Labor Relations Act to strengthen protections for employees wishing to advocate for improved wages, hours, or other terms or conditions of employment and to provide for stronger remedies for interference with these rights, and for other purposes.

S. 2066

At the request of Mr. SASSE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2066, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit a health care practitioner from failing to exercise the proper degree of care in the case of a child who survives an abortion or attempted abortion.

S. 2148

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2148, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prevent an increase in the Medicare part B premium and deductible in 2016.

S. 2168

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2168, a bill to encourage greater community accountability of law enforcement agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 2184

At the request of Mr. COONS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2184, a bill to direct the President to establish guidelines for United States foreign development and economic assistance programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2203

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2203, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make residents of Puerto Rico eligible for the earned income tax credit and to provide equitable treatment for residents of Puerto Rico with respect to the refundable portion of the child tax credit.

S. 2206

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2206, a bill to reduce the incidence of sexual harassment and assault at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to reauthorize the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002, and to reauthorize the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998, and for other purposes.

S. 2213

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2213, a bill to prohibit firearms dealers from selling a firearm prior to the completion of a background check.

S. RES. 275

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 275, a resolution calling on Congress, schools, and State and local educational agencies to recognize the significant educational implications of dyslexia that must be addressed and designating October 2015 as ''National Dyslexia Awareness Month''.

S. RES. 299

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 299, a resolution honoring the life, legacy, and example of former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on the twentieth anniversary of his death.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2755. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2756. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2757. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2758. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2759. Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2760. Mrs. MURRAY (for Mr. HELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1731, to amend title 38, United States Code, to waive the minimum period of continuous active duty in the Armed Forces for receipt of certain benefits for homeless veterans, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish such benefits to homeless veterans with discharges or releases from service in the Armed Forces with other than dishonorable conditions, and for other purposes.

SA 2761. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2755. Mr. LANKFORD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike title VIII and insert the following:

TITLE VIII—SOCIAL SECURITY

Subtitle A—Protecting the Disability Insurance Trust Fund

SEC. 801. UPDATE AND ADJUSTMENT OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY INSURANCE MEDICAL-VOCATIONAL GUIDELINES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) AGE CRITERIA.—Notwithstanding appendix 2 to subpart P of part 404 of title 20, Code of Federal Regulations, with respect to disability determinations or reviews made on or after the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, age shall not be considered as a vocational factor for any individual who has not attained the age that is 12 years less than the retirement age for such individual (as defined in section 216(l)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 416(l)).

(2) WORK WHICH EXISTS IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY.—With respect to disability determinations or reviews made on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, in determining whether an individual is able to engage in any work which exists in the national economy (as defined in section 223(d)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423(d)(2)(A)), the Commissioner of Social Security shall consider the share and ages of individuals currently participating in the labor force and the number and types of jobs available in the current economy.

(b) UPDATING THE MEDICAL-VOCATIONAL GUIDELINES AND DATA ON WORK WHICH EXISTS IN NATIONAL ECONOMY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 10 years thereafter, the Commissioner of Social Security shall prescribe rules and regulations that update the medical-vocational guidelines, as set forth in appendix 2 to subpart P of part 404 of title 20, Code of Federal Regulations, used in disability determinations.

(2) JOBS IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter, the Commissioner of Social Security shall update the data used by the Commissioner to determine the jobs which exist in the national economy to ensure that such data reflects the full range of work which exists in the national economy, including newly-created jobs in emerging industries.

SEC. 802. MANDATORY COLLECTION OF NEGOTIATED CIVIL MONETARY PENALTIES.

Section 1129(i)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a–8(i)(2)) is amended by inserting ''and shall delegate authority for collecting civil money penalties and assessments negotiated under this section to the Inspector General'' before the period.

SEC. 803. REQUIRED ELECTRONIC FILING OF WAGE WITHHOLDING RETURNS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 6011(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) and (B) as subparagraphs (B) and (C), respectively,

(2) by inserting before subparagraph (B), as so redesignated, the following new subparagraph:

''(A) shall—

''(i) require any person that is required to file a return containing information described in section 6051(a) to file such return on magnetic media, and

''(ii) provide for waiver of the requirements of clause (i) in the case of demonstrated hardship for—

''(I) for any period before January 1, 2020, a person having 25 or fewer employees, and

''(II) for any period after December 31, 2019, a person having 5 or fewer employees,'', and

(3) by inserting ''except as provided in subparagraph (A),'' before ''shall not require'' in subparagraph (B), as so redesignated.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (4) of section 6011(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''paragraph (2)(A)'' and inserting ''paragraph (2)(B)''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to returns filed after December 31, 2016.

SEC. 804. DISQUALIFICATION ON RECEIPT OF DISABILITY INSURANCE BENEFITS IN A MONTH FOR WHICH UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION IS RECEIVED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 223(d)(4) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423(d)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(C)(i) If for any week in whole or in part within a month an individual is paid or determined to be eligible for unemployment compensation, such individual shall be deemed to have engaged in substantial gainful activity for such month.

''(ii) For purposes of clause (i), the term 'unemployment compensation' means—

''(I) 'regular compensation', 'extended compensation', and 'additional compensation' (as such terms are defined by section 205 of the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act (26 U.S.C. 3304 note)); and

''(II) trade adjustment assistance under title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2251 et seq.).''.

(b) TRIAL WORK PERIOD.—Section 222(c) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 422(c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(6)(A) For purposes of this subsection, an individual shall be deemed to have rendered services in a month if the individual is entitled to unemployment compensation for such month.

''(B) For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'unemployment compensation' means—

''(i) 'regular compensation', 'extended compensation', and 'additional compensation' (as such terms are defined by section 205 of the Federal-State Extended Unemployment Compensation Act (26 U.S.C. 3304 note)); and

''(ii) trade adjustment assistance under title II of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2251 et seq.).''.

(c) DATA MATCHING.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall implement the amendments made by this section using appropriate electronic data.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to individuals who initially apply for disability insurance benefits on or after January 1, 2016.

SEC. 805. STUDY AND REPORT ON CONSULTATIVE EXAMINATION FEES.

Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration shall submit a report to the Committees on Finance and Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate and the Committees on Ways and Means and Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives on fees paid by Disability Determination Services agencies to medical providers for consultative examinations, including—

(1) the average rate paid by the Disability Determination Services agencies in each State for such examinations;

(2) a comparison between the rates described in paragraph (1) and the highest rates paid by Federal agencies and other agencies in each State for similar services; and

(3) the number of cases in which a Disability Determination Services agency ordered a consultative examination which resulted in an initial denial of disability insurance benefits and a subsequent appeal.

SEC. 806. REALLOCATION OF PAYROLL TAX REVENUE.

(a) WAGES.—Section 201(b)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401(b)(1)) is amended by striking ''and (R) 1.80 per centum of the wages (as so defined) paid after December 31, 1999, and so reported,'' and inserting ''(R) 1.80 per centum of the wages (as so defined) paid after December 31, 1999, and before January 1, 2016, and so reported, (S) 2.37 per centum of the wages (as so defined) paid after December 31, 2015, and before January 1, 2019, and so reported, and (T) 1.80 per centum of the wages (as so defined) paid after December 31, 2018, and so reported,''.

(b) SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME.—Section 201(b)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 401(b)(2)) is amended by striking ''and (R) 1.80 per centum of the amount of self-employment income (as so defined) so reported for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1999'' and inserting ''(R) 1.80 per centum of the amount of self-employment income (as so defined) so reported for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 1999, and before January 1, 2016, (S) 2.37 per centum of the amount of self-employment income (as so defined) so reported for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2015, and before January 1, 2019, and (T) 1.80 per centum of the amount of self-employment income (as so defined) so reported for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2018''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to wages paid after December 31, 2015, and self-employment income for taxable years beginning after such date.

Subtitle B—Program Integrity

SEC. 811. PROVIDING FOR AN EXPEDITED ADJUDICATION PROCESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 205(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''In any'' and inserting ''Subject to paragraph (4), in any''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(4) Any review of an initial adverse determination with respect to an application for disability insurance benefits under section 223 or for monthly benefits under section 202 by reason of being under a disability shall only be made before an administrative law judge in a hearing under paragraph (1).''.

(b) REVIEW BY FEDERAL COURTS.—It is the sense of Congress that, in reviewing disability determinations, the Federal courts shall make their rulings based solely on the determination made by the administrative law judge of the Social Security Administration and rely solely on the evidence that was considered by such judge during the initial hearing.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to initial adverse determinations on applications for disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 812. DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF MEDICAL EVIDENCE; EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN MEDICAL EVIDENCE.

(a) CLOSING OF RECORD FOR SUBMISSION OF MEDICAL EVIDENCE.—Section 205(b)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Commissioner of Social Security is directed'' and inserting—

''(A) The Commissioner of Social Security is directed''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(B)(i) Notwithstanding the last sentence of subparagraph (A), in the case of a hearing before an administrative law judge to determine if an individual is under a disability (as defined in section 223(d)) or a review of such a determination before the Appeals Council of the Office of Appellate Operations of the Social Security Administration, medical evidence (other than the evidence already in the record) shall not be received if the evidence is submitted less than 30 days prior to the date on which the hearing is held unless the individual can show that the evidence is material and there is good cause for the failure to submit it before the deadline, but in no case shall medical evidence be received if it is—

''(I) based on information obtained during the period that begins after a determination is made by an administrative law judge; or

''(II) submitted more than 1 year after a determination is made by an administrative law judge.

''(ii) At the request of an individual applying for benefits under this title or such individual's representative, and for the purpose of completing the record, an administrative law judge may postpone a hearing to determine if the individual is under a disability (as so defined) to a date that is no more than 30 days after the date for which the hearing was originally scheduled if—

''(I) the request is made no less than 7 days prior to the date for which the hearing was originally scheduled; and

''(II) the party making the request shows good cause for why the hearing should be postponed.''.

(b) EXCLUSION OF MEDICAL EVIDENCE THAT IS NOT SUBMITTED IN ITS ENTIRETY OR FURNISHED BY A LICENSED PRACTITIONER.—Section 223(d)(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423(d)(5)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''In'' and inserting ''Subject to subparagraphs (C) and (D), in''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subparagraphs:

''(C)(i) An individual and, if applicable, such individual's representative shall submit, in its entirety and without redaction, all relevant medical evidence known to the individual or the representative to the Commissioner of Social Security.

''(ii) In the case of a hearing before an administrative law judge to determine if an individual is under a disability (as defined in paragraph (1)), the Commissioner of Social Security shall not consider any piece of medical evidence furnished by an individual or such individual's representative unless such individual and, if applicable, such individual's representative, certifies at the hearing that all relevant medical evidence has been submitted in its entirety and without redaction.

''(iii) For purposes of this subparagraph, the term 'relevant medical evidence' means any medical evidence relating to the individual's claimed physical or mental impairments that the Commissioner of Social Security should consider to determine whether the individual is under a disability, regardless of whether such evidence is favorable or unfavorable to the individual's case, but shall not include any oral or written communication or other document exchanged between the individual and such individual's attorney representative that are subject to attorney-client privilege or work product doctrine, unless the individual voluntarily discloses such communication to the Commissioner. Neither the attorney-client privilege nor the work product doctrine shall prevent from disclosure medical evidence, medical source opinions, or any other factual matter that the Commissioner may consider in determining whether or not the individual is entitled to benefits.

''(iv) Any individual or representative who knowingly violates this subparagraph shall be guilty of making a false statement or representation of material fact, shall be subject to civil and criminal penalties under sections 208 and 1129, and, in the case of a representative, shall be suspended or disqualified from appearing before the Social Security Administration.

''(D) The Commissioner of Social Security shall not consider any evidence furnished by a physician or health care practitioner who is not licensed, has been sanctioned, or is

under investigation for ethical misconduct.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act, and shall apply to applications for disability insurance benefits filed on or after that date.

SEC. 813. PROCEDURAL RULES FOR HEARINGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Social Security, in consultation with the administrative law judges of the Social Security Administration, shall establish and make available to the public procedural rules for hearings to determine whether or not an individual is entitled to disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.). These rules shall include those established in this Act as well as—

(1) rules and procedures for motions and requests;

(2) rules related to the representation of individuals in such a hearing, such as the qualifications and standards of conduct required of representatives;

(3) rules and procedures for the submission of evidence;

(4) rules related to the closure of the record; and

(5) rules and procedures for imposing sanctions on parties for failing to comply with hearing rules.

(b) AUTHORITY OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES TO SANCTION CLAIMANT REPRESENTATIVES.—Section 206(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 406(a)(1)) is amended by inserting after the fifth sentence the following: ''The Commissioner of Social Security shall establish rules under which an administrative law judge may impose fines and other sanctions the Commissioner determines to be appropriate on a representative for failure to follow the Commissioner's rules and regulations.''

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Any rules adopted pursuant to this section or the amendment made thereby shall take effect on the date that is 6 months after the date of their publication and shall apply to hearings held on or after that date.

SEC. 814. PROHIBITING ATTORNEYS WHO HAVE RELINQUISHED A LICENSE TO PRACTICE IN THE FACE OF AN ETHICS INVESTIGATION FROM SERVING AS A CLAIMANT REPRESENTATIVE.

Section 206(a)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 406(a)(1)), as amended by section 813(b), is further amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by inserting '', and, in cases where compensation is sought for services as a representative, shall'' before ''prescribe'';

(2) in the second sentence, by striking ''Federal courts,'' and inserting ''Federal courts and certifies to the Commissioner that such attorney has never (A) been disbarred or suspended from any court or bar to which such attorney was previously admitted to practice or disqualified from participating in or appearing before any Federal program or agency, or (B) relinquished a license to practice in, participate in, or appear before any court, bar, or Federal program or agency in connection with a settlement of an investigation into ethical misconduct,''; and

(3) in the third sentence—

(A) by striking ''may'' each place it appears and inserting ''shall'';

(B) by striking ''or who has been disqualified from participating in or appearing before any Federal program or agency'' and inserting '', who has been disqualified from participating in or appearing before any Federal program or agency, or who has voluntarily relinquished a license to practice in, participate in, or appear before any court, bar, or Federal program or agency in settlement of an investigation into ethical misconduct''; and

(C) by inserting ''or who has voluntarily relinquished a license to practice in any court or bar in settlement of an investigation into ethical misconduct'' before the period.

SEC. 815. APPLYING JUDICIAL CODE OF CONDUCT TO ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3105 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''Each agency'' and inserting

''(a) Each agency''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(b) The Code of Conduct for United States Judges adopted by the Judicial Conference of the United States shall apply to administrative law judges appointed under this section.

''(c) If, in applying a standard of conduct to an administrative law judge appointed under this section, there is a conflict between the Code of Conduct for United States Judges and any other law or regulation, the stricter standard of conduct shall apply.

''(d) Pursuant to section 7301, the President may issue such regulations as may be necessary to carry out subsections (b) and (c).''.

(b) LIMITATION ON REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—Section 1305 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ''3105'' and inserting ''3105(a)''.

SEC. 816. EVALUATING MEDICAL EVIDENCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Social Security shall ensure that all administrative law judges within the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review of the Social Security Administration receive training on how to appropriately evaluate and weigh medical evidence provided by medical professionals.

(b) OPINION EVIDENCE.—Section 223(d)(5)(B) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423(d)(5)(B)), as amended by section 812(b), is further amended by adding at the end the following new sentences: ''In weighing medical evidence, the Commissioner of Social Security may assign greater weight to certain opinion evidence supplied by an individual's treating physician (or other treating health care provider) than to opinion evidence obtained from another source, but in no circumstance shall opinion evidence from any source be given controlling weight.''

(c) HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS SUPPLYING CONSULTATIVE EXAMS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Beginning 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, in determining whether an individual applying for disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act is disabled, the Commissioner of Social Security shall not consider medical evidence resulting from a consultative exam with a health care provider conducted for the purpose of supporting the individual's application unless the evidence is accompanied by a Medical Consultant Acknowledgment Form signed by the health care provider who conducted the exam.

(2) MEDICAL CONSULTANT ACKNOWLEDGMENT FORM.—

(A) DEFINITION.—As used in this subsection, the term ''Medical Consultant Acknowledgment Form'' means a form published by the Commissioner of Social Security that meets the requirements of subparagraph (B).

(B) REQUIREMENTS.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall develop the Medical Consultant Acknowledgment Form and make it available to the public not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act. The contents of the Medical Consultant Acknowledgment Form shall include—

(i) information on how medical evidence is used in disability determinations;

(ii) instructions on completing a residual functional capacity form;

(iii) information on the legal and ethical obligations of a health care provider who supplies medical evidence for use in a disability determination, including any civil or criminal penalties that may be imposed on a health care provider who supplies medical evidence for use in a disability determination; and

(iv) a statement that the signatory has read and understands the contents of the form.

(3) PENALTIES FOR FRAUD.—In addition to any other penalties that may be prescribed by law, any individual who forges a signature on a Medical Consultant Acknowledgment Form submitted to the Commissioner of Social Security shall be guilty of making a false statement or representation of material fact, and upon conviction shall be subject to civil and criminal penalties under sections 208 and 1129 of the Social Security Act and, in the case of a representative, shall be suspended or disqualified from appearing before the Social Security Administration.

(d) SYMPTOM VALIDITY TESTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of evaluating the credibility of an individual's medical evidence, an administrative law judge responsible for conducting a hearing to determine whether an individual applying for disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act or for monthly benefits under section 202 of such Act by reason of a disability may require the individual to undergo a symptom validity test either prior to or after the hearing.

(2) WEIGHT GIVEN TO SVTS.—An administrative law judge may only consider the results of a symptom validity test as a part of an individual's entire medical history and shall not give controlling weight to such results.

(e) EVIDENCE OBTAINED FROM PUBLICLY AVAILABLE SOCIAL MEDIA.—For purposes of evaluating the credibility of an individual's medical evidence, an administrative law judge responsible for conducting a hearing to determine whether an individual applying for disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act is disabled shall be permitted to consider information about the individual obtained from publicly available social media.

(f) REGULATIONS RELATED TO EVALUATING MEDICAL EVIDENCE.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Social Security shall promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the purposes of this section, including regulations relating to when it is appropriate for an administrative law judge to order a symptom validity test or to consider evidence obtained from publicly available social media.

SEC. 817. REFORMING FEES PAID TO ATTORNEYS AND OTHER CLAIMANT REPRESENTATIVES.

(a) PROHIBITION ON REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Social Security shall establish rules and regulations relating to the fees payable to representatives of individuals claiming entitlement to disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) to prohibit a representative from being reimbursed by the Social Security Administration for travel expenses related to a case.

(b) ELIMINATING DIRECT PAYMENTS TO CLAIMANT REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 206 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 406) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) by striking paragraph (4); and

(ii) by redesignating paragraph (5) as paragraph (4);

(B) in subsection (b)(1)(A), by striking ''and the Commissioner of Social Security'' and all that follows through ''as provided in this paragraph'' and inserting ''with such amount to be paid out of, and not in addition to, the amount of such past-due benefits''; and

(C) by striking subsections (d) and (e).

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to determinations made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) REVIEW OF HIGHEST-EARNING CLAIMANT REPRESENTATIVES.—

(1) REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration shall conduct a review of the practices of a sample of the highest-earning claimant representatives and law firms to ensure compliance with the policies of the Social Security Administration. In reviewing representative practices, the Inspector General shall look for suspicious practices, including—

(A) repetitive language in residual functional capacity forms;

(B) irregularities in the licensing history of medical professionals providing medical opinions in support of a claimant's application; and

(C) a disproportionately high number of appearances by a representative before the same administrative law judge.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than December 1 of each year in which a review described in paragraph (1) is conducted, the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration shall submit a report containing the results of such review, together with any recommendations for administrative action or proposed legislation that the Inspector General determines appropriate, to the Committees on Finance and Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate and the Committees on Ways and Means and Oversight and Government Reform of the House of Representatives.

(d) APPLICABILITY OF THE EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT.—Section 205 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(v) Sections 504 of title 5 and 2412 of title 28, United States Code (commonly known as the 'Equal Access to Justice Act'), shall not apply to—

''(1) any review under this title of a determination of disability made by the Commissioner of Social Security; or

''(2) if new evidence is submitted by an individual after a hearing to determine whether or not the individual is under a disability, judicial review of a final determination of disability under subsection (g) of this section.''.

SEC. 818. STRENGTHENING THE ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE QUALITY REVIEW PROCESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act and annually thereafter, the Division of Quality of the Office of Appellate Operations of the Social Security Administration shall conduct a review of a sample of determinations that individuals are entitled to disability insurance benefits by outlier administrative law judges and identify any determinations that are not supported by the evidence.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than December 1 of each year in which a review described in paragraph (1) is conducted, the Division of Quality Review of the Office of Appellate Operations of the Social Security Administration shall submit a report containing the results of such review, including all determinations that were found to be unsupported by the evidence, together with any recommendations for administrative action or proposed legislation that the Division determines appropriate, to—

(A) the Inspector General of the Social Security Administration;

(B) the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration;

(C) the Committees on Ways and Means and Oversight and Government Reform of the House of the Representatives; and

(D) the Committees on Finance and Homeland Security and Government Affairs of the Senate.

(3) DEFINITION OF OUTLIER ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term ''outlier administrative law judge'' means an administrative law judge within the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review of the Social Security Administration who, in a given year—

(A) issues more than 700 decisions; and

(B) determines that the applicant—

(i) is entitled to disability insurance benefits in not less than 85 percent of cases; or

(ii) is not entitled to disability insurance benefits in not less than 15 percent of cases.

(b) MANDATORY CONTINUING DISABILITY REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall ensure that, not less than 6 months after receiving a report described in subsection (a)(2), every determination of entitlement found to be unsupported by the evidence is in the process of being reviewed under section 221(i)(1) of the Social Security Act.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 221(i)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 421(i)(1)) is amended by inserting ''or under section 818(b) of the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015'' after ''administration of this title''.

SEC. 819. PERMITTING DATA MATCHING BY INSPECTORS GENERAL.

Clause (ix) of section 552a(a)(8)(B) of title 5, United States Code, is amended by striking ''the Secretary of Health and Human Services or the Inspector General of the Department of Health and Human Services'' and inserting ''the Inspector General of an agency, or an agency in coordination with an Inspector General''.

SEC. 820. ACCOUNTING FOR SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM INTEGRITY SPENDING.

Amounts made available for Social Security program integrity spending by the Social Security Administration for a fiscal year shall be—

(1) included in a separate account within the Federal budget; and

(2) funded in a separate account in the appropriate annual appropriations bill.

SEC. 821. USE OF THE NATIONAL DIRECTORY OF NEW HIRES.

Beginning with the date that is 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner of Social Security shall consult the National Directory of New Hires established under section 453(i) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653(i)) in determining whether any individual who submits an application or reapplication for disability insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act or for monthly benefits under section 202 of such Act by reason of a disability is able to engage in substantial gainful activity.

SEC. 822. ENSURING PROPER APPLICATION OF THE MEDICAL IMPROVEMENT REVIEW STANDARD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall establish within the Social Security Administration an office to ensure the proper identification of individuals who should not be entitled to benefits on the basis of a finding that the physical or mental impairment on the basis of which such benefits are provided has ceased, does not exist, or is not disabling, as described in sections 223(f) and 1614(a)(4) of the Social Security Act.

(b) ADDITIONAL FUNCTIONS.—The office described in subsection (a) shall carry out the functions described in such subsection by providing training to officers and employees of the Social Security Administration, carrying out data collection and reviews, and proposing such policy recommendations and clarification as are determined appropriate.

(c) TRAINING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGES.—The Commissioner of Social Security shall establish a program to provide for more efficient and effective training for all individuals and agencies involved in the disability determination process under section 221 of the Social Security Act, including Disability Determination Services agencies and the administrative law judges of the Social Security Administration, in regards to making determinations in which an individual should not be entitled to benefits on the basis of a finding that the physical or mental impairment on the basis of which such benefits are provided has ceased, does not exist, or is not disabling, as described in sections 223(f) and 1614(a)(4) of the Social Security Act.

(d) APPLICATION OF INITIAL DISABILITY STANDARD IN CERTAIN CASES.—

(1) DISABILITY INSURANCE BENEFITS.—Section 223 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''Application of Initial Disability Standard

''(k)(1) For purposes of subsection (f), in the case of an individual whose case file (including new evidence concerning the individual's prior or current condition which is presented by the individual or secured by the Commissioner of Social Security) does not provide sufficient evidence for purposes of making a determination under paragraph (1) of such subsection, a recipient of benefits under this title or title XVIII based on the disability of such individual shall not be entitled to such benefits unless such individual furnishes such medical and other evidence required under subsection (d) to determine that such individual is under a disability.

''(2) Any determination made under this subsection shall be made on the basis of the weight of the evidence and on a neutral basis with regard to the individual's condition, without any initial inference as to the presence or absence of disability being drawn from the fact that the individual has previously been determined to be disabled.

''(3) For purposes of this subsection, a benefit under this title is based on an individual's disability if it is a disability insurance benefit, a child's, widow's, or widower's insurance benefit based on disability, or a mother's or father's insurance benefit based on the disability of the mother's or father's child who has attained age 16.''.

(2) SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME BENEFITS.—Section 1614 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1382c) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''Application of Initial Disability Standard

''(g)(1) For purposes of paragraph (4) of subsection (a), in the case of an individual whose case file (including new evidence concerning the individual's prior or current condition which is presented by the individual or secured by the Commissioner of Social Security) does not provide sufficient evidence for purposes of making a determination under subparagraph (A) of such paragraph, a recipient of benefits based on disability under this title shall not be entitled to such benefits unless such individual furnishes such medical and other evidence required under subsection (a)(3) to determine that such individual is under a disability.

''(2) Any determination made under this subsection shall be made on the basis of the

weight of the evidence and on a neutral basis with regard to the individual's condition, without any initial inference as to the presence or absence of disability being drawn from the fact that the individual has previously been determined to be disabled.''.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subsection (f) of section 223 of such Act is amended by striking ''A recipient of benefits'' and inserting ''Subject to subsection (k), a recipient of benefits''.

(B) Paragraph (4) of section 1614(a) of such Act is amended by striking ''A recipient of benefits'' and inserting ''Subject to subsection (g), a recipient of benefits''.

(4) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to determinations made after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 2756. Mr. HELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. NO BUDGET NO PAY.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''No Budget, No Pay Act''.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''Member of Congress''—

(1) has the meaning given under section 2106 of title 5, United States Code; and

(2) does not include the Vice President.

(c) TIMELY APPROVAL OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET AND THE APPROPRIATIONS BILLS.—If both Houses of Congress have not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget as described under section 301 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 (2 U.S.C. 632) for a fiscal year before October 1 of that fiscal year and have not passed all the regular appropriations bills for the next fiscal year before October 1 of that fiscal year, the pay of each Member of Congress may not be paid for each day following that October 1 until the date on which both Houses of Congress approve a concurrent resolution on the budget for that fiscal year and all the regular appropriations bills.

(d) NO PAY WITHOUT CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET AND THE APPROPRIATIONS BILLS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds may be appropriated or otherwise be made available from the Treasury for the pay of any Member of Congress during any period determined by the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate or the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under subsection (e).

(2) NO RETROACTIVE PAY.—A Member of Congress may not receive pay for any period determined by the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate or the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives under subsection (e), at any time after the end of that period.

(e) DETERMINATIONS.—

(1) SENATE.—

(A) REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATIONS.—On October 1 of each year, the Secretary of the Senate shall submit a request to the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate for certification of determinations made under clause (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (B).

(B) DETERMINATIONS.—The Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate shall—

(i) on October 1 of each year, make a determination of whether Congress is in compliance with subsection (c) and whether Senators may not be paid under that subsection;

(ii) determine the period of days following each October 1 that Senators may not be paid under subsection (c); and

(iii) provide timely certification of the determinations under clauses (i) and (ii) upon the request of the Secretary of the Senate.

(2) HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(A) REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATIONS.—On October 1 of each year, the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives shall submit a request to the Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives for certification of determinations made under clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (B).

(B) DETERMINATIONS.—The Chairpersons of the Committee on the Budget and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives shall—

(i) on October 1 of each year, make a determination of whether Congress is in compliance with subsection (c) and whether Members of the House of Representatives may not be paid under that subsection;

(ii) determine the period of days following each October 1 that Members of the House of Representatives may not be paid under subsection (c); and

(iii) provide timely certification of the determinations under clauses (i) and (ii) upon the request of the Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect on February 1, 2017.

SA 2757. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title V, insert the following:

SEC. 505. BENEFIT SUSPENSIONS FOR MULTIEMPLOYER PLANS IN CRITICAL AND DECLINING STATUS.

(a) ERISA AMENDMENTS.—Section 305(e)(9)(H) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(e)(9)(H)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii)—

(A) by striking ''Except as provided in clause (v), the'' and inserting ''The''; and

(B) by striking ''a majority of all participants and beneficiaries of the plan'' and inserting '', of the participants and beneficiaries of the plan who cast a vote, a majority'';

(2) by striking clause (v);

(3) by redesignating clause (vi) as clause (v); and

(4) in clause (v), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking ''(or following a determination under clause (v) that the plan is a systemically important plan)''; and

(B) by striking ''(or, in the case of a suspension that goes into effect under clause (v), at a time sufficient to allow the implementation of the suspension prior to the end of the 90-day period described in clause (v)(I))''.

(b) IRC AMENDMENTS.—Section 432(e)(9)(H) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in clause (ii)—

(A) by striking ''Except as provided in clause (v), the'' and inserting ''The''; and

(B) by striking ''a majority of all participants and beneficiaries of the plan'' and inserting '', of the participants and beneficiaries of the plan who cast a vote, a majority'';

(2) by striking clause (v);

(3) by redesignating clause (vi) as clause (v); and

(4) in clause (v), as so redesignated—

(A) by striking ''(or following a determination under clause (v) that the plan is a systemically important plan)''; and

(B) by striking ''(or, in the case of a suspension that goes into effect under clause (v), at a time sufficient to allow the implementation of the suspension prior to the end of the 90-day period described in clause (v)(I))''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsections (a) and (b) shall apply to any vote on the suspension of benefits under section 305(e)(9)(H) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1085(e)(9)(H)) and section 432(e)(9)(H) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that occurs after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 2758. Mr. PORTMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. AUTOMATIC CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 13 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 1310 the following new section:

''§ 1311. Continuing appropriations

''(a)(1) If any appropriation measure for a fiscal year is not enacted before the beginning of such fiscal year or a joint resolution making continuing appropriations is not in effect, there are appropriated such sums as may be necessary to continue any program, project, or activity for which funds were provided in the preceding fiscal year—

''(A) in the corresponding appropriation Act for such preceding fiscal year; or

''(B) if the corresponding appropriation bill for such preceding fiscal year did not become law, then in a joint resolution making continuing appropriations for such preceding fiscal year.

''(2)(A) Appropriations and funds made available, and authority granted, for a program, project, or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall be at a rate of operations not in excess of the lower of—

''(i) 100 percent of the rate of operations provided for in the regular appropriation Act providing for such program, project, or activity for the preceding fiscal year;

''(ii) in the absence of such an Act, 100 percent of the rate of operations provided for such program, project, or activity pursuant to a joint resolution making continuing appropriations for such preceding fiscal year; or

''(iii) 100 percent of the annualized rate of operations provided for in the most recently enacted joint resolution making continuing appropriations for part of that fiscal year or any funding levels established under the provisions of this Act;

for the period of 120 days. After the first 120-day period during which this subsection is in effect for that fiscal year, the applicable rate

of operations shall be reduced by 1 percentage point. For each subsequent 90-day period during which this subsection is in effect for that fiscal year, the applicable rate of operations shall be reduced by 1 percentage point. The 90-day period reductions shall extend beyond the last day of that fiscal year.

''(B) If this section is in effect at the end of a fiscal year, funding levels shall continue as provided in this section for the next fiscal year.

''(3) Appropriations and funds made available, and authority granted, for any fiscal year pursuant to this section for a program, project, or activity shall be available for the period beginning with the first day of a lapse in appropriations and ending with the date on which the applicable regular appropriation bill for such fiscal year becomes law (whether or not such law provides for such program, project, or activity) or a continuing resolution making appropriations becomes law, as the case may be.

''(b) An appropriation or funds made available, or authority granted, for a program, project, or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall be subject to the terms and conditions imposed with respect to the appropriation made or funds made available for the preceding fiscal year, or authority granted for such program, project, or activity under current law.

''(c) Expenditures made for a program, project, or activity for any fiscal year pursuant to this section shall be charged to the applicable appropriation, fund, or authorization whenever a regular appropriation bill or a joint resolution making continuing appropriations until the end of a fiscal year providing for such program, project, or activity for such period becomes law.

''(d) This section shall not apply to a program, project, or activity during a fiscal year if any other provision of law (other than an authorization of appropriations)—

''(1) makes an appropriation, makes funds available, or grants authority for such program, project, or activity to continue for such period; or

''(2) specifically provides that no appropriation shall be made, no funds shall be made available, or no authority shall be granted for such program, project, or activity to continue for such period.''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections of chapter 13 of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1310 the following new item:

''1311. Continuing appropriations.''.

SA 2759. Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. REDUCING EXCESSIVE GOVERNMENT.

(a) SHORT TITLE; DEFINITIONS.—

(1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Reducing Excessive Government Act of 2015'' or the ''REG Act''.

(2) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(A) the term ''agency'' has the meaning given the term ''Executive agency'' under section 105 of title 5, United States Code;

(B) the term ''amount of the increase in the debt limit'' means—

(i) the dollar amount of the increase in the debt limit specified in the Act increasing the debt limit; or

(ii) in the case of an Act that provides that the debt limit shall not apply for a period and that the amount of the debt limit is increased at the end of such period, the amount by which the Secretary of the Treasury estimates the debt limit shall be increased at the end of the period of the suspension, which the Secretary shall submit to Congress on the date of enactment of such an Act;

(C) the term ''debt limit'' means the limitation imposed by section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code;

(D) the term ''direct cost of Federal regulation'' means all costs incurred by, and expenditures required of, the Federal Government in issuing and enforcing Federal regulations, rules, statements, and legislation;

(E) the term ''Federal regulatory cost''—

(i) means all costs incurred by, and expenditures required of, the private sector in complying with any Federal regulation, rule, statement, or legislation; and

(ii) does not include the value of any benefit under the Federal regulation, rule, statement, or legislation;

(F) the term ''joint resolution'' means a joint resolution—

(i) reported by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate or the House of Representatives in accordance with subsection (d)(3);

(ii) which does not have a preamble;

(iii) the title of which is as follows: ''Joint resolution relating to repeal of costly rules.''; and

(iv) the matter after the resolving clause of which is as follows: ''That the following rules shall have no force or effect: _____.'', the blank space being filled in with the list of major rules recommended to be repealed under subsection (d) by the committees of the House in which the joint resolution is reported; and

(G) the term ''major rule'' means any rule that has or is likely to result in an annual effect on the economy of $100,000,000 or more.

(b) REDUCTIONS IN REGULATORY COST.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which the debt limit is increased or a suspension of the debt limit takes effect, Congress shall enact legislation eliminating rules that results in a reduction of the direct cost of Federal regulation during the 10-fiscal year period beginning with the next full fiscal year by not less than the amount of the increase in the debt limit.

(c) ACTION BY AGENCIES.—

(1) IDENTIFICATION OF MAJOR RULES.—If the amount of the debt limit is increased or a suspension of the debt limit takes effect, each agency shall submit to the Senate, the House of Representatives, and the Comptroller General of the United States a report identifying each major rule of the agency, as determined by the head of the agency.

(2) CERTIFICATION BY GAO.—After receipt of all reports required under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Senate and the House of Representatives a statement certifying whether the repeal of all major rules identified in such reports would result in a decrease in the direct cost of Federal regulation during the 10-fiscal year period beginning with the next full fiscal year by not less than the amount of the increase in the debt limit.

(d) ACTION BY COMMITTEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall submit to the Committee on the Budget of its House a list of the major rules that—

(A) are within the jurisdiction of the committee, which may include major rules identified in the report of an agency under subsection (c)(1); and

(B) the committee recommends should be repealed.

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In determining whether to recommend repealing major rules within its jurisdiction, a committee of the Senate or the House of Representatives shall consider—

(A) whether the major rule achieved, or has been ineffective in achieving, the original purpose of the major rule;

(B) any adverse effects that could materialize if the major rule is repealed, in particular if those adverse effects are the reason the major rule was originally enacted;

(C) whether the costs of the major rule outweigh any benefits of the major rule to the United States;

(D) whether the major rule has become obsolete due to changes in technology, economic conditions, market practices, or any other factors; and

(E) whether the major rule overlaps with another rule.

(3) COMBINING OF RECOMMENDATIONS.—The Committee on the Budget of the Senate and the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives, upon receiving recommendations from all relevant committees under paragraph (1), shall report to its House a joint resolution carrying out all such recommendations without any substantive revision.

(e) EXPEDITED PROCEDURES.—

(1) CONSIDERATION IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.—

(A) PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.—Upon a joint resolution being reported by the Committee on the Budget of the House of Representatives, or upon receipt of a joint resolution from the Senate, the joint resolution shall be placed immediately on the calendar.

(B) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—It shall be in order, not later than 60 days after the date on which the debt limit is increased or a suspension of the debt limit takes effect, to move to proceed to consider a joint resolution in the House of Representatives.

(ii) PROCEDURE.—For a motion to proceed to consider a joint resolution—

(I) all points of order against the motion are waived;

(II) such a motion shall not be in order after the House of Representatives has disposed of a motion to proceed to the joint resolution;

(III) the previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion;

(IV) the motion shall not be debatable; and

(V) a motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is disposed of shall not be in order.

(C) CONSIDERATION.—The House of Representatives shall establish rules for consideration of a joint resolution in the House of Representatives.

(2) EXPEDITED CONSIDERATION IN SENATE.—

(A) PLACEMENT ON CALENDAR.—Upon a joint resolution being reported by the Committee on the Budget of the Senate, or upon receipt of a joint resolution from the House of Representatives, the joint resolution shall be placed immediately on the calendar.

(B) PROCEEDING TO CONSIDERATION.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, it is in order, not later than 60 days after the date on which the debt limit is increased or a suspension of the debt limit takes effect (even though a previous motion to the same effect has been disagreed to) to move to proceed to the consideration of a joint resolution.

(ii) PROCEDURE.—For a motion to proceed to the consideration of a joint resolution—

(I) all points of order against the motion are waived;

(II) the motion is not debatable;

(III) the motion is not subject to a motion to postpone;

(IV) a motion to reconsider the vote by which the motion is agreed to or disagreed to shall not be in order; and

(V) if the motion is agreed to, the joint resolution shall remain the unfinished business until disposed of.

(C) FLOOR CONSIDERATION GENERALLY.—If the Senate proceeds to consideration of a joint resolution—

(i) all points of order against the joint resolution (and against consideration of the joint resolution) are waived;

(ii) consideration of the joint resolution, and all amendments thereto and debatable motions and appeals in connection therewith, shall be limited to not more than 10 hours, which shall be divided equally between the majority and minority leaders or their designees;

(iii) an a motion to postpone or a motion to commit the joint resolution is not in order; and

(iv) a motion to proceed to the consideration of other business is not in order.

(D) REQUIREMENTS FOR AMENDMENTS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—No amendment that is not germane to the provisions of a joint resolution shall be considered.

(ii) REPEAL OF MAJOR RULES.—Notwithstanding clause (i) or any other rule, an amendment or series of amendments to a joint resolution shall always be in order if such amendment or series of amendments proposes to repeal a major rule that would result in a decrease in the direct cost of Federal regulation during the 10-fiscal year period beginning with the next full fiscal year.

(E) VOTE ON PASSAGE.—The vote on passage shall occur immediately following the conclusion of the consideration of a joint resolution, and a single quorum call at the conclusion of the debate if requested in accordance with the rules of the Senate.

(F) RULINGS OF THE CHAIR ON PROCEDURE.—Appeals from the decisions of the Chair relating to the application of this subsection or the rules of the Senate, as the case may be, to the procedure relating to a joint resolution shall be decided without debate.

(3) CONSIDERATION AFTER PASSAGE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—If Congress passes a joint resolution, the period beginning on the date the President is presented with the joint resolution and ending on the date the President takes action with respect to the joint resolution shall be disregarded in computing the period described in subsection (g).

(B) VETOES.—If the President vetoes the joint resolution—

(i) the period beginning on the date the President vetoes the joint resolution and ending on the date Congress receives the veto message with respect to the joint resolution shall be disregarded in computing the period described in subsection (g); and

(ii) consideration of a veto message in the Senate under this section shall be not more than 2 hours equally divided between the majority and minority leaders or their designees.

(4) RULES OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE.—This subsection is enacted by Congress—

(A) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the Senate and House of Representatives, respectively, and as such is deemed a part of the rules of each House, respectively, but applicable only with respect to the procedure to be followed in that House in the case of a joint resolution, and supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent with such rules; and

(B) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change the rules (so far as relating to the procedure of that House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of that House.

(f) EFFECT OF JOINT RESOLUTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A major rule shall cease to have force or effect if Congress enacts a joint resolution repealing the major rule.

(2) LIMITATION ON SUBSEQUENT RULEMAKING.—A rule that ceases to have force or effect under paragraph (1) may not be reissued in substantially the same form, and a new rule that is substantially the same as such a rule may not be issued, unless the reissued or new rule is specifically authorized by a law enacted after the date of the joint resolution repealing the original rule.

(g) FAILURE TO ENACT REDUCTIONS IN SPENDING.—

(1) DETERMINATION.—On the date that is 61 days after the date on which the debt limit is increased or a suspension of the debt limit takes effect, the Director of the Office of Management and Budget shall determine whether legislation has been enacted eliminating rules that reduces the direct cost of Federal regulation during the 10-fiscal year period described in subsection (b)(1) by not less than the amount of the increase in the debt limit.

(2) INSUFFICIENT REDUCTIONS.—If the Director of the Office of Management and Budget determines that legislation has not been enacted that eliminates rules that reduces the direct cost of Federal regulation during the 10-fiscal year period described in subsection (b)(1) by not less than the amount of the increase in the debt limit, effective on the date of the determination, the limitation in section 3101(b) of title 31, United States Code, shall be equal to the sum of the face amount of obligations issued under chapter 31 of title 31, United States Code, and the face amount of obligations whose principal and interest are guaranteed by the United States Government (except guaranteed obligations held by the Secretary of the Treasury) outstanding on the date of the determination.

SA 2760. Mrs. MURRAY (for Mr. HELLER) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1731, to amend title 38, United States Code, to waive the minimum period of continuous active duty in the Armed Forces for receipt of certain benefits for homeless veterans, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish such benefits to homeless veterans with discharges or releases from service in the Armed Forces with other than dishonorable conditions, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 4, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

SEC. 6. AUTHORIZATION OF PER DIEM PAYMENTS FOR FURNISHING CARE TO DEPENDENTS OF CERTAIN HOMELESS VETERANS.

Section 2012(a) of title 38, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) Services for which a recipient of a grant under section 2011 of this title (or an entity described in paragraph (1)) may receive per diem payments under this subsection may include furnishing care for a dependent of a homeless veteran who is under the care of such homeless veteran while such homeless veteran receives services from the grant recipient (or entity).''.

SA 2761. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1314, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a right to an administrative appeal relating to adverse determinations of tax-exempt status of certain organizations; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title VIII, insert the following:

Subtitle E—Private Disability Insurance Plans

SEC. 851. REDUCTION OF PAYROLL TAX FOR ENROLLMENT IN A PRIVATE DISABILITY INSURANCE PLAN.

(a) SELF-EMPLOYMENT INCOME TAX.—Section 1401 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''In addition to'' and inserting ''Except as provided in subsection (d), in addition to'', and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(d) REDUCTION OF TAX RATE FOR SELF-EMPLOYED INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE ENROLLED IN A PRIVATE DISABILITY INSURANCE PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For any self-employment income received in any calendar year after 2015 by an applicable individual, the tax imposed under subsection (a) for each taxable year shall be equal to—

''(A) for the first calendar year in which such individual is enrolled in a private disability insurance plan which satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3), 11.5 percent, and

''(B) for any subsequent calendar year in which such individual is enrolled in a private disability insurance plan, 12.15 percent.

''(2) PENALTY RATE FOR TERMINATION OF COVERAGE.—In the case of an applicable individual who terminates enrollment in a private disability insurance plan within 5 years of the date on which such enrollment began, for any self-employment income received in the calendar year beginning after the date of termination, the tax imposed under subsection (a) for any taxable year beginning in such calendar year shall be equal to 13.95 percent.

''(3) APPLICABLE INDIVIDUAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'applicable individual' means an individual enrolled in a private disability insurance plan which satisfies the following requirements:

''(A) The plan shall be subject to regulation and oversight by the appropriate State insurance regulator.

''(B) The plan shall provide periodic payments to the enrolled individual which, on an annual basis, are equal to an amount that is not less than 50 percent of the annual self-employment income of such individual during the preceding calendar year.

''(C) The plan shall provide payments to the enrolled individual for a period of 2 years.

''(D) The plan may not require the enrolled individual to file an application for disability insurance benefits under section 223 of the Social Security Act during the first 18 months in which such individual is provided payments under such plan.

''(E) The plan may, as a condition of receiving payments under such plan, require the enrolled individual to receive any medical treatment or vocational rehabilitation which has been determined as likely to improve the ability of such individual to return to employment.

''(F) In the case of an individual who has applied for disability insurance benefits following the period described in subparagraph (D), the plan shall agree to provide the Commissioner of Social Security with any records relevant to the disability determination made under such plan for such individual.''.

(b) EMPLOYER TAX.—Section 3111 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by striking ''In addition to'' and inserting ''Except as provided in subsection (f), in addition to''; and

(2) by adding at the end of the following new subsection:

''(f) REDUCTION OF TAX RATE FOR EMPLOYERS PROVIDING PRIVATE DISABILITY INSURANCE PLANS TO EMPLOYEES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For any wages paid by an employer in any calendar year after 2015 to an applicable individual in their employ, the tax imposed under subsection (a) shall be equal to—

''(A) for the first calendar year in which such individual is enrolled in a private disability insurance plan which satisfies the requirements in paragraph (3), 5.3 percent, and

''(B) for any subsequent calendar year in which such individual is enrolled in a private disability insurance plan, 5.95 percent.

''(2) PENALTY RATE FOR TERMINATION OF COVERAGE.—In the case of an employer who terminates coverage under a private disability insurance plan for an applicable individual within 5 years of the date on which enrollment in such plan began, for any wages paid by the employer to such individual (provided that such individual continues in their employ) in the calendar year beginning after the date of termination, the tax imposed under subsection (a) for during such calendar year shall be equal to 7.75 percent.

''(3) APPLICABLE INDIVIDUAL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'applicable individual' means an individual enrolled in a private disability insurance plan which satisfies the following requirements:

''(A) The plan shall be subject to regulation and oversight by the appropriate State insurance regulator.

''(B) The plan shall provide periodic payments to the enrolled individual which, on an annual basis, are equal to an amount that is not less than 50 percent of the annual wages paid to such individual during the preceding calendar year.

''(C) The plan shall provide payments to the enrolled individual for a period of 2 years.

''(D) The plan may not require the enrolled individual to file an application for disability insurance benefits under section 223 of the Social Security Act during the first 18 months in which such individual is provided payments under such plan.

''(E) The plan may not require the enrolled individual to contribute to the payment of any insurance premiums for such plan.

''(F) The plan may, as a condition of receiving payments under such plan, require the enrolled individual to receive any medical treatment or vocational rehabilitation which has been determined as likely to improve the ability of such individual to return to employment.

''(G) In the case of an individual who has applied for disability insurance benefits following the period described in subparagraph (D), the plan shall agree to provide the Commissioner of Social Security with any records relevant to the disability determination made under such plan for such individual.''.

(c) ASSISTANCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.—The Secretary of the Department of Labor shall provide appropriate guidance and technical assistance to any State insurance regulator that requests such guidance and assistance for purposes of regulation and oversight of private disability insurance plans described in sections 1401(d)(2) and 3111(f)(2) of the Social Security Act, as added by this section.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 223(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 423(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''An applicable individual (as described in section 1401(d)(3) or section 3111(f)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) may not file an application for disability benefits during the first 18 months in which such individual is provided payments under a private disability insurance plan which satisfies the requirements under section 1401(d)(3) or section 3111(f)(3) of such Code.''

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to remuneration paid in any calendar year after 2015.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 29, 2015, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 29, 2015, at 10 a.m., in room SD–215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled ''Welfare and Poverty in America.''

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 29, 2015, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled ''Nominations.''

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 29, 2015, at 2:15 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled ''Treaties.''

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. 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 October 29, 2015, at 10 a.m., in room SD–430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled ''Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders in America: Priorities, Challenges, and Opportunities.''

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 29, 2015, at 10 a.m. in room SD–226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 29, 2015, at 2:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 12:01 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. CRUZ. Mr. President, I ask that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 10:07 p.m., adjourned until Friday, October 30, 2015, at 12:01 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate October 29, 2015:

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

EDWARD L. GILMORE, OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES MARSHAL FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS FOR THE TERM OF FOUR YEARS.

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER 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

COL. THOMAS K. WARK

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER 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

COL. HOWARD P. PURCELL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE AIR FORCE TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTION 12203:

To be brigadier general

COL. ALLAN L. SWARTZMILLER

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY 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

LT. GEN. DAVID D. HALVERSON

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY 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. KENNETH R. DAHL

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY VETERINARY CORPS TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 3064 AND 3084:

To be brigadier general

COL. ERIK H. TORRING III

THE FOLLOWING NAMED OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY 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. THOMAS S. VANDAL

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. VALERIA GONZALEZ–KERR

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. JOHN J. MORRIS

IN THE AIR FORCE

THE FOLLOWING AIR NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER 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 major general

BRIG. GEN. STEPHEN E. MARKOVICH

IN THE ARMY

THE FOLLOWING ARMY NATIONAL GUARD OF THE UNITED STATES OFFICER FOR APPOINTMENT IN THE RESERVE OF THE ARMY TO THE GRADE INDICATED UNDER TITLE 10, U.S.C., SECTIONS 12203 AND 12211:

To be brigadier general

COL. MARTA CARCANA