

S. 122. A bill to prevent homeowners from being forced to pay taxes on forgiven mortgage loan debt; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 123. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require multi-line telephone systems to have a default configuration that permits users to directly initiate a call to 9-1-1 without dialing any additional digit, code, prefix, or post-fix, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. 124. A bill to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. SULLIVAN, and Mr. HEINRICH):

S. 125. A bill to amend the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 to impose penalties and provide for the recovery of removal costs and damages in connection with certain discharges of oil from foreign offshore units, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

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

S. 126. A bill to amend the Real ID Act of 2005 to repeal provisions requiring uniform State driver's licenses and State identification cards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. FLAKE:

S. 127. A bill to provide provisional protected presence to qualified individuals who came to the United States as children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. SCHUMER, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 128. A bill to provide provisional protected presence to qualified individuals who came to the United States as children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 129. A bill to reauthorize and amend the National Sea Grant College Program Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

S. 130. A bill to require enforcement against misbranded milk alternatives; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SULLIVAN):

S. 131. A bill to provide for the exchange of certain National Forest System land and non-Federal land in the State of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 132. A bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide for congressional and State approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 133. A bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mrs. FISCHER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BLUNT):

S. 134. A bill to expand the prohibition on misleading or inaccurate caller identification information, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 135. A bill to redesignate Ocmulgee National Monument in the State of Georgia and revise its boundary, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Mr. PERDUE):

S. 136. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park to include the Wallis House and Harriston Hill, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 137. A bill to expand the boundary of Fort Frederica National Monument in the State of Georgia, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 138. A bill to impose sanctions on persons that threaten the peace or stability of Iraq or the Government of Iraq and to address the emergency in Syria, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. FLAKE, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 139. A bill to implement the use of Rapid DNA instruments to inform decisions about pretrial release or detention and their conditions, to solve and prevent violent crimes and other crimes, to exonerate the innocent, to prevent DNA analysis backlogs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 140. A bill to amend the White Mountain Apache Tribe Water Rights Quantification Act of 2010 to clarify the use of amounts in the WMAT Settlement Fund; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. WICKER):

S. 141. A bill to improve understanding and forecasting of space weather events, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 142. A bill to expand certain empowerment zone provisions to communities receiving a Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act notice, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. COONS, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 143. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against income tax for amounts paid by a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces for a new State license or certification required by reason of a permanent change in the duty station of such member to another State; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 144. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the establishment of Promise Zones; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HELLER:

S. 145. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture

to more efficiently develop domestic sources of the minerals and mineral materials of strategic and critical importance to the economic and national security and manufacturing competitiveness of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCAIN:

S. 146. A bill to strengthen accountability for deployment of border security technology at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S.J. Res. 4. A joint resolution disapproving the action of the District of Columbia Council in approving the Death with Dignity Act of 2016; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. FISCHER (for herself and Mrs. ERNST):

S. Res. 12. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that clean water is a national priority, and that the June 29, 2015, Waters of the United States Rule should be withdrawn or vacated; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. SCOTT, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. Res. 13. A resolution recognizing the historical importance of Associate Justice Clarence Thomas; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. SCOTT):

S. Res. 14. A resolution commending the Clemson University Tigers football team for winning the 2017 College Football Playoff National Championship; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 21

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill 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.

S. 30

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 30, a bill to extend the civil statute of limitations for victims of Federal sex offenses.

S. 68

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 68, a bill to require the Secretary of State to submit a report to Congress on the designation of the Muslim Brotherhood as a foreign terrorist organization, and for other purposes.

S. 87

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 87, a bill to ensure that

State and local law enforcement may cooperate with Federal officials to protect our communities from violent criminals and suspected terrorists who are illegally present in the United States.

S. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 6, a resolution objecting to United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 and to all efforts that undermine direct negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians for a secure and peaceful settlement.

AMENDMENT NO. 9

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 9 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 3, a concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2017 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2018 through 2026.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 117. A bill to designate a mountain peak in the State of Montana as “Alex Diekmann Peak”; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DAINES. 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. 117

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 “Alex Diekmann Peak Designation Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that Alex Diekmann—

(1) was a loving father of two and an adoring husband who lived in Bozeman, Montana, where he was a renowned conservationist who dedicated his career to protecting some of the most outstanding natural and scenic resource areas of the Northern Rockies;

(2) was responsible during his unique conservation career for the protection of more than 50 distinct areas in the States of Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho, conserving for the public over 100,000 acres of iconic mountains and valleys, rivers and creeks, ranches and farms, and historic sites and open spaces;

(3) played a central role in securing the future of an array of special landscapes, including—

(A) the spectacular Devil’s Canyon in the Craig Thomas Special Management Area in the State of Wyoming;

(B) crucial fish and wildlife habitat and recreation access land in the Sawtooth Mountains of Idaho, along the Salmon River, and near the Canadian border; and

(C) diverse and vitally important land all across the Crown of the Continent in the

State of Montana, from the world-famous Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem to Glacier National Park to the Cabinet-Yaak Ecosystem, to the recreational trails, working forests and ranches, and critical drinking water supply for Whitefish, and beyond;

(4) made a particularly profound mark on the preservation of the natural wonders in and near the Madison Valley and the Madison Range, Montana, where more than 12 miles of the Madison River and much of the world-class scenery, fish and wildlife, and recreation opportunities of the area have become and shall remain conserved and available to the public because of his efforts;

(5) inspired others with his skill, passion, and spirit of partnership that brought together communities, landowners, sportsmen, and the public at large;

(6) lost a heroic battle with cancer on February 1, 2016, at the age of 52;

(7) is survived by his wife, Lisa, and their 2 sons, Logan and Liam; and

(8) leaves a lasting legacy across Montana and the Northern Rockies that will benefit all people of the United States in our time and in the generations to follow.

SEC. 3. DESIGNATION OF ALEX DIEKMANN PEAK, MONTANA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The unnamed 9,765-foot peak located 2.2 miles west-northwest of Finger Mountain on the western boundary of the Lee Metcalf Wilderness, Montana (UTM coordinates Zone 12, 457966 E., 4982589 N.), shall be known and designated as “Alex Diekmann Peak”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, record, or other paper of the United States to the peak described in subsection (a) shall be considered to be a reference to “Alex Diekmann Peak”.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. HATCH, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 119. A bill to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, for too long, American families, farmers, and job creators have suffered under President Obama’s regulatory onslaught. His administration threw caution to wind, pumping out regulation after regulation and further entangling the government into Americans’ daily lives.

In November, the American people issued a strong rebuke to President Obama’s overreach and his administration’s way of doing business.

They want a new direction. They want more accountability. They want more transparency. They want the government off their backs so that they can get back to making this country great again.

President-elect Trump has committed to working with Congress to roll back the regulatory overreach of the Obama administration, and to making the government more answerable to the people.

So, I rise today to introduce an important piece of legislation that will help achieve these goals and ensure a more accountable and transparent government going forward.

By some estimates, Federal Government regulations impose over \$2 trillion in compliance costs—on the American economy. The cost of complying with all these regulations falls particularly heavy on small businesses.

It is no wonder why many American businesses have shut down or moved overseas. How many innovators dreamed of starting a small business but decided against it when faced with the burden and uncertainty of our regulatory state?

We have to do better.

The Federal Government should do everything possible to promote job creation. To accomplish that, common sense would tell us that the government needs to remove bureaucratic barriers rather than put up new ones.

But as we all know, the Obama administration showed time and again that it would rather push forward with its regulatory agenda than ease the burden on our economy and job creators.

Adding insult to injury, the Obama administration often kept folks in the dark about new regulatory initiatives.

Through secretive litigation tactics, the administration took end-runs around our nation’s transparency and accountability laws. It is a strategy known as sue-and-settle, and regulators have been using it to speed up rulemaking and keep the public away from the table when key policy decisions are made.

Sue-and-settle typically follows a similar pattern.

First, an interest group files a lawsuit against a federal agency, claiming that the agency has failed to take a certain regulatory action by a statutory deadline. The interest group seeks to compel the agency to take action by a new, often-rushed deadline. All too often, the plaintiff-interest group will be one that shares a common regulatory agenda with the agency that it sues, such as when an environmental group sues the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA.

Next, the agency and interest group enter into negotiations behind closed doors to produce either a settlement agreement or consent decree that commits the agency to satisfy the interest group’s demands. The agreement is then approved by a court, binding executive discretion.

Noticeably absent from these negotiations, however, are the very parties who will be most impacted by the resulting regulations.

Sue-and-settle tactics undermine transparency, public accountability, and the quality of public policy. They can have sweeping consequences. For example, the Obama administration’s so-called Clean Power Plan, which is the most expensive regulation ever to be imposed on the energy industry, arose out of a sue-and-settle arrangement.

These tactics also undermine congressional intent.

The Administrative Procedure Act, APA, which has been called the citizens’ “regulatory bill of rights,” was