

The lack of parental leave, coupled with the cost of childcare, has a profound impact on our economy and on our society, and it is one of the reasons, I believe, why there are not enough women in power. We must do better.

Adopting Senator DUCKWORTH's resolution represents a small step forward. In fact, it is one baby forward. In answer to some of the questions that I got in the hallway, no, there will not be wardrobe requirements of the baby, and, no, we do not believe the baby will be required to wear a Senate pin.

Somehow, I think we will be able to adjust to this simple notion to allow a child—an infant—on the floor for the first year of life. That is why I am hopeful that this will inspire further change both inside and outside of Congress.

In addition to the support of all of the women Senators, I would like to thank Chairman BLUNT, Leaders MCCONNELL and SCHUMER, and Senator DURBIN, Senator DUCKWORTH's colleague, who all played an instrumental role in getting this resolution to the floor. Women may be leading the charge, but there are a lot of good men who have had our backs, and that is a good thing, because we need to work together as we continue to fight for more family-friendly workplaces.

Finally, I would like to thank the one who did all the work, Senator DUCKWORTH, who continues to serve our country with courage and strength, for paving the way. Maile Pearl is very lucky to have Senator DUCKWORTH as a mom, and I look forward to meeting her here on the Senate floor during a future round of votes.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate be in a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to the Senate by Ms. Ridgway, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The messages received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:15 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 167. An act to designate a National Memorial to Fallen Educators at the National Teachers Hall of Fame in Emporia, Kansas.

The message also announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 146. An act to take certain Federal lands in Tennessee into trust for the benefit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and for other purposes.

H.R. 443. An act to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of designating the James K. Polk Home in Columbia, Tennessee, as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3607. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3961. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Kissimmee River and its tributaries in the State of Florida for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4609. An act to provide for the conveyance of a Forest Service site in Dolores County, Colorado, to be used for a fire station.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bills were read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 146. An act to take certain Federal lands in Tennessee into trust for the benefit of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

H.R. 3607. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish fees for medical services provided in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 3961. An act to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate segments of the Kissimmee River and its tributaries in the State of Florida for study for potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

H.R. 4609. An act to provide for the conveyance of a Forest Service site in Dolores County, Colorado, to be used for a fire station; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC-4915. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13338 of May 11, 2004; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4916. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursu-

ant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the Central African Republic that was declared in Executive Order 13667 of May 12, 2014; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4917. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Yemen that was declared in Executive Order 13611 of May 16, 2012; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC-4918. A communication from the Executive Secretary, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Deputy Administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 16, 2018; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC-4919. A communication from the Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Strategic Plan for the Department of Health and Human Services for fiscal years 2018-2022; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-4920. A communication from the Impact Analyst, Office of Regulation Policy and Management, Department of Veterans Affairs, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Schedule for Rating Disabilities: The Organs of Special Sense and Schedule of Ratings—Eye" (RIN2900-AP14) received in the Office of the President of the Senate on April 16, 2018; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-199. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho memorializing its opposition to any new federal national monument designations or further designations of wilderness in the State of Idaho without the approval of the United States Congress and the Idaho Legislature; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 103

Whereas, the Antiquities Act was passed by the United States Congress and signed into law by President Theodore Roosevelt on June 8, 1906. The law gives the President of the United States the authority to, by presidential proclamation, create national monuments from federal lands to protect significant natural, cultural or scientific features. The law has been used more than one hundred times since its passage; and

Whereas, the Wilderness Act was passed in 1964 and, since that time, the United States Congress has designated nearly 110 million acres of federal wildlands as official wilderness, which has the highest form of protection of any federal wildland; and

Whereas, almost sixty-two percent of land in Idaho is federal land; and

Whereas, residents of the State of Idaho support multiple use of public land. Current multiple use and private land protection policies governing the management of public land in Idaho have generally served and sustained the interests of Idaho residents; and

Whereas, ranching and agriculture play a substantial role in the state's heritage and identity and should be preserved; and

Whereas, ranching, agriculture, mining, the forestry industry and recreation are primary economic drivers in the state, with agribusiness and recreation each contributing

an estimated \$7.6 billion, the mining industry contributing \$1.3 billion and the forestry industry contributing \$2 billion to the economy annually in recent years, all of which would be substantially impacted by any land management changes; and

Whereas, Idaho residents, families and visitors currently enjoy multiple use on federal lands and have generations of family traditions. Changing federal land designations would impact local wildlife management as well as opportunities to hunt and fish; and

Whereas, changes in federal land designations or classifications would affect land use by imposing restrictions on development, resource extraction, recreation and land exchanges that would result in diminished economic opportunities and restrictions on 'access and multiple use; and

Whereas, the people of the State of Idaho value abundant water resources and water rights and have concern that new national monument designations or further designation of wilderness by Congress could affect those resources and rights; and

Whereas, the Idaho Roadless Rule is Idaho's 2006 plan that provides a framework for use and protection of more than nine million acres of federal public backcountry. The rule is viewed as a nationwide model of collaboration among groups and individuals with diverse interests and concerns; and

Whereas, the Roadless Rule specifically prescribes protective management under the wildland recreation theme, and it is feared that utilization of the Antiquities Act for new national monument designations or further designation of wilderness by Congress would overturn the agreement reached in the formulation of the Idaho Roadless Rule, with no effort to reach consensus through coordination as required by federal law; and

Whereas, several years ago, advisory votes relating to a suggested new national monument designation and a wilderness designation in Idaho were held in a number of potentially affected counties in central and eastern Idaho, both showing over ninety percent opposition to such designations. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that we oppose any new federal national monument designations or further designations of wilderness in the State of Idaho without the approval of the United States Congress and the Idaho Legislature; and be it further

Resolved, That the Idaho congressional delegation is urged to introduce and support legislation to oppose any new federal national monument designations or further designations of wilderness in the State of Idaho without the approval of the United States Congress and the Idaho Legislature; and be it further

Resolved, That any efforts to reach decisions regarding lands and resources of the State of Idaho administered by federal agencies or their designees be made through the lawful coordination process as required by the National Environmental Policy Act, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, the National Forest Management Act, the 1982 Forest Service Planning Rule and other federal acts requiring coordination, rather than by unilateral administrative processes that exclude the residents of the State of Idaho; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and to the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States.

POM-200. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho urging the Department of State to support several positions in negotiations with Canada regarding any modification or future implementation of the Columbia River Treaty; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 11

Whereas, since it was implemented in 1964, the Columbia River Treaty has provided for a coordinated management of the Columbia River to reduce flooding impacts and increase power generation throughout the Columbia River Basin; and

Whereas, the treaty provides that either the United States or Canada may terminate the treaty by providing written notice at least 10 years in advance of termination; and

Whereas, the U.S. and Canadian entities previously reviewed the treaty and determined that the treaty should be modified; and

Whereas, on December 7, 2017, the U.S. State Department issued a press release stating that the United States and Canada will begin negotiations to modernize the treaty in early 2018; and

Whereas, the U.S. Entity Regional Recommendation of 2013 concluded that the purposes of a "modernized" treaty should be expanded to include consideration of "ecosystem-based function" in addition to the original flood control and hydropower purposes of the treaty; and

Whereas, unless otherwise agreed to, the treaty provides that, in 2024, flood control operations will automatically shift from providing guaranteed flood control space in Canadian reservoirs to "called upon" flood control operations; and

Whereas, the U.S. and Canadian entities have provided differing interpretations of the "called upon" flood control provisions, with the U.S. Entity asserting that "called upon" operations apply only to dams in the Columbia River Basin specifically authorized for "system-wide flood control," and the Canadian Entity taking the position that all U.S. storage projects in the Columbia River Basin must be utilized for system-wide flood control before Canadian reservoirs are called upon to provide any flood control space; and

Whereas, altered flood control operations could have devastating impacts on reservoir storage and operation levels, irrigation, recreation, hydropower, local flood control and other authorized purposes in Idaho; and

Whereas, the Canadian Entitlement, whereby the U.S. and Canadian entities share the increased power production created by coordinated river operations, has proven to be imbalanced in favor of Canada; and

Whereas, including ecosystem-based function in a modernized treaty could have adverse impacts on existing beneficial uses of the river and create greater uncertainty in a river system that is already heavily regulated; and

Whereas, the Regional Recommendation fails to recognize the substantial investment in ecosystem-based function made by Northwest region hydropower producers and their customers, including billions of dollars invested in fish passage and habitat efforts and the development and implementation of robust environmental mitigation plans; and

Whereas, navigation should be protected, and adverse flows should not impact the transportation channel or lock system operations; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved By the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature, the House of Representatives and the Senate concurring therein, that we urge the U.S. Department of State to support the following positions in negotiations with Canada regarding any modification or future implementation of the Columbia River Treaty:

(1) Recognize and protect the authorized purposes and water rights for storage projects in Idaho, including irrigation, recreation, hydropower and local flood control;

(2) Advocate that only storage projects specifically authorized by Congress for system-wide flood control may be required to provide such benefits under the treaty, with no increased flood control burden placed on projects in Idaho;

(3) Recognize a need to review and rebalance the Canadian Entitlement;

(4) Recognize the ecosystem benefits that have already been provided by storage projects in the United States pursuant to the other federal laws and refrain from advocating for additional ecosystem contributions from U.S. projects;

(5) Recognize that ecosystem restoration, as that term has been used by some proponents of modernization, is intentionally vague and if incorporated into an international treaty could be used as a vehicle to override and infringe upon existing federal environmental laws and usurp state sovereignty over water and, therefore, require any treaty modification to preserve federal environmental protection laws and state water laws and reject any additional mitigation requirement;

(6) Require any treaty modification to recognize the primary authority and state sovereignty of Idaho and its sister states over their respective water resources;

(7) Reject any attempts through the treaty modification process to incorporate the reintroduction of anadromous species above Hells Canyon or Dworshak, as such efforts are outside the scope of the treaty purposes; and

(8) Protect navigation so that adverse flows do not impact the transportation channel or block system operations; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and to the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States, the U.S. Department of State, the Columbia River Treaty Negotiator, the U.S. Entity Coordinator, Bonneville Power Administration and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

POM-201. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming commemorating the one hundred fiftieth (150th) anniversary of the signing of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Bridger; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 3

Whereas, the Shoshone (eastern band) and the Bannock Tribes of Indians, presently known as the Eastern Shoshone and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, entered into a treaty with the United States of America on July 3, 1868 at Fort Bridger, in the Utah Territory, which is now present day Wyoming; and

Whereas, each of the Tribes and the United States Government desiring for peace to continue among and between themselves signed the 1868 Treaty of Fort Bridger to keep and maintain peace; and

Whereas, the legacy of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Bridger has had an impact in numerous ways on the lives of Tribal members of both Tribes from generation to generation since the signing; and

Whereas, members of both the Eastern Shoshone and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have endured difficult burdens, sometimes navigating treacherous trails in their dedicated effort to preserve and pass along their

physical and cultural identity, while at the same time making significant contributions to the development of the Republic; and

Whereas, the Eastern Shoshone and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes plan a sesquicentennial treaty reenactment ceremony at Fort Bridger State Historic Site to honor the spirit of this area's rich past and its First Nations, with celebrations open to the public on July 3, 2018, including the reenactment between the Tribes and military slated for 10:00 a.m. and dances, feasts and games throughout the day; and

Whereas, Wyoming values and respects the historical and modern contributions of American Indian people, as evidenced by the 2017 passage of the American Indian Educational Program Act, which will educate all Wyoming students about American Indian tribes of the region, to ensure the cultural heritage, history and contemporary contributions of American Indians are addressed; and

Whereas, the Eastern Shoshone and the Shoshone-Bannock Nations and their people continue to be integral components of American society. Now, therefore be it

Resolved, By the members of the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1.—That the Wyoming legislature commemorates the one hundred fiftieth (150th) anniversary of the signing of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Bridger by educating native and nonnative people about the Treaty and by illustrating that the Eastern Shoshone and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes continue to be significant contributors to the success of this country and its future with forward-looking, positive relationships with the United States Government and each of the several states.

Section 2.—That the Wyoming legislature supports nationwide public education about the heritage, history and contributions of Native American tribes and urges the federal government to uphold its federal trust responsibilities.

Section 3.—That the Wyoming legislature supports permanently displaying in Wyoming the original 1868 Treaty of Fort Bridger, which is presently on file with the National Archives.

Section 4.—That the Secretary of State of Wyoming transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate and the majority and minority leader and whip of each house, the Wyoming Congressional Delegation, each state governor and the business councils of the Eastern Shoshone and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes.

POM-202. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming commemorating the one hundred fiftieth (150th) anniversary of the signing of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

ENROLLED JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1

Whereas, the area in and around what is presently known as Fort Laramie, Wyoming has served like a grand meeting hall, described by author Starley Talbott as a place “where the mountains meet the plains; where two rivers converge; where Native American tribes gathered; where fur trappers and traders rendezvoused; where emigrants met for rest and supplies; where soldiers came and went; where homesteaders linked the past to the present; and where today's travelers come to partake in Fort Laramie's fascinating history;” and

Whereas, Fort Laramie and its surrounding area had been occupied by tribes of the Great Plains throughout the course of history; and

Whereas, in 1812, Robert Stuart was the first non-Indian person to visit the area later known as Fort Laramie and Alfred Jacob Miller became the first artist to record the area's landscape in 1837; and

Whereas, beginning in 1841, emigrants bound for the West Coast stopped in Fort Laramie as they traveled to what would later become the Oregon, California and Mormon Trails, with westward migration peaking in the early 1850s at more than fifty thousand (50,000) people traveling these trails annually; and

Whereas, the United States military purchased the Fort Laramie Post in 1849 and stationed soldiers to protect wagon trains, thereby establishing a social and economic center for Indians and non-Indians; and

Whereas, despite efforts to secure peace between Native Americans and the non-Indian emigrants and military personnel, conflicts arose, culminating in wars between Plains Tribes and the United States; and

Whereas, the indigenous Nations of the northern Great Plains region entered into treaties with the United States of America in 1868 at Fort Laramie, in the Dakota Territory, which is now present day Wyoming, and at other military posts in the region; and

Whereas, these treaties are collectively regarded as the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie and include the following Tribes in treaty with the United States:

Treaty with the Sioux and Arapaho

Brulé band of Sioux (presently “Brule Lakota”: Lower Brule and Rosebud Reservations)

Ogallala band of Sioux (presently “Ogallala Lakota”: Pine Ridge Reservation)

Minneconjou band of Sioux (presently “Minneconjou Lakota”: Cheyenne River Reservation)

Yanktonai band of Sioux (presently “Yanktonai Dakota”: Standing Rock, Yankton and Crow Creek Reservations)

Arapaho (presently “Southern Arapaho”: headquartered in Concho, Oklahoma, Cheyenne-Arapaho Oklahoma Tribal Statistical Area)

Hunkpapa band of Sioux (presently “Hunkpapa Lakota”: Standing Rock Reservation)

Blackfeet band of Sioux (also “Blackfoot,” presently “Blackfeet Lakota”: Cheyenne River and Standing Rock Reservations)

Cuthead band of Sioux (presently “Cuthead Dakota”: Standing Rock Reservation)

Two Kettle band of Sioux (presently “Two Kettle Lakota”: Cheyenne River Reservation)

Sans Arc band of Sioux (presently “Sans Arc Lakota”: Cheyenne River Reservation)

Santee band of Sioux (presently “Santee Dakota”: Santee Sioux, Flandreau, Crow Creek and Lake Traverse Reservations and the Upper Sioux, Lower Sioux, Prairie Island and Shakopee Mdewakanton Indian Communities)

Treaty with the Crow (Crow Reservation)

Treaty with the Northern Cheyenne and Northern Arapaho (Northern Cheyenne and Wind River Reservations, respectively); and

Whereas, each of the Tribes and the United States Government desiring for peace, the parties signed the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie to cease wars among the parties and bring about and maintain peace; and

Whereas, the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie did not end conflict, as terms of the Treaty were broken resulting from the discovery of gold in the Black Hills, the area of Fort Laramie remained a supply and communications center for the United States military's efforts to confine Native people onto reservations; and

Whereas, the United States military abandoned Fort Laramie in 1890, and all but one (1) of the fort's sixty (60) structures were sold at private auction and were used as private dwellings, businesses, a dance hall and livestock shelters during the fort's homestead period of 1890 to 1937; and

Whereas, interested homesteaders, local residents and others recognized the historical significance of Fort Laramie in the 1930s and the State of Wyoming acquired Fort Laramie in 1937, which eventually became a unit of the national park system in 1938; and

Whereas, today, the Fort Laramie National Historic Site is open to the public and restoration of many of the structures to their historic appearances provides visitors with a glimpse of a bygone era; and

Whereas, the legacy of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie has had an impact in numerous ways on the lives of Tribal members of Tribes party to the Treaty from generation to generation since the signing; and

Whereas, the indigenous Nations of the northern Great Plains and their people have endured difficult burdens, sometimes navigating treacherous trails in their dedicated effort to preserve and pass along their physical and cultural identity, while at the same time making significant contributions to the development of the Republic; and

Whereas, the indigenous Nations of the northern Great Plains and their people continue to defend their inherent sovereignty and celebrate their cultural heritage; and

Whereas, the anniversary of the signing of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie will be commemorated throughout 2018 at the Fort Laramie National Historic Site to honor the spirit of this area's rich past and its First Nations, with events from sunrise to sunset slated for April 28 and ending festivities on November 6. Throughout the anniversary year, celebrations will commemorate individual Tribe signing dates and may include traditional culture and history demonstrations; and

Whereas, Wyoming values and respects the historical and modern contributions of American Indian people, as evidenced by the 2017 passage of the American Indian Educational Program Act, which will educate all Wyoming students about American Indian tribes of the region, to ensure the cultural heritage, history and contemporary contributions of American Indians are addressed. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the members of the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

Section 1.—That the Wyoming legislature commemorates the one hundred fiftieth (150th) anniversary of the signing of the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie by educating people about the Treaty and history of this nationally significant place.

Section 2.—That the Wyoming legislature supports nationwide public education about the heritage, history and contributions of Native American tribes and urges the federal government to uphold its federal trust responsibilities.

Section 3.—That the Wyoming legislature supports permanently displaying in Wyoming the original treaties that comprise the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie, which are presently on file with the National Archives.

Section 4.—That the Secretary of State of Wyoming transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate and the majority and minority leader and whip of each house, the Wyoming Congressional Delegation, each state governor and the business council of each tribal nation that signed the 1868 Treaty of Fort Laramie.

POM-203. A joint memorial adopted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho requesting a permanent exemption from the U.S. Department of Transportation—Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration electronic logging devices mandate granted by whichever means appropriate for livestock and agriculture commodity transporters; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL NO. 104

Whereas, the 2012 federal transportation bill, MAP-21, mandated electronic logging devices (ELD) in commercial trucks, which were to be finalized by rule in 2015, with an implementation date of December 18, 2017, in trucks of model year 2000 and newer; and

Whereas, because of the nature of the commodities hauled and normal industry scheduling uncertainty, livestock and agriculture commodity haulers requested exemption from this mandated transition from handwritten logbooks to the electronic log, and the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) originally ignored the request and agriculture commodity haulers; and

Whereas, the federal mandate and rule decreases efficiency, increases business expense and does little or nothing to improve safety in this segment of the trucking industry, and USDOT-FMCSA has not considered the special circumstances surrounding the transport of livestock, fish and insects, as these are the most perishable and fragile of all commodities and must be transported in the most efficient, timely and expedient manner as possible, and conformity with the ELD mandate and existing hours of services rule would result in delays off-loading and reloading of livestock and even the addition of a second driver on short hauls; and

Whereas, infrastructure for off-loading and holding of livestock do not readily exist and, if it did, extra handling of cargo would result in added stress, weight loss, additional expense and exposure to additional disease and biohazard, with no positive benefit to the animals; and

Whereas, heavy machinery service vehicles often drive long distances to reach a job site and remain at the location long enough to exceed the 14-hour service day thereby requiring either an additional driver or an overnight stay near the job site and subsequently decreasing efficiency and increasing business expense; and

Whereas, highway safety is also a primary consideration, and livestock transporters were involved in a statistically insignificant number of accidents (0.004%) according to the "Large Truck Crash Causation Study" published by the FMCSA and the National Highway Safety Institute and 0.7% of fatal accidents per the "Trucks Involved in Fatal Accidents Factbook 2005" published by the Transportation Research Institute; and

Whereas, mandated ELDs engage when the truck's motor is started. The devices provide the operator no discretion in determining "on-duty" and "off-duty" time. Large, over-the-road commercial truck fleets support the ELD mandate because they are better able to absorb related costs and are subject to well-defined schedules; and

Whereas, paper logs allow the driver this determination. Because many livestock and agriculture commodity haulers are small and independently owned businesses, mandatory ELD use will result in increased livestock handling, more downtime, increased expenses, and lower net revenues to producers and trucking firms and small trucking companies forced out of business. The ELD mandate is impractical because USDOT-FMCSA did not consider normal

delays that are encountered when dealing with livestock and other agriculture commodities; and

Whereas, in September 2017, seven national agriculture commodity organizations and other agriculture-related organizations requested a waiver from the rule, which was granted and will be in effect until March 18, 2018. Section 132, Exemption from Requirement for Electronic Logging Device, is contained in the FY18 federal Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) bill funding to implement the ELD mandate in FY18, and this language was signed by all members of Idaho's congressional delegation, and legislation was introduced in 2017 in the United States House of Representatives to make a livestock/agriculture commodity exemption permanent; and

Whereas, the federal mandate and rule is difficult to implement, increases cost, lowers efficiency, imposes an unfunded mandate, creates economic and regulatory hardship for small business and does not consider the special needs of certain segments of the trucking industry: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the members of the Second Regular Session of the Sixty-fourth Idaho Legislature, the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring therein, that we request a permanent exemption from the USDOT-FMCSA ELD mandate granted by whichever means appropriate for livestock and agriculture commodity transporters; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate be, and she is hereby authorized and directed to forward a copy of this Memorial to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Congress, and to the congressional delegation representing the State of Idaho in the Congress of the United States, the United States Department of Transportation and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

POM-204. A resolution approved by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Rice Lake, Wisconsin, supporting the passage of an amendment to the United States Constitution stating: only human beings are endowed with Constitutional rights—not corporations, unions, non-profits or other artificial entities; and money is not speech, and therefore regulating political contributions and spending is not equivalent to limiting political speech; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MANCHIN:

S. 2681. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit against tax for coal-powered electric generation units; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. UDALL):

S. 2682. A bill to establish a student loan forgiveness plan for certain borrowers who are employed at a qualified farm or ranch; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself and Mr. BROWN):

S. 2683. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to impose a mileage-based user fee for mobile mounted concrete boom pumps in lieu of the tax on taxable fuels, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 2684. A bill to establish a Federal student loan restructured repayment schedule for certain borrowers who are agricultural producers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 2685. A bill to modify certain requirements for farm ownership loan eligibility; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. PERDUE:

S. 2686. A bill to require Federal agencies to issue appropriate identification for the carrying of concealed firearms by qualified law enforcement officers and qualified retired law enforcement officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 2687. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the individual tax provisions of the tax reform law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 2688. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the indexing of certain assets for purposes of determining gain or loss; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. HELLER, and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 2689. A bill to provide a taxpayer bill of rights for small businesses; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. NELSON):

S. 2690. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit review of certain Medicare payment determinations for disproportionate share hospitals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2691. A bill to hold pharmaceutical companies accountable for illegal marketing and distribution of opioid products and for their role in creating and exacerbating the opioid epidemic in the United States; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MANCHIN:

S. Res. 470. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that electricity markets do not appropriately value the reliability and resilience attributes of baseload power generation serving the bulk power system; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. Res. 471. A resolution designating March 29, 2018, as "Vietnam Veterans Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. HELLER):

S. Res. 472. A resolution designating April 5, 2018, as "Gold Star Wives Day"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 66

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Delaware