

and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 3763. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to establish a methodology for determining State allotments for Medicaid disproportionate share hospital payments that is based on State poverty levels, to require States to prioritize disproportionate share hospital payments on the basis of Medicaid inpatient utilization and low-income utilization rates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SCHATZ:

S. 3764. A bill to amend the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to require the pre- and post-application reporting of, and to establish buffer zones for, restricted use pesticides, to prohibit the use of pesticides containing chlorpyrifos, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 3765. A bill to require the Secretary of Commerce, acting through the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, to help facilitate the adoption of composite technology in infrastructure in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 3766. A bill to establish American opportunity accounts, to modify estate and gift tax rules, to reform the taxation of capital income, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 3767. A bill to require Executive agencies to make public all funding reprogramming requests, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. ROBERTS (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. ROUNDS, and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 3768. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to remove the 96-hour physician certification requirement for inpatient critical access hospital services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 3769. A bill to establish an Early Federal Pell Grant Commitment Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 3770. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to expand the scope of transparency reporting requirements related to the ownership or investment interests of health care providers and others, and to increase the penalties associated with violating such requirements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 3771. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit treatment of student loan payments as elective deferrals for purposes of employer matching contributions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 3772. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a contribution limit and increased minimum distributions for certain retirement plans with large account balances; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 3773. A bill to require review and approval for future research on nonhuman pri-

mates, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 3774. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to establish the position of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Space, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. WARREN:

S. 3775. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Drug Manufacturing; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BROWN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 3776. A bill to improve Federal efforts with respect to the prevention of maternal mortality, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WARNER, Ms. HASSAN, and Ms. STABENOW):

S. 3777. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish a tiger team dedicated to addressing the difficulties encountered by the Department of Veterans Affairs in carrying out section 3313 of title 38, United States Code, after the enactment of sections 107 and 501 of the Harry W. Colmery Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2017; considered and passed.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 794

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) 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. 941

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 941, a bill to withdraw certain National Forest System land in the Emigrant Crevice area located in the Custer Gallatin National Forest, Park County, Montana, from the mining and mineral leasing laws of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1101

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1101, a bill to eliminate discrimination and promote women's health and economic security by ensuring reasonable workplace accommodations for workers whose ability to perform the functions of a job are limited by pregnancy, childbirth, or a related medical condition.

S. 1906

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Sen-

ator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1906, a bill to posthumously award the Congressional Gold Medal to each of Glen Doherty, Tyrone Woods, J. Christopher Stevens, and Sean Smith in recognition of their contributions to the Nation.

S. 2274

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2274, a bill to provide for the compensation of Federal employees affected by lapses in appropriations.

S. 2387

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2387, a bill to provide better care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their caregivers while accelerating progress toward prevention strategies, disease modifying treatments, and, ultimately, a cure.

S. 3239

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3239, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint commemorative coins in recognition of the 75th anniversary of the integration of baseball.

S. 3253

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3253, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide authority to add additional vaccines to the list of taxable vaccines.

S. 3449

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3449, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain tax credits related to electric cars, and for other purposes.

S. 3568

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3568, a bill to amend the Social Security Act and Public Health Service Act to improve obstetric care in rural areas.

S. 3604

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3604, a bill to require a study to determine the best available estimate of the total amount of nonhighway recreational fuel taxes received by the Secretary of the Treasury.

S. 3649

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL)

were added as cosponsors of S. 3649, a bill to provide for programs to help reduce the risk that prisoners will recidivate upon release from prison, and for other purposes.

S. 3664

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3664, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to create a national zero-emission vehicle standard, and for other purposes.

S. 3720

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3720, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to provide loans for the acquisition of electric buses and related infrastructure.

AMENDMENT NO. 4121

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4121 intended to be proposed to S. 756, a bill to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4123

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4123 intended to be proposed to S. 756, a bill to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4132

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4132 intended to be proposed to S. 756, a bill to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4142

At the request of Mr. SASSE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4142 intended to be proposed to S. 756, a bill to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4143

At the request of Mr. SASSE, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4143 intended to be proposed to S. 756, a bill to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4144

At the request of Mr. SASSE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4144 intended to be proposed to S. 756, a bill to reauthorize and amend the Marine Debris Act to promote international action to reduce marine debris, and for other purposes.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 3771. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit treatment of student loan payments as elective deferrals for purposes of employer matching contributions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today I have introduced the Retirement Parity for Student Loans Act. This legislation would permit employers to make matching contributions to workers under 401(k) and similar types of retirement plans as if worker student loan payments were salary reduction contributions to the retirement plan. This legislation will help those workers who cannot afford to both save for retirement and pay off their student loan debt by providing them with employer contributions to build their retirement savings. This legislation is a common sense fix to our Nation's rules for employer-sponsored retirement plans and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BROWN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 3776. A bill to improve Federal efforts with respect to the prevention of maternal mortality, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. 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. 3776

*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 "Mothers and Offspring Mortality and Morbidity Awareness Act" or the "MOMMA's Act".

### SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Every year, across the United States, 4,000,000 women give birth, about 700 women suffer fatal complications during pregnancy, while giving birth or during the postpartum period, and 70,000 women suffer near-fatal, partum-related complications.

(2) The maternal mortality rate is often used as a proxy to measure the overall health of a population. While the infant mortality rate in the United States has reached its lowest point, the risk of death for women in the United States during pregnancy, childbirth, or the postpartum period is higher than such risk in many other developed nations. The estimated maternal mortality rate (per 100,000 live births) for the 48 contiguous States and Washington, DC increased from 18.8 percent in 2000 to 23.8 percent in 2014 to 26.6 percent in 2018. This estimated rate is on par with such rate for underdeveloped nations such as Iraq and Afghanistan.

(3) International studies estimate the 2015 maternal mortality rate in the United States as 26.4 per 100,000 live births, which is almost

twice the 2015 World Health Organization estimation of 14 per 100,000 live births.

(4) It is estimated that more than 60 percent of maternal deaths in the United States are preventable.

(5) African-American women are 3 to 4 times more likely to die from causes related to pregnancy and childbirth compared to non-Hispanic White women.

(6) The findings described in paragraphs (1) through (5) are of major concern to researchers, academics, members of the business community, and providers across the obstetrical continuum represented by organizations such as March of Dimes, the Preeclampsia Foundation, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the Society for Maternal-Fetal Medicine, the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses, the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative, Black Women's Health Imperative, the National Birth Equity Collaborative, Black Mamas Matter Alliance, EverThrive Illinois, the National Association of Certified Professional Midwives, PCOS Challenge: The National Polycystic Ovary Syndrome Association, and the American College of Nurse Midwives.

(7) According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the maternal mortality rate varies drastically for women by race and ethnicity. There are 12.7 deaths per 100,000 live births for White women, 43.5 deaths per 100,000 live births for African-American women, and 14.4 deaths per 100,000 live births for women of other ethnicities. While maternal mortality disparately impacts African-American women, this urgent public health crisis traverses race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, educational background, and geography.

(8) Hemorrhage, cardiovascular and coronary conditions, cardiomyopathy, infection, embolism, mental health conditions, preeclampsia and eclampsia, polycystic ovary syndrome, infection and sepsis, and anesthesia complications are the predominant medical causes of maternal-related deaths and complications. Most of these conditions are largely preventable or manageable.

(9) Oral health is an important part of perinatal health. Reducing bacteria in a woman's mouth during pregnancy can significantly reduce her risk of developing oral diseases and spreading decay-causing bacteria to her baby. Moreover, some evidence suggests that women with periodontal disease during pregnancy could be at greater risk for poor birth outcomes, such as preeclampsia, pre-term birth, and low birth weight. Furthermore, a woman's oral health during pregnancy is a good predictor of her newborn's oral health, and since mothers can unintentionally spread oral bacteria to their babies, putting their children at higher risk for tooth decay, prevention efforts should happen even before children are born, as a matter of pre-pregnancy health and prenatal care during pregnancy.

(10) The United States has not been able to submit a formal maternal mortality rate to international data repositories since 2007. Thus, no official maternal mortality rate exists for the United States. There can be no maternal mortality rate without streamlining maternal mortality-related data from the State level and extrapolating such data to the Federal level.

(11) In the United States, death reporting and analysis is a State function rather than a Federal process. States report all deaths—including maternal deaths—on a semi-voluntary basis, without standardization across States. While the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has the capacity and system for collecting death-related data based on