

Main Street Employee Ownership Act of 2018; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

POM-242. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to immigration; 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. SCOTT (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 3040. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to clarify Federal law with respect to reporting certain positive consumer credit information to consumer reporting agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. JOHNSON:

S. 3041. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide for disaster recovery reforms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ROBERTS:

S. 3042. A bill to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture through fiscal year 2023, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. ROUNDS:

S. 3043. A bill to require USTRANSCOM assessments of transportation infrastructure; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. ROUNDS:

S. 3044. A bill to establish the National Defense Accelerator Network pilot program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. COTTON (for himself and Mr. JONES):

S. 3045. A bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to establish a safe harbor with respect to keep open letters; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Ms. HEITKAMP, Ms. WARREN, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. UDALL, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 3046. A bill to allow the Secretary of Agriculture to enter into self-determination contracts with Indian Tribes and Tribal organizations to carry out supplemental nutrition assistance programs; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL (for herself, Mr. KING, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 3047. A bill to establish a narcotic drug screening technology pilot program to combat illicit opioid importation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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

S. 3048. A bill to direct the Comptroller General of the United States to evaluate and report on the in-patient and outpatient treatment capacity, availability, and needs of the United States; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. Res. 539. A resolution urging the President to strengthen efforts of the United States to combat religious freedom violations in Eurasia, especially the use of torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, prolonged detention without charges, causing the disappearance of persons by the abduction or clandestine detention of those persons, and other flagrant denial of the right to life, liberty, or the security of persons; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN:

S. Con. Res. 39. A concurrent resolution commemorating the 75th anniversary of Lockheed Martin Skunk Works and the significant contributions of the Skunk Works to the national security of the United States; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 116

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 116, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit veterans who have a service-connected, permanent disability rated as total to travel on military aircraft in the same manner and to the same extent as retired members of the Armed Forces entitled to such travel.

S. 319

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 319, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish within the Department of Veterans Affairs a center of excellence in the prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, treatment, and rehabilitation of health conditions relating to exposure to burn pits.

S. 339

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) and the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) were added as cosponsors of S. 339, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 379

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 379, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 379, *supra*.

S. 709

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 709, a bill to prohibit the Adminis-

trator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency from taking administrative action to recover certain payments for disaster or emergency assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 980

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 980, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payments for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program.

S. 1016

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1016, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 1110

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1110, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to provide for private lactation areas in the terminals of large and medium hub airports, and for other purposes.

S. 1533

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1533, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to cover physician services delivered by podiatric physicians to ensure access by Medicaid beneficiaries to appropriate quality foot and ankle care, to amend title XVIII of such Act to modify the requirements for diabetic shoes to be included under Medicare, and for other purposes.

S. 1589

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1589, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 1933

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1933, a bill to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders.

S. 1958

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1958, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require Internet-based, real-time responses to requests to verify taxpayer income for legitimate business purposes, and for other purposes.

S. 2404

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr.

MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2404, a bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 to reauthorize the organic agriculture research and extension initiative.

S. 2460

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2460, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require e-prescribing for coverage under part D of the Medicare program of prescription drugs that are controlled substances.

S. 2489

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2489, a bill to amend the Housing Act of 1949 to extend the authority of the Secretary of Agriculture to make loans to certain entities for housing and buildings on adequate farms, to establish a technical assistance program to improve access by Tribal entities to rural development programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2497

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2497, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 2506

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 2506, a bill to establish an aviation maintenance workforce development pilot program.

S. 2521

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2521, a bill to authorize the issuance of extreme risk protection orders.

S. 2554

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2554, a bill to ensure that health insurance issuers and group health plans do not prohibit pharmacy providers from providing certain information to enrollees.

S. 2578

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2578, a bill to amend title 13, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Commerce to provide advanced notice to Congress before changing any questions on the decennial census, and for other purposes.

S. 2584

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Missouri

(Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2584, a bill to end discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity in public schools, and for other purposes.

S. 2637

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2637, a bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to improve the quality, health outcomes, and value of maternity care under the Medicaid and CHIP programs by developing maternity care quality measures and supporting maternity care quality collaboratives.

S. 2667

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2667, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to provide for State and Tribal regulation of hemp production, and for other purposes.

S. 2804

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) were added as cosponsors of S. 2804, a bill to provide for the reform and continuation of agricultural and other programs of the Department of Agriculture for Indian Country.

S. 2835

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2835, a bill to require a study of the well-being of the newsprint and publishing industry in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2864

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2864, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a Joint Task Force to enhance integration of the Department of Homeland Security's border security operations to detect, interdict, disrupt, and prevent narcotics, such as fentanyl and other synthetic opioids, from entering the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2884

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2884, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop a standard letter format to be provided to individuals who are indebted to the United States by virtue of their participation in benefits programs administered by the Secretary, to provide notice of debt by electronic means to such individuals when so elected, and for other purposes.

S. 2937

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Maryland

(Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2937, a bill to protect children affected by immigration enforcement actions.

S. 2956

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2956, a bill to intensify stem cell research showing evidence of substantial clinical benefit to patients, and for other purposes.

S. 2957

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2957, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2978

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2978, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to modify the conservation reserve enhancement program, and for other purposes.

S. 3022

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3022, a bill to amend subchapter III of chapter 99 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to repeal increases in duty and a tariff-rate quota on certain crystalline silicon photovoltaic cells, and for other purposes.

S. 3028

At the request of Mrs. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 3028, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an income tax credit for eldercare expenses.

S. 3033

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3033, a bill to require a study and report on matters concerning best practices in mortality counts as a result of a major disaster.

S. 3036

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3036, a bill to limit the separation of families at or near ports of entry.

S. RES. 527

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 527, a resolution congratulating

the people of Georgia on the 100th anniversary of its declaration of independence as a democratic republic and reaffirming the strength of the relationship between the United States and Georgia.

## AMENDMENT NO. 2270

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2270 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2285

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2285 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2290

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2290 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2315

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2315 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2337

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2337 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2343

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from South Da-

kota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2343 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2365

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2365 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2366

At the request of Mr. LEE, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2366 proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2370

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2370 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2385

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2385 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2389

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2389 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2392

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2392 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2411

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2411 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2412

At the request of Mr. NELSON, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2412 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2436

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2436 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2437

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2437 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2442

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2442 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2464

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2464 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2494

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2494 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2505

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2505 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2513

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2513 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2514

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2514 intended to be

proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2521

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2521 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2530

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2530 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2537

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2537 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2538

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2538 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2550

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2550 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2551

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cospon-

sor of amendment No. 2551 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2552

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2552 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2555

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2555 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2560

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2560 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2568

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2568 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2569

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2569 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2573

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr.

RISCH), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2573 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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. 2575

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2575 intended to be proposed to H.R. 5515, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2019 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 539—URGING THE PRESIDENT TO STRENGTHEN EFFORTS OF THE UNITED STATES TO COMBAT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM VIOLATIONS IN EURASIA, ESPECIALLY THE USE OF TORTURE OR CRUEL, INHUMAN, OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT, PROLONGED DETENTION WITHOUT CHARGES, CAUSING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF PERSONS BY THE ABDUCTION OR CLANDESTINE DETENTION OF THOSE PERSONS, AND OTHER FLAGRANT DENIAL OF THE RIGHT TO LIFE, LIBERTY, OR THE SECURITY OF PERSONS**

Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

## S. RES. 539

Whereas the National Security Strategy of the United States issued in 2017 stated that “[t]he United States also remains committed to supporting and advancing religious freedom . . . Our Founders understood religious freedom not as the state’s creation, but as the gift of God to every person and a fundamental right for our flourishing society,” and national security strategies issued in 2015, 2006, 2002, 2000, 1999, 1998, and 1997, likewise committed the United States to promoting international religious freedom to advance the security, economic, and other national interests of the people of the United States;

Whereas religious freedom is the first freedom enumerated in the Constitution of the United States, enshrined as a non-derogable freedom in international law, enumerated in Article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which the United States voted for, enumerated in Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which the United States ratified, committed to as part of comprehensive security by the 57 participating States of the Or-

ganization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, including in the Helsinki Final Act of 1975, the Madrid Concluding Document of 1983, the Vienna Concluding Document of 1989, the CSCE/OSCE Copenhagen Document of 1990, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe of 1990, the Budapest Document of 1994, and the Istanbul Document of 1999, and affirmed in specific decisions of the Ministerial Council in 2002 to 2007, and 2013;

Whereas the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. 6401 et seq.) defines particularly severe violations of religious freedom as “torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, prolonged detention without charges, causing the disappearance of persons by the abduction or clandestine detention of those persons, other flagrant denial of the right to life, liberty, or the security of persons,” requires the President to “designate each country the government of which has engaged in or tolerated [particularly severe violations of religious freedom in that country during the preceding 12 months or since the date of the last review of that country] . . . as a country of particular concern for religious freedom,” and requires the United States as a matter of policy to “condemn violations of religious freedom, and to promote, and to assist other governments in the promotion of, the fundamental right to freedom of religion”;

Whereas the Secretary of State designated as CPC OSCE participating States Uzbekistan in 2006, 2009, 2011, 2014, 2016, and 2017, Turkmenistan in 2014, 2016, and 2017, and Tajikistan in 2016 and 2017;

Whereas the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom recommended for CPC designation OSCE participating States Turkmenistan from 2000 to 2018, Uzbekistan from 2005 to 2018, Tajikistan from 2012 to 2019, Russia from 2017 to 2018, and Turkey in 2012;

Whereas the Frank R. Wolf International Religious Freedom Act (Public Law 114-281) requires the President to “designate each country that engaged in or tolerated severe violations of religious freedom during the previous year, but does not meet, in the opinion of the President at the time of publication of the Annual Report, all of the criteria . . . for designation” as a CPC as “being placed on a ‘Special Watch List,’” and the Secretary of State designated no OSCE participating States as a Special Watch List country when designating countries of particular concern and one Special Watch List country on December 22, 2017;

Whereas the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom has included on its annual Tier Two list or Watch List countries in which the government has engaged in or tolerated serious violations of religious freedom, Azerbaijan from 2013 to 2018, Kazakhstan from 2013 to 2018, Turkey from 2009 to 2011 and 2014 to 2018, Russia from 2009 to 2016, Belarus from 2004 to 2012, Tajikistan from 2009 to 2011, Uzbekistan from 2003 to 2004, and Georgia in 2004;

Whereas, on July 17, 2017, the Supreme Court of the Russian Federation upheld a ban against Jehovah’s Witnesses as an extremist group, enforcing extremism laws that violate religious freedom, including July 7, 2016, amendments to the prohibitive 1997 Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religious Associations that further restrict missionary activities of Russians and foreigners in Russia, restrict or ban online and printed religious materials, impose fines, confiscate assets and property, prohibit public and private religious assembly and expression, criminalize and ban religious activities and groups as extremist without legally defining extremism to include the threat or use of violence, and put religious minorities such as

Jehovah’s Witnesses, Muslims, Protestant Christians, and Mormons, especially at risk of severe and particularly severe violations of religious freedom;

Whereas, since forces of the Government of the Russian Federation invaded Crimea, Ukraine, in February 2014, they have forcibly and illegally occupied the territory, and as the occupying power are required under international law such as the Geneva Conventions to protect the religious freedom of the inhabitants of the occupied territory, are responsible for violations of religious freedom in Crimea for the duration of their occupation, and there have been violations, including abduction, detention and imprisonment, forced psychiatric hospitalizations, fines, restrictions on missionary activities, confiscations of property including churches and meeting halls, expulsions and obstructions to reentry, denying registration of religious groups, vandalism, fines, and banning peaceful religious groups, and targeted groups have included Muslim Crimean Tatars, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Kyivan Patriarchate, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, and Protestant Christians, as reported in International Religious Freedom Reports and by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation-led separatist forces have effectively controlled the Donbas region of eastern Ukraine since April 2014, are therefore required under international law to protect the religious freedom of the inhabitants of the territory they control, are responsible for violations of religious freedom in the Donbas for the duration of their control, proclaimed the Donetsk People’s Republic and the Luhansk People’s Republic, established illegal entities to govern the territory, and religious freedom violations in the region have included detention and imprisonment, confiscation of property, including churches and meeting halls, physical assaults and threats of violence, vandalism, fines, restrictions on missionary activities, religious services, ceremonies, gatherings, and literature, and banning of peaceful religious groups, and targeted groups have included the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyiv Patriarchate, Jehovah’s Witnesses, the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, and Protestant Christians, as reported in International Religious Freedom Reports and by the United States Commission on International Religious Freedom;

Whereas the draft “Law Introducing Amendments and Additions to Laws on Questions of Religious Activity and Religious Associations” would amend the already restrictive religion law of Kazakhstan to further control and punish people who communicate religious teachings the government has not approved, restrict sharing religious beliefs, confiscate religious literature that does not pass mandatory state censorship, make it easier to permanently ban religious organizations for violating the Religion Law, and double some fines for exercising religious freedom;

Whereas, since the second President and the Prime Minister of Uzbekistan assumed office on December 14, 2016, the Government of Uzbekistan has taken steps towards improvement on religious freedom, including the release of some religious prisoners and the “road map” resolution issued on May 4, 2018, by the Legislative Chamber and the Senate instructing government offices to implement the recommendations in the February 22, 2018, “Report of the Special Rapporteur on Freedom of Religion or Belief on His Mission to Uzbekistan” within a year, and the Government has shown openness to the recommendations of the United States Government regarding religious freedom;