

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-156. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Illinois urging the federal government to publish and certify without delay the Equal Rights Amendment as the Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and urging the United States Congress to pass a joint resolution, affirming the Equal Rights Amendment as the Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

Whereas, in 1972, the Ninety-second Congress of the United States of America, at its Second Session in both houses, by a constitutional majority of two-thirds, adopted the following proposition to amend the Constitution of the United States of America:

Joint Resolution Resolved by the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States of America in Congress Assembled (Two-Thirds of Each House Concurring Therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

"Article—

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification."; and

Whereas, Article V of the Constitution of the United States sets forth a two-step amending procedure; and

Whereas, The first step of the Article V amending procedure is proposal of an amendment either by two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress or by a convention called by application of two-thirds of the States; and

Whereas, The second and final step of the Article V amending procedure is ratification of an amendment by three-fourths of the States; and

Whereas, The Constitution of the United States does not limit the time for States to ratify an amendment; and

Whereas, The time limit within the internal resolution used by Congress in 1972 to propose the Equal Rights Amendment is, thus, without force or effect, and

Whereas, The so-called Madison Amendment, relating to Compensation of Members of Congress, is the Twenty-Seventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, In 1789, by two-thirds vote of each house of the First Congress, the Madison Amendment completed the proposal step of Article V; and

Whereas, Approximately 203 years later, the Madison Amendment completed the ratification step of Article V through ratification by three-fourths of the States; and

Whereas, In 1992, having met the requirements of Article V, the Madison Amendment was published and certified by the Administration of President George H.W. Bush as the Twenty-Seventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, Following publication of the Madison Amendment, Congress affirmed the

Madison Amendment as the Twenty-Seventh Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, As of January 27, 2020, three-fourths of the States have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment; and

Whereas, In contrast to the Madison Amendment which took 203 years to ratify, the Equal Rights Amendment took a mere 48 years to ratify and

Whereas, The Equal Rights Amendment now meets the requirements of Article V of the Constitution of the United States to be added as the Twenty-Eighth Amendment; therefore, be it

Resolved, by the House of Representatives of the one hundred third general assembly of the state of Illinois, the Senate Concurring Herein, That the General Assembly urges the Administration of President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. to publish and certify without delay the Equal Rights Amendment as the Twenty-Eighth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly urges the Congress of the United States to pass a joint resolution affirming the Equal Rights Amendment as the Twenty-Eighth Amendment of the Constitution of the United States; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly calls on other States to join in this action by passing the same or similar resolutions; and be it further

Resolved, That suitable copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President and Vice President of the United States, to Members of the United States Congress, and to the Archivist of the United States.

POM-157. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland urging the federal government to publish, without delay, the federal Equal Rights Amendment as the Twenty-eighth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the United States Congress to pass a joint resolution affirming the Equal Rights Amendment as the Twenty-eighth Amendment; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1

Whereas, in 1972, the 92nd Congress of the United States, at its second session, in both houses, by a constitutional majority of two-thirds, adopted the following proposition to amend the U.S. Constitution:

"Joint resolution resolved by the House of Representatives and Senate of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the following article is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all intents and purposes as a part of the Constitution when ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission by the Congress:

ARTICLE

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification."; and

Whereas, Article V of the U.S. Constitution provides a two-step procedure for the adoption of an amendment; and

Whereas, The first requirement for the adoption of an amendment under Article V is the proposal of an amendment either by a two-thirds vote of both houses of Congress, or by a convention called by application of two-thirds of the states; and

Whereas, The second requirement for the adoption of an amendment under Article V is

ratification of an amendment by three-fourths of the states; and

Whereas, The U.S. Constitution does not limit the time for states to ratify an amendment and does not grant Congress the authority to unilaterally limit the time by which an amendment may be ratified; and

Whereas, A time limitation for the ratification of amendments by the states would be a substantive change to the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, To have full force and effect, a substantive change to the U.S. Constitution must be within the text of an amendment so that it may be ratified by the states as part of the requirements of Article V; and

Whereas, The time limitation on state ratifications was in the preamble section of the resolution by Congress and not within the text of the amendment presented to states for state approval; and

Whereas, Because of the placement of the time limitation, the states ratified the text of the Equal Rights Amendment but did not ratify the time limit by Congress; and

Whereas, A time limit was approved in the Equal Rights Amendment by Congress in 1972, but has not been subsequently approved by the states and thus is without force or effect; and

Whereas, in comparison, in 1978, Congress passed the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment, which included a time limitation within the text of the Amendment offered to the states for ratification; and

Whereas, The time limitation for the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment ended before ratification of the amendment by three-fourths of the states; and

Whereas, Because the time limit was within the text of the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment, the time limit had full force and effect and the amendment expired in 1985; and

Whereas, In comparison, the Twenty-first Amendment and the Twenty-second Amendment include time limitations within the text of each amendment, and the timelines were ratified by three-fourths of the states in accordance with the text of the amendments; and

Whereas, In 1789, the First Congress proposed, in accordance with Article V, the Madison Amendment relating to compensation of members of Congress; and

Whereas, Over 202 years later, the Madison Amendment was ratified by three-fourths of the states; and

Whereas, In 1992, having finally met the requirements of Article V, the Madison Amendment was published as the 27th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution by the Archivist of the United States during the Administration of President George H.W. Bush; and

Whereas, Following publication of the Madison Amendment by the Archivist of the United States, Congress affirmed the Madison Amendment as the Twenty-seventh Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, As of January 27, 2020, three-fourths of the states have ratified the Equal Rights Amendment; and

Whereas, Unlike the District of Columbia Voting Rights Amendment, the Equal Rights Amendment does not contain a time limit in its text where it would be of full force and effect; and

Whereas, In contrast to the Madison Amendment, which took 203 years to ratify, the Equal Rights Amendment took only 48 years to ratify; and

Whereas, The text of Article V of the U.S. Constitution grants the states the power of ratification, not rescission; and

Whereas, Samuel Johnson's dictionary of 1755 defines "ratify" as "to confirm; to settle"; and

Whereas, Bouvier's Law Dictionary of 1856, considered to be the first American legal dictionary, states that a ratification once done, "cannot be revoked or recalled"; and

Whereas, James Madison wrote in a July 20, 1788, letter to Alexander Hamilton that ratification is "in toto and for ever"; and

Whereas, Various attempts to rescind ratifications of provisions of the U.S. Constitution or its amendments, including the Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Nineteenth Amendments, have never been honored; and

Whereas, The General Assembly of Maryland set a precedent for this resolution in 1961 by passing House Joint Resolution 14 urging Congress to pass the Equal Rights Amendment; and

Whereas, Maryland was one of the early states to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment in May 1972, two months after Congress proposed it for ratification; and

Whereas, Maryland adopted the Maryland Equal Rights Amendment to the Maryland Constitution in 1972; and

Whereas, The Maryland Equal Rights Amendment is only effective to the degree that it does not conflict with federal law; and

Whereas, The Maryland Attorney General filed an amicus brief in 2022 in support of a lawsuit brought by three ratifying states to require the Archivist of the United States to certify and publish the Equal Rights Amendment as an amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and

Whereas, Over several decades, the General Assembly of Maryland has passed laws and created protections attempting to guarantee equal rights under the law for all Marylanders, regardless of race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, disability, creed, religion, or sex—which includes legal equality and protection from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, pregnancy outcomes, and decisions regarding reproductive healthcare or other aspects of an individual's bodily autonomy; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That it is the opinion of the General Assembly of Maryland that the Equal Rights Amendment meets the requirements of Article V of the U.S. Constitution and should be recognized as the 28th Amendment; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Maryland urges the Administration of President Joseph R. Biden to publish, without delay, the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Maryland urges the Congress of the United States to pass a joint resolution affirming the Equal Rights Amendment as the 28th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly of Maryland calls on other states to join in this action by passing similar resolutions; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Joseph R. Biden, President of the United States of America, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20500; the Honorable Kamala Harris, Vice President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Colleen Joy Shogan, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, 700 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20408; the Maryland Congressional Delegation; and the presiding officer of each House of the legislature of each state of the United States, with the request that it be circulated among lead-

ership of the legislative branch of the state governments.

POM-158. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Colorado requesting that the Federal Trade Commission facilitate the use of reparability scores that indicate to consumers the reparability of electronic devices; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 24-1005

Whereas, According to the e-waste monitors of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, more than fifty-nine million tons of used electronic devices, equal to the weight of one hundred sixty-one Empire State Buildings, are disposed of each year worldwide; and

Whereas, The federal Environmental Protection Agency reports that electronic waste is now the fastest-growing part of the municipal waste stream in the United States; and

Whereas, Colorado consumers do not have easy access to trusted information concerning the reparability and longevity of electronic devices and are unable to consult such information before purchasing or seeking repair of electronic devices; and

Whereas, The commissioners of the Federal Trade Commission voted unanimously in July 2021 to "closely coordinate with state law enforcement and policymakers to update existing law and regulation to advance the goal of open repair markets"; and

Whereas, A study cited in the Commission's May 2021 "Nixing the Fix" report states that "[t]he lack of information concerning durable and repairable products causes an asymmetry in the market balance and leaves consumers unable to make the best buying decisions regarding to their own needs"; and

Whereas, Open repair markets allow manufacturers to voluntarily assign repair scores for electronic devices such as laptops, phones, and appliances for the purpose of advising consumers regarding the reparability of such devices; and

Whereas, Repair scores function similarly to EnergyGuide labels by providing consumers a one-to-ten score that reflects the availability of spare parts, ease of disassembly, and longevity of support that is associated with an electronic device, thereby informing consumers who seek to repair rather than replace such products; and

Whereas, Repairability scores are a critical tool for consumers whose budgets are squeezed by rising prices. According to the Public Interest Research Group, an average American family spends about one thousand seven hundred dollars on new electronics per year, and an open repair market for electronic devices could save American families a combined forty-nine billion dollars annually by empowering them to repair rather than replace such devices; and

Whereas, Samsung's research on existing repair scores in France showed that eighty-six percent of surveyed French consumers said that repair scores affect their purchasing behavior, and eighty percent indicated they would give up their favorite electronic device for a more repairable electronic device; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Seventy-fourth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

(1) That, in order to promote consumer choice, the General Assembly requests:

(a) That the Federal Trade Commission establish criteria that manufacturers of electronic devices may use to voluntarily assign reparability scores to such devices, which scores range from one to ten and may be displayed to consumers at point of sale;

(b) That the Commission periodically update such criteria; and

(c) That the Commission, in establishing and updating the criteria, include consideration of:

(I) The free and public availability of technical documents regarding an electronic device;

(II) The ease of disassembly of an electronic device;

(III) The availability of spare parts for an electronic device;

(IV) The price of spare parts for an electronic device;

(V) The length of time that a manufacturer offers software support for an electronic device; and

(VI) Other criteria specific to certain categories of electronic devices; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to President Joe Biden; Vice President Kamala Harris; Speaker of the House of Representatives Mike Johnson; Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer; Senate Minority Leader Mitch McConnell; House of Representatives Majority Leader Steve Scalise; House of Representatives Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries; Commissioner Lina Khan, Commissioner Rebecca Slaughter, and Commissioner Alvaro Bedoya of the Federal Trade Commission; Governor Jared Polis; and Attorney General Phil Weiser.

POM-159. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana urging and requesting the United States Congress to enact reforms to federal permitting policies to accelerate deployment of new energy infrastructure; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2

Whereas, Louisiana recognizes that abundant, resilient, and diversified domestic energy production in the United States enhances American national security, economic competitiveness, and energy independence; and

Whereas, environmental stewardship that keeps our air and water clean, protects public health, ensures biodiversity and species protection, and conserves public lands is a worthy goal that is important to achieve; and

Whereas, the excessively complex federal permitting and environmental review processes that have built up around America's environmental laws—including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Clean Water Act (CWA), and dozens of other federal requirements—have grown to be so cumbersome that they often unnecessarily slow or prevent the construction of essential new energy infrastructure and therefore discourage domestic energy production without advancing the goals of these laws; and

Whereas, energy is produced in the United States at a much higher environmental standard than is typically the case in the countries from which energy is imported, so prevention of domestic energy production undermines environmental stewardship; and

Whereas, delays caused by permitting inefficiencies inhibit the building of all of the essential components of a low-cost, reliable, and modern energy infrastructure that is needed to support economic competitiveness and domestic manufacturing, to enhance reliability and prevent blackouts, to lower costs for consumers and businesses, and to achieve the goals of America's environmental laws; and

Whereas, after nearly two decades of flat electricity demand, demand for electricity in

the United States is projected to dramatically increase in the coming decades, requiring major increases in domestic energy production and a more than doubling of domestic electricity transmission grid capacity; and

Whereas, regulatory barriers today mean that more than two thousand gigawatts of energy production and storage, which accounts for more than the entire current American electricity capacity combined, are stuck in electricity interconnection queues and the average amount of time to interconnect new energy resources has nearly doubled from about two years to nearly four years; and

Whereas, the average time it takes to process an environmental impact statement under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for major infrastructure projects has risen to an excessive length of four-and-a-half years; and

Whereas, the United States is highly reliant on China and other countries that do not share our interests to mine and process critical minerals, with demand for some of these minerals potentially growing by more than forty times by 2040; and

Whereas, other developed nations that share our goals to protect the environment while producing abundant energy resources, such as Canada and Australia, have shown that they can permit new mines within two to three years instead of nearly ten years, as is often the case in the United States; and

Whereas, both linear infrastructure, such as pipelines and transmission lines; as well as energy generation infrastructure each face extraordinary and indefensible delays due to excessive litigation, inappropriate blocking of nationally important projects by unrepresentative and often radical groups that hold those projects hostage, and excessive use of our court system to hamstringing worthy projects; and

Whereas, major delays in projects caused by inefficient permitting or over litigation can dramatically increase costs and make projects less viable, costing consumers, businesses, and taxpayers money and making our energy system less reliable; and

Whereas, unnecessary permitting and regulatory delays also increase American dependence on energy produced by foreign dictators and authoritarian regimes; and

Whereas, unnecessary permitting delays limit investments made in modernizing our nation's infrastructure that would result in a more efficient energy system with reduced emissions and environmental impact; and

Whereas, overlapping federal permitting requirements lack the flexibility to allow for efforts that reflect the spirit and intent of traditional environmental laws by protecting human health and the environment instead of procedural compliance with outdated regulations; and

Whereas, failure to reform federal permitting laws is already resulting in fewer jobs, reduced security, and higher prices for Americans without providing additional benefits for the environment; and

Whereas, failing to reform these laws in the coming months will result in even greater limitations on our energy infrastructure, costing even more American jobs while raising costs for consumers and businesses and leaving America vulnerable to unreliability, blackouts, and resulting in severe harm to the American people. Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request federal legislators to work in good faith to enact legislation that reforms federal permitting and environmental review processes to promote economic and environmental stewardship by expediting the deployment of modern energy infrastructure. Be it further

Resolved, That these reforms should enable faster and lower-cost construction of energy infrastructure of all kinds, without prejudice, including by considering steps to do the following:

(1) Limit excessive use of judicial processes to slow projects inappropriately.

(2) Prevent inappropriate usage of the Clean Water Act and other laws to hamstring the lawful building of linear energy infrastructure, such as pipelines and transmission lines.

(3) Enact reforms to plan, permit, and pay for the necessary build-out of electricity transmission infrastructure to support a more reliable energy grid that lowers costs for consumers and businesses.

(4) Enable the domestic build-out of the full array of modern energy technologies, including nuclear, emissions management, hydrogen, critical mineral mining and processing, and all other needs for a modern energy system. Be it further

Resolved, That these legislative reforms should also strive to ensure accountability for federal agencies conducting permitting and environmental review processes, including better data, more aggressive time lines, and permitting shot clocks. Additionally these legislative reforms must be accompanied by a redoubling of efforts to streamline federal regulations to support the efficient building of new energy infrastructure. Be it further

Resolved, That failure to act to update our federal permitting system to support building new energy infrastructure will further harm consumers, workers, and businesses, while making the United States less competitive and more vulnerable to both foreign adversaries and domestic outages. Be it further

Resolved, That Congress must act with urgency in the coming months to fix our broken permitting system. 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.

POM-160. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana urging the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to impose a quota or tariff on imported shrimp, crab meat, and crawfish and to enact a buy plan for domestic shrimp, crab meat, and crawfish directly from domestic commercial fisherman; to the Committee on Finance.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 9

Whereas, the domestic fishing industry has faced severe hardships, such as Hurricane Ida and other natural disasters, repeated openings of the Bonnet Carré Spillway, unfair trade practices, illegal chemicals, rising inflation, gas prices, and supply chain issues; and

Whereas, in October of 2022, United States Congressman Garret Graves announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) purchased up to twenty-five million dollars of Gulf of Mexico and South Atlantic wild caught shrimp; and

Whereas, Section 32 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act authorizes the USDA to purchase domestic shrimp; and

Whereas, purchases such as this will help provide relief to Louisiana's shrimp industry; and

Whereas, Louisiana's seafood industry is the largest supplier in the country and the main economic driver in coastal areas; and

Whereas, more relief is necessary for the Louisiana seafood industry to compete with foreign importers; and

Whereas, strategies to ensure that domestic commercial fishermen are able to sell their products are necessary for the continued success of the Louisiana seafood industry; and

Whereas, plans to buy shrimp directly from domestic commercial shrimp fishermen are of vital importance to ensure the success of coastal communities that rely heavily on this industry. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to impose a quota or tariff on imported shrimp, crab meat, and crawfish and to enact a buy plan for domestic shrimp, crab meat, and crawfish directly from domestic commercial fishermen; 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.

POM-161. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands recognizing and calling for an immediate de-escalation and cease-fire in Israel and occupied Palestine; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 23-15

Whereas, all life is precious and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands calls on elected officials and residents alike to protect life and stand united against violence; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands advocates for the safety, dignity, freedom, and equality of all people, regardless of religion, race, or nationality; and

Whereas, thousands of people from Israel and Palestine have been killed in a matter of weeks, of whom a significant amount of them are children; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands recognizes that the current crisis takes place within a long history and affirms that, for a pathway to lasting peace and justice to be developed, the root causes of the crisis need to be addressed; and

Whereas, Gaza is in a dire humanitarian crisis that is getting worse with each passing day, with the only remaining hospitals running out of fuel and medical supplies, and over 1.5 million Palestinians facing displacement, homelessness, and starvation; and

Whereas, international organizations like Amnesty International, the United Nations, the World Health Organization, the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the International Rescue Committee, and many others have made a call for a ceasefire in order to prevent the further loss of life of civilians and to be in accordance with international humanitarian law; and

Whereas, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands support U.S. Congress Resolution H.R. 786 and joins other cities in calling on our Congress Members to demand; an immediate ceasefire; release of all hostages, the unrestricted entry of humanitarian assistance into Gaza; the restoration of food, water, electricity, and medical supplies to Gaza; and the respect for international law; and calls for a resolution that protects the security of all innocent civilians; and Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the House of Representatives of the Twenty-Third Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature that the House recognizes and calls for an immediate de-escalation and cease-fire in Israel and occupied Palestine; and be it further

Resolved, That the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall certify, and the House Clerk shall attest to the adoption of this resolution and thereafter the House Clerk shall transmit a certified copy to the Honorable Joe Biden, President, United States of America; the Honorable Kamala Harris, Vice President, United States of America; Representatives and Senators of the 118th United States Congress; the Honorable Arnold I. Palacios, Governor, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; the Honorable Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan, U.S. Delegate to the United States Congress, 118th United States Congress; and the Honorable Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero, Senate President, the 23rd Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature.

POM-162. A resolution adopted by the Council of the County of Maui, Hawaii, opposing construction of the proposed Air Force Maui Optical and Supercomputing Site Small Telescope Advanced Research Facility atop Haleakala; to the Committee on Armed Services.

POM-163. A resolution adopted by the Board of County Commissioners of Sante Fe County, New Mexico, calling for a permanent ceasefire, release of all hostages, delivery of humanitarian aid, and affirmation of opposition to anti-Semitism and Islamophobia in the Gaza Strip; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. PETERS, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 1524. A bill to ensure that whistleblowers, including contractors, are protected from retaliation when a Federal employee orders a reprisal, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 118-202).

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. KAINE (for himself and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 4819. A bill to require an annual report on the unfunded programs, activities, and mission requirements within the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CASEY:

S. 4820. A bill to direct the Attorney General to establish a single grant program to make grants to hire prosecutors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. LUJÁN, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 4821. A bill to require executive agencies to take steps to better meet the statutory deadline for processing communications use applications, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. CRUZ:

S. 4822. A bill to ensure that parents are aware of foreign influence in their child's public school, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MULLIN (for himself, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 4823. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to adjust the dollar thresholds for National Labor Relations Board jurisdiction over certain labor disputes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WELCH):

S. 4824. A bill to make housing more affordable, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for himself, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. BLACKBURN, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 4825. A bill to provide that silencers be treated the same a firearms accessories; to the Committee on Finance.

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

S. 4826. A bill to provide that persons having seriously delinquent tax debts shall be ineligible for employment by the Internal Revenue Service; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 4827. A bill to improve transparency and the availability of information regarding dietary supplements by amending the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require manufacturers of dietary supplements to list dietary supplements with the Food and Drug Administration; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO:

S. 4828. A bill to establish the Bahsahwahbee National Monument in the State of Nevada, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

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

S. 4829. A bill to direct the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to clarify that implanted active middle ear hearing devices are prosthetics and are not subject to the hearing aid coverage exclusion under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 4830. A bill to strengthen the authority of the United States Secret Service to investigate various crimes related to digital asset transactions and to counter transnational cyber criminal activity, including unlicensed money transmitting businesses, structured transactions, and fraud against financial institutions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 91

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 91, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.

S. 930

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 930, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act

of 1968 to provide public safety officer benefits for exposure-related cancers, and for other purposes.

S. 1008

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1008, a bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to promulgate a consumer product safety standard with respect to rechargeable lithium-ion batteries used in mobility devices, and for other purposes.

S. 1409

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1409, a bill to protect the safety of children on the internet.

S. 1418

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1418, a bill to amend the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act of 1998 to strengthen protections relating to the online collection, use, and disclosure of personal information of children and teens, and for other purposes.

S. 1424

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1424, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to improve health care coverage under vision and dental plans, and for other purposes.

S. 2581

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2581, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 2768

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2768, a bill to protect hospital personnel from violence, and for other purposes.

S. 3192

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3192, a bill to designate Ansarallah as a foreign terrorist organization and impose certain sanctions on Ansarallah, and for other purposes.

S. 3502

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3502, a bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to prevent consumer reporting agencies from furnishing consumer reports under certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 3651

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3651, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure coverage of mental health services furnished through telehealth.