

By Mr. SCHUMER (for Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2404. A bill to establish an expansive infrastructure program to create local jobs and raise the quality of life in every community, to launch middle class career pathways in infrastructure, and to invest in high quality American jobs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2405. A bill to establish additional protections and disclosures for students and co-signers with respect to student loans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. JONES, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2406. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish the National Health Service Corps Rural Provider Loan Repayment Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 2407. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide criminal penalties for individuals acting as agents or attorneys for the preparation, presentation, or prosecution of a claim under a law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs without being recognized by the Secretary for such purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 2408. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a national telehealth program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2409. A bill to authorize the President to take certain actions relating to reciprocal trade, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 2410. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to modify the requirements for permits for dredged or fill material, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN (for herself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 2411. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a rural health center innovation awards program and a rural health department enhancement program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. REED, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. UDALL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CARPER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. COONS, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KING, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HARRIS, Ms. WARREN, Mr. JONES, Mr. MANCHIN, and Ms. SINEMA):

S.J. Res. 52. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Health and Human Services relating to "State Relief and Empowerment Waivers"; to the Committee on Finance.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. KING, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. Res. 294. A resolution designating August 16, 2019, as "National Airborne Day"; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 295. A resolution designating the month of September 2019 as "Campus Fire Safety Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. REED, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JONES, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COONS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BENNET, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CASEY, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BROWN, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. WARREN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WARNER, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KAINE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHUMER, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 296. A resolution congratulating the United States Women's National Soccer Team for winning the 2019 FIFA Women's World Cup; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CRUZ, and Mr. KAINE):

S. Res. 297. A resolution commending the Inter-American Foundation (IAF) on the occasion of its 50th anniversary for its significant accomplishments and contributions to the economic and social development of the Americas; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COTTON, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BRAUN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 298. A resolution concurring with the decision to withdraw the United States from the INF Treaty, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BROWN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 299. A resolution designating the first week in August 2019 as "World Breastfeeding Week", and designating August 2019 as "National Breastfeeding Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WHITE-

HOUSE, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. Res. 300. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Health Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. Res. 301. A resolution honoring the 50th anniversary of the return of the Indiana Rangers; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. HASSAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. JONES, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. PETERS, Mr. BROWN, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. Res. 302. A resolution designating September 2019 as "National Child Awareness Month" to promote awareness of charities that benefit children and youth-serving organizations throughout the United States, and recognizing the efforts made by those charities and organizations on behalf of children and youth as critical contributions to the future of the United States; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CRAMER (for himself, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. DAINES, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. ERNST, Mr. MORAN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. RISCH, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. GARDNER, Mr. TOOMEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. COONS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DUCKWORTH, Mr. JONES, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TESTER, Ms. ROSEN, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Con. Res. 23. A concurrent resolution honoring the 75th Anniversary of the Battle of the Bulge fought during World War II, recognizing the valiant efforts of the Allied Forces in December 1944, and remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice, all of which contributed to the Allied victory in the European Theater; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. ROBERTS (for himself and Ms. STABENOW):

S. Con. Res. 24. A concurrent resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Food and Nutrition Service of the Department of Agriculture; considered and agreed to.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 117

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 117, a bill to prohibit discrimination against individuals with disabilities who need long-term services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 131

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 131, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to prohibit Federal Medicaid funding for the administrative costs of providing health benefits to individuals who are unauthorized immigrants.

S. 177

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas

(Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 177, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 296

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 296, a bill to amend XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 340

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 340, a bill to promote competition in the market for drugs and biological products by facilitating the timely entry of lower-cost generic and biosimilar versions of those drugs and biological products.

S. 427

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 427, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance activities of the National Institutes of Health with respect to research on autism spectrum disorder and enhance programs relating to autism, and for other purposes.

S. 430

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 430, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 433

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 433, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve home health payment reforms under the Medicare program.

S. 460

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 460, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion for employer-provided education assistance to employer payments of student loans.

S. 518

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) 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. 560

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from

Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 560, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 576

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 576, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a presumption of herbicide exposure for certain veterans who served in Korea, and for other purposes.

S. 633

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 633, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the members of the Women's Army Corps who were assigned to the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, known as the "Six Triple Eight".

S. 636

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to designate Venezuela under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit nationals of Venezuela to be eligible for temporary protected status under such section.

S. 638

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 638, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to designate per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, Liability Act of 1980, and for other purposes.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) 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. 839

At the request of Mr. Kaine, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 839, a bill to extend Federal Pell Grant eligibility of certain short-term programs.

S. 944

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 944, a bill to enhance the security operations of the Transportation Security Administration and the stability of the transportation security workforce by applying a unified

personnel system under title 5, United States Code, to employees of the Transportation Security Administration who are responsible for screening passengers and property, and for other purposes.

S. 996

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 996, a bill to modify the microloan program of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 997

At the request of Mr. MORAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 997, a bill to recognize and honor the service of individuals who served in the United States Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II, and for other purposes.

S. 1039

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1039, a bill to limit the use of funds for kinetic military operations in or against Iran.

S. 1071

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1071, a bill to support empowerment, economic security, and educational opportunities for adolescent girls around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 1094

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1094, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify limitations on the credit for plug-in electric drive motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 1102

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) 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. 1107

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1107, a bill to require a review of women and lung cancer, and for other purposes.

S. 1134

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1134, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an investment tax credit related to the production of electricity from nuclear energy.

S. 1148

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Michigan

(Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1148, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to give preferential consideration to individuals who have successfully completed air traffic controller training and veterans when hiring air traffic control specialists.

S. 1383

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1383, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to provide a guarantee of residency for registration of businesses of spouses of members of the uniformed services, to improve occupational license portability for military spouses through interstate compacts, and for other purposes.

S. 1522

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1522, a bill to improve broadband data collection, mapping, and validation to support the effective deployment of broadband services to all areas of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1527

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1527, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to conduct, and submit to Congress a report describing the results of, an assessment of the total amount of nonhighway recreational fuel taxes received by the Secretary of the Treasury and transferred to the Highway Trust Fund, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. COONS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1527, *supra*.

S. 1721

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1721, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit gay and trans panic defenses.

S. 1750

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1750, a bill to establish the Clean School Bus Grant Program, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1750, *supra*.

S. 1782

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1782, a bill to add suicide prevention resources to school identification cards.

S. 1830

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1830, a bill to enhance the security of the United States and its allies, and for other purposes.

S. 1881

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

(Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1881, a bill to provide PreCheck to certain severely injured or disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 1915

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1915, a bill to require the recording and reporting of communications between the Department of Justice and the White House relating to civil and criminal investigations, and for other purposes.

S. 1918

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1918, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to require alternative options for summer food service program delivery.

S. 1953

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1953, a bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to extend the jurisdiction of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to include the setting of reference prices for aluminum premiums, and for other purposes.

S. 2024

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2024, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the American History for Freedom grant program.

S. 2026

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2026, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to reauthorize the farm to school program, and for other purposes.

S. 2061

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2061, a bill to amend the United States Housing Act of 1937 and title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for the HUD-VASH program, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit annual reports to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and House of Representatives regarding homeless veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 2103

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2103, a bill to improve access to affordable insulin.

S. 2185

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2185, a bill to provide labor stand-

ards for certain energy jobs, and for other purposes.

S. 2237

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2237, a bill to authorize the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission to seek civil monetary penalties to deter violations of section 2 of the Sherman Act, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2237, *supra*.

S. 2240

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2240, a bill to promote digital citizenship and media literacy.

S. 2250

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2250, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to establish State and Indian tribe grants for community colleges and grants for Historically Black Colleges and Universities, Tribal Colleges and Universities, and Minority-Serving Institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 2257

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2257, a bill to reform the financing of Senate elections, and for other purposes.

S. 2260

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2260, a bill to provide for the improvement of domestic infrastructure in order to prevent marine debris, and for other purposes.

S. 2308

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2308, a bill to intensify stem cell research showing evidence of substantial clinical benefit to patients, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 50

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 50, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, relating to "Contributions in Exchange for State or Local Tax Credits".

S. RES. 252

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 252, a resolution designating September 2019 as National Democracy Month as a time to reflect

on the contributions of the system of government of the United States to a more free and stable world.

S. RES. 274

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 274, a resolution expressing solidarity with Falun Gong practitioners who have lost lives, freedoms, and other rights for adhering to their beliefs and practices, and condemning the practice of non-consenting organ harvesting, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 277

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 277, a resolution remembering the 25th Anniversary of the bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires, Argentina, and recommitting to efforts to uphold justice for the 85 victims of the attacks.

S. RES. 285

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 285, a resolution designating September 2019 as "School Bus Safety Month".

S. RES. 289

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 289, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that socialism poses a significant threat to freedom, liberty, and economic prosperity.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 2349. A bill to amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to eliminate the common carrier exemption for telecommunications companies; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak about the introduction of the Protection from Robocalling Act of 2019. This bill would address the problem of illegal robocalls and spam calls. I thank Senators KLOBUCHAR and BLUMENTHAL for cosponsoring this legislation.

Last year, I introduced this legislation to address the nuisance of illegal robocalling.

Since then, these calls have become even more prevalent. For example, last month alone, an estimated 4.7 billion robocalls were placed in the United States—nearly one billion more than the year prior. That amounts to 153 million calls per day, or nearly 2,000 robocalls placed each second. Some of these calls are organized scams.

In one case, one robocall company called people offering to help lower

their credit card interest rates. Instead, it tricked them into giving up sensitive personal information, including their Social Security numbers.

Another company dialed millions of phone numbers on the Do Not Call registry trying to find new customers for a third-party service, contacting a single number more than 1,000 times in the same year. Robocall companies are also engaged in credit card and loan scams.

What's worse, robocalling is now endangering the health and safety of Americans by tying up emergency service lines. Tufts Medical Center in Boston received more than 4,500 illegal robocalls in the span of two hours last April. Each time the medical staff had to answer one of those robocalls could have been an instance when someone who needed life-saving help was unable to get through to a medical professional.

One reason the problem is increasing is because the cost of making and deploying these calls is decreasing. Advances in software make it possible for one person to send out thousands of identical prerecorded messages every second, more quickly and more cheaply than employing scores of human telemarketing agents.

In addition, technology is making it even easier for illegal robocallers to hide their true identity and location. Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) technology enables robocallers to launch their call campaigns from anywhere in the world. And new technology allows illegal robocallers to disguise where they are actually calling from. This technique, known as "spoofing," tricks consumers into thinking they are receiving a local call.

The Federal Trade Commission now receives nearly 10,000 robocall complaints every day. With its broad consumer protection authority, the Commission plays a critical role in stopping illegal robocalling. But due to an historic exemption, the Commission has no enforcement authority over telecoms.

When the FTC Act was enacted in 1914, this exemption was put in place because telecoms were monopolies and subject to heavy regulation so FTC enforcement was not needed. In the decades that followed, that regulatory oversight was rolled back, while the exemption remained in place. This created an uneven playing field. A set of federal rules and regulations protecting consumers applied to most industries, but not all.

We must give the Commission the authority they need to pursue complete relief for American consumers. The Protection from Robocalling Act of 2019 removes telecoms from the common carrier exemption in the law. By eliminating this special exemption, telecoms will now have to abide by the same consumer protection standards in areas such as privacy and advertising that apply to other sectors already subject to the FTC's jurisdiction.

It's a matter of fairness, as well as common sense. There's no reason that consumer data held by a broadband service should have more protection under the law than the same data held by their wireless service.

Robocalls are a problem for everyone with a cell phone. It is a problem that is only going to get worse. And we can't expect our law enforcement agencies to keep up with today's technologies if their hands are tied.

We need to be smarter about how we approach this problem. Going after the robocallers and installing call blocking technology on phones is fine; but we need to strike at the systems that they use to perpetrate their scams if we want to see a real difference.

I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting this legislation that will help consumers fight back against illegal robocalling.

I yield the floor.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself and Ms. DUCKWORTH):

S. 2360. A bill to establish an Office of Emerging Markets within the Small Business Administration that will strengthen the development of small business concerns in emerging markets, including those owned by women, minorities, veterans, and those located in rural areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Unlocking Opportunities in Emerging Markets Act, which establishes an Office of Emerging Markets (OEM) within the Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Capital Access to ensure that SBA's access to capital initiatives address the specific needs of entrepreneurs in underserved domestic emerging markets.

Capital is the lifeblood of small businesses, but for women, minorities, veterans and other underserved entrepreneurs, access to capital remains the key roadblock to owning and operating a successful business.

The challenges that underserved entrepreneurs face are historic and pervasive with minority and women entrepreneurs, for example, having less wealth from which to fund new businesses.

Black families have \$17,150 in wealth and Hispanic families have \$20,720 in wealth, while White families have \$171,000 in wealth. Similarly, women have \$3 in wealth for every \$10 men have.

These historical barriers are compounded by systemic inequality in the capital markets. Minority-owned business are two to three times more likely to be denied credit; more likely to avoid applying for loans, based on the belief that they will be turned down; and more likely to receive smaller loans and pay higher interest rates on the loans that they do receive. Rural businesses owners often face an uphill battle to secure funding for their startups. And women are significantly