

Whereas, local revenue collections have plummeted as economic activity has slowed, and as a result, local governments are struggling to provide crucial services; and

Whereas, already made vulnerable by lost jobs or decreased income from the COVID-19 pandemic, many Louisiana citizens face the prospect of housing insecurity as they struggle to provide a safe and secure place for themselves and their families to live while also maintaining basic services such as water, electricity, and food; and

Whereas, the federal government provided unemployment and housing assistance in its last COVID stimulus package, but there is a great need for further economic relief. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to pass a stimulus plan that includes funds for unemployment, housing, local government, struggling businesses, education, and health care; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2891. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish Tribal Wildlife Corridors, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-305).

S. 4556. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Indian Health Service, to acquire private land to facilitate access to the Desert Sage Youth Wellness Center in Hemet, California, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-306).

By Mr. HOEVEN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 790. A bill to clarify certain provisions of Public Law 103-116, the Catawba Indian Tribe of South Carolina Land Claims Settlement Act of 1993, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-307).

S. 2165. A bill to enhance protections of Native American tangible cultural heritage, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-308).

S. 3044. A bill to amend the American's Water Infrastructure Act of 2018 to expand the Indian reservation drinking water program, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 116-309).

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 Mr. HAWLEY:

S. 4983. A bill to amend chapter 77 of title 18, United States Code, to combat human trafficking and to strengthen civil remedies for survivors; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 4984. A bill to report data on COVID-19 immigration detention facilities and local correctional facilities that contract with U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BRAUN (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. YOUNG, and Mr. KING):

S. 4985. A bill to establish forestry policies that facilitate reforestation, conservation, international cooperation, and other ecologically sound management practices that reduce atmospheric carbon, to support United States efforts in partnership with the One Trillion Trees Initiative, to encourage the sustainable management, restoration, and conservation of global forests, grasslands, wetlands, and coastal habitats, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4986. A bill to prevent an unintended drop in Social Security benefits due to COVID-19 and the application of the National Average Wage Index, and improve Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits on an emergency basis; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 4987. A bill to provide grants to enable nonprofit disability organizations to develop training programs that support safe interactions between law enforcement officers and individuals with disabilities and older individuals; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 4988. A bill to provide for the modernization of electronic case management systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CASEY (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. MERKLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 4989. A bill to facilitate nationwide accessibility and coordination of 211 services for information and referral for mental health emergencies, homelessness needs, other human services needs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4990. A bill to require the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Health and Human Services to conduct a study and issue a report on the de-identification of data pursuant to privacy regulations; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 4991. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to add a bankruptcy chapter relating to the debt of individuals, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 4992. A bill to protect journalists and other members of the press from gross violations of internationally recognized human rights, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 4993. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to promote healthy eating and physical activity among children; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. HAWLEY, and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 4994. A bill to provide civil relief for victims of the disclosure of certain intimate images, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. HASSAN, Ms. ERNST, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 4995. A bill to amend the Commodity Exchange Act to modify the Commodity Futures Trading Commission Customer Protection Fund, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 4996. A bill to ensure funding of the United States trustees, extend temporary bankruptcy judgeships, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

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

S. Res. 798. A resolution calling on the Government of Ethiopia and the Tigray People's Liberation Front to cease all hostilities, protect the human rights of all Ethiopians, and pursue a peaceful resolution of the conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 633

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 1902

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1902, a bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety rule for free-standing clothing storage units to protect children from tip-over related death or injury, and for other purposes.

S. 3353

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3353, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for extended months of Medicare coverage of immunosuppressive drugs for kidney transplant patients, and for other purposes.

S. 3722

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3722, a bill to authorize funding for a bilateral cooperative program with Israel for the development of health technologies with a focus on combating COVID-19.

S. 4012

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S.

4012, a bill to establish a \$120,000,000,000 Restaurant Revitalization Fund to provide structured relief to food service or drinking establishments through December 31, 2020, and for other purposes.

S. 4110

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4110, a bill to designate residents of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region as Priority 2 refugees of special humanitarian concern, and for other purposes.

S. 4326

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4326, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to honor the 100th anniversary of completion of coinage of the "Morgan Dollar" and the 100th anniversary of commencement of coinage of the "Peace Dollar", and for other purposes.

S. 4349

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) were added as cosponsors of S. 4349, a bill to address behavioral health and well-being among health care professionals.

S. 4494

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 4494, a bill to amend title VI of the Social Security Act to extend the period with respect to which amounts under the Coronavirus Relief Fund may be expended.

S. 4497

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4497, a bill to temporarily suspend duties on imports of articles needed to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

S. 4888

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4888, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to prohibit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from transmitting certain information to the Department of Justice for use by the national instant criminal background check system.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4986. A bill to prevent an unintended drop in Social Security benefits due to COVID-19 and the application of the National Average Wage Index, and improve Social Security and Supplemental Security Income benefits on an emergency basis; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, during the last year Americans everywhere

have experienced the health, social, and economic impacts of COVID-19.

Millions of workers and families have experienced unemployment or underemployment, and millions more have struggled to cover rent, utilities, groceries, and other everyday living expenses.

People in Hawaii have fully experienced these challenges. We went from having one of the lowest to one of the highest unemployment rates in the United States. At the height of the pandemic in May, Hawaii's unemployment rate reached 23.5 percent—an unprecedented number for our state.

Family-owned businesses have closed, in many cases permanently, putting pressure on those families, their employees, and the communities they serve. Larger and medium-sized businesses have also closed, meaning furloughs, fewer hours, and reduced wages for their employees.

Because of this, many families have had to make difficult decisions regarding their household finances.

Some families have had to use whatever limited resources they have saved over the years, including retirement savings, to keep their heads above water. Others have had to find different ways to make ends meet and pay their bills—despite fewer hours and reduced wages.

Simply put, the economic downturn has been widespread, deeply-felt, and shared. 2020 has been a difficult year, and businesses, workers, and families will continue to feel its effects for many years to come.

Congress needs to continue its work to provide relief for workers and families, so today I am introducing the Social Security COVID Correction and Equity Act.

Specifically, this bill would provide temporary emergency relief for individuals who rely on Social Security, including retirees, disabled workers, dependent children and grandchildren, and others.

Separately, the bill would also make a technical correction (or "fix") to the Social Security "notch" to make sure individuals who turn 60 this year (those in the "1960 cohort") are not unnecessarily penalized for the recent economic downturn.

Social Security benefits are calculated based on an individual's lifetime earnings, but are indexed to account for wage increases over time. As a result, lower wages this year will mean permanently lower benefits for certain beneficiaries unless Congress acts. This bill addresses how wages are indexed to calculate earnings when determining benefits.

By some estimates, the downturn could reduce benefits by around \$960 per year for the average worker.

Preventing these reductions is a bipartisan issue, and I hope we can work together to address the issue for the millions of individuals who would be affected nationwide—including the 17,800 seniors in Hawaii who turn 60 this year.

While most of these individuals will not receive their benefits for another two years, future retirees and other beneficiaries are concerned about the issue now, and we have an opportunity to provide them with some certainty during these difficult times.

Workers and families are hurting now, and we need to do what we can to prevent them from being harmed in the future too.

I encourage my colleagues to support this important bill.

I yield the floor.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. CARDIN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CARPER):

S. 4996. A bill to ensure funding of the United States trustees, extend temporary bankruptcy judgeships, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

S. 4996

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 "Bankruptcy Administration Improvement Act of 2020".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Because of the importance of the goal that the bankruptcy system is self-funded, at no cost to the taxpayer, Congress has closely monitored the funding needs of the bankruptcy system, including by requiring periodic reporting by the Attorney General regarding the United States Trustee System Fund.

(2) Congress has amended the various bankruptcy fees as necessary to ensure that the bankruptcy system remains self-supporting, while also fairly allocating the costs of the system among those who use the system.

(3) Because the bankruptcy system is interconnected, the result has been a system of fees, including filing fees, quarterly fees in chapter 11 cases, and other fees, that together fund the courts, judges, United States trustees, and chapter 7 case trustees necessary for the bankruptcy system to function.

(4) This Act and the amendments made by this Act—

(A) ensure adequate funding of the United States trustees, supports the preservation of existing bankruptcy judgeships that are urgently needed to handle existing and anticipated increases in business and consumer caseloads, and provides long-overdue additional compensation for chapter 7 case trustees whose caseloads include chapter 11 reorganization cases that were converted to chapter 7 liquidation cases; and

(B) confirm the longstanding intention of Congress that quarterly fee requirements remain consistent across all Federal judicial districts.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act and the amendments made by this Act is to further the long-standing goal of Congress of ensuring that the bankruptcy system is self-funded, at no cost to the taxpayer.

SEC. 3. UNITED STATES TRUSTEE SYSTEM FUND; BANKRUPTCY FEES.

(a) DEPOSITS OF CERTAIN FEES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2021 THROUGH 2026.—Notwithstanding section 589a(b) of title 28, United States Code, for each of fiscal years 2021 through 2026—