

mortgage payments, childcare, and student loans. If rates are unreasonable, they should be blocked or modified.

The Protecting Consumers from Unreasonable Rates Act would allow the Secretary of Health and Human Services to act on behalf of consumers to protect them against egregious increases in health insurance rates in States that do not take this action.

In California and several other States across the Nation, State regulators lack the authority to block or modify extreme health insurance rate increases. This legislation does not change any State's ability to take this action. Rather, it simply allows the Secretary of Health and Human Services to help fill in the gaps in the health care regulatory space so consumers in all States would have adequate protections against this type of price gouging.

The Affordable Care Act slowed the growth of premium increases and improved the value of health insurance—including how much of premiums insurers must spend on actual medical care and ensuring rate increases are at least reviewed. These were good first steps, but more needs to be done. Far too many Americans are facing rate increases and full consumer protections must be in place to ensure that prices reflect true cost and not simply profits. Providing all Americans with affordable, quality healthcare is of the utmost importance and Congress ought to be building on the successes of the Affordable Care Act while making improvements where necessary.

This bill provides a straightforward, direct enforcement mechanism to ensure that insurers may not impose unreasonably high costs on consumers, by empowering the Secretary of Health and Human Services to step in when State regulators do not, or are unable to.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to protect Americans from unreasonable rate hikes and move toward real, commonsense health care solutions.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 1668. A bill to rename a waterway in the State of New York as the "Joseph Sanford Jr. Channel"; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. SCHUMER. 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. 1668

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

SECTION 1. JOSEPH SANFORD JR. CHANNEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The waterway in the State of New York designated as the "Negro Bar Channel" shall be known and redesignated as the "Joseph Sanford Jr. Channel".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the waterway

referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Joseph Sanford Jr. Channel".

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 167

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 167, a bill to designate a National Memorial to Fallen Educators at the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia, Kansas.

S. 223

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to provide immunity from suit for certain individuals who disclose potential examples of financial exploitation of senior citizens, and for other purposes.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for S corporation reform, and for other purposes.

S. 888

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 888, a bill to amend the Higher Education Opportunity Act to add disclosure requirements to the institution financial aid offer form and to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to make such form mandatory.

S. 1028

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1028, a bill to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes.

S. 1146

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1146, a bill to enhance the ability of the Office of the National Ombudsman to assist small businesses in meeting regulatory requirements and develop outreach initiatives to promote awareness of the services the Office of the National Ombudsman provides, and for other purposes.

S. 1182

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1182, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the

100th anniversary of The American Legion.

S. 1196

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1196, a bill to expand the capacity and capability of the ballistic missile defense system of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1311

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1311, a bill to provide assistance in abolishing human trafficking in the United States.

S. 1354

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1354, a bill to establish an Individual Market Reinsurance fund to provide funding for State individual market stabilization reinsurance programs.

S. 1462

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1462, a bill to amend the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to improve cost sharing subsidies.

S. 1505

At the request of Mr. LEE, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1505, a bill to provide that silencers be treated the same as firearms accessories.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1532, a bill to disqualify from operating a commercial motor vehicle for life an individual who uses a commercial motor vehicle in committing a felony involving human trafficking.

S. 1536

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1536, a bill to designate a human trafficking prevention coordinator and to expand the scope of activities authorized under the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's outreach and education program to include human trafficking prevention activities, and for other purposes.

S. 1591

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1591, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, and for other purposes.

S. 1598

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) were added

as cosponsors of S. 1598, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1598, *supra*.

S. 1601

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1601, a bill to amend the Fair Housing Act to establish that certain conduct, in or around a dwelling, shall be considered to be severe or pervasive for purposes of determining whether a certain type of sexual harassment has occurred under that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1608

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1608, a bill to authorize the Capitol Police Board to make payments from the United States Capitol Police Memorial Fund to employees of the United States Capitol Police who have sustained serious line-of-duty injuries, and for other purposes.

S. 1619

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1619, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to extend the interest rate limitation on debt entered into during military service to debt incurred during military service to consolidate or refinance student loans incurred before military service.

S. 1640

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1640, a bill to reform the financing of Senate elections, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 47

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 47, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to "Arbitration Agreements".

S. RES. 162

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 162, a resolution reaffirming the commitment of the United States to promoting religious freedom, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 233

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Arkansas

(Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER), and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 233, a resolution designating August 16, 2017, as "National Airborne Day".

AMENDMENT NO. 274

At the request of Mr. SASSE, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 274 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1628, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

AMENDMENT NO. 275

At the request of Mr. SASSE, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 275 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1628, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

AMENDMENT NO. 276

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 276 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1628, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

AMENDMENT NO. 290

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 290 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1628, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

AMENDMENT NO. 329

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 329 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 333

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 333 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1628, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

AMENDMENT NO. 341

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 341 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1628, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

AMENDMENT NO. 366

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 366 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1628, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

AMENDMENT NO. 378

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 378 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1628, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

AMENDMENT NO. 383

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 383 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 391

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 391 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1628, a bill to provide for reconciliation pursuant to title II of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2017.

AMENDMENT NO. 523

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 523 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2810, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 234—RECOGNIZING THE SAILORS AND MARINES WHO SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES FOR SHIP AND SHIPMATES WHILE FIGHTING THE DEVASTATING 1967 FIRE ONBOARD USS FORRESTAL AND, DURING THE WEEK OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC EVENT, COMMEMORATING THE EFFORTS OF THOSE WHO SURVIVED

Mrs. ERNST (for herself, Mr. COTTON, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. INHOFE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. KING, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. WICKER, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. REED, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KAINE, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. PETERS, Mr. SASSE, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. FISCHER, Mr. STRANGE, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 234

Whereas, in 1967, the ongoing naval bombing campaign against North Vietnam from Yankee Station in the Gulf of Tonkin was the most intense and sustained air attack operation in the history of the United States Navy;

Whereas, in June 1967, *USS Forrestal* and *Carrier Air Wing Seventeen* departed Norfolk, Virginia, for duty in the Gulf of Tonkin;

Whereas, on July 28, 1967, during an underway replenishment, the crew of *USS Forrestal* reluctantly unloaded volatile bombs that were not intended for carrier use in order to meet the combat requirements for strikes the next day;

Whereas, despite safety precautions taken by the crew, a devastating fire erupted on *USS Forrestal* after—

(1) an electrical surge in a parked aircraft caused the aircraft to fire a Zuni rocket that ruptured a fuel tank on another aircraft; and

(2) the burning fuel ignited a chain reaction of 9 bomb explosions on the flight deck;

Whereas the explosions destroyed multiple aircraft and tore massive holes in the armored flight deck of *USS Forrestal*, and burning fuel dripped into the living quarters of the crew and the below-decks aircraft hangar;

Whereas, for 18 hours, Sailors and Marines on *USS Forrestal*, assisted by others from accompanying destroyers, fought to bring the fire under control while hospital corpsmen navigated the mangled flight deck and tended to the wounded; and

Whereas, the fire onboard *USS Forrestal* ultimately—

(1) left 134 men dead and 161 men severely injured;

(2) destroyed more than 21 aircraft; and

(3) caused *USS Forrestal* to terminate its support to the fight in Vietnam and return to Norfolk, Virginia, for repairs: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that—

(A) if not for the heroic actions of the crew of *USS Forrestal*, the consequences of the fire would have been far more devastating to the Sailors and Marines onboard and the aircraft carrier itself; and

(B) the selfless sacrifices of those who came to the rescue of fellow shipmates and *USS Forrestal* represent, and are consistent

with, the highest traditions of the United States Navy;

(2) commemorates the 50th anniversary of the *USS Forrestal* fire; and

(3) expresses gratitude to the Sailors and Marines who served aboard *USS Forrestal* for their faithful service.

SENATE RESOLUTION 235—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SHOULD CONSIDER ESTABLISHING AN AWARD PROGRAM FOR THE CYBER COMMUNITY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Mr. ROUNDS submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 235

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Secretary of Defense should consider—

(1) establishing an award program for employees of the Department of Defense who carry out the cyber missions or functions of the Department of Defense;

(2) all award options under law or policy, including compensation, time off, and status awards;

(3) awards based upon operational impact and meritorious service;

(4) providing the largest possible opportunity for such members or employees to earn such rewards without regard to type of position, grade, years of service, experience or past performance;

(5) individual and organization rewards; and

(6) other factors, as the Secretary considers appropriate, that would reward and provide incentive to cyber personnel or organizations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 236—RECOGNIZING JULY 28, 2017, AS “WORLD HEPATITIS DAY 2017”

Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 236

Whereas Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and the incidence of liver disease caused by those viruses, have become urgent problems of a global proportion;

Whereas the World Health Organization has identified viral hepatitis as an international public health challenge comparable to human immunodeficiency virus (in this preamble referred to as “HIV”), tuberculosis, and malaria;

Whereas, in 2016, the World Health Organization released a global health sector strategy on viral hepatitis that aims to eliminate viral hepatitis as a public health threat by 2030;

Whereas an estimated 240,000,000 individuals worldwide are chronically infected with Hepatitis B and an estimated 686,000 individuals worldwide die each year due to Hepatitis B;

Whereas an estimated 150,000,000 individuals worldwide are chronically infected with Hepatitis C and an estimated 700,000 individuals worldwide die each year due to Hepatitis C-related liver disease;

Whereas an estimated 1,000,000 individuals worldwide die each year due to liver failure or primary liver cancer resulting from a chronic infection of hepatitis;

Whereas an estimated 5,300,000 individuals in the United States are infected with either Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C, including 1,400,000 individuals who are chronically infected with Hepatitis B and 2,700,000 individuals who are chronically infected with Hepatitis C;

Whereas, in 2014, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimated that there were 19,200 new Hepatitis B infections and 30,500 new Hepatitis C infections, respectively, in the United States;

Whereas, since 2010, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has found significant increases in the transmission of new hepatitis cases in the United States, including a 151 percent increase in new transmissions of Hepatitis C in the United States between 2010 and 2013;

Whereas chronic viral hepatitis claims thousands of lives in the United States each year, and in 2014 alone, there were 19,659 deaths due to Hepatitis C in the United States;

Whereas an individual who has become chronically infected with Hepatitis B or Hepatitis C may not have symptoms for up to 40 years after being infected;

Whereas some groups of individuals in the United States have a higher rate of chronic viral hepatitis infection than other groups of individuals in the United States, including African-Americans, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, Latinos, Native Americans, Alaska Natives, gay and bisexual men, and individuals who inject drugs intravenously;

Whereas Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have the highest rate of Hepatitis B-related deaths in the United States;

Whereas Hepatitis B is 50 to 100 times more infectious than HIV;

Whereas Hepatitis C is 10 times more infectious than HIV;

Whereas an estimated 25 percent of individuals in the United States who are infected with HIV are also infected with Hepatitis C;

Whereas life expectancies for individuals infected with HIV have increased with antiretroviral treatment, and liver disease (largely attributed to Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C infections) has become the most common cause of death among this population, aside from acquired immune deficiency syndrome;

Whereas, despite the fact that chronic viral hepatitis is the most common blood-borne infection in the United States, an estimated 65 percent of individuals with Hepatitis B and an estimated 75 percent of individuals with Hepatitis C are unaware of the infection;

Whereas Hepatitis B is preventable through vaccination, and both Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C are preventable with proper public health interventions, including programs that offer access to sterile injection equipment for individuals who inject drugs intravenously;

Whereas effective and safe treatment is available for individuals with Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C, including new curative treatments for Hepatitis C; and

Whereas “World Hepatitis Day 2017” will promote the elimination of viral hepatitis through greater awareness, increased diagnosis, and key interventions: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes July 28, 2017, as “World Hepatitis Day 2017”;

(2) supports broad access to Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C treatments;

(3) supports raising awareness of the risks and consequences of undiagnosed chronic Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C infections; and

(4) calls for a robust governmental and public health response to protect the health of the approximately 5,300,000 individuals in