

Drought Resiliency within the Directorate of Civil Works in the Corps of Engineers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CASSIDY:

S. 4963. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modernize payments for ambulatory surgical centers under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARSHALL (for himself and Mr. WELCH):

S. 4964. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to clarify that the exception to the general statute of limitations for fraudulent returns applies only when a taxpayer seeks to evade their tax obligations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CASSIDY (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BANKS, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 4965. A bill to amend the Railroad Retirement Act of 1974 to establish a Railroad Retirement Board Administrative Account, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. WELCH, and Mr. SCHIFF):

S. 4966. A bill to prohibit Federal judges from receiving certain gifts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHIFF (for himself and Mr. CURTIS):

S. 4967. A bill to amend chapter 45 of title 18, United States Code, by providing for a sentencing enhancement for transnational repression committed against United States citizens or individuals who are physically present in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. OSSOFF):

S. 4968. A bill to provide for the transmission of emergency alerts by satellite, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SHEEHY:

S. 4969. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of educational assistance paid by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to an eligible individual during the first year of a full-time program of apprenticeship or other on-job training; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. GALLEGO):

S. 4970. A bill to require the Secretary of the Army to conduct certain wildfire risk assessments, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. KELLY (for himself and Mr. GALLEGO):

S. 4971. A bill to amend the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 to modify the Federal share with respect to certain Western rural water infrastructure projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4972. A bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to provide bankruptcy protections for medically distressed debtors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHMITT:

S. 4973. A bill to amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify the meaning of the Citizenship Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TUBERVILLE (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 4974. A bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to food

safety; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Mr. DAINES):

S. 4975. A bill to amend the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 to waive the requirement for a Federal drilling permit for certain activities, to exempt certain activities from the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 4976. A bill to improve outcomes for Native children by empowering Tribal communities, strengthening families, and increasing access to critical services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 4977. A bill to provide a private cause of action for exposure of personally identifiable information of victims or victims' personal or medical files or similar files the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy in releasing documents under the Epstein Files Transparency Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. TUBERVILLE (for himself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BUDD, Mr. LEE, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 4978. A bill to limit donations made pursuant to settlement agreements to which the United States is a party, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KING, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COONS, and Mr. ARMSTRONG):

S. 4979. A bill to establish a process to assure the long-term fiscal stability of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4980. A bill to amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to reauthorize emergency technical assistance, to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize emergency technical assistance and grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. KIM):

S. 4981. A bill to place Federal minimum wage on a durable path toward a living wage aligned with the national median wage, to require large, highly profitable corporations to lead the transition, to end all subminimum wages, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GALLEGO, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. SMITH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 4982. A bill to require employers of airport service workers at small, medium, and large hub airports to ensure that airport service workers are paid the prevailing wage and provided fringe benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mrs. BRITT (for herself and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. Res. 802. A resolution honoring and celebrating National Boys and Girls Club Week; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BUDD (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. Res. 803. A resolution congratulating the 2025-2026 Carolina Hurricanes for winning the Stanley Cup; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 119

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 119, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to discontinue the collection by the Federal Government of firearm transaction records of discontinued firearms businesses, to require the destruction of such already collected records, and for other purposes.

S. 142

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 142, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to wildland firefighters in recognition of their strength, resiliency, sacrifice, and service to protect the forests, grasslands, and communities of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 304

At the request of Mr. RICKETTS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 304, a bill to amend section 301 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to clarify those classes of individuals born in the United States who are nationals and citizens of the United States at birth.

S. 424

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 424, a bill to amend the Federal securities laws to enhance 403(b) plans, and for other purposes.

S. 547

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mrs. BRITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 547, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Secretary of Labor to conduct a study and issue a report on grant programs to support the nursing workforce.

S. 1202

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1202, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to permit supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to be used to purchase additional types of food items.

S. 1232

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island

(Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1232, a bill to direct the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard that requires covered employers within the health care and social service industries to develop and implement a comprehensive workplace violence prevention plan, and for other purposes.

S. 1509

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1509, a bill to amend the Poultry Products Inspection Act and the Federal Meat Inspection Act to support small and very small meat and poultry processing establishments, and for other purposes.

S. 1532

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) 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. 1609

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1609, a bill to provide for further comprehensive research at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke on unruptured intracranial aneurysms.

S. 1677

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1677, a bill to provide health insurance benefits for outpatient and inpatient items and services related to the diagnosis and treatment of a congenital anomaly or birth defect.

S. 2329

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2329, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect beneficiaries with limb loss and other orthopedic conditions by providing access to appropriate, safe, effective, patient-centered orthotic and prosthetic care, to reduce fraud, waste, and abuse with respect to orthotics and prosthetics, and for other purposes.

S. 2355

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGOS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2355, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for hospital and insurer price transparency.

S. 2461

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2461, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability

of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 2904

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2904, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to the shadow fleet of the Russian Federation, and for other purposes.

S. 3254

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3254, a bill to establish the IMPROVE Initiative within the National Institutes of Health.

S. 3427

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3427, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to establish the Domestic Organic Investment Program, and for other purposes.

S. 3605

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3605, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a portion of general business credit carryforwards to be transferred by certain taxpayers affected by federally declared disasters and other incidents.

S. 3857

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of Florida, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 3857, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Homeland Security from admitting to the United States any national of the People's Republic of China without a valid visa, and for other purposes.

S. 3885

At the request of Mr. WELCH, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3885, a bill to provide for updates to the Federal Aviation Administration type certification process to support development of new and novel technologies, and for other purposes.

S. 3940

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3940, a bill to amend the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 to require the Secretary of the Treasury to testify before Congress, and for other purposes.

S. 3941

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3941, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore treatment of State and local bonds which are guaranteed by a Federal home loan bank as not federally guaranteed for purposes of determining their tax-exempt status.

S. 4009

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4009, a bill to provide for the imposition of sanctions with respect to forced organ harvesting within the People's Republic of China, and for other purposes.

S. 4023

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4023, a bill to establish the America's Living Library Project, and for other purposes.

S. 4378

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4378, a bill to combat fraud in Federal programs, and for other purposes.

S. 4427

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4427, a bill to prohibit the Secretary of Labor from finalizing, implementing, or enforcing a proposed standard with respect to heat injury and illness prevention, and for other purposes.

S. 4429

At the request of Mr. MORENO, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Florida (Mrs. MOODY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. SCOTT) were added as cosponsors of S. 4429, a bill to prohibit the importation, manufacture, sale, resale, or introduction into interstate commerce in the United States of connected vehicles and related software and hardware associated with foreign adversaries.

S. 4503

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4503, a bill to improve menopause care and mid-life women's health, and for other purposes.

S. 4535

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. ALSOBROOKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4535, a bill to establish the Strength in Diversity Program, and for other purposes.

S. 4552

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4552, a bill to address maternal mental health conditions and substance use disorders, and for other purposes.

S. 4555

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 4555, a bill to prohibit covered digital advertising platforms

from displaying targeted advertisements directed to a minor that promote sports gambling platforms.

S. 4619

At the request of Ms. LUMMIS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4619, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to exclude marginal wells from certain standards of performance and other requirements under that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 4620

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) and the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) were added as cosponsors of S. 4620, a bill to permanently establish the E-Verify employment eligibility verification system, to mandate the use of E-Verify by all employers, and for other purposes.

S. 4664

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4664, a bill to authorize the Safer Choice Program within the Environmental Protection Agency, and for other purposes.

S. 4724

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4724, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to deem certain substances to be unsafe for use as food contact substances, and for other purposes.

S. 4793

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 4793, a bill to clarify provisions of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement Implementation Act and the Foreign Trade Zones Act with respect to the appropriate tariff treatment of merchandise in a United States foreign-trade zone, and for other purposes.

S. 4814

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4814, a bill to require the Secretary of Homeland Security to designate Haiti for temporary protected status.

S. 4843

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4843, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to promote comprehensive campus mental health and suicide prevention plans, and for other purposes.

S. 4879

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4879, a bill to ensure the right to provide reproductive health care services, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 198

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSSOFF) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 198, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services of the Department of Health and Human Services relating to "Medicare Program; Implementation of Prior Authorization for Select Services for the Wasteful and Inappropriate Services Reduction (WiSeR) Model".

S.J. RES. 199

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 199, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services relating to "Restoring Flexibility in the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF)".

S.J. RES. 200

At the request of Mr. SCHIFF, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 200, a joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities within or against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress.

S. RES. 499

At the request of Mr. HUSTED, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. Res. 499, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (CJD) Awareness Day".

At the request of Mr. HUSTED, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 499, *supra*.

S. RES. 772

At the request of Mr. GALLEGO, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. MORENO) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 772, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that under no circumstances should Samuel Bankman-Fried receive executive clemency, including a pardon or commutation, and affirming the Senate's commitment to the rule of law and integrity of the United States financial system.

S. RES. 787

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 787, a resolution celebrating the historic anniversary of the June 24, 2022, decision of the Supreme Court of the United States in *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*.

S. RES. 790

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER),

the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN), the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 790, a resolution recognizing and honoring the 27th anniversary of the Supreme Court decision in *Olmstead v L.C.*

AMENDMENT NO. 5898

At the request of Ms. DUCKWORTH, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 5898 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 6001

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 6001 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 6210

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 6210 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 6293

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 6293 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 6469

At the request of Mrs. BRITT, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 6469 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 6621

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 6621 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 6656

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of amendment No. 6656 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 6656 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, *supra*.

AMENDMENT NO. 6667

At the request of Mr. HUSTED, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 6667 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 6668

At the request of Mr. HUSTED, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 6668 intended to be proposed to S. 4784, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2027 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. KAINE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. KING, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COONS, and Mr. ARMSTRONG):

S. 4979. A bill to establish a process to assure the long-term fiscal stability of the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund and the Federal Disability Insurance Trust Fund; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I would like to speak on a separate topic.

In 1935, President Franklin Roosevelt decided to try something. The idea was to create a pension plan for every American. Why? Because many people, despite working hard their whole lives, doing their best to save money, ended up almost penniless when they retired, when they were forced to quit working.

Those were the days when Grandma and Grandpa moved into the spare bedroom in your house. If that didn't happen to you, ask your father or even grandfather—they will remember those times.

So Franklin Roosevelt said: Let's create a pension system so that after you retire, there will be some money coming in. You pay into it all your working life. When you reach the age of retirement, you get a benefit from it.

They called it Social Security. It was passed into law in 1935. It made its first payment 5 years later in 1940.

I think it has become arguably the most important social program in America. Certainly, more Americans have participated in Social Security than almost every other program. And they should. They earned it. They worked for it. They were promised. The promise should be kept.

How is Social Security doing? Well, that is why I am standing here before you today. Last month, the Social Security Board of Trustees released an alarming report about the status of Social Security's finances. That Board found that Social Security will be unable to make full payments to eligible Americans by 2032. That is not that far away—6 years. This is alarming, and it is a call to arms to Congress.

I was elected to the House of Representatives in 1982. Scared to death that I was going to be a one-term Congressman, I was looking over my shoulder every 5 minutes to see what was going to knock me out of my perch there.

Well, they came in and said: There is news for you, new Congressman. Social Security is about to go broke.

The year was 1983, and we could see in the short term, Social Security unable to make its benefit payments. That would have been a disaster in 1983. We rose to the occasion. We had a Republican President, Ronald Reagan. We had a Democratic House of Representatives with Tip O'Neill. We set out to write a change in Social Security that would save it so it could keep making payments. Well, it took a long time, it took several months, but we got it done, and we passed it. Our goal was to buy 50 years of solvency for Social Security, make changes to the program so that it would last, keep paying its benefits as promised for 50 years.

That was 1983. I voted for it. Democrats and Republicans all voted for it. To my knowledge, not a single Member of Congress lost reelection over that vote. People said: We had to do it. There was no question about it. It was a tough vote, but it was the right vote.

It was 1983. Fifty years of solvency—where does it take you? To 2032. And

what is the situation we were just told? This program that we value so much is going to last until the end of 2032. It worked. Fifty years of changes worked.

Now the question is basically this: Can we respond with the same bipartisan effort to buy 50 years more of solvency in Social Security? I think we can. Social Security unable to make its payments in 2032 is an alarm bell. It is a call to action for Congress, both political parties—not just Democrats but Republicans as well.

Social Security is the bedrock promise of secure retirement and has been for over 90 years in America. Americans pay into the system throughout their careers of hard work, and come the time, that same program was supposed to be there to give them peace of mind when they seek retirement. Well, we know we have 6 short years to achieve that.

What is going to happen at the end of that 6-year period? The Board of advisers tells us Social Security will only be able to pay 78 percent of benefits.

Translate that, DURBIN. Put it in English.

That means the average senior citizen faces monthly—monthly—benefit cuts of \$450—\$450 a month cut from Social Security. For some, that is quite an inconvenience. For others, that is quite a disaster. It would force many seniors to choose between purchasing groceries, paying their utility bills, or filling their prescriptions. Honest to goodness, it is that basic.

Seventy million Americans, including seniors and people with disabilities, rely on Social Security to afford the basics in life: food, medication, housing, utilities, and so many other things.

In my home State of Illinois, more than 2 million people receive Social Security. Twenty percent of Illinois seniors rely on Social Security for virtually all of their income. That is it, that Social Security check.

If Congress sits on its hands and does nothing to respond to this crisis, millions of Americans will be expected to make ends meet with fewer and fewer dollars each month.

The fact of the matter is that Congress has known about this issue of insolvency for quite some time, but year after year, Congress has avoided confronting the question, instead kicking the can down the road for a future Congress to show the courage to step up and save the program. That is unacceptable. We owe it to our seniors. We owe it to ourselves. We owe it to our reputation. We know that the longer we wait, the more drastic the policy changes become. We owe it to every American to save Social Security.

Today, I am doing something that is rarely done in the Senate: introducing a bill sponsored by a bipartisan group of Senators—four Democrats, four Republicans. Our goal is to protect and strengthen Social Security. Our bill is called the PROMISE Act. It seeks to