

MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2795, a bill to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy.

S. 2825

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2825, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to require compliance with domestic source requirements for footwear furnished to enlisted members of the Armed Forces upon their initial entry into the Armed Forces.

S. 2835

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2835, a bill to amend the National Dam Safety Program Act to establish a program to provide grant assistance for the rehabilitation and repair of high hazard potential dams, and for other purposes.

S. 2840

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2840, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize COPS grantees to use grant funds for active shooter training, and for other purposes.

S. 2849

At the request of Mr. SASSE, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCAIN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2849, a bill to ensure the Government Accountability Office has adequate access to information.

S. 2892

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2892, a bill to accelerate the use of wood in buildings, especially tall wood buildings, and for other purposes.

S. 2904

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2904, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

S. 2909

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2909, a bill to amend the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 to allow for the use of certain assets of foreign persons and entities to satisfy certain judgments against terrorist parties, and for other purposes.

S. 2921

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were

added as cosponsors of S. 2921, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the accountability of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to improve health care and benefits for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 30

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 30, a concurrent resolution expressing concern over the disappearance of David Sneddon, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 35

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 35, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the United States should continue to exercise its veto in the United Nations Security Council on resolutions regarding the Israeli-Palestinian peace process.

S. RES. 349

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 349, a resolution congratulating the Farm Credit System on the celebration of its 100th anniversary.

S. RES. 397

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 397, a resolution supporting the recognition of 2016 as the "Year of Pulses" and acknowledging the nutritional benefit and important contribution to soil health of pulse crops.

S. RES. 432

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 432, a resolution supporting respect for human rights and encouraging inclusive governance in Ethiopia.

S. RES. 459

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 459, a resolution recognizing the importance of cancer research and the vital contributions of scientists, clinicians, cancer survivors, and other patient advocates across the United States who are dedicated to finding a cure for cancer, and designating May 2016, as "National Cancer Research Month".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. PERDUE, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2924. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to former United States Senator Max Cleland; to the

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. REID. 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. 2924

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 "Max Cleland Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2016".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Joseph Maxwell "Max" Cleland has demonstrated the highest degree of professionalism and has served as an inspiration to friends, family, veterans, and many others while dedicating his life to the public service of the United States.

(2) Max Cleland began his career in public service when he joined the Reserve Officers' Training Corps as a young college student, went on active duty in the United States Army (in this section referred to as the "Army") in 1965 as a Second Lieutenant, and volunteered for service in Vietnam, rising to the rank of Captain.

(3) The Army recognized Max Cleland with a Silver Star for his gallantry in action during the Battle of Khe Sanh in April of 1968. According to the letter of commendation from the Army, "The President of the United States of America, authorized by Act of Congress, July 8, 1918 (amended by act of July 25, 1963), takes pleasure in presenting the Silver Star to Captain (Signal Corps) Joseph Maxwell Cleland, United States Army, for gallantry in action while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an armed hostile force in the Republic of Vietnam."

(4) Max Cleland, a Battalion Signal Officer dispatched to set up a radio relay antenna, was severely wounded on the battlefield and, as a result, lost both of his legs and his right arm. Cleland would endure 18 months of extremely difficult rehabilitation and recovery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and hospitals of the Department of Veterans Affairs (in this section referred to as "VA hospitals") in Washington, DC. In 1969, Cleland testified before the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs on the hardships faced by veterans returning home from war.

(5) Upon returning to Georgia, Max Cleland was determined to continue his public service and, in 1970, at the age of 28, was elected as the youngest Georgia State senator and helped pass legislation to make public facilities accessible for veterans, older people, and individuals with disabilities.

(6) Max Cleland later came to Washington, DC and joined the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs as a professional staff member, investigating VA hospitals across the country and the treatment of service members returning from Vietnam.

(7) In 1977, President Jimmy Carter named Max Cleland, then just 34 years old, the youngest ever individual, and first Vietnam veteran, to serve as Administrator of the Veterans Administration. As Administrator, Cleland helped create the "Vet Center" counseling program, which later expanded to 300 facilities nationwide helping veterans and their families receive psychological care for post-traumatic stress disorders and other problems associated with warfare.

(8) Following his term as Administrator of the Veterans Administration, Max Cleland returned to elective office in 1982 when he was elected as Secretary of State of the

State of Georgia. As Secretary of State, Cleland implemented the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C. 20501 et seq.) in Georgia and added almost 1,000,000 new voters to the rolls.

(9) Max Cleland was elected to the United States Senate in 1996 and would go on to chair the Subcommittee on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate. In the Senate, Cleland was known for his work in expanding benefits for service members and in improving veterans' health care, education, and the environment.

(10) After his service in the Senate, Max Cleland continued his distinguished career in public service by becoming a commissioner on the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (commonly referred to as the "9/11 Commission") and later as a member of the Board of Directors of the Export-Import Bank of the United States.

(11) In 2009, President Barack Obama named Max Cleland Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Commission. As Secretary of the Commission, Cleland is charged with commemorating both the permanent cemeteries of the United States located in foreign countries and the military memorials, monuments, and markers demonstrating where members of the United States Armed Forces have served overseas since World War I.

(12) In 2010, President Obama again called on Max Cleland to serve his country and Cleland again accepted. This time, Cleland agreed to serve as co-chair, and eventually the inaugural chair, of the Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery, which was established to help fix the problems facing the final resting place for many of the heroes of the United States. After his tenure as chair, Cleland was awarded the Decoration for Distinguished Civilian Service of the Army, the highest honorary award that the Secretary of the Army can confer on a civilian.

(13) After overcoming some of the most difficult challenges imaginable, Max Cleland has spent almost five decades of his life in service to the United States and the country is forever indebted to his service.

SEC. 3. CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL.

(a) AWARD AUTHORIZED.—The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President pro tempore of the Senate shall make appropriate arrangements for the award, on behalf of Congress, of a gold medal of appropriate design to Joseph Maxwell "Max" Cleland.

(b) DESIGN AND STRIKING.—For the purposes of the award described in subsection (a), the Secretary of the Treasury (in this Act referred to as the "Secretary") shall strike the gold medal with suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions, to be determined by the Secretary.

(c) DUPLICATE MEDALS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Under such regulations as the Secretary may prescribe, the Secretary may strike and sell duplicates in bronze of the gold medal struck under this Act at a price sufficient to cover the costs of the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

(2) SALE OF DUPLICATE MEDALS.—The amounts received from the sale of duplicate medals under paragraph (1) shall be deposited in the United States Mint Public Enterprise Fund.

SEC. 4. STATUS OF MEDALS.

Medals struck under this Act are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 461—COMMENDING THE SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR AFGHANISTAN RECONSTRUCTION, JOHN SOPKO, AND HIS OFFICE FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN PROVIDING ACCOUNTABILITY FOR TAXPAYER DOLLARS SPENT IN AFGHANISTAN

Mr. PAUL submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 461

Whereas the Office of Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction (SIGAR) was created in 2008 "to provide independent and objective analysis and supervision of audits and investigations," "to promote economy, efficiency, and effectiveness," and "to prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse" with regards to "amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the reconstruction of Afghanistan";

Whereas the Office of Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction has, under the leadership of SIGAR John Sopko, been a strong voice for the good stewardship of taxpayer dollars;

Whereas Special Inspector General Sopko has provided testimony 11 times before Congress;

Whereas the recommendations of SIGAR have resulted in more than \$1,000,000,000 in potential savings;

Whereas one investigation revealed contract bid-rigging and price-fixing that led to the termination of a \$1,000,000,000 Afghan Ministry of Defense fuel contract, resulting in \$214,000,000 in contract savings to the United States Government;

Whereas SIGAR investigations into waste, fraud, and abuse have led to nearly 700 contractors being prohibited from future United States Government contracts;

Whereas SIGAR exposed mismanagement and fraud within the United Nations-administered Law and Order Trust Fund for Afghanistan, which provides billions of dollars in payments to the Afghan National Police;

Whereas SIGAR has further exposed poor attendance and accounting procedures that allow the existence of non-existent Afghan "ghost" soldiers and police, whose salaries are pocketed by corrupt officials;

Whereas SIGAR discovered the expenditure of \$6,000,000 on 9 goats meant to start a cashmere industry in Afghanistan, the whereabouts of which are now unknown;

Whereas SIGAR has attempted to provide accountability to \$210,000,000 spent on the construction of health care facilities in Afghanistan, discovering that nearly 80 percent of facilities have incorrect location data, where 13 facilities were built outside of Afghanistan, including one in the Mediterranean Sea;

Whereas SIGAR also investigated the circumstances that led to the construction of a \$36,000,000 United States military command and control facility at Camp Leatherneck that the commanders on the ground stated they neither wanted nor needed, and which was never occupied;

Whereas SIGAR brought to national attention that the Department of Defense lost \$29,000,000 worth of heavy equipment, such as tractor trucks and cranes, which impeded efforts to constitute an independent Afghan equivalent to the Army Corp of Engineers; and

Whereas SIGAR exposed the Department of Defense had spent \$43,000,000 on a Com-

pressed Natural Gas (CNG) filling station, costing nearly 86 times more than a similar project, and that further almost no vehicles in Afghanistan run on CNG and the cost to convert a vehicle is more than the average annual Afghan salary; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction for its ongoing role in identifying and reducing waste, fraud, and abuse; and

(2) urges all inspectors general to look to the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghan Reconstruction as an example of the vigor and independence with which the Senate expects inspectors general across government to pursue their duty.

SENATE RESOLUTION 462—URGING THE UNITED STATES SOCCER FEDERATION TO IMMEDIATELY ELIMINATE GENDER PAY INEQUITY AND TREAT ALL ATHLETES WITH THE SAME RESPECT AND DIGNITY

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. CASEY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. REID, and Mr. CARPER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 462

Whereas title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.) (referred to in this preamble as "title IX") requires schools and institutions of higher education to provide the same opportunities for girls that the schools and institutions of higher education provide for boys;

Whereas 6 years after the date of enactment of title IX, the approximate percentage of girls playing team sports increased from 4 percent to 25 percent, a sixfold increase;

Whereas the participation of girls in club soccer in the United States increased by approximately 37 percent between 1995 and 2015;

Whereas the participation of girls in high school soccer programs increased by approximately 45 percent between 1999 and 2014;

Whereas the participation of girls in team sports results in lifelong improvements to the educational, work, and health prospects of the girls;

Whereas the United States Soccer Federation is the governing body of soccer in all forms in the United States and endeavors to make soccer a preeminent sport in the United States;

Whereas the United States Women's National Team has won 3 Federation Internationale de Football Association (commonly referred to as "FIFA") Women's World Cups, 4 Olympic Gold Medals, and 7 Confederation of North, Central America, and Caribbean Association Football (commonly referred to as "CONCACAF") Gold Cups;

Whereas the United States Women's National Team is ranked first in the world as of the date of adoption of this resolution;

Whereas the 2015 final Women's World Cup match generated an audience of approximately 750,000,000 viewers worldwide and more than 25,000,000 viewers in the United States, the largest audience of any soccer game shown in the United States on English language television;

Whereas the members of the United States Women's National Team are some of the