S. 372

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to ensure that merchandise arriving through the mail shall be subject to review by U.S. Customs and Border Protection and to require the provision of advance electronic information on shipments of mail to U.S. Customs and Border Protection and for other purposes.

S. 405

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 405, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide an exclusion from income for student loan forgiveness for students who have died or become disabled.

S. 407

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 407, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 413

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 413, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prohibit prescription drug plan sponsors and MA–PD organizations under the Medicare program from retroactively reducing payment on clean claims submitted by pharmacies.

S. 445

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 445, 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. 446

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 446, a bill to allow reciprocity for the carrying of certain concealed firearms.

S. 455

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 455, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count resident time spent in a critical access hospital as resident time spent in a nonprovider setting for purposes of making Medicare direct and indirect graduate medical education payments.

S. 461

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 461, a bill to allow Homeland Security Grant Program funds to be used to safeguard faith-based community centers across the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 469

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 469, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for the importation of affordable and safe drugs by wholesale distributors, pharmacies, and individuals.

S. 473

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 473, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make qualification requirements for entitlement to Post-9/11 Education Assistance more equitable, to improve support of veterans receiving such educational assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 487

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added as cosponsors of S. 487, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs.

S.J. RES. 12

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. STRANGE), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 12, a joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Defense, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration relating to the Federal Acquisition Regulation.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 490. A bill to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving the Gibson Dam; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, Montana is the fifth largest producer of hydropower in the Nation, with 23 hydroelectric dams contributing one-third of all electricity production in Montana. The Gibson Dam project near Augusta, Montana will provide fifty to one hundred years of stable tax revenue for the state and local counties, reduce carbon emissions, create good-paying jobs, and will provide clean, reliable electricity to Montana. This bill would reinstate and provide a six-year extension of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license, allowing Montana to continue to be a leader in clean, hydropower electricity.

I thank Senators TESTER and RISCH for joining me on introducing this bill and I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan 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. 490

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

SECTION 1. REINSTATEMENT AND EXTENSION OF TIME FOR FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT INVOLVING GIBSON DAM.

Notwithstanding the time period specified in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 12478–003, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this section as the ''Commission'') shall, at the request of the licensee for the project, after reasonable notice, and in accordance with the good faith, due diligence, and public interest requirements of, and the procedures of the Commission under, that section, reinstate the license and extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence construction of the project for the 6-year period that begins on the date of enactment of this Act.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 491. A bill to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project involving Clark Canyon Dam; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, hydropower is a critical hcomponent of an all of the above energy portfolio that provides a reliable and affordable source of electricity for hard-working Montana families. Clark Canyon Dam hydropower project near Dillon, MT will power over 1,000 homes annually in the region, create good-paying jobs, reduce carbon dioxide emissions, and produce hundreds of thousands of dollars in tax revenue for Montana. This bill would reinstate and provide a 3-year contract extension of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license, allowing Montana to continue to be a leader in clean, hydropower electricity.

I thank Senators TESTER, RISCH and CRAPO for joining me on introducing this bill, and I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bipartisan 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. 491

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

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR A FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT INVOLVING CLARK CANYON DAM.

Notwithstanding the time period described in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 12429, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this section as the ''Commission'') shall, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice and in accordance with the procedures of the Commission under that section, reinstate the license and extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence construction of project works for the 3-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

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

S. 492. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow members of the Ready Reserve of a reserve component of the Armed Forces to make elective deferrals on the basis of their service to the Ready Reserve and on the basis of their other employment; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. CORNYN. 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. 492

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 ''Servicemember Retirement Improvement Act''.

SEC. 2. ELECTIVE DEFERRALS BY MEMBERS OF THE READY RESERVE OF A RESERVE COMPONENT OF THE ARMED FORCES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 402(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(9) ELECTIVE DEFERRALS BY MEMBERS OF READY RESERVE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a qualified ready reservist (other than a specified Federal employee ready reservist) for any taxable year, the limitations of subparagraphs (A) and (C) of paragraph (1) shall be applied separately with respect to—

''(i) elective deferrals of such qualified ready reservist with respect to the Thrift Savings Fund (as defined in section 7701(j)), and

''(ii) any other elective deferrals of such qualified ready reservist.

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES IN THE READY RESERVE NOT ELIGIBLE TO MAKE ELECTIVE DEFERRALS TO A PLAN OTHER THAN THE THRIFT SAVINGS PLAN.—In the case of a specified Federal employee ready reservist for any taxable year—

''(i) the applicable dollar amount in effect under paragraph (1)(B) for such taxable year shall be twice such amount (as determined without regard to this subclause), and

''(ii) for purposes of paragraph (1)(C), the applicable dollar amount under section 414(v)(2)(B)(i) (as otherwise determined for purposes of paragraph (1)(C)) shall be twice such amount (as determined without regard to this subclause).

''(C) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph—

''(i) QUALIFIED READY RESERVIST.—The term 'qualified ready reservist' means any individual for any taxable year if such individual received compensation for service as a member of the Ready Reserve of a reserve component (as defined in section 101 of title 37, United States Code) during such taxable year.

''(ii) SPECIFIED FEDERAL EMPLOYEE READY RESERVIST.—The term 'specified Federal employee ready reservist' means any individual for any taxable year if such individual—

''(I) is a qualified ready reservist for such taxable year,

''(II) would be eligible to make elective deferrals with respect to the Thrift Savings Fund (as defined in section 7701(j)) during such taxable year determined without regard to the service of such individual described in clause (i), and

''(III) is not eligible to make elective deferrals with respect to any plan other than such Thrift Savings Fund during such taxable year.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. PETERS):

S. 503. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to make publicly available certain regulatory records relating to the administration of the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the use of an alternative depreciation system for taxpayers violating rules under the Animal Welfare Act and the Horse Protection Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act. This bill is a necessary step to restoring public information on animal cruelty that was removed from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's, USDA, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, APHIS, website under the Trump administration.

On February 3, 2017, APHIS removed information from its website related to oversight and enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act, AWA, and Horse Protection Act, HPA, including animal inspection and licensing reports for more than 9,000 licensed facilities that use animals—facilities like commercial dog breeding operators, animal research labs, roadside zoos, and horse show participants. Since 2009, APHIS has made this information public to increase transparency and hold violators of these animal cruelty laws accountable. This information is now hidden from the public and is only available through a Freedom of Information Act Request, which can take months and sometimes even years for an agency to respond.

The Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act restores transparency by requiring APHIS to once again make AWA and HPA inspection reports accessible to the public. In my view, transparency is key when it comes to giving animal lovers and consumers information about whether their pets or the products they buy are the result of heartbreaking beginnings. These inspection reports also help law enforcement officials track and understand trends in animal welfare violations.

Preventing animal cruelty starts with getting facts out to consumers. By shedding light on AWA and HPA violations, the Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act holds accountable puppy mill operators and other businesses that use animals for breeding, research, and testing.

To ensure that taxpayers are not paying for entities that violate animal welfare laws, the Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act also prohibits businesses that are found to be in violation of the AWA or HPA from collecting certain tax benefits.

Under current tax and accounting rules, companies can write off the value of breeding and working animals on their taxes using accelerated depreciation, as if those animals are machinery. They keep that preferential and valuable tax benefit, even if they violate animal cruelty laws. The Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act puts an end to this practice and holds companies accountable for breaking the law by prohibiting businesses found to have violated AWA or HPA from claiming accelerated depreciation for tax purposes for five years.

The Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act is a much needed step to restore transparency in animal cruelty and to hold companies accountable for violating the law.

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. 503

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 ''Animal Welfare Accountability and Transparency Act''.

SEC. 2. PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF REGULATORY RECORDS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this section as the ''Secretary'') shall maintain and promptly make available to the public in an online searchable database in a machine-readable format on the website of the Department of Agriculture information relating to the administration of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) and the Horse Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 1821 et seq.), including—

(1) the entirety of each report of any inspection conducted, and record of any enforcement action taken, under—

(A) either of those Acts; or

(B) any regulation issued under those Acts;

(2) with respect to the Animal Welfare Act—

(A) the entirety of each annual report submitted by a research facility under section 13 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 2143); and

(B) the name, address, and license or registration number of each research facility, exhibitor, dealer, and other person or establishment—

(i) licensed by the Secretary under section 3 or 12 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 2133, 2142); or

(ii) registered with the Secretary under section 6 of that Act (7 U.S.C. 2136); and

(3) with respect to the Horse Protection Act, the name and address of—

(A) any person that is licensed to conduct any inspection under section 4(c) of that Act (15 U.S.C. 1823(c)); or

(B) any organization or association that is licensed by the Department of Agriculture to promote horses through—

(i) the showing, exhibiting, sale, auction, or registry of horses; or

(ii) the conduct of any activity that contributes to the advancement of horses.

SEC. 3. USE OF ALTERNATIVE DEPRECIATION SYSTEM FOR TAXPAYERS VIOLATING CERTAIN ANIMAL PROTECTION RULES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 168(g)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (D), by inserting ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (E), and by inserting after subparagraph (E) the following new subparagraph:

''(F) any property placed in service by a disqualified taxpayer during an applicable period,''.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—Section 168(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) DISQUALIFIED TAXPAYER; APPLICABLE PERIOD.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(F)—

''(A) DISQUALIFIED TAXPAYER.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'disqualified taxpayer' means any taxpayer if such taxpayer—

''(I) has been assessed a civil penalty under section 19(b) of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2149(b)) or section 6(b) of the Horse Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 1825(b)) and either the period for seeking judicial review of the final agency action has lapsed or there has been a final judgment with respect to an appeal of such assessment, or

''(II) has been convicted under section 19(d) of the Animal Welfare Act (7 U.S.C. 2149(d)) or section 6(a) of the Horse Protection Act (15 U.S.C. 1825(a)) and there is a final judgment with respect to such conviction.

''(ii) AGGREGATION RULES.—All persons treated as a single employer under subsection (a) or (b) of section 52, or subsection (m) or (o) of section 414, shall be treated as one taxpayer for purposes of this subparagraph.

''(B) APPLICABLE PERIOD.—The term 'applicable period' means, with respect to any violation described in subparagraph (A), the 5-taxable year period beginning with the taxable year in which the period for seeking judicial review of a civil penalty described in subparagraph (A)(i) has lapsed or in which there has been a final judgment entered with respect to the violation, whichever is earlier.''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The last sentence of section 179(d)(1) is amended by inserting ''or any property placed in service by a disqualified taxpayer (as defined in section 168(g)(8)(A)) during an applicable period (as defined in section 168(g)(8)(B))'' after ''section 50(b)''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service in taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this section.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 513. A bill to designate the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area in the State of Oregon; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I am reintroducing a bill honoring two Oregon legends—Frank and Jeanne Moore—who have spent their lives together on the North Umpqua River as fishers, stewards of the land, and hosts to visitors from across the world at the famous Steamboat Inn.

The North Umpqua River runs through the Umpqua National Forest in Southwest Oregon. The river is a destination for rafters and kayakers, and is home to some of the best steelhead runs in the world, making it a fly-fishing haven. Frank and Jeanne Moore founded the Steamboat Inn in 1957, and spent years introducing visitors to the beauty of the Umpqua National Forest and the North Umpqua River. Frank, a decorated WWII veteran and a recent inductee into the Freshwater Fishing Hall of Fame, was the fishing guide for the Inn's visitors, and has now been fishing this river for 70 years. The Steamboat Inn's website paints a wonderful picture of how Frank and Jeanne welcomed visitors to the North Umpqua River:

''Each night, Jeanne Moore cooked evening meals for as many as sixty road construction crew members, who ate in shifts, before turning her attention to feeding her lodge guests. Frank pitched in, helped with the cooking, and also made a policy decision that would henceforth guide the Fisherman's Dinner: From then on, anglers could fish until the last light disappeared on the river. Dinner would be served one half hour after sunset!''

In the 1960's, the river and its tributaries experienced significant degradation, and Frank Moore has worked tirelessly ever since to rehabilitate the river and the steelhead populations. Frank served on the State of Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission and has received the National Wildlife Federation Conservationist of the Year award and the Wild Steelhead Coalition Conservation Award. He works with his neighbors and local organizations to monitor the river, and just about everyone he comes across on his drives along the river knows his name and knows his work. Frank and Jeanne have opened their door to visitors and have taken great care of this Oregon treasure.

The Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area will stand as a tribute to the Moore's and their dedication to protecting this special place in Oregon and preserving the hard work they've put in to ensure that Oregonians and visitors alike will have a healthy river, full of steelhead, to visit for decades to come.

It is my honor to reintroduce this bill today with my colleague from Oregon, Senator JEFF MERKLEY, on behalf of these extraordinary Oregonians.

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. 513

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 ''Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area Designation Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) Frank Moore has committed his life to family, friends, his country, and fly fishing;

(2) Frank Moore is a World War II veteran who stormed the beaches of Normandy along with 150,000 troops during the D-Day Allied invasion and was awarded the Chevalier of the French Legion of Honor for his bravery;

(3) Frank Moore returned home after the war, started a family, and pursued his passion of fishing on the winding rivers in Oregon;

(4) as the proprietor of the Steamboat Inn along the North Umpqua River in Oregon for nearly 20 years, Frank Moore, along with his wife Jeanne, shared his love of fishing, the flowing river, and the great outdoors, with visitors from all over the United States and the world;

(5) Frank Moore has spent most of his life fishing the vast rivers of Oregon, during which time he has contributed significantly to efforts to conserve fish habitats and protect river health, including serving on the State of Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission;

(6) Frank Moore has been recognized for his conservation work with the National Wildlife Federation Conservationist of the Year award, the Wild Steelhead Coalition Conservation Award, and his 2010 induction into the Fresh Water Fishing Hall of Fame; and

(7) in honor of the many accomplishments of Frank Moore, both on and off the river, approximately 99,653 acres of Forest Service land in the State of Oregon should be designated as the ''Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area''.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) MAP.—The term ''Map'' means the map entitled ''Frank Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area Designation Act'' and dated June 23, 2016.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the Forest Service.

(3) SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA.—The term ''Special Management Area'' means the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area designated by section 4(a).

(4) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the State of Oregon.

SEC. 4. FRANK AND JEANNE MOORE WILD STEELHEAD SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREA, OREGON.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The approximately 99,653 acres of Forest Service land in the State, as generally depicted on the Map, is designated as the ''Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area''.

(b) MAP; LEGAL DESCRIPTION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the

Secretary shall prepare a map and legal description of the Special Management Area.

(2) FORCE OF LAW.—The map and legal description prepared under paragraph (1) shall have the same force and effect as if included in this Act, except that the Secretary may correct clerical and typographical errors in the map and legal description.

(3) AVAILABILITY.—The map and legal description prepared under paragraph (1) shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the Forest Service.

(c) ADMINISTRATION.—Subject to valid existing rights, the Special Management Area shall be administered by the Secretary—

(1) in accordance with all laws (including regulations) applicable to the National Forest System; and

(2) in a manner that—

(A) conserves and enhances the natural character, scientific use, and the botanical, recreational, ecological, fish and wildlife, scenic, drinking water, and cultural values of the Special Management Area;

(B) maintains and seeks to enhance the wild salmonid habitat of the Special Management Area;

(C) maintains or enhances the watershed as a thermal refuge for wild salmonids; and

(D) preserves opportunities for recreation, including primitive recreation.

(d) FISH AND WILDLIFE.—Nothing in this section affects the jurisdiction or responsibilities of the State with respect to fish and wildlife in the State.

(e) ADJACENT MANAGEMENT.—Nothing in this section—

(1) creates any protective perimeter or buffer zone around the Special Management Area; or

(2) modifies the applicable travel management plan for the Special Management Area.

(f) WILDFIRE MANAGEMENT.—Nothing in this section prohibits the Secretary, in cooperation with other Federal, State, and local agencies, as appropriate, from conducting wildland fire operations in the Special Management Area, consistent with the purposes of this Act, including the use of aircraft, machinery, mechanized equipment, fire breaks, backfires, and retardant.

(g) VEGETATION MANAGEMENT.—Nothing in this section prohibits the Secretary from conducting vegetation management projects within the Special Management Area in a manner consistent with—

(1) the purposes described in subsection (c); and

(2) the applicable forest plan.

(h) PROTECTION OF TRIBAL RIGHTS.—Nothing in this section diminishes any treaty rights of an Indian tribe.

(i) WITHDRAWAL.—Subject to valid existing rights, the Federal land within the boundaries of the Special Management Area river segments designated by subsection (a) is withdrawn from all forms of—

(1) entry, appropriation, or disposal under the public land laws;

(2) location, entry, and patent under the mining laws; and

(3) disposition under all laws relating to mineral and geothermal leasing or mineral materials.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S.J. Res. 29. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Office of Natural Resources Revenue of the Department of the Interior relating to consolidated Federal oil and gas and Federal and Indian coal valuation reform; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, as a fifth-generation Montanan and having spent 18 years in the private sector, I know how important it is to receive your fair share in any deal. However, the Office of Natural Resources Revenue Consolidated Federal oil and gas and Federal and Indian coal valuation reform rule does not protect the taxpayers' fair share of mineral royalties as finalized. The rule as finalized creates high uncertainty and, at worst, could cause many energy operators across the country to shut-in what is already very capital-intensive production, placing our Nation's energy and infrastructure security and good-paying energy jobs at risk. The rule could leave the taxpayer at a net loss in royalties. This resolution would halt implementation of the final ONRR valuation rule, a rule whose implementation is already postponed due to litigation, allowing the States and producers to work with the Department of the Interior to reform valuation in a common-sense way.

I thank Senators HATCH and KENNEDY for joining me on introducing this resolution, and I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

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

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

S.J. RES. 29

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Office of Natural Resources Revenue of the Department of the Interior relating to ''Consolidated Federal Oil & Gas and Federal & Indian Coal Valuation Reform'' (published at 81 Fed. Reg. 43337 (July 1, 2016)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 78—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE RECOGNIZING 3 YEARS OF RUSSIAN MILITARY AGGRESSION IN UKRAINE

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.:

S. RES. 78

Whereas, according to conservative estimates from the United Nations, approximately 10,000 people have been killed, over 20,000 wounded, and nearly 2,000,000 internally displaced since the current conflict in Ukraine began in 2014;

Whereas, March 1, 2014, marks 3 years since the Government of the Russian Federation authorized military forces to illegally annex the Crimean region of Ukraine;

Whereas the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances signed by the Russian Federation in December 1994 provided security assurances against the threats or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine;

Whereas the United States and other countries stated in a letter to the United Nations that the Russian annexation of Crimea in 2014 was a violation of Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity and thus was a breach of the Budapest Memorandum;

Whereas, in September 2014, the Russian Federation signed the Minsk I Protocol, which called for an immediate ceasefire and effective monitoring by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE);

Whereas, in February 2015, the Russian Federation signed the Minsk II Protocol, which again called for an immediate ceasefire, the withdrawal of heavy weapons, and effective monitoring by the OSCE;

Whereas Russian, Ukrainian, and European representatives reaffirmed their commitment to the Minsk agreements at the 2017 Munich Security Conference;

Whereas Secretary of State Rex Tillerson recently stated that the United States expects ''Russia to honor its commitments to the Minsk agreements and work to de-escalate violence in Ukraine'';

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation, despite its commitments to these peace accords, continues to destabilize Ukraine through a variety of military and political maneuvers;

Whereas OSCE observers still do not have full, unimpeded access to the Ukrainian-Russian border;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation continues to supply weapons, equipment, and personnel to separatists intent on undermining the sovereignty of Ukraine and who recently relaunched a campaign of aggression in January 2017;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has yet to withdraw its heavy weapons from Ukraine and continues its sabotage and subversion efforts;

Whereas Russian President Vladimir Putin signed an order recognizing passports issued by separatist rebels in Eastern Ukraine;

Whereas the Ukraine Freedom Support Act of 2014 (Public Law 113–272) authorized increased military and economic assistance for Ukraine;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation continues to engage in a campaign of disinformation about the conflict in both Ukraine and the West;

Whereas the defense minister of the Russian Federation recently announced the formation of ''information warfare troops'';

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has mobilized up to 100,000 troops to Belarus' border with Lithuania and Poland, reminiscent of actions taken at the Ukrainian border in 2014; and

Whereas it is long-standing policy of the United States Government not to recognize territorial changes effected by force alone: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns continued Russian military intervention in the sovereign state of Ukraine;

(2) calls on the Government of the Russian Federation to immediately cease all activity that seeks to normalize or recognize the Russian-backed rebel separatists in Eastern Ukraine;

(3) affirms that sanctions imposed on the Russian Federation for destabilizing the international order in Eastern Europe should not be lifted until the Russian Federation complies with all terms of the Minsk agreements and ceases its illegal attempts to annex Ukraine's Crimea; and

(4) calls on the United States Government, United States allies in Europe, the United Nations, and international partners to continue to pressure the Government of the Russian Federation to uphold its international obligations.