

recognition of accrediting agencies or associations for institutions of higher education.

S. 1573

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1573, a bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize and modify the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer Research programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1715

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1715, a bill to prohibit payment card networks and covered entities from requiring the use of or assigning merchant category codes that distinguish a firearms retailer from a general merchandise retailer or sporting goods retailer, and for other purposes.

S. 1754

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1754, a bill to counter the military-civil fusion strategy of the Chinese Communist Party and prevent United States contributions to the development of dual-use technology in China.

S. 1782

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1782, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of mental or physical disability in cases of organ transplants.

S. 1809

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. TUBERVILLE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1809, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking or transmitting video of defense information, and for other purposes.

S. 1816

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1816, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization under Medicare Advantage plans.

S. 1874

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) WAS ADDED AS A COSPONSOR OF S. 1874, A BILL TO AMEND THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT TO REAUTHORIZE CERTAIN NURSING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

S. 1945

At the request of Mr. JUSTICE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1945, a bill to prohibit States and local governments from prohibiting or limiting the connection, reconnection,

modification, installation, transportation, distribution, or expansion of an energy service based on the type or source of energy to be delivered, and for other purposes.

S. 2051

At the request of Ms. BLUNT ROCH-ESTER, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2051, a bill to authorize the Department of Housing and Urban Development to transform neighborhoods of extreme poverty into sustainable, mixed-income neighborhoods with access to economic opportunities, by revitalizing severely distressed housing, and investing and leveraging investments in well-functioning services, educational opportunities, public assets, public transportation, and improved access to jobs, and for other purposes.

S. 2067

At the request of Mr. SCHMITT, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2067, a bill to rescind certain budget authority proposed to be rescinded in special messages transmitted to the Congress by the President on June 3, 2025, in accordance with section 1012(a) of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974.

S. 2203

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2203, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to build safer, thriving communities, and save lives, by investing in effective community-based violence reduction initiatives, and for other purposes.

S. 2210

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 2210, a bill to ensure that the provision of portable benefits to an individual is not considered in determining whether such individual is an employee of a person, and for other purposes.

S. 2211

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2211, a bill to reauthorize the Special Diabetes Program for Type 1 Diabetes and the Special Diabetes Program for Indians.

S. 2230

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2230, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reinstate the rules for wagering losses.

S. 2231

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2231, a bill to protect human rights and enhance opportunities for LGBTQI people around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 2262

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2262, a bill to amend the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 to clarify the nature of public investment for purposes of certain rule-making, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 236

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 236, a resolution calling for the return of abducted Ukrainian children before finalizing any peace agreement to end the war against Ukraine.

S. RES. 240

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 240, a resolution affirming that diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility are fundamental values of the United States and emphasizing the ongoing need to address discrimination and inequality in the workplace, pre-K through 12th grade and higher education systems, government programs, the military, and our society.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. CURTIS, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. MULLIN):

S. 2265. A bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games in Los Angeles, California, and the 2034 Olympics and Paralympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the America's Olympic and Paralympic Games Commemorative Coins Act.

After a 26-year absence, the Olympics are making a big return to American soil with Los Angeles, CA and Salt Lake City, UT, set to host the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games and the 2034 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, respectively.

The America's Olympic and Paralympic Games Commemorative Coin Act would direct the Treasury Department to mint and issue coins in commemoration of these games. The 2028 summer games—or LA28—will be the ninth time that the United States and the third time that Los Angeles will host the modern Olympics. The 2034 winter games will be the 10th time that our Nation and the second time that Salt Lake City will host the modern Olympics.

The proceeds from the sale of these coins will support the hosting of the

2028 and 2034 Games and aid in the execution of their legacy programs, including the promotion of youth sports in the United States. It is also worth noting that this bill would come at no cost to the Federal Government.

As you may know, the United States is one of the only countries with an Olympic committee that does not receive funding from the Federal Government. All U.S.-hosted Olympic Games must instead rely on corporate partnerships, proceeds from broadcast agreements and ticket sales, and philanthropic contributions.

Historically, Congress has authorized commemorative coins to honor the Olympic Games and Olympic athletes, including for the 1984, 1996, and 2002 Olympic Games in the United States. The 2028 games are 3 years from today, and preparations for this grand event have already been underway in the region. This legislation can help ensure the 2028 and 2034 games have the resources necessary to be world-class events and showcase all that America has to offer.

I thank Senators CURTIS, SCHIFF, and MULLIN for introducing this legislation with me in the Senate, as well as Representatives SHERMAN, LUCAS, CALVERT, KAMLAGER-DOVE, and MOORE for leading the companion in the House. I hope all our colleagues will join us in supporting this bill to ensure that Los Angeles, CA, Salt Lake City, UT, and our entire Nation are able to put on successful and memorable Olympic and Paralympic Games.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 320—DESIGNATING JULY 2025 AS “PLASTIC POLLUTION ACTION MONTH”

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 320

Whereas plastic pollution represents a global threat that will require individual and collective action, both nationally and internationally, to address;

Whereas approximately 460,000,000 tons of plastic are produced each year, a number that is projected to triple by 2050;

Whereas, in the United States—

- (1) the rate of plastic waste recycling decreased in 2021 to between 4 and 6 percent; and

- (2) less than 3 percent of plastic waste is recycled into a similar quality product;

Whereas a study from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development found that, in 2024, the United States—

- (1) mismanaged 3 percent of plastic waste;
- (2) landfilled 73 percent of plastic waste;
- (3) incinerated 19 percent of plastic waste; and

- (4) recycled 5 percent of plastic waste;

Whereas single-use plastics account for not less than 40 percent of the plastic produced every year;

Whereas more than 12,000,000 tons of plastic waste enter the ocean every year from land-based sources alone;

Whereas, if no action is taken, the flow of plastics into the ocean is expected to triple by 2040;

Whereas, as of the date of adoption of this resolution, studies estimate that there are approximately 171,000,000,000 pieces of plastic in the oceans of the world;

Whereas, of those 171,000,000,000 pieces of plastic in the ocean, 1 percent floats, 5 percent washes up on beaches, and 94 percent sinks to the bottom;

Whereas more than 2,000 marine species have consumed plastics;

Whereas plastics, and associated chemicals of plastics, are ingested by humans and are associated with well-established human health risks;

Whereas studies show that scientists have found microplastic particles in the blood, lungs, colons, breastmilk, livers, feces, sputum, and placentas of humans;

Whereas studies suggest that humans ingest up to 1,500,000 microplastic particles per day;

Whereas taking action to reduce plastic production and use, to collect and clean up litter, and to reuse and recycle more plastics will lead to less plastic pollution;

Whereas, every July, individuals challenge themselves to reduce their plastic footprint through “Plastics Free July”;

Whereas, during the 50-year period preceding the date of adoption of this resolution, more than 18,000,000 volunteers have joined the International Coastal Cleanup to collect more than 380,000,000 pounds of plastic and debris while simultaneously recording their findings to inform research and upstream action;

Whereas switching to reusable items instead of single-use items can prevent waste, save water, and reduce litter; and

Whereas July 2025 is an appropriate month to designate as “Plastic Pollution Action Month” to recommit to taking action, individually and as a country, to reduce plastic pollution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

- (1) designates July 2025 as “Plastic Pollution Action Month”;

- (2) recognizes the dangers to human health and the environment posed by plastic pollution; and

- (3) encourages all individuals in the United States to protect, conserve, maintain, and rebuild public health and the environment by responsibly participating in activities to reduce plastic pollution in July 2025 and year-round.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 17—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT ANY PUBLIC RENDITION OF “THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER” SHOULD BE PERFORMED AS WRITTEN BY FRANCIS SCOTT KEY, IN ENGLISH

Mr. MULLIN submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 17

Whereas “The Star-Spangled Banner”, written by Francis Scott Key in 1814, was designated as the national anthem of the United States by Congress in 1931;

Whereas the lyrics of “The Star-Spangled Banner”, as originally composed in English, reflect the historical and cultural significance of the resilience and unity of the United States during a time of national challenge;

Whereas the English-language text of the anthem, as written by Francis Scott Key,

serves as a unifying symbol of the heritage and patriotism of the United States;

Whereas preserving the original English lyrics in public performances honors the historical context and intent of the anthem as a representation of the values and identity of the United States; and

Whereas maintaining the integrity of the anthem’s original language fosters a shared understanding and respect for its meaning among all people of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That—

- (1) any public rendition of “The Star-Spangled Banner” should be performed as written by Francis Scott Key, in the English language, to preserve the historical and cultural integrity of the national anthem and maintain its unifying significance for the people of the United States; and

- (2) performers and organizers of public events are encouraged to honor the tradition of presenting “The Star-Spangled Banner” in its original English form, as a tribute to its historical and patriotic importance.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2852. Mr. THUNE (for Mr. MERKLEY) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 283, commemorating the 90th birthday of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama on July 6, 2025, as “A Day of Compassion” and expressing support for the human rights and distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2852. Mr. THUNE (for Mr. MERKLEY) proposed an amendment to the resolution S. Res. 283, commemorating the 90th birthday of His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama on July 6, 2025, as “A Day of Compassion” and expressing support for the human rights and distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people; as follows:

In the matter following the resolving clause, strike paragraph (3) and insert the following:

- (3) affirms the Tibetan people’s internationally recognized human rights and fundamental freedoms, including their right to exercise regional autonomy and to protect the distinct religious, cultural, linguistic, and historical identity of the Tibetan people;

NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator JIM BANKS, intend to object proceeding to the nomination of Col. George H. Sebrén Jr. to grade of Brigadier General, dated July 14, 2025.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following law clerks to the Senate Judiciary Committee be granted floor privileges until July 31, 2025: Isabella Jackson-Saitz, Dakota Willenbrock, Benjamin Bui, and Elizabeth Schluter.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have a unanimous consent request that the