

make supplemental funds available for the management of fish and wildlife species of greatest conservation need, as determined by State fish and wildlife agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 3233

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3233, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to persons responsible for violence and human rights abuses in Nicaragua, and for other purposes.

S. 3257

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3257, a bill to impose sanctions on foreign persons responsible for serious violations of international law regarding the protection of civilians during armed conflict, and for other purposes.

S. 3354

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3354, a bill to amend the Missing Children's Assistance Act, and for other purposes.

S. 3406

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3406, a bill to express United States support for Taiwan's diplomatic alliances around the world.

S. 3427

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3427, a bill to effectively staff the public elementary schools and secondary schools of the United States with school-based mental health services providers.

S. 3435

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3435, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to direct the Secretary of Education to issue guidance and recommendations for institutions of higher education on removing criminal and juvenile justice questions from their application for admissions process.

S. 3436

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3436, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to provide for greater spousal protection

under defined contribution plans, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 62

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 62, a joint resolution formalizing congressional opposition to any withdrawal from the North Atlantic Treaty, requiring the advice and consent of the Senate to modify or terminate the North Atlantic Treaty, and authorizing litigation to advance the Senate's constitutional authority.

S. RES. 606

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 606, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States condemns all forms of violence against children globally and recognizes the harmful impacts of violence against children.

S. RES. 622

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 622, a resolution supporting renaming NATO Headquarters after the late United States Senator John Sidney McCain, III.

S. RES. 626

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 626, a resolution designating September 2018 as "National Voting Rights Month".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. JONES, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 3440. A bill to require the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce to provide estimates relating to the distribution of aggregate economic growth across specific percentile groups of income; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3440

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Measuring Real Income Growth Act of 2018".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Economic inequality in the United States has increased dramatically during the 4 decades preceding the date of enactment of this Act, with fewer households taking home a larger share of the national income.

(2) While growth was once distributed relatively evenly across all individuals in the United States, research shows that economic gains are increasingly enjoyed by the most affluent. By contrast, the majority of individuals in the United States have seen income and wage growth significantly below what is suggested by national measures of output and income.

(3) The Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce (referred to in this section as "BEA") reports annual and quarterly estimates of gross domestic product (referred to in this section as "GDP") in the United States. These estimates are important measures of the overall size and health of the economy of the United States but do not describe how economic gains are distributed across the population of the United States.

(4) In a country of 325,000,000 individuals, top-line GDP numbers do not capture the full range of household economic experiences and may be misleading. The real GDP grew more than 3 percent annually between 2003 and 2005, but the average income for ½ of all individuals in the United States fell during that period.

(5) Disaggregating economic growth by income groups will provide a more complete picture of how families in the United States are faring across all rungs of the economic ladder and whether economic growth is benefiting all individuals in the United States.

(6) Recent academic estimates of distributional growth show how much of the economic gains during the 40 years preceding the date of enactment of this Act have accrued to the top of the income distribution. Between 1980 and 2014, the average income of the top 1 percent of the income distribution grew 5 times as much as the average income of the bottom 90 percent of the income distribution and more than 9 times as much as the average income of the bottom ½.

(7) Official and timely estimates of distributional growth from BEA, reported alongside top-line GDP numbers, would enable Congress to better evaluate economic policies that impact every individual in the United States.

(8) Efforts to address slow wage growth, stagnant incomes, and growing economic inequality require broadening the focus beyond GDP and obtaining metrics that better correspond to the experiences of all families in the United States.

SEC. 3. ESTIMATES OF AGGREGATE ECONOMIC GROWTH ACROSS INCOME GROUPS.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) BUREAU.—The term "Bureau" means the Bureau of Economic Analysis of the Department of Commerce.

(2) GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT ANALYSIS.—The term "gross domestic product analysis"—

(A) means a quarterly or annual analysis conducted by the Bureau with respect to the gross domestic product of the United States; and

(B) includes a revision prepared by the Bureau of an analysis described in subparagraph (A).

(3) RECENT ESTIMATE.—The term "recent estimate" means the most recent estimate described in subsection (b) that is available on the date on which the gross domestic product analysis with which the estimate is to be included is conducted.

(b) INCLUSION IN REPORTS.—Beginning in 2020, in each gross domestic product analysis

conducted by the Bureau, the Bureau shall include a recent estimate of, with respect to specific percentile groups of income, the total amount that was added to the economy of the United States during the period to which the recent estimate pertains, including in—

- (1) each of the 10 deciles of income; and
- (2) the highest 1 percent of income.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Commerce such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 629—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE WITH RESPECT TO ENHANCED RELATIONS WITH THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA AND SUPPORT FOR MOLDOVA'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY

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

S. RES. 629

Whereas the United States has enjoyed stable and positive relations with the Republic of Moldova for over 25 years;

Whereas, since Moldova's independence in 1991, the United States has provided financial assistance to support the people of Moldova's efforts to build a prosperous European democracy;

Whereas the Governments of the United States and Moldova further strengthened their partnership through the launching of the inaugural Strategic Dialogue on March 3, 2014;

Whereas the United States Government seeks to help Moldova increase its prosperity, secure its democratic institutions, secure its internationally recognized borders, and integrate with Europe and the Euro-Atlantic community;

Whereas the United States and Moldova continue to broaden and deepen their partnership through advancing shared interests in democracy, good governance, anti-corruption, energy independence, economic development, and security cooperation through the relaunching of the Strategic Dialogue on June 23, 2017;

Whereas corruption remains a major obstacle in Moldova, which inhibits the country's ability to develop businesses, attract foreign investment, ensure good governance, and pursue closer integration with the European Union;

Whereas the Government of Moldova has been urged to fight corruption and improve governance since Moldova's independence, particularly in the wake of a 2014 scandal involving the loss of over a billion dollars, and the Government of Moldova has moved forward with certain reforms seeking to address these issues;

Whereas efforts to improve governance and adopt domestic reforms are critical to Moldova's ability to secure loan packages from international organizations such as the International Monetary Fund and the European Union;

Whereas the International Monetary Fund has approved a three-year loan package premised on the continuation of reforms focused on strengthening the economy, bolstering economic development, and promoting trade and investment;

Whereas Moldova ratified an Association Agreement containing comprehensive free

trade provisions with the European Union in 2014, and the Agreement became fully effective in July 2016;

Whereas the people and Government of the United States supports the democratic aspirations of the people of Moldova and their expressed desire to deepen their association with the European Union;

Whereas in a judgment in 2004, the European Court of Human Rights found that Transnistria was formed with the support of the Government of the Russian Federation and considered it "under the effective authority or at least decisive influence of Russia";

Whereas the United States supports the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Moldova and on that basis participates as an observer in the "5+2" negotiations to find a comprehensive settlement that will provide a special status for the separatist region of Transnistria in Moldova;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation banned the import of Moldovan wine in 2013, and Moldovan meats and produce in 2014, and has threatened to ban Moldovan agricultural products, curtail the supply of energy resources to Moldova, and impose stricter labor migration policies on the people of Moldova;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation maintains a contingent of Russian troops and a stockpile of Russian military equipment and ammunition within the Transnistria region;

Whereas, by September 2016, the Government of the Russian Federation had issued Russian passports to residents of the Transnistria region;

Whereas the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and the Government of Moldova have called upon the Government of the Russian Federation to remove its troops from Moldovan territory;

Whereas, in May 2017, the Constitutional Court of Moldova ruled that Moldova's constitutional neutrality means that the presence of foreign troops in Moldova is unconstitutional;

Whereas, in July 2017, the Moldovan Parliament adopted a declaration calling on the Government of the Russian Federation to withdraw its troops from Moldova;

Whereas the Senate and the House of Representatives both passed by an overwhelming majority, and the President signed into law Public Law 113-96, providing for a United States international broadcasting programming surge to counter disinformation from Russian supported news outlets and ensure that Russian-speaking populations in Ukraine and Moldova have access to independent news and information;

Whereas Moldova has been a valued and reliable partner in promoting global security by participating in United Nations peacekeeping missions in the Central African Republic, Kosovo, and South Sudan;

Whereas Moldova cooperates with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization through an Individual Partnership Action Plan to improve expertise, interoperability, peacekeeping capabilities, military education and training, and public sector reform;

Whereas, on June 22, 2018, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution calling on Russia to withdraw its troops from Transnistria;

Whereas, in August 2018, the Russian Federation conducted military exercises on the western bank of the Dniester River in violation of the Agreement on the Principles for a Peaceful Settlement of the Armed Conflict in the Dniester Region of the Republic of Moldova, which Russia signed in 1992;

Whereas August 27 is Moldovan Independence Day, which commemorates the adoption

of Moldova's Declaration of Independence from the Soviet Union on August 27, 1991; and

Whereas Moldova will hold parliamentary elections in early 2019: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) reaffirms it is the policy of the United States to support the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Moldova, and that Moldova has a sovereign right to determine its own partnerships, free of external coercion and pressure, including Moldova's right to associate with the European Union or any regional organization;

(2) supports the Strategic Dialogue as a means to strengthen relations between Moldova and the United States and enhance the democratic, economic, and security reforms already being undertaken by Moldova;

(3) encourages the Secretary of State and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to focus United States assistance on supporting reforms that strengthen the justice sector, promote an open, transparent, and democratic government, foster independent media, increase energy security, and promote inclusive economic growth in both rural and urban areas;

(4) encourages the Government of Moldova to continue implementing crucial reforms to increase the capacity of and trust in democratic institutions, strengthen the justice sector through anti-corruption efforts, and maintain open space for civil society to operate;

(5) urges the Government of Moldova to enlist civil society in anti-corruption efforts, in accordance with Article 13 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, to which Moldova is a signatory;

(6) reaffirms the importance of and support for free, fair, and transparent elections in Moldova;

(7) supports efforts to counter disinformation campaigns in Eastern Europe in ways that are consistent with democratic principles;

(8) calls upon the Government of the Russian Federation to fulfill its commitments made at the Istanbul summit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in 1999, and to withdraw its military forces and munitions from within the internationally recognized territory of Moldova;

(9) calls upon the Government of the Russian Federation to refrain from issuing economic threats or exerting pressure against Moldova and to cease any and all actions that support separatist movements within the territory of Moldova; and

(10) urges all parties to refrain from unilateral actions that may undermine efforts to achieve a peaceful resolution, and supports efforts to resolve the Transnistria issue through a comprehensive settlement that secures Moldova's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

SENATE RESOLUTION 630—CELEBRATING THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN'S CONGRESSIONAL STAFF ASSOCIATION

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 630

Whereas, in August 2008, a bipartisan group of female congressional staff members founded the Women's Congressional Staff Association (referred to in this preamble as the "WCSA"), the first official staff association