

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 3125. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for contributions to the Alzheimer's Research and Caregiving Trust Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. UDALL, Mr. TESTER, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 3126. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize a special behavioral health program for Indians; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Ms. SINEMA:

S. 3127. A bill to protect, for current and future generations, the watershed, ecosystem, and cultural heritage of the Grand Canyon region in the State of Arizona, to provide for a study relating to the uranium stockpile in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. INHOFE):

S. 3128. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reorganize the Chaplain Service of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. CRAPO (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. BURR, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 3129. A bill to provide for certain reforms with respect to the Medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 3130. A bill to amend titles 10 and 18, to permit members of the Armed Forces to possess firearms on military installations in accordance with applicable State law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 3131. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish a Maya Security and Conservation Partnership program, to authorize appropriations for that program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

S. 3132. A bill to extend the Undertaking Spam, Spyware, And Fraud Enforcement With Enforcers beyond Borders Act of 2006, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BRAUN:

S. 3133. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to establish a time-limited conditional approval pathway, subject to specific obligations, for certain drugs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3134. A bill to add Ireland to the E-3 nonimmigrant visa program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 3135. A bill to provide for the establishment of clean technology consortia to enhance the economic, environmental, and energy security of the United States by promoting domestic development, manufacture, and deployment of clean technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

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

S. 3136. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish small business start-up savings accounts; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 3137. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to require hospitals and certain other participating providers under Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program to disclose the provider's policy on parental access to the medical records of minors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CRAMER, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 3138. A bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to require hospitals and certain other participating providers under Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program to disclose the provider's policy on parental consent from the provision, withdrawal, or denial of life-sustaining treatment for minors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 3139. A bill to amend chapter 44 of title 18, United States Code, to more comprehensively address the interstate transportation of firearms or ammunition; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. ROMNEY, Mr. DAINES, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 3140. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to issue a final rule relating to the delisting of the gray wolf under the Endangered Species Act of 1973; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 3141. A bill to amend the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act to clarify and expand food donation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 3142. A bill to establish the Interagency United States-Based Terrorism Threat Information Sharing Commission, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 3143. A bill to ban certain rare earth magnets, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SMITH (for herself, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. GRAHAM, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3144. A bill to establish a competitive grant program to support out-of-school-time youth workforce readiness programs, providing employability skills development, career exploration, employment readiness training, mentoring, work-based learning, and workforce opportunities for eligible youth; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 3145. A bill to extend the withdrawal and reservation of certain public land in the State of Nevada for the continued use of the Nevada test and training range, to designate certain land in the Desert National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. SMITH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. HARRIS, Mr. BROWN, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. WARNER, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. COONS, Mr. Kaine, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. REED, and Mr. KING):

S. 3146. A bill to ensure a fair process for negotiations of collective bargaining agree-

ments under chapter 71 of title 5, United States Code; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 3147. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress reports on patient safety and quality of care at medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. MCCONNELL, and Mr. LANKFORD):

S. 3148. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to list fentanyl-related substances as schedule I controlled substances; read the first time.

## SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

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

S. Res. 458. A resolution calling for the global repeal of blasphemy, heresy, and apostasy laws; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MCCONNELL:

S. Res. 459. A resolution to constitute the majority party's membership on certain committees for the One Hundred Sixteenth Congress, or until their successors are chosen; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 460. A resolution congratulating the American Geophysical Union on the occasion of its centennial; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. Res. 461. A resolution congratulating Seattle Sounders FC on winning the 2019 Major League Soccer Cup; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. MCSALLY, Ms. SMITH, Mr. BROWN, Mr. KING, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 462. A resolution designating January 2020 as "National One Health Awareness Month" to promote awareness of organizations focused on public health, animal health, and environmental health collaboration throughout the United States and to recognize the critical contributions of those organizations to the future of the United States; considered and agreed to.

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 182

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 182, a bill to prohibit discrimination against the unborn on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 460

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) were added as cosponsors 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. 481

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, his name was added as a cosponsor of

S. 481, a bill to encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes.

S. 500

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 500, a bill to amend title 54, United States Code, to establish, fund, and provide for the use of amounts in a National Park Service Legacy Restoration Fund to address the maintenance backlog of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 604

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 604, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 614

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 614, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to reissue a final rule relating to removing the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem population of grizzly bears from the Federal list of endangered and threatened wildlife.

S. 712

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 712, a bill to provide assistance for United States citizens and nationals taken hostage or unlawfully or wrongfully detained abroad, and for other purposes.

S. 800

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 800, a bill to establish a postsecondary student data system.

S. 877

At the request of Mr. UDALL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 877, a bill to prohibit the sale of shark fins, and for other purposes.

S. 944

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) 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. 1125

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1125, a bill to amend the Health

Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

S. 1267

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1267, a bill to establish within the Smithsonian Institution the National Museum of the American Latino, and for other purposes.

S. 1374

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1374, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the waiting periods for disability insurance benefits and Medicare coverage for individuals with metastatic breast cancer, and for other purposes.

S. 1527

At the request of Mr. KING, his 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.

S. 1590

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 1590, a bill to amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 to authorize rewards for thwarting wildlife trafficking linked to transnational organized crime, and for other purposes.

S. 1757

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1757, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the United States Army Rangers Veterans of World War II in recognition of their extraordinary service during World War II.

S. 1762

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1762, a bill to amend the Foreign Agents Registration Act of 1938 to provide the Attorney General with greater authority to promote enforcement and disclosure requirements for agents of foreign principals, and for other purposes.

S. 1766

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1766, a bill to implement policies to end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths globally.

S. 1781

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1781, a bill to authorize appropriations for the Department of State for fiscal years 2020 through 2022 to provide assistance to El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras through bilateral compacts to increase protection of women and children in their homes and communities and reduce female homicides, domestic violence, and sexual assault.

S. 1820

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1820, a bill to improve the integrity and safety of horseracing by requiring a uniform anti-doping and medication control program to be developed and enforced by an independent Horseracing Anti-Doping and Medication Control Authority.

S. 1908

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1908, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to improve the efficiency of summer meals.

S. 2322

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2322, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to allow for the retirement of certain animals used in Federal research.

S. 2330

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2330, a bill to amend the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports Act to provide for congressional oversight of the board of directors of the United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee and to protect amateur athletes from emotional, physical, and sexual abuse, and for other purposes.

S. 2379

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2379, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to clarify the authority of State Medicaid fraud and abuse control units to investigate and prosecute cases of Medicaid patient abuse and neglect in any setting, and for other purposes.

S. 2381

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2381, a bill to require review by the Government Accountability Office of screening protocols of the Transportation Security Administration relating to breast milk and formula, and for other purposes.

S. 2469

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2469, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to require the use of advanced leak detection technology for pipelines, and for other purposes.

S. 2491

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2491, a bill to terminate certain rules issued by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce relating to endangered and threatened species, and for other purposes.

S. 2549

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2549, a bill to allow nonprofit child care providers to participate in the loan programs of the Small Business Administration.

S. 2556

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2556, a bill to amend the Federal Power Act to provide energy cybersecurity investment incentives, to establish a grant and technical assistance program for cybersecurity investments, and for other purposes.

S. 2570

At the request of Ms. SINEMA, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2570, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Greg LeMond in recognition of his service to the United States as an athlete, activist, role model, and community leader.

S. 2590

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2590, a bill to protect the dignity of fetal remains, and for other purposes.

S. 2695

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2695, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide for the defense of United States agriculture and food through the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility, and for other purposes.

S. 2702

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2702, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an integrated energy systems research, development, and demonstration program, and for other purposes.

S. 2741

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) and the Senator from

North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2741, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand access to telehealth services, and for other purposes.

S. 2743

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2743, a bill to establish the China Censorship Monitor and Action Group, and for other purposes.

S. 2745

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2745, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit discrimination by abortion against an unborn child on the basis of Down syndrome.

S. 2748

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2748, a bill to repeal the section of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 that requires the Federal Communications Commission to reallocate and auction the T-Band spectrum.

S. 2766

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2766, a bill to support and expand civic engagement and political leadership of adolescent girls around the world, and other purposes.

S. 2831

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2831, a bill to amend title 51, United States Code, to modify the national space grant college and fellowship program, and for other purposes.

S. 2836

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2836, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Health and Human Services from taking any action to implement, enforce, or otherwise give effect to the final rule, entitled "Protecting Statutory Conscience Rights in Health Care; Delegations of Authority".

S. 2886

At the request of Ms. MCSALLY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2886, a bill to prohibit the use of animal testing for cosmetics and the sale of cosmetics tested on animals.

S. 2943

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2943, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to revise minimum nurse staffing requirements for skilled nursing facilities under the Medicare pro-

gram and for nursing facilities under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes.

S. 2970

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2970, a bill to improve the fielding of newest generations of personal protective equipment to the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 2974

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2974, a bill to require the Postmaster General to establish a comprehensive organizational strategy to combat the use of the mail in the distribution of illicit drugs.

S. 3004

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3004, a bill to protect human rights and enhance opportunities for LGBTI people around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 3016

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3016, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to ensure that consumers can make informed decisions in choosing between meat products such as beef and imitation meat products, and for other purposes.

S. 3020

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3020, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into contracts with States or to award grants to States to promote health and wellness, prevent suicide, and improve outreach to veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 3055

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3055, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to permit a Federal student loan borrower to elect to terminate repayment pursuant to income-based repayment and repay such loan under any other repayment plan for which the borrower is otherwise eligible.

S. 3062

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 3062, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to repeal a certain exemption for hydraulic fracturing, and for other purposes.

S. 3104

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms.

DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3104, a bill to make technical corrections relating to parental leave for Federal employees.

S.J. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 6, a joint resolution removing the deadline for the ratification of the equal rights amendment.

S. RES. 73

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 73, a resolution calling on the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to immediately release Saudi Women's Rights activists and respect the fundamental rights of all Saudi citizens.

S. RES. 452

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 452, a resolution commemorating and supporting the goals of World AIDS Day.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. JONES, Ms. MCSALLY, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 3116. A bill to enable States to better provide access to whole genome sequencing clinical services for certain undiagnosed children under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Ending the Diagnostic Odyssey Act. This legislation gives States the option of providing whole genome sequencing WSG clinical services through Medicaid for children with a disease that is suspected to have a genetic cause, at an enhanced Federal matching rate for 3 years. I am pleased to be joined by Senators JONES, MCSALLY, and MENENDEZ.

Children with rare diseases will spend on average 5 to 7 years on diagnostic odyssey, and 30 percent of those children will not survive beyond the age of 5 years old. The average patient sees seven different physicians in that time. The wait to find a cause—nevermind a cure—can be excruciating. Parents try to project a calm and reassuring presence for their child while facing a

whirlwind of doctor appointments, hospital visits, and unanswered questions.

Undeniably, we are making progress in both accelerating research funding for rare diseases as well as in the development of diagnostics. In 2014, the National Institutes of Health, NIH launched a program called the Undiagnosed Disease Network UDN. In its first 20 months, the UDN accepted 601 participants undiagnosed by traditional medical practices. Of those who completed their UDN evaluation during this time, 35 percent were given a diagnosis. Many of these diagnoses were rare genetic diseases, including 31 previously unknown syndromes.

In May, the Director of the National Institutes of Health, Dr. Francis Collins, wrote a blog post on how whole genome sequencing—combined with artificial intelligence, AI—can now be used to diagnose genetic diseases in seriously ill babies in fewer than 24 hours. Dr. Collins writes: “I would submit that there is no other technology in the history of planet Earth that has experienced this degree of progress in speed and affordability.”

For parents of children with an undiagnosed illness, answers cannot come soon enough. There are approximately 7,000 rare diseases known today. Approximately 80 percent of rare diseases are genetic, and about one-half of all rare diseases affect children. For example, Alström syndrome is an extremely rare and complex genetic disorder. Approximately 1,200 affected individuals have been identified worldwide, which makes a obtaining a correct diagnosis challenging. Characteristics of Alström syndrome include vision disturbances, sensorineural hearing impairment, cardiomyopathy, obesity, kidney dysfunction, and diabetes.

Robin Marshall, executive director of the Alström Syndrome International, located in Mount Desert Islan, ME, has said that “whole Genome Sequencing has changed the lives of those we represent by enabling earlier and more accurate diagnosis, fostering more timely and appropriate medical care, and unlocking a host of social services to combat the educational and psychosocial complications that our children confront.”

By giving States an incentive to provide whole genome sequencing for eligible children through Medicaid my legislation will ensure that more children and their families can obtain the right diagnosis and treatment the start. The Ending the Diagnostic Odyssey Act has the support of more than 100 patient advocacy organizations, including Alström Syndrome International, the Genetic Alliance, the Personalized Medicine Coalition, and many others. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

By Mr. MANCHIN (for himself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 3147. A bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to

Congress reports on patient safety and quality of care at medical centers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

S. 3147

*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 “Improving Safety and Security for Veterans Act of 2019”.

#### SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS REPORTS ON PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY OF CARE.

(a) REPORT ON PATIENT SAFETY AND QUALITY OF CARE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Veterans' Affairs of the House of Representatives a report regarding the policies and procedures of the Department relating to patient safety and quality of care and the steps that the Department has taken to make improvements in patient safety and quality of care at medical centers of the Department.

(2) ELEMENTS.—The report required by paragraph (1) shall include the following:

(A) A description of the policies and procedures of the Department and improvements made by the Department with respect to the following:

(i) How often the Department reviews or inspects patient safety at medical centers of the Department.

(ii) What triggers the aggregated review process at medical centers of the Department.

(iii) What controls the Department has in place for controlled and other high-risk substances, including the following:

(I) Access to such substances by staff.

(II) What medications are dispensed via automation.

(III) What systems are in place to ensure proper matching of the correct medication to the correct patient.

(IV) Controls of items such as medication carts and pill bottles and vials.

(V) Monitoring of the dispensing of medication within medical centers of the Department, including monitoring of unauthorized dispensing.

(iv) How the Department monitors contact between patients and employees of the Department, including how employees are monitored and tracked at medical centers of the Department when entering and exiting the room of a patient.

(v) How comprehensively the Department uses video monitoring systems in medical centers of the Department to enhance patient safety, security, and quality of care.

(vi) How the Department tracks and reports deaths at medical centers of the Department at the local level, Veterans Integrated Service Network level, and national level.

(vii) The procedures of the Department to alert local, regional, and Department-wide leadership when there is a statistically abnormal number of deaths at a medical center of the Department, including—

(I) the manner and frequency in which such alerts are made; and

(II) what is included in such an alert, such as the nature of death and where within the medical center the death occurred.

(viii) The use of root cause analyses with respect to patient deaths in medical centers of the Department, including—

(I) what threshold triggers a root cause analysis for a patient death;