S. 916

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 916, a bill to improve Federal efforts with respect to the prevention of maternal mortality, and for other purposes.

S. 966

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 966, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize the physician self-referral prohibitions to promote care coordination in the merit-based incentive payment system and to facilitate physician practice participation in alternative payment models under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1004

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1004, a bill to increase the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Office of Field Operations officers and support staff and to require reports that identify staffing, infrastructure, and equipment needed to enhance security at ports of entry.

S. 1044

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1044, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to foreign traffickers of illicit opioids, and for other purposes.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1081, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to provide permanent, dedicated funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and for other purposes.

S. 1126

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1126, a bill to provide better care 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. 1163

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1163, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an exclusion for assistance provided to participants in certain veterinary student loan repayment or forgiveness programs.

S. 1223

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1223, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 1231

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1231, a bill to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program.

S. 1317

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1317, a bill to facilitate the availability, development, and environmentally responsible production of domestic resources to meet national material or critical mineral needs, and for other purposes.

S. 1326

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1326, a bill to amend the Animal Health Protection Act to establish a grant program for research on chronic wasting disease, and for other purposes.

S. 1354

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1354, a bill to require certain protections for student loan borrowers, and for other purposes.

S. 1370

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1370, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat certain military survivor benefits as earned income for purposes of the kiddie tax.

S. RES. 120

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 120, a resolution opposing efforts to delegitimize the State of Israel and the Global Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement targeting Israel.

S. RES. 176

At the request of Mr. HAWLEY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 176, a resolution condemning the terrorist attacks on Christian worshipers in Sri Lanka on Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019, and standing with the Government of Sri Lanka to encourage the protection and preservation of religious liberties.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 1412. A bill to authorize veterans service organizations to solicit donations at post offices before and after Federal holidays; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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. 1412

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 ''Restoring Access, Improving Service to Enable Veterans Engaging To Fundraise Act of 2019'' or the ''RAISE VET FUND Act''.

SEC. 2. SOLICITATION BY VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS AT POST OFFICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 404 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) SOLICITATION BY VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS AT POST OFFICES.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

''(A) the term 'business day' means a day on which a post office is open;

''(B) the term 'Federal holiday' means—

''(i) a legal public holiday under section 6103(a) of title 5; and

''(ii) Flag Day, as designated under section 110 of title 36;

''(C) the term 'holiday period' means the period beginning 2 business days before, and ending 2 business days after, a Federal holiday; and

''(D) the term 'veterans service organization' means an organization recognized by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the representation of veterans under section 5902 of title 38.

''(2) AUTHORIZATION.—The Postal Service shall permit a veterans service organization to solicit donations by distributing items that are symbols for veterans at a post office on any business day during a holiday period.''.

(b) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the United States Postal Service shall promulgate regulations governing the use of post offices by veterans service organizations, including with respect to scheduling, under subsection (f) of section 404 of title 39, United States Code, as added by subsection (a).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subsection (f) of section 404 of title 39, United States Code, as added by subsection (a), shall take effect on the date that is 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Ms. HASSAN):

S. 1414. A bill to provide bankruptcy relief for student borrowers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. 1414

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 ''Student Borrower Bankruptcy Relief Act of 2019''.

SEC. 2. AMENDMENTS.

(a) EXCEPTION TO DISCHARGE.—Section 523 of title 11, United States Code, is amended in subsection (a), by striking paragraph (8).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 1328(a)(2) of title 11, United States Code, is amended by striking ''(8),''.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.

(a) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as provided in subsection (b), this Act and the amendments made by this Act shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) APPLICATION OF AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by this Act shall apply only with respect to cases commenced under title 11, United States Code, on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 198—CONDEMNING BRUNEI'S DRAMATIC HUMAN RIGHTS BACKSLIDING

Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. RUBIO, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 198

Whereas Brunei has been led since 1967 by one of the world's longest-reigning absolute monarchs, Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah;

Whereas Brunei gained independence in 1984;

Whereas emergency powers in place in Brunei since 1962 allow the sultan to govern with few limitations to his authority;

Whereas, according to the United States Department of State Brunei 2018 Human Rights Report, human rights issues included censorship, interferences with the rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of association, crimes involving violence or threats targeting homosexuality, and exploitation of foreign workers, including through forced labor;

Whereas Brunei's media are neither free nor diverse, with broadcasting dominated by the state and private media owned or controlled by the royal family;

Whereas homosexuality has been illegal in Brunei, carrying a punishment of up to ten years in prison;

Whereas in 2013, the Government of Brunei announced it was imposing new laws that included harsher punishments of death by stoning for adultery and homosexual relations;

Whereas international condemnation resulted in a delay in carrying out the provisions;

Whereas, in March 2019, the Government of Brunei announced it was going forward with the penal code to take effect April 3, 2019;

Whereas the law includes, among other things, death by stoning for male same-sex relations, adultery, and blasphemy, amputation of limbs for theft, caning for female same-sex relations, and criminalization of exposure of children to the beliefs and practices of differing religions;

Whereas, on April 2, 2019, the Department of State said Brunei's new laws and associated penalties run ''counter to its international human rights obligations including with respect to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment'';

Whereas, on April 18, 2019, the European Parliament adopted a resolution strongly condemning Brunei for introducing ''retrograde'' laws, calling for their immediate repeal, urging that Brunei uphold its international obligations under ''international human rights instruments, including with regard to sexual minorities, religious minorities and non-believers,'' and suggesting visa bans and asset freezes should the laws not be repealed;

Whereas the United Nations and international human rights organizations have denounced the laws, arguing they amount to torture and a violation of human rights;

Whereas United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet urged Brunei to repeal the laws, which include punishments she called ''cruel, inhuman, and degrading'' and a ''serious setback for human rights protections.'';

Whereas Human Rights Watch stated, ''Brunei's new penal code is barbaric to the core, imposing archaic punishments for acts that shouldn't even be crimes. . .Sultan Hassanal should immediately suspend amputations, stoning, and all other rights-abusing provisions and punishments.'';

Whereas Amnesty International stated, ''Brunei's Penal Code is a deeply flawed piece of legislation containing a range of provisions that violate human rights. . .As well as imposing cruel, inhuman and degrading punishments, it blatantly restricts the rights to freedom of expression, religion and belief, and codifies discrimination against women and girls.''; and

Whereas the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has also noted that the implementation of these discriminatory laws will drive people underground and out of reach of life-saving HIV treatment and prevention services, increases stigma, and gives license to discrimination, violence, and harassment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the Government of Brunei's further criminalization and barbaric punishments regarding sexual orientation, adultery, and relations between persons of the same sex;

(2) calls on the Government of Brunei to expeditiously repeal such measures; and

(3) supports the withdrawal and denial of United States visas for any Brunei official responsible for passage or implementation of such laws until they are repealed.

SENATE RESOLUTION 199—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF JUDGE DAMON JEROME KEITH

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 199

Whereas Judge Damon Keith was born on July 4, 1922, in Detroit, Michigan, and died at his home in Detroit, Michigan, surrounded by family and loved ones, on April 28, 2019;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith received a bachelor of arts from West Virginia State University, a juris doctor from Howard University School of Law, and a master of laws from Wayne State University Law School;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith served in the United States Army from 1943 to 1946, when he was discharged as a sergeant;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith devoted his life to public service and served more than 50 years on the Federal bench, where he was a champion for civil rights and individual liberties for all;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith served as one of the first cochairmen of the Michigan Civil Rights Commission at its inception in 1964, where he worked to oppose discrimination and enforce equal protection under the law;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith was first nominated to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan in 1967 by President Lyndon Johnson and served as the District Court's first African American chief judge from 1975 to 1977;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith became the sixth African American to serve on the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit when he was nominated by President Jimmy Carter in 1977, and he served as senior judge on the court from May 1, 1995, until his passing;

Whereas, in a 1970 decision, Judge Damon Keith upheld the civil rights of students in Pontiac, Michigan, when he ordered a bus policy and new boundaries for schools in Pontiac, Michigan, in order to end racial segregation;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith defended the protections guaranteed under the Fourth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States when he held in United States v. Sinclair, 321 F. Supp. 1074 (E.D. Mich. 1971) that the United States Government must obtain a warrant before beginning domestic electronic surveillance, and that landmark decision was unanimously upheld by the Supreme Court of the United States;

Whereas, in Garrett v. City of Hamtramck, 394 F. Supp. 1151 (E.D. Mich. 1975), Judge Damon Keith ruled against housing discrimination and ordered the city of Hamtramck, Michigan, to relocate approximately 500 African Americans who had been displaced by federally supported urban renewal projects;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith worked throughout his career to safeguard the civil liberties, civil rights, and voting rights of all people of the United States while opposing housing, employment, and racial discrimination;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith has received more than 40 honorary degrees as well as the Spingarn Medal from the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the highest honor awarded by the organization for distinguished achievement, and the Edward J. Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award, the highest award that can be bestowed on a member of the Federal judiciary;

Whereas Judge Damon Keith inspired generations of lawyers that served under him as clerks and influenced the State of Michigan for decades; and

Whereas Judge Damon Keith, who coined the phrase ''democracies die behind closed doors'', will be remembered for his dedication to upholding the Constitution of the United States and his commitment to justice: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the life and legacy of Judge Damon Jerome Keith and his dedication to upholding civil rights.

SENATE RESOLUTION 200—AUTHORIZING THE TAKING OF A PHOTOGRAPH IN THE SENATE CHAMBER

Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 200

Resolved, That paragraph 1 of rule IV of the Rules for the Regulation of the Senate Wing of the United States Capitol and Senate Office Buildings (prohibiting the taking of pictures in the Senate Chamber) be temporarily suspended for the sole and specific purpose of permitting the Senate Photographic Studio to photograph the Senate in actual session