

of S. 899, a bill to amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to modify limitations on amounts of farm ownership loans and operating loans, and for other purposes.

S. 925

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) were added as cosponsors of S. 925, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for working family caregivers.

S. 1043

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1043, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the energy credit for qualified fuel cell property.

S. 1101

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1101, a bill to authorize the use of Federal Bureau of Investigation criminal history record information for administration of certain licenses.

S. 1130

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1130, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to provide technology grants to strengthen domestic mining education, and for other purposes.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1172, a bill to unfreeze funding for contracts of the Department of Agriculture, to prohibit Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Service office closures, and for other purposes.

S. 1182

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1182, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to prohibit institutions of higher education that authorize antisemitic events on campus from participating in the student loan and grant programs under title IV of such Act.

S. 1302

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1302, a bill to provide for increased transparency in generic drug applications.

S. 1335

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1335, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude debt held by certain insurance companies from capital assets and to

extend capital loss carryovers for such companies from 5 years to 10 years.

S. 1408

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1408, a bill to establish the Chesapeake National Recreation Area as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 1459

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1459, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1515

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) and the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) were added as cosponsors of S. 1515, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1532, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 1549

At the request of Mr. GALLEG0, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1549, a bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to provide grants under the Drinking Water Infrastructure Risk and Resilience Program for training programs relating to protecting public water systems from and responding to cyberattacks, and for other purposes.

S. 1561

At the request of Mr. CRAMER, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) were added as cosponsors of S. 1561, a bill to authorize notaries public to perform, and to establish minimum standards for, electronic notarizations and remote notarizations that occur in or affect interstate commerce, to require any Federal court to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any State, to require any State to recognize notarizations performed by a notarial officer of any other State when the notarization was performed under or relates to a public Act, record, or judicial proceeding of the notarial officer's State or when the notarization occurs in or affects interstate commerce, and for other purposes.

S. 1563

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1563, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to establish a grant program to

help law enforcement agencies with civilian law enforcement tasks, and for other purposes.

S. 1581

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1581, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to create Universal Savings Accounts.

S. 1593

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1593, a bill to exempt small business concerns from duties imposed pursuant to the national emergency declared on April 2, 2025, by the President.

S. 1668

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1668, a bill to amend chapter 131 of title 5, United States Code, to prohibit the President, Vice President, Members of Congress, and individuals appointed to Senate-confirmed positions from issuing, sponsoring, or endorsing certain financial instruments, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 81

At the request of Mr. RICKETTS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 81, a resolution calling on the United Kingdom, France, and Germany (E3) to initiate the snapback of sanctions on Iran under United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 (2015).

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Ms. SMITH):

S. 1676. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to address the teacher and school leader shortage in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1676

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 "Retaining Educators Takes Added Investment Now Act" or the "RETAIN Act".

SEC. 2. PURPOSE.

The purpose of this Act is to create a refundable tax credit for early childhood educators, teachers, early childhood education program directors, school leaders, and school-based mental health services providers in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education settings that rewards retention based on the time spent serving high-need students.

SEC. 3. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The shortage of experienced, qualified early childhood educators and elementary school and secondary school teachers is a national problem that compromises the academic outcomes and long-term success of students.

(2) The shortage is the result of many factors including low pay, frequent turnover in school leadership, poor teaching conditions, and inadequate teacher supports.

(3) The shortage is worse in high-poverty areas where the factors contributing to the shortage are particularly acute and have an increased negative impact on teachers of color remaining in the field.

(4) A child's access to high-quality early childhood education is critical to supporting positive outcomes, and early childhood educators—

(A) play an important role in setting the foundation for future learning, and

(B) promote the development of vital skills, habits, and mindsets that children need to be successful in school and in life.

(5) In 2024, the national median pay of early childhood educators was a mere \$37,120, with many early childhood educators relying on government assistance programs such as Medicaid, the supplemental nutrition assistance program established under the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 (7 U.S.C. 2011 et seq.), or the temporary assistance for needy families program established under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.), and struggling to provide for their own families.

(6) Studies have demonstrated that well-qualified, experienced teachers are the single most important school-based element contributing to a child's academic achievement and success.

(7) In the 2023–2024 academic year, the average teacher salary in public elementary schools and secondary schools was only \$72,030. When adjusted for inflation, the average teacher salary has declined by 5 percent over the past decade.

(8) On average, public elementary school and secondary school teachers were paid 23.5 percent less than other college graduates working in non-teaching fields, and many teachers struggle with large amounts of student loan debt.

(9) In the 2023–2024 academic year, the average teacher salary for a first-year teacher in a public elementary school or secondary school was \$46,526.

(10) An experienced, well-qualified education workforce must also be reflective of the diversity of the student body across race, ethnicity, and disability.

(11) Higher pay for teachers can result in a more diverse teacher workforce, and minority students often perform better on standardized tests, have improved attendance, and are suspended less frequently when they have at least one same-race teacher.

(12) Experienced, well-qualified school leaders and school-based mental health service providers are essential for providing strong educational opportunities and services for students and promoting teacher retention through improved professional supports and teaching conditions.

(13) In 2024, the teaching profession experienced the lowest levels of employment in 50 years.

SEC. 4. REFUNDABLE TAX CREDIT FOR TEACHER AND SCHOOL LEADER RETENTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after section 36B the following new section:

“SEC. 36C. TEACHER AND SCHOOL LEADER RETENTION CREDIT.

“(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual who is employed in a position described in paragraph (2) during a school year ending with or within the taxable year, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this subtitle for the taxable year an amount equal to the applicable amount (as determined under subsection (b)).

“(2) ELIGIBLE POSITIONS.—The positions described in this paragraph shall consist of the following:

“(A) An eligible early childhood educator.

“(B) An eligible early childhood education program director.

“(C) An eligible early childhood education provider.

“(D) An eligible teacher.

“(E) An eligible paraprofessional.

“(F) An eligible school-based mental health services provider.

“(G) An eligible school leader.

“(b) APPLICABLE AMOUNT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this section, the applicable amount shall be an amount determined based on the number of school years for which the individual has been continuously employed in any position described in subsection (a)(2), as follows:

“(A) Subject to paragraph (2), for the first year of employment, \$5,800.

“(B) For the second continuous year of employment, \$5,800.

“(C) For the third and fourth continuous year of employment, \$7,000.

“(D) For the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth continuous year of employment, \$8,700.

“(E) For the tenth continuous year of employment, \$11,600.

“(F) For the eleventh, twelfth, thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth continuous year of employment, \$8,700.

“(G) For the sixteenth continuous year of employment, \$7,000.

“(H) For the seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth continuous year of employment, \$5,800.

“(2) FIRST YEAR.—For purposes of the first year of employment ending with or within a taxable year, an individual must have been so employed for a period of not less than 4 months before the first day of such taxable year.

“(3) LIMITATION BASED ON TOTAL NUMBER OF SCHOOL YEARS.—In the case of any individual who has been employed in any position described in subsection (a)(2) for a total of more than 20 school years, the applicable amount shall be reduced to zero.

“(c) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2026, each of the dollar amounts in subsection (b)(1) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

“(A) such dollar amount, multiplied by

“(B) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for such calendar year by substituting ‘calendar year 2025’ for ‘calendar year 2016’ in subparagraph (A)(ii) thereof.

“(2) ROUNDING.—If any increase determined under paragraph (1) is not a multiple of \$100, such increase shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of \$100.

“(d) SUPPLEMENTING, NOT SUPPLANTING, STATE AND LOCAL EDUCATION FUNDS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—A State educational agency or local educational agency shall not reduce or adjust any compensation, or any assistance provided through a loan forgiveness program, to an employee of the State educational agency or local educational agency who serves in any position described in subsection (a)(2) due to the individual's eligibility for the credit under this section.

“(2) METHODOLOGY.—Upon request by the Secretary of Education, a State educational agency or local educational agency shall reasonably demonstrate that the methodology used to allocate amounts for compensation and for loan forgiveness to the employees described in paragraph (1) at qualifying schools or qualifying early childhood education programs ensures that employees at each qualifying school or qualifying early childhood education program in the State or served by the local educational agency, respectively, receive the same amount of State or local funds for compensation and loan forgiveness that the qualifying school or qualifying early childhood education program would receive if the credit under this section had not been enacted.

“(e) INFORMATION SHARING.—The Secretary of Education and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall provide the Secretary with such information as is necessary for purposes of determining whether an early childhood education program or an elementary school or secondary school satisfies the requirements for a qualifying early childhood education program or a qualifying school, respectively.

“(f) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) ESEA DEFINITIONS.—The terms ‘elementary school’, ‘local educational agency’, ‘secondary school’, ‘State educational agency’, and ‘educational service agency’ have the meanings given the terms in section 8101 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7801).

“(2) ELIGIBLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM DIRECTOR.—The term ‘eligible early childhood education program director’ means an employee or officer of a qualifying early childhood education program who is responsible for the daily instructional leadership and managerial operations of such program.

“(3) ELIGIBLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROVIDER.—The term ‘eligible early childhood education provider’ means an individual—

“(A) who—

“(i) has an associate's degree or higher degree in early childhood education or a related field, or

“(ii) is enrolled during the taxable year in a program leading to such an associate's or higher degree and is making satisfactory progress toward such degree, and

“(B) who is responsible for the daily instructional leadership and managerial operations of a qualifying early childhood education program in a home-based setting.

“(4) ELIGIBLE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATOR.—The term ‘eligible early childhood educator’ means an individual—

“(A) who—

“(i) has an associate's degree or higher degree in early childhood education or a related field, or

“(ii) is enrolled during the taxable year in a program leading to such an associate's or higher degree and is making satisfactory progress toward such degree,

“(B) who has credentials or a license under State law for early childhood education, as applicable, and

“(C) whose primary responsibility is for the learning and development of children in a qualifying early childhood education program during the taxable year.

“(5) ELIGIBLE PARAPROFESSIONAL.—The term ‘eligible paraprofessional’ means an individual—

“(A) who is a paraprofessional, as defined in section 3201 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7011),

“(B) who meets the applicable State professional standards and qualifications pursuant to section 1111(g)(2)(M) of such Act (20 U.S.C. 6311(g)(2)(M)),

“(C) whose primary responsibilities involve working or assisting in a classroom setting, and

“(D) who is employed in a qualifying school or a qualifying early childhood education program.

“(6) ELIGIBLE SCHOOL-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES PROVIDER.—The term ‘eligible school-based mental health services provider’ means an individual—

“(A) described in section 4102(6) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7112(6)), and

“(B) who is employed in a qualifying school or a qualifying early childhood education program.

“(7) ELIGIBLE SCHOOL LEADER.—The term ‘eligible school leader’ means a principal, assistant principal, or other individual who is—

“(A) an employee or officer of a qualifying school, and

“(B) responsible for the daily instructional leadership and managerial operations in the qualifying school.

“(8) ELIGIBLE TEACHER.—The term ‘eligible teacher’ means an individual who—

“(A) is an elementary school or secondary school teacher who, as determined by the State or local educational agency, is a teacher of record who provides direct classroom teaching (or classroom-type teaching in a nonclassroom setting) to students in a qualifying school, and

“(B)(i) meets applicable State certification and licensure requirements, including any requirements for certification obtained through alternative routes to certification, in the State in which such school is located and in the subject area in which the individual is the teacher of record, or

“(ii) is enrolled during the taxable year in a program leading to State certification and licensure as described in clause (i) and is making satisfactory progress toward such certification and licensure requirements.

“(9) QUALIFYING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘qualifying early childhood education program’ means an early childhood education program, as defined in section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003), that, regardless of setting—

“(i) serves children who receive services for which financial assistance is provided in accordance with the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 9857 et seq.), the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9831 et seq.), or the child and adult care food program established under section 17 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1766), and

“(ii) participates in a State tiered and transparent system for measuring program quality.

“(B) SPECIAL RULE.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), an early childhood education program that does not satisfy the requirements of subparagraph (A)(ii) shall be deemed to be a qualifying early childhood education program until September 30, 2025, if the program—

“(i) satisfies all requirements of subparagraph (A) except for clause (ii) of such subparagraph, and

“(ii)(I) meets the Head Start program performance standards described in section 641A(a) of the Head Start Act (42 U.S.C. 9836a(a)), if applicable, or

“(II) is accredited by a national accreditor of early learning programs as of the date of enactment of the Retaining Educators Takes Added Investment Now Act.

“(10) QUALIFYING SCHOOL.—The term ‘qualifying school’ means—

“(A) a public elementary school or secondary school that—

“(i) is in the school district of a local educational agency that is eligible for assistance under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.), or

“(ii) is served or operated by an educational service agency that is eligible for such assistance, or

“(B) an elementary school or secondary school that is funded by the Bureau of Indian Education and that is in the school district of a local educational agency that is eligible for such assistance.”

(b) W-2 REPORTING OF CONTINUOUS EMPLOYMENT FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS AT QUALIFYING EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAMS OR QUALIFYING SCHOOLS.—Section 6051(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (16), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (17) and inserting “, and”, and by inserting after paragraph (17) the following new paragraph:

“(18) in the case of an employee who is employed in a position described in subsection (a)(2) of section 36C, the number of school years for which such employee has been continuously employed in any such position.”

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The table of sections for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of subtitle A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 36B the following:

“Sec. 36C. Teacher and school leader retention credit.”

(2) Section 6211(b)(4)(A) of such Code is amended by inserting “36C,” after “36B.”

(3) Paragraph (2) of section 1324(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended by inserting “36C,” after “36B.”

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2025.

SEC. 5. DEVELOPING INTERAGENCY DATA SERIES.

The Secretary of Labor, in coordination with the Secretary of Treasury, the Secretary of Education, and the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall—

(1) develop and publish on the internet website of the Bureau of Labor Statistics a data series that captures—

(A) the average base salary of teachers in elementary schools and secondary schools, disaggregated by—

(i) employment in public elementary schools and secondary schools that receive assistance under part A of title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6311 et seq.),

(ii) employment in public elementary schools and secondary schools that do not receive such assistance, and

(iii) geographic region, and

(B) the average base salary of early childhood educators, disaggregated by highest level of degree attained, and

(2) update the data series under paragraph (1) on an annual basis.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. DAINES, Mr. YOUNG, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. SHEEHY, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. CRUZ):

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1688. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the allowance for depreciation, amortization, or depletion for purposes of determining the income limitation on the deduction for business interest and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

S. 1688

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 “Growing America’s Small Businesses and Manufacturing Act”.

SEC. 2. PERMANENT EXTENSION OF ALLOWANCE FOR DEPRECIATION, AMORTIZATION, OR DEPLETION IN DETERMINING THE LIMITATION ON BUSINESS INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 163(j)(8)(A)(v) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “in the case of taxable years beginning before January 1, 2022,”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

SEC. 3. INCREASE IN LIMITATIONS ON EXPENSES OF DEPRECIABLE BUSINESS ASSETS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 179(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking “\$1,000,000” in paragraph (1) and inserting “\$2,500,000”, and

(2) by striking “\$2,500,000” in paragraph (2) and inserting “\$4,000,000”.

(b) INFLATION ADJUSTMENT.—Section 179(b)(6)(A) of such Code is amended—

(1) by striking “2018” and inserting “2025 (2018 in the case of the dollar amount in paragraph (5)(A))”, and

(2) by striking “calendar year 2017” in clause (ii) thereof and inserting “‘calendar year 2024’ (‘calendar year 2017’ in the case of the dollar amount in paragraph (5)(A))”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 208—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF MAY 10, 2025, AS “NATIONAL ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND PACIFIC ISLANDER MENTAL HEALTH DAY”

Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SCHATZ, and Ms. WARREN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 208

Whereas the Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (referred to in this preamble as “AANHPI”) community is among the fastest growing population groups in the United States and has made significant economic, cultural, and social contributions;

Whereas the AANHPI community is extremely diverse in terms of socioeconomic background, education level, types of employment, languages spoken, cultures of origin, acculturation, and migration and colonization status;