand up for equality for all Americans regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. While I have seen much progress with respect for the rights of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender, LGBT, community within the United States, the struggle for equality and justice abroad remains significant. Many countries have laws that criminalize homosexuality, prohibit public support of the LGBT community and persecute those who identify as LGBT. To adequately address the challenges posed by these discriminatory laws, the United States must make LGBT rights a priority in all of our foreign policy and there needs to be dedicated position responsible for coordinating that effort. That is why, today, I am introducing the International Human Rights Defense Act of 2015, which directs the Department of State to make international LGBT human rights a foreign policy priority and would establish a Special Envoy position in the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor responsible for coordinating that effort.

Over the past few years, conditions have deteriorated for LGBT individuals in many regions of the world. Russia enacted a ban on arbitrarily-defined "homosexual propaganda," endangering the position of many LGBT individuals and their allies. Russia's law has been the basis for similar legislation threatened or introduced in countries across Eastern Europe and Central Asia, including Lithuania, Kyrgyzstan, and Belarus. In December 2013, India's Supreme Court reversed a lower court ruling and reinstated the criminalization of homosexuality in the second most populous nation on earth. Nigeria, Uganda, and Gambia have all passed laws that make homosexuality a crime punishable with life imprisonment. While Uganda's law was overturned by its Constitutional Court, leaders have pledged to pursue similar legislation. Conditions for transgender individuals are particularly troubling in Brazil, where 113 transgender individuals were murdered in a 1-year period.

In light of these alarming developments, I am introducing the International Human Rights Defense Act of 2015. It is critical that the United States fight for LGBT equality both at