

Brett M. Kavanaugh, of Maryland, to be an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. NELSON (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 3525. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7521 Paula Drive in Tampa, Florida, as the “Major Andreas O’Keeffe Post Office Building”; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 3526. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to replace the windfall elimination provision with a formula equalizing benefits for certain individuals with non-covered employment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 3527. A bill to extend the authorization for the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. 3528. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care and medical services to veterans, members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, and dependents who were stationed at Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda, Michigan, and were exposed to volatile organic compounds, to provide for a presumption of service connection for those veterans and members of the reserve components, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. 3529. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to furnish hospital care and medical services to veterans, members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, and dependents who were stationed at military installations at which they were exposed to perfluoroctanoic acid or other per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, to provide for a presumption of service connection for those veterans and members of the reserve components, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KING, Mr. JONES, Mr. KAINES, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 3530. A bill to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 3531. A bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to provide coverage under Medicare and Medicaid of services furnished by freestanding emergency centers; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HATCH:

S. 3532. A bill to authorize the United States Postal Service to provide certain non-postal property, products, and services on behalf of State, local, and tribal governments; read the first time.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. PETERS, and Mrs. FISCHER):

S. Res. 660. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of September 23 through September 29, 2018, as Rail Safety Week in the United States, and supporting the goals and ideals of Rail Safety Week to reduce rail-related accidents, fatalities, and injuries; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BROWN, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 661. A resolution expressing support for the designation of September 2018 as “Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month” in order to educate communities across the United States about sickle cell disease and the need for research, early detection methods, effective treatments, and preventative care programs with respect to sickle cell disease, complications from sickle cell disease, and conditions related to sickle cell disease; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CARPER):

S. Res. 662. A resolution designating September 2018 as “Campus Fire Safety Month”; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. STABENOW:

S. Con. Res. 49. A concurrent resolution providing for a correction in the enrollment of S. 2553; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 793

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 793, a bill to prohibit sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 1364

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. Kaine) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1364, a bill to establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of the American Latino, and for other purposes.

S. 2127

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2127, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States merchant mariners of World War II, in recognition of their dedicated and vital service during World War II.

S. 2568

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2568, a bill to amend section 5000A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an additional religious exemption from the individual health coverage mandate, and for other purposes.

S. 2852

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

DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2852, a bill to reauthorize certain programs under the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act.

S. 2918

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the names of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2918, a bill to amend the Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to protect civil rights and otherwise prevent meaningful harm to third parties, and for other purposes.

S. 2971

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2971, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit animal fighting in the United States territories.

S. 3049

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3049, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require paper ballots and risk-limiting audits in all Federal elections, and for other purposes.

S. 3063

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3063, a bill to delay the re-imposition of the annual fee on health insurance providers until after 2020.

S. 3181

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 3181, a bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to include in periodic health assessments, separation history and physical examinations, and other assessments an evaluation of whether a member of the Armed Forces has been exposed to open burn pits or toxic airborne chemicals, and for other purposes.

S. 3339

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 3339, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to permit other courts to transfer certain cases to United States Tax Court.

S. 3359

At the request of Ms. HARRIS, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3359, a bill to posthumously award a Congressional Gold Medal to Aretha Franklin in recognition of her contributions of outstanding artistic and historical significance to culture in the United States.

S. 3440

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

KING) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. RES. 220

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 220, a resolution expressing solidarity with Falun Gong practitioners who have lost lives, freedoms, and rights for adhering to their beliefs and practices and condemning the practice of non-consenting organ harvesting, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 527

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) 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.

S. RES. 633

At the request of Mrs. McCASKILL, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 633, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that Congress should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the United States Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the Federal Government and is not subject to privatization.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Ms. WARREN, Mr. KING, Mr. JONES, Mr. Kaine, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 3530. A bill to reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I am pleased to be joined by a group of members on both sides of the aisle and in both bodies in introducing legislation today to renew the law that expands the reach of libraries and museums and enables them to better serve their communities. These vital institutions educate, inform, engage, and connect people from all walks of life.

Our legislation, the Museum and Library Services Act of 2018, is similar to legislation I also introduced on a bipartisan basis in December. That legislation was developed with input and insights from the library and museum communities. Since that time, it became apparent in the library commu-

nity that a vital change was needed to ensure that funding increases for the State formula grant program would be more broadly shared by States around the Nation. Under the current formula, smaller States have seen little in the way of new funding even as funding significantly increased over the last few years. The last time we addressed this issue was in 2003, and an update, while ensuring no State would lose funding, is needed today so that more communities can benefit from increased investments in our Federal library program.

I am grateful our revised bill has the support of the American Library Association, the American Alliance of Museums, and many of their affiliated associations. I thank Senators COLLINS, GILLIBRAND, MURKOWSKI, and our many colleagues who are joining us in introducing this bill today. I look forward to working with them and the entire Senate on moving this bill swiftly to passage.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 660—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 23 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29, 2018, AS RAIL SAFETY WEEK IN THE UNITED STATES, AND SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF RAIL SAFETY WEEK TO REDUCE RAIL-RELATED ACCIDENTS, FATALITIES, AND INJURIES

Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mr. THUNE, Mr. PETERS, and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 660

Whereas the first Rail Safety Week was held from September 24 through September 30, 2017, by the national education safety nonprofit Operation Lifesaver, the Department of Transportation, and other organizations;

Whereas Rail Safety Week was launched to raise awareness about the need for increased education on how to be safe around highway-rail grade crossings and railroad tracks, and to highlight efforts to further reduce collisions, injuries, and fatalities;

Whereas highway-rail grade crossing and trespassing accidents constituted approximately 96 percent of all rail related fatalities in fiscal year 2017;

Whereas the number of public crossings has declined 8 percent, while the number of gates increased by 30 percent, since 2005;

Whereas, in 2017, 49 percent of all grade crossing collisions and 61 percent of all fatal grade crossing collisions occurred at gated crossings;

Whereas while grade crossing injuries are 16 percent lower, grade crossing fatalities are 6 percent lower, and grade crossing collisions are 13 percent lower since 2008, challenges remain;

Whereas, in 2017, there were 824 rail-related fatalities and 8,712 rail-related injuries in the United States;

Whereas preliminary Federal statistics show that more than 2,117 highway-grade

crossing crashes occurred during 2017, resulting in 272 persons killed and another 833 injured across the United States;

Whereas trespassing incidents on railroad property resulted in 512 persons killed and another 508 injured across the Nation in 2017;

Whereas many collisions between trains and motor vehicles or pedestrians could have been prevented by increased education, engineering, and enforcement;

Whereas Operation Lifesaver, the foremost public information and education program on rail safety, administers a public education program about grade-crossing safety and prevention of trespassing;

Whereas during Rail Safety Week, from September 23 through 29, and throughout the year, everyone is encouraged to observe added caution as motorists or pedestrians approach tracks or trains;

Whereas, for the first time, the United States and Canada will observe Rail Safety Week concurrently; and

Whereas this important observance should lead to greater safety awareness and a reduction in highway-rail grade crossing crashes and pedestrian and railroad incidents: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of Rail Safety Week;

(2) expresses strong support for the goals and ideals of Rail Safety Week and efforts to reduce rail-related accidents, fatalities, and injuries; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to participate in Rail Safety Week events and activities and to educate themselves and others on how to be safe around railroad tracks.

SENATE RESOLUTION 661—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 2018 AS “SICKLE CELL DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH” IN ORDER TO EDUCATE COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES ABOUT SICKLE CELL DISEASE AND THE NEED FOR RESEARCH, EARLY DETECTION METHODS, EFFECTIVE TREATMENTS, AND PREVENTATIVE CARE PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO SICKLE CELL DISEASE, COMPLICATIONS FROM SICKLE CELL DISEASE, AND CONDITIONS RELATED TO SICKLE CELL DISEASE

Mr. SCOTT (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BROWN, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. COONS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 661

Whereas sickle cell disease (referred to in this preamble as “SCD”) is an inherited blood disorder that is a major health problem in the United States and worldwide;

Whereas SCD causes the rapid destruction of sickle cells, which results in multiple medical complications, including anemia, jaundice, gallstones, strokes, restricted blood flow, damaged tissue in the liver, spleen, and kidneys, and death;

Whereas SCD causes episodes of considerable pain in the arms, legs, chest, and abdomen of an individual;

Whereas SCD affects an estimated 100,000 individuals in the United States;

Whereas approximately 1,000 babies are born with SCD each year in the United