

MERKLEY) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as co-sponsors of S. 2252, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit the Secretary of the Treasury to issue prospective guidance clarifying the employment status of individuals for purposes of employment taxes and to prevent retroactive assessments with respect to such clarifications.

S. 2266

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2266, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform and reduce fraud and abuse in certain visa programs for aliens working temporarily in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 282

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 282, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. BURR, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 2282. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015. I am glad to have Senators REED, BURR, and FRANKEN joining me as sponsors of this bipartisan bill that will reauthorize critical, innovative, and life-saving programs.

We have been working on this legislation throughout the year and have met with stakeholders in blood cell transplantation to receive their input. We also included members of the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee who are deeply committed to passing this legislation.

In drafting this legislation, we also collaborated with our counterparts in the House of Representatives. I am grateful for the leadership of Congressman CHRIS SMITH and Congresswoman DORIS MATSUI, who did so much to get this legislation through the House. I commend my colleagues and their staffs for their hard work.

I appreciate the opportunity to provide some history and background that will explain why this reauthorization bill is so important. This legislation will reauthorize for another five years both the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory, which are administered by the Health Resources and Services Administration. These vital programs provide access to life-

saving treatments for serious conditions and disease.

Bone marrow contains blood-forming stem cells that develop into the three blood cell types that keep the body healthy. The body uses those red blood cells, white blood cells, and platelets as building blocks for blood, tissue, and organs. These blood cells die naturally, and the body must continuously make new ones. Serious health problems can develop in people whose bone marrow cannot make enough new blood cells to replace the cells that die.

Cord blood is a newborn baby's blood that remains in the placenta or after-birth. This blood can be collected after delivery at no risk to the mother and baby. Like bone marrow, cord blood is also rich with stem cells, and doctors can use it as an alternative to bone marrow transplant. In fact, research in the mid-1980s highlighted the promise of cord blood, demonstrating that it is more highly enriched with blood-forming stem cells than bone marrow.

Cord blood transplantation has been used successfully to treat leukemia, lymphoma, immunodeficiency diseases, sickle cell anemia, and certain metabolic diseases. In addition to treating cancer and other blood diseases, researchers are currently testing stem cells for a host of disorders, including autoimmune and genetic disorders.

Cord blood research is also showing potential for use in the innovative fields of cellular therapy and regenerative medicine. Vaccines derived from cord blood to use against viruses and certain types of cancers are currently in early trials. Research has also indicated that cord blood could be used to treat conditions for which few treatments are available, such as stroke, cerebral palsy, hearing loss, autism, and traumatic brain injury.

Dr. Joanne Kurtzberg of the Carolinas Blood Bank is one of the world's leading stem cell researchers at Duke University in Durham, North Carolina. At the time of that groundbreaking scientific research in the 1980s, Dr. Kurtzberg was caring for a 5 year old boy named Matthew who had a rare, inherited blood disorder called Fanconi anemia—a disease that leads to bone marrow failure. In light of the new scientific findings, doctors planned a cord blood transplant for Matthew at a hospital in Paris, France, using fully matched cord blood that had been collected during the birth of his newly born baby sister. Matthew's transplant in 1988 was a success, laying the groundwork for cord blood transplantation.

Matthew is now in his 30s. He is married, working, and living a healthy and productive life. He is living proof that cord blood contains stem cells that can replenish the bone marrow and immune system throughout a patient's life.

In 1993, with the assistance of Dr. Pablo Rubenstein of the New York Blood Center, Dr. Kurtzberg performed the world's first unrelated donor cord blood transplant at Duke University.

Over the following years, these amazing research doctors discovered more about the use of cord blood transplantation in patients who cannot find a fully matched donor.

Dr. Kurtzberg is also the president of the Cord Blood Association, CBA. I am thankful for Dr. Kurtzberg and the CBA's support in helping us develop meaningful legislation that will help cord blood banks do their jobs. I also owe gratitude for the input and guidance on this reauthorization bill that my staff and I received from Mike Boo and Dr. Jeffrey Chell with the National Marrow Donor Program, NMDP.

I am proud to have a long history of working on this issue. In early 2003, I met with Joanne Kurtzberg, Pablo Rubenstein, and Phil Coelho of Thermogenesis Corporation to discuss umbilical cord blood therapies as a promising alternative to bone marrow transplantation and how the Federal Government could help to increase collection efforts.

That night, I called Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson to talk to him about this new science, and he agreed to meet with Joanne, Pablo, and Phil the very next day. Staff from the Health Resources and Services Administration, the Food and Drug Administration, and the National Institutes of Health joined us for that discussion. Secretary Thompson stressed that cord blood banks would need to be managed through HRSA and promised to support my legislation.

In October 2003, I introduced a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a National Cord Blood Stem Cell Bank Network to prepare, store, and distribute human umbilical cord blood stems cells for the treatment of patients and to support peer-reviewed research using those cells. That bill, the Cord Blood Stem Cell Act of 2003, S. 1717, gained strong bipartisan support over the last few months of the 108th Congress.

Although it did not pass the Senate, my 2003 bill helped to generate more interest in and support for blood stem cell transplantation. I kept working on legislation to help increase access to these life-saving transplants in the following Congress. In April 2005, the Institute of Medicine, IOM, issued recommendations to create a national cord blood network. Those of us in Congress who had been working on cord blood and bone marrow realized that combining our bipartisan, bicameral efforts would benefit patients by increasing treatment options and encouraging future research. We reviewed the IOM report and incorporated those important recommendations into one comprehensive bill.

That legislation, the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, P.L. 109-129, that was signed into law on December 20, 2005, created the National Cord Blood Inventory and established an inventory goal of at least 150,000 new and diverse cord blood stem cell units.

The 2005 law also combined the NCBI with the bone marrow donor program that had been created in 1986 by the late Congressman Bill Young to create a single point of access for blood stem cell transplants and research. This single point of access allows physicians the ability to search for any potential adult volunteer bone marrow donor or umbilical cord blood unit anywhere across the globe.

Finally, our 2005 law also named the program the C.W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program, in honor of Bill's tireless efforts to promote bone marrow donation and transplantation.

Five years later, I was the lead sponsor of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2010, P.L. 111-264, which was signed into law on October 8, 2010, and reauthorized the Program and the NCBI for another 5 years. The 2010 law also placed new emphasis on exploring innovations in cord blood collection and increasing the number of collection sites across the nation.

Great progress has been made toward achieving the NCBI's goal of at least 150,000 diverse cord blood units; however, data suggest that the number of available cord blood units in the United States is still insufficient to meet the estimated need for unrelated transplant, which has increased by 25 percent since 2005. The number of transplants for patients in minority populations has increased from 253 in 2000 to 990 in 2014. Much of this increase can be attributed to the increased potential for bone marrow or cord blood transplant. This is exciting, promising science.

There are still challenges to the success of bone marrow and cord blood transplantation. Not all cord blood units contain enough cells to transplant into all patients. In many cases, more than one unit is preferred or necessary for larger children or adults. New science indicates the possibility that using larger, higher quality cord blood units will reduce the incidence of graft-versus-host disease, GVHD, a serious complication of blood cell transplantation in which the donor cells attack the recipient. GVHD is the biggest barrier to successful transplantation.

I am glad to know that the Advisory Council and HRSA have been working with public cord blood banks to discuss ways to increase CBU quality and diversity. As the inventory continues to grow, the diverse units within the NCBI will serve an increasing number of patients that have difficulty obtaining cells from well-matched adult donors.

Cell dose and degree of match between patient and CBU are both strongly associated with transplant outcomes. A larger inventory of publicly available CBUs also will contribute to improved patient survival after transplant because a growing inventory of high cell count CBUs will allow better tissue matches.

Cord blood banks have told us that they cannot do this on their own. With-

out continued support from HRSA, this life-saving science would be financially unsustainable. We must reauthorize this important program.

Today, I am introducing the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015 to further advance the important work of the bone marrow and cord blood programs.

Passage of this legislation will preserve the commitment that the Congress made three decades ago to help patients with blood cancers and other life-threatening diseases by helping to increase access to life-saving transplants. It will also open the doors to new discoveries within the fields of cellular therapy and regenerative medicine. I am proud to introduce the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Reauthorization Act of 2015 with Senators HATCH, FRANKEN, and BURR. This bill offers promise to the tens of thousands of individuals diagnosed with leukemia and lymphomas, sickle cell anemia, and rare genetic blood disorders.

It will reauthorize the C.W. Bill Young National Marrow Donor Program, which has been helping to connect individuals in need of a bone marrow transplant with donors since 1986, and the National Cord Blood Inventory, which has been helping to connect individuals in need of an umbilical cord blood transplant with donors since 1999.

The public registries, made up of donors from all over the country, have been a true lifeline for the Americans who have found an unrelated match. By strengthening and enhancing the important programs operating these registries, many more Americans will be afforded the opportunity to find a match if they are ever in need.

I look forward to swift consideration of this legislation in the Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and working toward passage in the full Senate.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself and Mr. RISCH):

S. 2283. A bill to ensure that small business providers of broadband Internet access service can devote resources to broadband deployment rather than compliance with cumbersome regulatory requirements; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, small businesses are the backbone of America. They generate more than half of the country's private GDP and support millions of families. In Montana, thanks to technology, geography is no longer a constraint and entrepreneurs have been able to build world-class companies without leaving the state.

Access to the global marketplace is largely dependent on access to the Internet. Large incumbent carriers

often do not have enough of an incentive to serve rural America so States like Montana really depend on small businesses to fill in the gaps and connect our communities. Without small broadband providers, many Montanans would remain unserved. This is why it is so important to support our small businesses and allow them to continue to provide jobs and economic growth in their communities.

Burdensome regulations like the FCC's net neutrality rules are strangling our small businesses and preventing growth and investment. The enhanced transparency requirements in particular require small businesses to disclose an excess amount of information including network packet loss, network performance by geographic area, network performance during peak usage, network practices concerning a particular group of users, triggers that activate network practices, and the list goes on. Small companies like Grizzly Internet in West Yellowstone, MO, operate with only three employees and do not have a team of attorneys dedicated to regulatory compliance. Small businesses simply do not have the bandwidth to take on additional regulatory burdens.

That is why I am proud to introduce the Small Business Broadband Deployment Act of 2015 with my colleague Senator RISCH. The bill makes permanent the FCC's temporary small business exception to the net neutrality enhanced transparency requirements. There is broad support in the record for a small business exception, including support from the American Cable Association, Rural Wireless Association, Competitive Carriers Association, Wireless Internet Service Providers Association, CTIA—The Wireless Association, Rural Broadband Provider Coalition, WTA—Advocates for Rural Broadband. Additionally, the Small Business Administration's Office of Advocacy filed comments with the FCC stating, "Advocacy has concerns that compliance with the enhanced transparency requirements under the 2015 Open Internet Order is not feasible for small broadband providers, particularly small rural providers, and may ultimately degrade the quality of service that consumers receive from small providers." Providing relief from over 300 pages of net neutrality rules will allow small businesses to focus on deploying infrastructure and serving their customers rather than spending time on regulatory compliance. I ask my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring this much needed legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2283

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Broadband Deployment Act of 2015”.

SEC. 2. EXCEPTION TO ENHANCEMENT TO TRANSPARENCY REQUIREMENTS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act—

(1) the term “broadband Internet access service”—

(A) means a mass-market retail service by wire or radio that provides the capability to transmit data to and receive data from all or substantially all Internet endpoints, including any capability that is incidental to and enables the operation of the communications service; and

(B) does not include dial-up Internet access service; and

(2) the term “small business” means any provider of broadband Internet access service that has not more than—

(A) 1,500 employees; or
(B) 500,000 subscribers.

(b) EXCEPTION FOR SMALL BUSINESSES.—The enhancements to the transparency rule of the Federal Communications Commission under section 8.3 of title 47, Code of Federal Regulations, as described in paragraphs 162 through 184 of the Report and Order on Remand, Declaratory Ruling, and Order of the Federal Communications Commission with regard to protecting and promoting the open Internet (adopted February 26, 2015) (FCC 15-24), shall not apply to any small business.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS**SENATE RESOLUTION 313—CONDAMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PARIS AND OFFERING THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS FOR THE VICTIMS, CONDOLENCES TO THEIR FAMILIES, RESOLVE TO SUPPORT THE PEOPLE OF FRANCE, AND THE PLEDGE TO DEFEND DEMOCRACY AND STAND IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE COUNTRY OF FRANCE AND ALL OUR ALLIES IN THE FACE OF THIS HORRIFIC ATTACK ON FREEDOM AND LIBERTY**

Mr. McCONNELL (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BURR, Ms. CANTWELL, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COATS, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COONS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. ERNST, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. GARDNER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. HELLER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. Kaine, Mr. KING, Mr. KIRK, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEE, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. McCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MORAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. PETERS, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SANDERS, Mr.

SASSE, Mr. SCHATTZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SHELBY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THUNE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VITTER, Mr. WARNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 313

Whereas, on November 13, 2015, at least eight armed gunmen and suicide bombers conducted six separate attacks across the city of Paris, France, killing at least 129 civilians and wounding over 350 innocent men, women, and children;

Whereas these horrific attacks mark the deadliest violence to strike the Republic of France since World War II, the worst act of terrorism to strike Europe since the 2004 attacks in Madrid, Spain, that killed 191 and wounded approximately 1,800 others, and one of the worst terrorist acts carried out on Western soil since the catastrophic attacks of September 11, 2001;

Whereas Paris is still grieving from the January 7, 2015, terrorist attack on the offices of the French newspaper Charlie Hebdo that brutally murdered 12 people and injured at least 11 others;

Whereas President of the Republic of France Francois Hollande has declared a national state of emergency and deployed approximately 1,500 military members across the city of Paris;

Whereas President Hollande condemned these events as “an act of war that was committed by a terrorist army, a jihadist army, Daesh”;

Whereas President Hollande further declared that “when terrorists are capable of committing such atrocities they must be certain that they are facing a determined France, a united France, a France that is together and does not let itself be moved, even if today we express infinite sorrow”;

Whereas President Barack Obama called these heinous actions not just an attack on Paris and the people of France, but an attack on all of humanity and the universal values that we share;

Whereas the Republic of France is America’s oldest ally, dating back to Marquis de Lafayette, and the people of the United States and France mutually share a debt of gratitude that dates from the formation of our republics through two world wars;

Whereas the people of the Republic of France have expressed solidarity with the people of the United States, including following the terrorist attack of September 11, 2001, which claimed the lives of thousands of innocent civilians in the United States;

Whereas the French people have made manifest their commitment to the United States by partnering with United States forces in Afghanistan and Iraq and as an important partner in the fight against extremist terrorism in Mali and around the world;

Whereas at least one United States citizen was murdered in these heinous attacks and at least four others were injured; and

Whereas these attacks represent both an assault on freedom and democracy and an unmitigated evil that the United States and United States allies must stand united to defeat; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the brutal attacks on the people of Paris that resulted in the death of at least 129 people, including one United States citizen, through shootings, hostage-taking, and suicide bombings of innocent, civilian targets;

(2) expresses its heartfelt condolences and deepest sympathies for the victims and family members of those attacked;

(3) renews the solidarity of the people and Government of the United States with the people and Government of the Republic of France; and

(4) pledges support for the Government of France to pursue justice against those involved in these heinous attacks and to prevent future attacks.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**

Mr. MORAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 16, 2015, at 5 p.m., to conduct a classified briefing entitled “U.S. Policy Tools to Combat North Korea’s Nuclear and Ballistic Missile Capabilities.”

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

CONDEMNING THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PARIS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 313, submitted earlier today.

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

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 313) condemning the terrorist attacks in Paris and offering thoughts and prayers for the victims, condolences to their families, resolve to support the people of France, and the pledge to defend democracy and stand in solidarity with the country of France and all our allies in the face of this horrific attack on freedom and liberty.

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

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 313) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

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

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2015

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until 10 a.m., Tuesday, November 17; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, and the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and that the Senate