

care health professionals to health professional shortage areas identified as in need of maternity care health services.

S. 807

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 807, a bill to provide anti-retaliation protections for anti-trust whistleblowers.

S. 833

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 833, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 992

At the request of Mr. McCAIN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 992, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct an independent review of the deaths of certain veterans by suicide, and for other purposes.

S. 1002

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1002, a bill to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

S. 1014

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1014, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations to provide service dogs to veterans with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes.

S. 1027

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1027, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 1089

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1089, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to review and update a report on the energy and environmental benefits of the re-refining of used lubricating oil.

S. 1109

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 1109, a bill to amend title VIII of the Public Health Service Act to extend advanced education nursing grants to support clinical nurse specialist programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1357

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1357, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a standard definition of therapeutic family care services in Medicaid.

S. 1568

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1568, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of President John F. Kennedy.

S. 1707

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1707, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to provide for a standard medical expense deduction under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1977

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1977, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the 7.5 percent threshold for the medical expense deduction for individuals age 65 or older.

S. 2042

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2042, a bill to authorize a joint action plan and report on drug waste.

S. RES. 315

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 315, a resolution designating November 4, 2017, as National Bison Day.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2070. A bill to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program, and to promote initiatives that will reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with autism; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today Senators KLOBUCHAR, TILLIS,

SCHUMER, DURBIN and I will introduce legislation to help America's families locate missing loved ones who have Alzheimer's disease, autism or related conditions that may cause them to wander. Congressman CHRIS SMITH will introduce a virtually identical companion bill in the House of Representatives today as well.

Our bill, which was introduced for the first time in the 114th Congress, extends an existing program that helps locate individuals with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. It also adds new support for people with autism.

We have named the legislation in honor of two boys with autism who perished because their condition caused them to wander. One of these children, nine-year-old Kevin Curtis Wills, slipped into Iowa's Raccoon River near a park and tragically drowned in 2008. The other, 14-year-old Avonte Oquendo, wandered away from his school and drowned in New York City's East River a few years ago.

Theirs are not isolated cases. Just a few months ago, a four year-old with autism drowned in a pool after wandering away from her caretakers. We've all read or heard the heart-breaking stories of families frantically trying to locate a missing loved one whose condition caused him or her to wander off.

Our bill will give communities the tools they need to help locate people with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia as well as children with autism spectrum disorders who wander away from their families or caregivers and into dangerous situations.

My home State of Iowa has the fifth highest Alzheimer's death rate in America and we have about 63,000 Iowans living with the disease, according to the Alzheimer's Association. Additionally, the CDC identified 1 in 68 children across the country as having autism spectrum disorders. In Iowa alone, about 8,000 individuals have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders.

This bill will make resources available to equip first responders, law enforcement officials, and other community leaders with the training and tools necessary to better prevent and respond to these cases as soon as possible. With better information sharing, communities can play a central role in reuniting autistic children and other individuals who wander with their families.

Finally, the bill will ensure that local law enforcement agencies and nonprofits that educate and train people on how to proactively prevent and locate missing individuals who wander are eligible for grants from the U.S. Department of Justice. These grants will facilitate the development of training and emergency protocols for

school personnel, supply first responders with additional information and resources, and make local tracking technology programs available for individuals who may wander from safety because of their condition. Grant funding may also be used to establish or enhance notification and communications systems for the recovery of missing children with autism.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, which in the 114th Congress passed the Senate unanimously. The House companion bill garnered over 90 cosponsors and passed the other chamber by vote of 346 to 66 in the 114th Congress. Our bill has been endorsed by, among others, the Autism Society of Iowa, Autism Speaks, the National Autism Association, SafeMinds, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, ANCOR (American Network of Community Options), National Autism Society of America, the Alzheimer's Impact Movement, the National Down Syndrome Society, and the Color of Autism Foundation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 29—RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BALFOUR DECLARATION

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

S. CON. RES. 29

Whereas the Jewish people have had a homeland in modern-day Israel for more than 3,000 years;

Whereas on November 2, 1917, United Kingdom Foreign Secretary Lord Arthur Balfour wrote to Lord Walter Rothschild, to be declared to the Zionist Federation, a letter declaring, on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom, support for a home for the Jewish people in the former Ottoman district of Palestine;

Whereas this letter, known as the Balfour Declaration, was ratified into international law by the League of Nations on July 24, 1922;

Whereas on September 21, 1922, President Warren G. Harding signed House Joint Resolution 322, after unanimous support from the House of Representatives and the Senate, favoring the establishment, in the former Ottoman district of Palestine, of a national home for the Jewish people;

Whereas the Balfour Declaration clearly recognized and sought to uphold the “civil and religious rights of the existing non-Jewish communities in Palestine,” as well as the “rights and political status enjoyed by Jews in any other country”; and

Whereas the Balfour Declaration was a significant part of the chain of events that led to the establishment of the modern State of Israel on May 14, 1948: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—

(1) commemorates the centenary of the Balfour Declaration;

(2) affirms its commitment to maintaining the strongest of bilateral ties with the State of Israel; and

(3) recognizes the importance of the establishment of the modern State of Israel as a secure and democratic homeland for the Jewish people.

SENATE RESOLUTION 321—HONORING THE CAREER OF MAJOR GENERAL RICHARD C. NASH AND RECOGNIZING HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. FRANKEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 321

Whereas Major General Richard C. Nash served as the Adjutant General of the Minnesota National Guard with distinction during the last 7 years;

Whereas Major General Nash is a native of Minnesota who has dedicated his life to serving the United States and the State of Minnesota;

Whereas Major General Nash served honorably in the Armed Forces for 45 years, 29 of which were served in the Minnesota National Guard;

Whereas Major General Nash has commanded at all levels, from company to multinational task force, demonstrating steadfast and wise leadership;

Whereas the men and women of the Minnesota National Guard are among the very best in the United States, with more than 13,000 soldiers and airmen;

Whereas the Minnesota National Guard has 58 Army facilities and 2 air bases in more than 50 communities;

Whereas Major General Nash has led international initiatives in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Sinai Peninsula, and the Baltic region, helping to protect the interests of the United States and spread the values of the United States around the world;

Whereas Major General Nash has kept Minnesotans safe during times of floods and other natural disasters;

Whereas Major General Nash has been a strong advocate for the men and women of the Minnesota National Guard and the families of those men and women;

Whereas Major General Nash has been committed to the Beyond the Yellow Ribbon program of Minnesota, which helps returning servicemembers and the families of those servicemembers;

Whereas Major General Nash has been a tireless advocate for Family Assistance Centers, which advocate for veterans of the Armed Forces and the loved ones of those veterans;

Whereas Major General Nash is a highly decorated military officer and the recipient of many awards, including—

- (1) the Distinguished Service Medal of the Army;
- (2) the Defense Superior Service Medal;
- (3) the Legion of Merit;
- (4) the Bronze Star Medal;
- (5) the Meritorious Service Medal;
- (6) the Army Commendation Medal;
- (7) the Army Achievement Medal;
- (8) the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal;
- (9) the National Defense Service Medal;
- (10) the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal;
- (11) the Iraq Campaign Medal;
- (12) the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal;
- (13) the Armed Forces Service Medal;
- (14) the Armed Forces Reserve Medal;
- (15) the Army Service Ribbon;

(16) the Overseas Service Ribbon;

(17) the Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon;

(18) the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Medal;

(19) the Minnesota Commendation Ribbon;

(20) the Minnesota State Active Duty Ribbon;

(21) the Minnesota Distinguished Recruiting Ribbon;

(22) the Minnesota Service Ribbon;

(23) the Expert Infantryman Badge; and

(24) the Air Assault Badge; and

Whereas the service of Major General Nash lives on through his legacy in the United States, Minnesota, and abroad: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the decades of distinguished service of Major General Richard C. Nash; and

(2) congratulates Major General Richard C. Nash on his retirement, which took place on October 31, 2017, following a distinguished 45-year military career.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. President, I have 4 requests for committees to meet during today's session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

The Committee on Armed Services is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 2, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., to conduct a hearing on the following nominations: Mark T. Esper, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Army, Robert L. Wilkie, of North Carolina, to be Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, Joseph Kernan, of Florida, to be Under Secretary for Intelligence, and Guy B. Roberts, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Defense.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 2, 2017, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 to hold a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Thursday, November 2, 2017, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 to conduct a hearing on S. 807 and the following nominations: of Gregory G. Katsas, of Virginia, to be United States Circuit Judge for the District of Columbia Circuit, Jeffrey Uhlman Beaverstock, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of Alabama, Emily Coody Marks, and Brett Joseph Talley, both to be a United States District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama, Holly Lou Teeter, to be United States District Judge for the District of Kansas, and Matthew G. T. Martin, to be United