

H.R. 1541. An act to amend title 54, United States Code, to make Hispanic-serving institutions eligible for technical and financial assistance for the establishment of preservation training and degree programs; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 1755. An act to amend title 36, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the congressional charter of the Disabled American Veterans; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 2212. An act to take certain Federal lands located in Lassen County, California, into trust for the benefit of the Susanville Indian Rancheria, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 2288. An act to remove the use restrictions on certain land transferred to Rockingham County, Virginia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3279. An act to amend titles 5 and 28, United States Code, to require annual reports to Congress on, and the maintenance of databases on, awards of fees and other expenses to prevailing parties in certain administrative proceedings and court cases to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R. 3490. An act to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the National Computer Forensics Institute, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bill was read the first time:

H.R. 427. An act to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, December 1, 2015, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 599. An act to extend and expand the Medicaid emergency psychiatric demonstration project.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. ALEXANDER, from the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1719. A bill to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 2335. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act relating to beach monitoring, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. COONS (for himself, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. BALDWIN, and Ms. WARREN):
S. 2336. A bill to modernize laws, and eliminate discrimination, with respect to people living with HIV/AIDS, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. FLAKE, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. COATS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BENNET, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. WARNER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 2337. A bill to improve homeland security by enhancing the requirements for participation in the Visa Waiver Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 2338. A bill to award grants to States for the development of innovative long-term services and supports programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 2339. A bill to amend the Mineral Leasing Act to increase the royalty rate for coal produced from surface mines on Federal land, to prohibit the export of coal produced on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. Res. 323. A resolution supporting the designation of December 1, 2015, as “#GivingTuesday” and supporting strong incentives for all people of the United States to give generously; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KIRK (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. Con. Res. 26. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the right of States and local governments to maintain economic sanctions against Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 85

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 85, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish a simplified income-driven repayment plan, and for other purposes.

S. 247

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 247, a bill to amend section 349 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to deem specified activities in support of terrorism as renunciation of United States nationality, and for other purposes.

S. 373

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 373, a bill to provide for the establishment of nationally uniform and envi-

ronmentally sound standards governing discharges incidental to the normal operation of a vessel.

S. 429

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 429, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a standard definition of therapeutic foster care services in Medicaid.

S. 491

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to lift the trade embargo on Cuba.

S. 551

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 551, a bill to increase public safety by permitting the Attorney General to deny the transfer of firearms or the issuance of firearms and explosives licenses to known or suspected dangerous terrorists.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to reauthorize the farm to school program, and for other purposes.

S. 571

At the request of Mr. SASSE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 571, a bill to amend the Pilot's Bill of Rights to facilitate appeals and to apply to other certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, to require the revision of the third class medical certification regulations issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 578

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 578, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 849

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 849, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for systematic data collection and analysis and epidemiological research regarding Multiple Sclerosis (MS), Parkinson's disease, and other neurological diseases.

S. 857

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 857, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of an initial comprehensive care plan for Medicare beneficiaries newly diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and

related dementias, and for other purposes.

S. 946

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 946, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to prohibit the transportation of horses in interstate transportation in a motor vehicle containing 2 or more levels stacked on top of one another.

S. 1133

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1133, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 1212

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1212, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 1495

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1495, a bill to curtail the use of changes in mandatory programs affecting the Crime Victims Fund to inflate spending.

S. 1559

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1559, a bill to protect victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence from emotional and psychological trauma caused by acts of violence or threats of violence against their pets.

S. 1830

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1830, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1856

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1856, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for suspension and removal of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs for performance or misconduct that is a threat to public health or safety and to improve accountability of employees of the Department, and for other purposes.

S. 1915

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1915, a bill to direct the Secretary

of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, and for other purposes.

S. 2045

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2045, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on high cost employer-sponsored health coverage.

S. 2196

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2196, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 2283

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 2308

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2308, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify the treatment of church pension plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2323

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2323, a bill to clarify the definition of nonimmigrant for purposes of chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code.

S. 2327

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2327, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Act of 1986 to strengthen the earned income tax credit and expand eligibility for childless individuals and youth formerly in foster care.

S. CON. RES. 25

At the request of Mr. LEE, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 25, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President should submit the Paris climate change agreement to the Senate for its advice and consent.

S. RES. 148

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. Res. 148, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 322

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 322, a resolution recognizing the 60th anniversary of the refusal of Rosa Louise Parks to give up her seat on a bus on December 1, 1955.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. FLAKE, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. COATS, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BENNET, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. WARNER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 2337. A bill to improve homeland security by enhancing the requirements for participation in the Visa Waiver Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Visa Waiver Program Security Enhancement Act.

I am pleased to be joined by Senator FLAKE, who is the lead Republican cosponsor, as well as Senators HEITKAMP, COATS, HEINRICH, JOHNSON, BENNET, AYOTTE, WARNER, BALDWIN, TESTER, KING, KLOBUCHAR, BOXER, and BLUMENTHAL.

This bill would improve the security of the Visa Waiver Program, which is used by about 20 million travelers a year.

The horrific attacks in Paris and the emergence of ISIL make it absolutely clear that we must strengthen the Visa Waiver Program to protect our country. This bill would do just that.

38 countries are now part of the Visa Waiver Program.

Nationals from these countries may come to the United States for up to 90 days without a visa.

Travelers through the program use an online application to gain approval to travel to the United States. Many of these travelers simply apply for approval from their home computer.

Participating countries must also enter into valuable intelligence-sharing agreements with the United States.

By comparison, only about 36 million people secured visas for business, tourism, and other temporary purposes to the United States from 2005 to 2010—an average of only 6 million per year.

As we all know, fewer than 2,000 refugees from the Syrian conflict—which go through a heavy vetting process—were admitted to the United States over the last 4 years.

Put that in perspective: fewer than 2,000 Syrian refugees over 4 years, versus 20 million travelers through the Visa Waiver program annually.