

S. 794

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 794, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act in order to improve the process whereby Medicare administrative contractors issue local coverage determinations under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1303

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1303, a bill to prohibit discrimination in adoption or foster care placements based on the sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status of any prospective adoptive or foster parent, or the sexual orientation or gender identity of the child involved.

S. 1364

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) 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. 2095

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2095, a bill to regulate assault weapons, to ensure that the right to keep and bear arms is not unlimited, and for other purposes.

S. 2364

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2364, a bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 to provide to State infrastructure financing authorities additional opportunities to receive loans under that Act to support drinking water and clean water State revolving funds to deliver water infrastructure to communities across the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2852

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2852, a bill to reauthorize certain programs under the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Reauthorization Act.

S. 2971

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) 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. 3377

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3377, a bill to require the purchase of certain items related to national security according to certain criteria.

S. 3507

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3507, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to prescribe regulations providing that a presumption of service connection is warranted for a disease with a positive association with exposure to a herbicide agent, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 3533. A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain river segments within the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am introducing, along with my colleagues Senator WHITEHOUSE, Senator BLUMENTHAL, and Senator MURPHY, legislation to designate river segments within the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed as part of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Following more than three years of intense study, this legislation would formally recognize the recreational, natural, and historical qualities of portions of the Beaver, Chipuxet, Green Fall-Ashaway, Pawcatuck, Queen-Usquepaugh, Shunock, and Wood Rivers in Rhode Island and Connecticut while providing access to Federal resources and promoting strong partnerships for their restoration and protection.

The Wood-Pawcatuck watershed is a national treasure that not only holds natural and scenic value, but is also an important economic driver for the area. Indeed, the twelve local river communities experience direct economic benefits from their proximity to these rivers through increased recreation and tourism. The watershed provides a range of opportunities for visitors, from viewing early industrial mill ruins, to trout fishing, to bird watching, to kayaking.

I have long been a supporter of protecting and restoring these rivers, which is why I sponsored the Wood-Pawcatuck Watershed Protection Act in 2013. The study that was initiated by that legislation has been a critical tool for bringing together stakeholders from Rhode Island and Connecticut including representatives from State agencies, local governments, and conservation groups in order to develop a collaborative path forward. The resulting stewardship plan, which was formally adopted by the study committee and supported by all twelve local river communities, builds upon currently existing efforts to preserve and manage the river ecosystems while also considering what steps will need to be taken

collectively in the future to protect them.

I would like to commend Representatives LANGEVIN, CICILLINE, and COURTNEY for introducing companion legislation. It is particularly fitting this week, as we commemorate the 50th anniversary of the landmark Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, that we are continuing our work to protect these special places. I look forward to working with all of my colleagues to pass this legislation so that we can preserve the rivers of the Wood-Pawcatuck watershed for the enjoyment of future generations.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 663—RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST DELIVERY OF THE SIKORSKY UH-60 BLACK HAWK HELICOPTER TO THE ARMY

Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MURPHY, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. NELSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 663

Whereas, on March 5, 1923, Sikorsky was founded by aircraft engineer Igor Sikorsky, an immigrant to the United States who was born in Kiev, Ukraine;

Whereas, in 1955, Sikorsky opened its doors in Stratford, Connecticut;

Whereas the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter was designed to be the primary medium-lift helicopter for the Army, with revolutionary design features for combat helicopters, including—

- (1) the ability to absorb high-impact velocities by means of—
  - (A) a self-sealing fuel system;
  - (B) crash-resistant stroking crew seats; and
  - (C) high energy-absorbing landing gear;
- (2) low detectability;
- (3) highly capable nap-of-the-earth flight;
- (4) tolerance to small arms fire up to medium-caliber projectiles;
- (5) hardened flight controls; and
- (6) redundant avionics and hydraulic systems;

Whereas the primary mission of the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter is as a troop carrier and a logistical support aircraft for air assault missions, but the aircraft may be outfitted to execute medical and casualty evacuation, search and rescue, command and control, armed escort, electronic warfare, external lift, firefighting, and executive transport or VIP missions;

Whereas, on October 31, 1978, the first production UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter was delivered to the Army, and 2018 marks the 40th anniversary of that historic event;

Whereas, beginning in 1976 and ending in 1989, the UH-60A model Black Hawk was in uninterrupted production;

Whereas the UH-60A model Black Hawk was replaced at the end of the 1980s by the more powerful UH-60L model Black Hawk, which was replaced by the even more advanced UH-60M model Black Hawk in 2007;

Whereas, since 1978, Sikorsky has delivered more than 2,300 UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters to the Army, making the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter the backbone of Army aviation;

Whereas, as of April 2018, more than 4,000 H-60 Black Hawk helicopters of all models are in service worldwide in all branches of the Armed Forces and the armed forces of 28 other countries;

Whereas, as of April 2018, UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters have flown nearly 10,000,000 flight hours, more than 2,000,000 of which have been in combat;

Whereas the 1,000th UH-60M model Black Hawk helicopter will be delivered in October 2018, which highlights the importance that warfighters of the United States place in this venerable aircraft;

Whereas, for 40 years since 1978, the remarkable UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter has—

(1) fought its way in and out of countless combat zones to deliver and extract troops;

(2) saved thousands of lives as a medical or casualty evacuation platform;

(3) provided critical supplies to troops;

(4) delivered emergency supplies during natural disasters and humanitarian crises; and

(5) performed as an aerial firefighter and border patroller;

Whereas approximately 4,000 workers in the United States support the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter program, including in roles of final assembly, paint, engineering, finance, program management, and contracts;

Whereas the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter program has significant presence throughout the United States, including in the States of Alabama, Alaska, California, Connecticut, Georgia, Kentucky, New York, North Carolina, Texas, and Virginia and;

Whereas Sikorsky is committed to the modernization and sustainment of the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter program since the Army plans to operate the UH-60M Black Hawk helicopter into the 2070s: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 40th anniversary of the first delivery of the Sikorsky UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter to the Army;

(2) commends Sikorsky for its commitment to—

(A) developing premier rotorcraft such as the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter; and

(B) the modernization and sustainment of the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter into the 2070s; and

(3) pledges robust and continued congressional support for the UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 664—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 8, 2018, AS “NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY”

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 664

Whereas hydrogen, which has an atomic mass of 1.008, is the most abundant chemical substance in the universe;

Whereas the United States is a world leader in the development and deployment of fuel cell and hydrogen technologies;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cells played an instrumental role in the United States space program, helping the United States achieve the mission of landing a man on the moon;

Whereas private industry, Federal and State governments, national laboratories, and institutions of higher education continue to improve fuel cell and hydrogen technologies to address the most pressing energy, environmental, and economic issues of the United States;

Whereas fuel cells utilizing hydrogen and hydrogen-rich fuels to generate electricity are clean, efficient, and resilient technologies being sold for stationary and backup power, zero-emission light duty motor vehicles and buses, industrial vehicles, and portable power;

Whereas stationary fuel cells are being placed in service for continuous and backup power to provide business and energy consumers with reliable power in the event of grid outages;

Whereas stationary fuel cells can help reduce water use, as compared to traditional power generation technologies;

Whereas fuel cell electric light duty motor vehicles and buses that utilize hydrogen can completely replicate the experience of internal combustion vehicles, including comparable range and refueling times;

Whereas hydrogen fuel cell industrial vehicles are being deployed at logistical hubs and warehouses across the United States and exported to facilities in Europe and Asia;

Whereas hydrogen is a nontoxic gas that can be derived from a variety of domestically available traditional and renewable resources, including solar, wind, biogas, and the abundant supply of natural gas in the United States;

Whereas hydrogen and fuel cells can store energy to help enhance the grid and maximize opportunities to deploy renewable energy;

Whereas the United States produces and uses more than 11,000,000 metric tons of hydrogen per year; and

Whereas engineers and safety code and standard professionals have developed consensus-based protocols for safe delivery, handling, and use of hydrogen: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate designates October 8, 2018, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4031. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 302, to provide protections for certain sports medicine professionals who provide certain medical services in a secondary State; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4031. Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 302, to provide protections for certain sports medicine professionals who provide certain medical services in a secondary State; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title IV of division B, add the following:

#### SEC. \_\_\_\_ IMPROVING THE ESSENTIAL AIR SERVICE PROGRAM.

Section 41731 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN LOCATIONS WITH HIGH MILITARY USE.—Subparagraph (D) of subsection (a)(1) shall not apply with respect to any location that—

“(1) is certified under part 139 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations;

“(2) is not owned by the Federal government; and

“(3) for which not less than 10 percent of airport operations in 2017 were by aircraft of the Armed Forces.”.

#### STB INFORMATION SECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 4921 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

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

The clerk will report the bill by title. The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 4921) to require the Surface Transportation Board to implement certain recommendations of the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the bill be considered read a third time and passed and the motion to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table.

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

The bill (H.R. 4921) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### NATIONAL HYDROGEN AND FUEL CELL DAY

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 664, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 664) designating October 8, 2018, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. McCONNELL. I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 664) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)

#### APPOINTMENT

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair, on behalf of the President pro tempore, and in consultation with the Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on Finance, pursuant to Public Law 103-296, appoints the following individual as a member of the Social Security Advisory Board: Robert Charles Joondeph of Oregon.

#### ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the