

privatize the Gulf red snapper fishery; approximately 50 percent of the fishery is already held by private businesses, while another 20 percent has been designated to be sold; shares of this public resource have also been given away for free, based on a commercial operator's past catch history; and

Whereas, because of extraordinarily remiss requirements in its conflict of interest guidelines, the federal fisheries management system allows commercial operators who already own red snapper shares or who may be gifted shares to serve on the Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council and to cast votes on issues that will result in direct financial benefit for them; and

Whereas, by creating a prohibitive environment for anglers and ethical issues among user groups and stakeholders, the U.S. government has proved itself incapable of properly managing red snapper fishing in the Gulf of Mexico, and all five states along the Gulf Coast have increasingly needed to implement regulations and seasons that are not consistent with the federal management plan; and

Whereas, numerous studies, including some funded by NOAA Fisheries, indicate that the greatest economic engine in the Gulf reef fishery is the recreational angling sector, and federal control should be relinquished to the Gulf states, which depend most on this vital public resource: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the 85th Legislature of the State of Texas hereby encourage Congress to pass legislation or adopt policies allowing Texas to manage the Gulf of Mexico red snapper fishery out to 200 nautical miles; and be it further

Resolved, That the Texas secretary of state forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the president of the Senate and to the speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

POM-157. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan memorializing the celebration of the Republic of China's (Taiwan) 106th National Day on October 10, 2017; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 103

Whereas, Relations between the Republic of China (Taiwan) and the United States are marked by strong bilateral trade, education, and cultural exchanges. In 2016, bilateral trade totaled more than \$65.4 billion in exchanged goods, making the U.S. the third-largest trading partner of Taiwan, and Taiwan the tenth-largest trading partner of the United States; and

Whereas, Taiwan and the state of Michigan have long benefited from this relationship. In 2016 Taiwan was Michigan's sixth-largest market in Asia and Michigan exports to Taiwan amounted to \$298.59 million, a 20 percent increase from 2015. From 2013 to 2016, Michigan imports from Taiwan increased from \$705 million to \$867 million, a 23 percent increase, making the outlook for joint economic and cultural growth in the future bright; and

Whereas, Taiwan is capable of and willing to fulfill its responsibilities and to collaborate with the world to deal with the challenges of humanitarian aids and disease control. Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations benefits the international community as a whole, including the state of Michigan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body congratulate the government and people of the Republic of China

(Taiwan) on their 106th National Day on October 10, 2017; and be it further

Resolved, That we continue to support Taiwan's meaningful participation in international organizations which impact the health, safety and well-being of its people, and support its aspiration to make more contributions in international societies; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the U.S. Secretary of State; the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago Illinois; and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-158. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan memorializing their opposition to violent terrorism, totalitarian impulses, xenophobic biases, and bigoted ideologies that are promoted by radical hate groups and declaring these groups to be domestic terrorist organizations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 82

Whereas, The United States was founded on the principles that all men are created equal and have the unalienable right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. In the more than 240 years since this declaration, our nation has strived, struggled, and made great progress toward achieving these lofty ideals. Ending slavery, women's suffrage, the civil rights movement, and marriage equality were all major moments in our history where we recognized injustice and inequality and worked to end it; and

Whereas, White nationalist and neo-Nazi groups endorse agendas that are in irreconcilable conflict with our nation's foundational principles of liberty and justice for all. Throughout the course of our nation's history, these groups have promoted intimidation and violent repression of individuals solely on the basis of their race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, or immigration status; and

Whereas, Although white nationalism has attempted to reinvent itself, self-identifying as the "Alt-Right," its present-day rhetoric and terrorism conjure painful memories of our nation's past. Race-based hatred remains an integral component of these groups' core orientations as they seek to reignite social animosities, reverse improvements in race relations, divide the nation, and provoke hatred, classism, and ethnic eradication; and

Whereas, The white nationalist and neo-Nazi message of racial and social intolerance has led to senseless acts of violence that terrorize members of ethnic and religious minority communities. The tragic events that took place on August 12, 2017, in Charlottesville, Virginia, prove that white nationalism and neo-Nazism remain very real threats to social and racial progress and peace in our nation, now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we strongly denounce and oppose the violent terrorism, totalitarian impulses, xenophobic biases, and bigoted ideologies that are promoted by radical hate groups and declare these groups to be domestic terrorist organizations, and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Governor, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-159. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of Michigan memorializing atomic veterans for their service and sacrifice for our nation; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 73

Whereas, Throughout the nation's history, brave Michigan citizens have answered the call of duty and service, defending our free-

dom as members of the United States Armed Forces; and

Whereas, As a result of the Manhattan Project, the United States conducted the Trinity Atomic Test, the first detonation of a nuclear device, in New Mexico on July 16, 1945; and

Whereas, Over 200,000 American service members, including those from Michigan, participated in aboveground nuclear tests between 1945 and 1962, and veterans who participated in the cleanup of the Eniwetok Atoll in the Marshall Islands between 1977 and 1980, and also those who were part of the United States military occupation forces in or around Hiroshima and Nagasaki before 1946, and some were held as a prisoner of war during this time; and

Whereas, These atomic veterans were exposed to radiation during their military service and, due to that exposure, developed several types of medical conditions that are not currently listed under the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act (RECA); and

Whereas, Many atomic veterans were prevented by secrecy laws or oaths from seeking medical care or disability compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for conditions they may have developed as a result of radiation exposure; and

Whereas, In 1996, the United States Congress repealed the Nuclear Radiation and Secrecy Agreements Act, freeing atomic veterans to describe their military involvement in nuclear testing in order to file for VA benefits; and

Whereas, Atomic veterans will now be eligible for free medical care from the VA and compensation in the form of full service-connected disability allowance, including payments to a surviving spouse or children; and

Whereas, The Michigan Veteran's Affairs Agency will provide free assistance to Michigan veterans and their dependents in developing and submitting disability compensation claims to the VA and the Department of Justice for death benefits; and

Whereas, The National Association of Atomic Veterans was formed in 1979 to help atomic veterans obtain medical care and assistance; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body find it proper and fitting that atomic veterans be recognized for their service and sacrifice for our nation and that they should be provided the necessary medical services and compensation for their service; and be it further

Resolved, That we memorialize the United States Congress to do all it can to support atomic veterans, their spouses, and dependents in receiving medical care and disability compensation; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the National Associations of Atomic Veterans, the Michigan Veteran's Affairs Agency, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the President of the United States Senate, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-160. A resolution adopted by the Township Council of Livingston, New Jersey, urging their delegation to the United States Congress to oppose any proposal to eliminate the state and local taxes deductibility provision from the Federal tax code; to the Committee on Finance.

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 Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 2325. A bill to incentivize the hiring of United States workers in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. KENNEDY:

S. 2326. A bill to prohibit discrimination against the unborn on the basis of sex, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. TESTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2327. A bill to prohibit paying Members of Congress during periods during which a Government shutdown is in effect, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. TESTER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2328. A bill making continuing appropriations for military pay and death benefits in the event of a Government shutdown; to the Committee on Appropriations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 14

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 14, a bill to provide that Members of Congress may not receive pay after October 1 of any fiscal year in which Congress has not approved a concurrent resolution on the budget and passed the regular appropriations bills.

S. 299

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 299, a bill to require the appropriation of funds to use a fee, fine, penalty, or proceeds from a settlement received by a Federal agency, and for other purposes.

S. 792

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 792, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to establish an H-2B temporary non-agricultural work visa program, and for other purposes.

S. 915

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 915, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 918

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) were added as cosponsors of S. 918, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

S. 1168

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1168, a bill to facilitate efficient investments and financing of infrastructure projects and new, long-term job creation through the establishment of an Infrastructure Financing Authority, and for other purposes.

S. 1218

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1218, a bill to promote Federal employment for veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1304

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1304, a bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exclude customary prompt pay discounts from manufacturers to wholesalers from the average sales price for drugs and biologicals under Medicare, and for other purposes.

S. 1676

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1676, a bill to amend the Rural Electrification Act of 1936 to provide grants for access to broadband telecommunications services in rural areas, and for other purposes.

S. 1719

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1719, a bill to eliminate duties on imports of recreational performance outerwear, to establish the Sustainable Textile and Apparel Research Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1809

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1809, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish the Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Challenge Grant Program to promote technological innovation in our Nation's cities.

S. 2114

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2114, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the 5307th Composite Unit (Provisional), commonly known as "Merrill's Marauders", in recognition of their bravery and outstanding service in the jungles of Burma during World War II.

S. 2173

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms.

COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2173, a bill to amend subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act to extend State court funding for child welfare, and for other purposes.

S. 2208

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2208, a bill to provide for the issuance of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Semipostal Stamp.

S. 2235

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2235, a bill to establish a tiered hiring preference for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces.

S. 2274

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 2274, a bill to provide for the compensation of Federal employees affected by lapses in appropriations.

S. RES. 367

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 367, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran for its violence against demonstrators and calling for peaceful resolution to the concerns of the citizens of Iran.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. TESTER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. WARNER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. DONNELLY, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MARKEY, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. UDALL, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2328. A bill making continuing appropriations for military pay and death benefits in the event of a Government shutdown; to the Committee on Appropriations.