

cosponsor of S. 1909, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reform requirements with respect to direct and indirect remuneration under Medicare part D, and for other purposes.

S. 1934

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1934, a bill to improve public trust in the Federal Government by establishing customer experience as a central measure of performance for agencies and the Federal Government, and for other purposes.

S. 1972

At the request of Mr. KELLY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1972, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve dependent coverage under the TRICARE Young Adult Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2050

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2050, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to remove silencers from the definition of firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 2084

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Wyoming (Ms. LUMMIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2084, a bill to terminate the order requiring persons to wear masks while on conveyances and at transportation hubs.

S. 2106

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2106, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize a national network of Statewide senior legal hotlines, and for other purposes.

S. 2128

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2128, a bill to ensure the humane treatment of pregnant women by reinstating the presumption of release and prohibiting shackling, restraining, and other inhumane treatment of pregnant detainees, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 210

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 210, a resolution designating July 21, 2021, as "Glioblastoma Awareness Day".

S. RES. 241

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 241, a resolution widening threats to freedom of the press and free expression around the world, and reaffirming the vital role that a free and independent press plays in informing local and international audiences about pub-

lic health crises, countering misinformation and disinformation, and furthering discourse and debate to advance healthy democracies in commemoration of World Press Freedom Day on May 3, 2021.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 2184. A bill to amend the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 to institute a trading prohibition for certain issuers that retain public accounting firms that have not been subject to inspection by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board, and for other purposes; considered and passed.

S. 2184

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. TRADING PROHIBITION FOR 2 CONSECUTIVE NON-INSPECTION YEARS.

Section 104(i) of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 (15 U.S.C. 7214(i)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)(A)(ii), by striking "the foreign jurisdiction described in clause (i)" and inserting "a foreign jurisdiction"; and

(2) in paragraph (3)—
(A) in the paragraph heading, by striking "3" and inserting "2"; and

(B) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by striking "3" and inserting "2".

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 281—RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION FOR THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH AND ITS CRITICAL ROLE IN AMERICA'S BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH STRATEGY BY ADVANCING BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AND THE MISSION OF THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, THE WORLD'S PREMIER BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH AGENCY

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. BARR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 281

Whereas Congress chartered the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health (referred to in this preamble as the "FNIH") to support the mission of the National Institutes of Health (referred to in this preamble as the "NIH"), which is to advance research in pursuit of fundamental knowledge that will lead to better health outcomes for all;

Whereas June 26, 2021, marks 25 years since FNIH commenced its work to improve health outcomes for the people of the United States by facilitating groundbreaking research and catalyzing innovation and discovery to answer the toughest scientific questions;

Whereas FNIH is recognized by Congress, NIH, and the biomedical community as a model for aligning public and private partners around a common cause that advances breakthrough biomedical discoveries and improves the quality of people's lives;

Whereas, among the hundreds of programs FNIH has facilitated, the Grand Challenges in Global Health partnership, founded in collaboration with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, achieved scientific breakthroughs against deadly diseases in the world's poorest countries and elevated the role of FNIH as a leader in building alliances for biomedical research;

Whereas FNIH, NIH, and the Food and Drug Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services launched the Accelerating Medicines Partnership as a public-private collaboration to pursue new methods to develop diagnostics and treatments for Alzheimer's disease, type 2 diabetes, autoimmune disorders, Parkinson's disease, and schizophrenia;

Whereas the FNIH created a new model for clinical trials through initiatives to fight breast cancer and lung cancer, continues to bring together partners to identify, develop, and qualify biomarkers to improve drug discovery and regulatory decisionmaking, and recognizes and supports trailblazing researchers, some of whom have won other prestigious scientific prizes, including the Nobel Prize;

Whereas FNIH supports caregivers of NIH Clinical Center patients through the Edmond J. Safra Family Lodge, a temporary residence for caregivers whose close presence helps to sustain patients who volunteer for NIH research that was constructed and is maintained by the FNIH on the NIH campus;

Whereas FNIH answered NIH's call to action to address the largest pandemic in a century by launching and coordinating the Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines ("ACTIV") initiative in partnership with numerous government agencies, not-for-profit organizations, and biopharmaceutical companies to accelerate the most promising COVID-19 vaccines and treatments; and

Whereas FNIH remains an indispensable institution to the biomedical research mission of the NIH and the people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) celebrates the 25th anniversary of the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health and its critical role in advancing biomedical research and the mission of the National Institutes of Health, the world's premier biomedical research agency;

(2) applauds the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health for its leadership and ongoing efforts to advance human health outcomes through innovative public-private partnerships that achieve groundbreaking biomedical research results;

(3) commends the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health for its efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic through the Accelerating COVID-19 Therapeutic Interventions and Vaccines initiative and accelerate the development of the most promising treatments and vaccines for COVID-19; and

(4) reiterates that the Foundation for the National Institutes of Health, in partnership with the National Institutes of Health, is a vital and essential component of biomedical research strategy of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 282—RECOGNIZING JULY 1, 2021, AS THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE AND COMMENDING THE SERVICE OF THE GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE TO CONGRESS AND THE UNITED STATES

Ms. HASSAN (for herself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr.

PADILLA, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. PETERS, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. SINEMA, Mr. BRAUN, Ms. WARREN, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. ROMNEY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 282

Whereas the General Accounting Office, predecessor to the Government Accountability Office (referred to in this preamble as the “GAO”), opened its doors on July 1, 1921, following the enactment of the Budget and Accounting Act, 1921 (Public Law 67-13; 42 Stat. 20);

Whereas the need, identified by Congress following World War I, for more information and better control of expenditures made by the Federal Government was filled by the creation of the independent GAO;

Whereas Congress provided the GAO with a broad mandate—

(1) to investigate how Federal dollars are spent; and

(2) to review all Federal expenditures;

Whereas, as the size and expenditures of the Federal Government grew during the Great Depression and World War II, the GAO became overwhelmed with fiscal audits, which pushed Congress to amend the authority of the GAO to enable it to assist Federal agencies with improving their accounting and spending controls;

Whereas Congress amended the authority of the GAO to expand its work beyond financial audits to performance audits to determine how Federal agencies and programs performed and met their objectives in the wake of the Great Society programs of the late 1960s;

Whereas the GAO shifted its priorities in the late 1990s and early 2000s—

(1) to highlight high risk areas for Federal Government waste and operation failures; and

(2) to work to improve Federal financial management and budgeting;

Whereas, as of the date of adoption of this resolution, the GAO is known around the world as a leader and source of objective, nonpartisan information on government operations through its work examining cost, effectiveness, and other factors related to the success of Federal programs;

Whereas, in addition to its field offices across the United States, the GAO operates field offices around the world to make it easier to access and monitor Federal Government operations that extend across the globe;

Whereas the GAO employs approximately 3,200 people and has been recognized as being one of the top workplaces in the Federal Government for several years by its multidisciplinary workforce, which includes analysts, auditors, lawyers, economists, scientists, actuaries, law enforcement and security personnel, healthcare experts, and education, public policy, computer science, and cybersecurity personnel, among others;

Whereas the GAO averaged a \$165 return on every \$1 invested in the GAO between fiscal years 2016 and 2020 as a result of Federal agencies and Congress acting on recommendations made by the GAO;

Whereas the financial benefit to the Federal Government resulting from the work of the GAO totaled—

(1) in fiscal year 2020, \$77,600,000,000; and

(2) in the past 20 years combined, over \$1,200,000,000,000; and

Whereas, in addition to serving as the preeminent independent government watchdog agency in the world, the GAO provides additional services, which include—

(1) writing legal opinions at the request of Congress or in response to a bid protest;

(2) authoring resources and standards for auditors around the world;

(3) operating a hotline for the public to report waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement of government funds; and

(4) providing testimony before Congress on a multitude of topics: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the 100th anniversary of the Government Accountability Office (referred to in this resolution as the “GAO”) on July 1, 2021;

(2) commends the GAO for 100 years of service to Congress and the United States as the preeminent independent government watchdog agency in the world;

(3) offers its continued support to allow the GAO—

(A) to fulfill its mandates as required by law;

(B) to respond to requests made by Members of Congress; and

(C) to aid the Federal Government in improving its stewardship of taxpayer dollars;

(4) recognizes Eugene Dodaro, the Comptroller General and head of the GAO as of the date of adoption of this resolution, and the dedicated and professional staff of the GAO who work diligently to produce fact-based reports, thoughtful recommendations, and sound legal decisions; and

(5) will continue to partner with the GAO in the pursuit of its mission—

(A) to support Congress in meeting its constitutional responsibilities; and

(B) to help improve the performance and accountability of the Federal Government for the benefit of the people of the United States.

Ms. HASAN. Mr. President, it is my great honor, as Chair of the U.S. Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committees Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Spending Oversight to recognize July 1, 2021, as the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the Government Accountability Office (GAO), and commend it for its service to the people of the United States. I am grateful to Comptroller General Gene Dodaro and to GAO’s 3,200 employees who work hard to ensure that federal programs are well managed and fiscally responsible. As we recognize the GAO, I also encourage my colleagues to continue to partner with the GAO as we work together to help improve the performance of the federal government for the benefit of the American people. I urge my colleagues to join me in adopting this resolution.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2119. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1251, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program to reduce barriers to entry for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary markets, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2119. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1251, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a program to reduce barriers to entry for

farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in certain voluntary markets, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Growing Climate Solutions Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. GREENHOUSE GAS TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDER AND THIRD-PARTY VERIFIER TRANSPARENCY PROGRAM.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

(1) to increase access to informational resources for farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners regarding voluntary environmental credit markets, including through the Program;

(2) to provide informational resources relating to technical assistance through covered entities to farmers, ranchers, and private forest landowners in overcoming barriers to entry into voluntary environmental credit markets; and

(3) to establish the Advisory Council to advise the Secretary regarding the Program and other related matters.

(b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ADVISORY COUNCIL.—The term “Advisory Council” means the Greenhouse Gas Technical Assistance Provider and Third-Party Verifier Transparency Program Advisory Council established under subsection (f)(1).

(2) AGRICULTURE OR FORESTRY CREDIT.—The term “agriculture or forestry credit” means a credit derived from the prevention, reduction, or mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions or carbon sequestration on agricultural land or private forest land that may be bought or sold on a voluntary environmental credit market.

(3) BEGINNING FARMER OR RANCHER.—The term “beginning farmer or rancher” has the meaning given the term in section 2501(a) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 (7 U.S.C. 2279(a)).

(4) COVERED ENTITY.—The term “covered entity” means a person or State that either—

(A) is a provider of technical assistance to farmers, ranchers, or private forest landowners in carrying out sustainable land use management practices that—

(i) prevent, reduce, or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions; or

(ii) sequester carbon; or

(B) is a third-party verifier entity that conducts the verification of the processes described in protocols for voluntary environmental credit markets.

(5) GREENHOUSE GAS.—The term “greenhouse gas” means—

(A) carbon dioxide;

(B) methane;

(C) nitrous oxide; and

(D) any other gas that the Secretary, in consultation with the Advisory Council, determines has been identified to have heat trapping qualities.

(6) PROGRAM.—The term “Program” means the Greenhouse Gas Technical Assistance Provider and Third-Party Verifier Transparency Program established under subsection (c).

(7) PROTOCOL.—The term “protocol” means a systematic approach that follows a science-based methodology that is transparent and thorough to establish resources—

(A) for the development of projects to prevent, reduce, or mitigate greenhouse gas emissions or sequester carbon that include 1 or more baseline scenarios; and

(B) demonstrating how to quantify, monitor, report, and verify the prevention, reduction, or mitigation of greenhouse gas