

percent, though later commitments pledged to continue funding at past levels. This continued funding is appreciated as restoration efforts will only become more expensive and more difficult if they are not addressed in the coming years. The federal government needs to remain an active partner with the Great Lakes region; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That we memorialize the Congress of the United States to continue full funding of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative; and be it further

Resolved, That we encourage that funding be prioritized towards cleaning up and delisting the remaining Great Lakes areas of concern and that a detailed comprehensive strategy and schedule be developed to direct the use of funding for the areas of concern; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and the members of the Michigan congressional delegation.

POM-80. A resolution adopted by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, Ohio, urging the Ohio congressional delegation to support the proposed Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act; to the Committee on Finance.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JOHNSON, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment and with a pre-amble:

S. Con. Res. 15. A concurrent resolution expressing support for the designation of October 28, 2019, as "Honoring the Nation's First Responders Day" (Rept. No. 116-43).

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 Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 1703. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 1704. A bill to provide grants to States to ensure that all students in the middle grades are taught an academically rigorous curriculum with effective supports so that students complete the middle grades prepared for success in secondary school and postsecondary endeavors, to improve State and local educational agency policies and program relating to the academic achievement of students in the middle grades, to develop and implement effective middle grades models for struggling students, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself and Mr. GARDNER):

S. 1705. A bill to authorize the Every Word We Utter Monument to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. GARDNER (for himself and Mr. COONS):

S. 1706. A bill to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to encourage

the increased use of performance contracting in Federal facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KING, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 1707. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to assist States to rehabilitate or replace certain bridges, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. JONES:

S. 1708. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a refundable tax credit for the installation of a storm shelter at a qualified residence; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JONES (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 1709. A bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to establish a grant program to improve evacuation routes in rural communities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 1710. A bill to prohibit funds made available under the airport improvement program from being provided to entities that have violated the intellectual property rights of United States entities and therefore pose a threat to national security, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 1711. A bill to require online retailers to disclose the country of origin of products imported into the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1712. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to encourage the development and use of DISARM antimicrobial drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1713. A bill to secure the technological edge of the United States in civil and military aviation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 1714. A bill to amend the charter of the Gold Star Wives of America to remove the restriction on the federally chartered corporation, and directors and officers of the corporation, attempting to influence legislation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 1715. A bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to all Gold Star Families in recognition of their sacrifice and service to the United States; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 1716. A bill to provide for the issuance of a "Gold Star Families Forever Stamp" to honor the sacrifices of families who have lost a loved one who was a member of the Armed Forces in combat; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HAWLEY (for himself, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. Res. 228. A resolution supporting measures taken by the Government of Taiwan to deter, or if so compelled, defeat, aggression by the Government of the People's Republic of China; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. Res. 229. A resolution relative to the death of the Honorable William Thad Cochran, former United States Senator for the State of Mississippi; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REED, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BROWN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. JONES, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. KING, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. COLLINS, and Ms. MCSALLY):

S. Res. 230. A resolution recognizing the significant milestone of Senior Corps volunteers serving 50,000,000 hours in 2018; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 9

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 9, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to clarify the Food and Drug Administration's jurisdiction over certain tobacco products, and to protect jobs and small businesses involved in the sale, manufacturing and distribution of traditional and premium cigars.

S. 10

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 10, a bill to require the Inter-Agency Task Force on Harmful Algal Blooms and Hypoxia to develop a plan for reducing, mitigating, and controlling harmful algal blooms and hypoxia in South Florida, and for other purposes.

S. 80

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 80, a bill to repeal the annual fee on health insurance providers enacted by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. 91

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 91, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize per diem payments under comprehensive service programs for homeless veterans to furnish care to dependents of homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 133

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin

(Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 133, 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. 178

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 178, a bill to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China.

S. 192

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 192, a bill to provide extensions for community health centers, the National Health Service Corps, teaching health centers that operate GME programs, and the special diabetes programs.

S. 203

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit, and for other purposes.

S. 215

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 215, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the estate and generation-skipping transfer taxes, and for other purposes.

S. 237

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 237, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit nurse practitioners and physician assistants to satisfy the documentation requirement under the Medicare program for coverage of certain shoes for individuals with diabetes.

S. 238

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 238, a bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to monitor and combat anti-Semitism globally, and for other purposes.

S. 286

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 286, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 287

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Missouri

(Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 287, a bill to amend the Trade Expansion Act of 1962 to impose limitations on the authority of the President to adjust imports that are determined to threaten to impair national security, and for other purposes.

S. 289

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 289, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to support rural residency training funding that is equitable for all States, and for other purposes.

S. 402

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 402, a bill to plan, develop, and make recommendations to increase access to sexual assault examinations for survivors by holding hospitals accountable and supporting the providers that serve them.

S. 457

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 457, a bill to require that \$1 coins issued during 2019 honor President George H.W. Bush and to direct the Secretary of the Treasury to issue bullion coins during 2019 in honor of Barbara Bush.

S. 512

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 512, a bill to establish an advisory office within the Bureau of Consumer Protection of the Federal Trade Commission to prevent fraud targeting seniors, and for other purposes.

S. 518

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 518, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 532

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 532, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide that an individual may remain eligible to participate in the teacher loan forgiveness program under title IV of such Act if the individual's period of consecutive years of employment as a full-time teacher is interrupted because the individual is the spouse of a member of the Armed Forces who is relocated during the school year pursuant to military orders for a permanent change of duty station, or the individual works in a school of the defense dependents' edu-

cation system under the Defense Dependents' Education Act of 1978 due to such a relocation, and for other purposes.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 569, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations relating to commercial motor vehicle drivers under the age of 21, and for other purposes.

S. 640

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 640, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require pharmacy-negotiated price concessions to be included in negotiated prices at the point-of-sale under part D of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 758

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 758, a bill to ensure affordable abortion coverage and care for every woman, and for other purposes.

S. 785

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 785, a bill to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore incentives for investments in qualified improvement property.

S. 814

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 814, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to diabetes outpatient self-management training services, and for other purposes.

S. 826

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 826, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to modify the final rule relating to flightcrew member duty and rest requirements for passenger operations of air carriers to apply to all-cargo operations of air carriers, and for other purposes.

S. 827

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 827, a bill to designate certain

National Forest System land and certain public land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming as wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, wildland recovery areas, and biological connecting corridors, and for other purposes.

S. 846

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 846, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to limit certain rolling stock procurements, and for other purposes.

S. 851

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 851, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.

S. 901

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 901, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to support individuals with younger onset Alzheimer's disease.

S. 1007

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1007, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to designate additional unlawful acts under the Act, strengthen penalties for violations of the Act, improve Department of Agriculture enforcement of the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1026

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 1026, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow workers an above-the-line deduction for union dues and expenses and to allow a miscellaneous itemized deduction for workers for all unreimbursed expenses incurred in the trade or business of being an employee.

S. 1055

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1055, a bill to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 regarding the procurement of certain items related to national security interests for Department of Homeland Security frontline operational components, and for other purposes.

S. 1077

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1077, a bill to establish a pilot program awarding competitive grants to organizations administering entrepreneurial development programming to formerly incarcerated individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 1083

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1083, a bill to address the fundamental injustice, cruelty, brutality, and inhumanity of slavery in the United States and the 13 American colonies between 1619 and 1865 and to establish a commission to study and consider a national apology and proposal for reparations for the institution of slavery, its subsequent de jure and de facto racial and economic discrimination against African-Americans, and the impact of these forces on living African-Americans, to make recommendations to the Congress on appropriate remedies, and for other purposes.

S. 1102

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1102, a bill to promote security and energy partnerships in the Eastern Mediterranean, and for other purposes.

S. 1218

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1218, a bill to require the review of the service of certain members of the Armed Forces during World War I to determine if such members should be awarded the Medal of Honor, to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor based on the results of the review, and for other purposes.

S. 1233

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1233, a bill to provide relief to community banks, to promote access to capital for community banks, and for other purposes.

S. 1273

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1273, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish an alternative dispute resolution program for copyright small claims, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mr. ROMNEY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to reform prescription drug pricing and reduce out-of-pocket costs by ensuring consumers benefit from negotiated rebates.

S. 1394

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

KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1394, a bill to provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers employed by States or their political subdivisions.

S. 1401

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1401, a bill to establish eligibility requirements for education support professionals under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, and for other purposes.

S. 1402

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1402, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to recognize employers with a commitment to helping employees balance workplace responsibilities and family obligations.

S. 1416

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1416, a bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to prohibit anticompetitive behaviors by drug product manufacturers, and for other purposes.

S. 1445

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1445, a bill to provide a coordinated regional response to manage effectively the endemic violence and humanitarian crisis in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras.

S. 1472

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1472, 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. 1475

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1475, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to extend and modify certain charitable tax provisions.

S. 1481

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1481, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to provide for a special enrollment period for pregnant women, and for other purposes.

S. 1531

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1531, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide protections for health insurance consumers from surprise billing.

S. 1544

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1544, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payment for services of radiologist assistants under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1564

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1564, a bill to require the Securities and Exchange Commission and certain Federal agencies to carry out a study relating to accounting standards, and for other purposes.

S. 1615

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1615, a bill to amend titles 10 and 37, United States Code, to provide compensation and credit for retired pay purposes for maternity leave taken by members of the reserve components, and for other purposes.

S. 1664

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1664, a bill to require reporting on prescription drug expenditures under group health plans and on prescription drug price changes, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 99

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 99, 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.

S. RES. 120

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) 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. 184

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 184, a resolution condemning the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka, offering sincere condolences to the victims, to their families and friends, and to the people and nation of Sri Lanka, and expressing solidarity and support for Sri Lanka.

S. RES. 195

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 195, a resolution opposing the lift-

ing of sanctions imposed with respect to Iran without addressing Iran's nuclear program, ballistic missile development, support for terrorism, and other destabilizing activities.

S. RES. 212

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 212, a resolution celebrating the 100th anniversary of the passage and ratification of the 19th Amendment, providing for women's suffrage, to the Constitution of the United States.

At the request of Mr. SASSE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 212, *supra*.

S. RES. 221

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 221, a resolution recognizing the 30th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre and condemning the intensifying repression and human rights violations by the Chinese Communist Party and the use of surveillance by Chinese authorities, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 1703. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. CANTWELL. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the introduction of Senate legislation to help us deal with the affordable housing crisis in the United States of America.

Many of my colleagues know how pervasive this problem is. Not only is affordable housing a crisis, but the homeless population that results from not having enough housing stock in the United States of America is also a crisis and ends up costing us more money to deal with the same population.

This is not a new issue. It is not a new problem. We have been trying to fight to address this issue in the U.S. Senate and to deal with the affordable housing crisis for years, but the magnitude of the problem is getting worse. We need to respond by helping to increase supply. That is because we have so many demographic trends which we see in report after report citing and documenting what is happening in the United States of America.

We have an ever-increasing senior population that is living longer and baby boomers reaching retirement, many of whom need more affordable housing than there is in the marketplace.

We have returning veterans from our overseas missions who are coming

home and who also need affordable housing.

We need workforce housing. Many parts of the United States of America have had great economic success but have not kept pace with the amount of housing stock, and, thus, the supply and pricing has resulted in astronomical challenges to provide affordable housing within a region that doesn't leave people driving hours a day just to commute to their jobs.

We have the remnants of our economic crisis during the great recession that left so many people without affordable housing and the fact that we did not keep pace with supply.

Over the last 2 years, I have worked with many organizations at the national level and participated in the announcement of many reports done by practically every institution of any significance in the United States. They all came to the same conclusion: We need to increase supply.

That is why I am introducing the Affordable Housing Tax Credit Improvement Act of 2019, along with my colleagues Senator YOUNG of Indiana, Senator ISAKSON of Georgia, and Senator WYDEN of Oregon, to strengthen and improve the affordable tax credit that we already have in place. My colleagues in the House—Representatives DELBENE, MARCHANT, BEYER, and WALORSKI—are also introducing companion legislation today.

We did make progress in the last Congress in increasing the affordable tax credit. This tax credit helps provide resources for 90 percent of the federally-funded affordable housing that is built in the United States of America. That is because it takes the tax credit to incent people to build at this more affordable rate.

I have always said to my colleagues that I am willing to consider any other ideas that we have to increase affordable housing and will work with anybody to increase supply in the United States, and I am open to any ideas. But until we have ideas that are more successful than this, I am going to continue to push the affordable housing tax credit and push to increase the supply of the tax credit so that we can increase the supply of affordable housing.

We have a housing crisis in the State of Washington. It doesn't matter whether you are in Spokane or Walla Walla or Yakima or Vancouver. Our urban areas feel it the most and are most pinched. It causes problems for our law enforcement. It causes problems for our healthcare delivery system. It causes problems for our transportation system. The way out of this problem is to build more affordable housing.

Increasing the amount of tax credit by 50 percent over the next 10 years will give our States, our cities, and our counties more resources to build affordable housing. It will also provide stability in the value of affordable housing tax credits used in the bond finance markets and place a 4-percent