

and risk-reduction plans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HAGERTY:

S. 5259. A bill to prohibit sanctuary jurisdictions from receiving community development block grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LUJÁN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. SMITH, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 5260. A bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out research and data collection to improve the quality of stroke care, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BOOKER:

S. 5261. A bill to amend the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974 to make available under the assistance to firefighters grant program the establishment of cancer prevention programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL (for himself, Mr. LEE, and Mr. CRUZ):

S. 5262. A bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify the definition of navigable waters, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. MCCORMICK (for himself and Mr. FETTERMAN):

S. 5263. A bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to provide to States and local areas information on the best practices for addressing the effects that substance use disorder has on the workforce, and to provide local areas with grants to provide training activities related to the treatment and prevention of substance use disorder; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. REED (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 5264. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to set requirements for certain operator workstations for fixed route buses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SHEEHY (for himself, Mr. MCCORMICK, and Mr. BUDD):

S. 5265. A bill to identify and take action against international trade practices of high income countries that unfairly exploit innovation by deviating from market-based policies and unfairly exploit United States innovation, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. RISCH:

S. 5266. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide flexibility in the recoupment of separation pay, severance pay, and readjustment pay from members of the Armed Forces receiving veterans' disability compensation; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BANKS (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 5267. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to require the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation to test a model to reduce chronic diseases by using Accountable Produce is Medicine; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. GALLEGO (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. 5268. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to adjust the rate employers pay for overtime hours from one and one-half to two times the regular rate; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 5269. A bill to provide for the establishment of hybrid primary care payments under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KIM:

S. 5270. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare home care benefit, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HUSTED:

S. 5271. A bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to require voters to provide photo identification; read the first time.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 5272. A bill to recover unclaimed pandemic-era unemployment compensation funds held by financial institutions or escheated to State unclaimed property administrators, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. LUMMIS (for herself, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. HUSTED, Mr. LEE, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. SCHMITT, and Mr. MORENO):

S.J. Res. 205. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; Small Off-Road Engines Regulations; Notice of Decision"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SCHMITT (for himself, Mr. RICKETTS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. HUSTED, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. MORENO):

S.J. Res. 206. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle Pollution Control Standards; Notice of Decision Granting a Waiver of Clean Air Act Preemption for California's 2009 and Subsequent Model Year Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards for New Motor Vehicles"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. RICKETTS (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. HUSTED, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. MORENO):

S.J. Res. 207. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle Pollution Control Standards; Notice of Decision Granting a Waiver of Clean Air Act Preemption for California's Advanced Clean Car Program and a Within the Scope Conformation for California's Zero Emission Vehicle Amendments for 2017 and Earlier Model Years"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HUSTED (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. SCHMITT, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. BARRASSO, Mrs. FISCHER, and Mr. MORENO):

S.J. Res. 208. A joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to "California State Motor Vehicle Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Car Program; Reconsideration of a Previous Withdrawal of a Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision"; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WICKER (for himself and Mrs. HYDE-SMITH):

S. Res. 831. A resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of Northwest Mississippi Community College and celebrating a century of educational excellence, workforce development, student success, and service to the people of Mississippi and the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 74

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Ms. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 74, a bill to require the Attorney General to submit to Congress a report relating to violence against women in athletics.

S. 226

At the request of Mr. SHEEHY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 226, a bill to require a strategy to oppose financial or material support by foreign countries and nongovernmental organizations to the Taliban, and for other purposes.

S. 492

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 492, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve and enhance the work opportunity tax credit, to encourage longer-service employment, and to modernize the credit to make it more effective as a hiring incentive for targeted workers, and for other purposes.

S. 1289

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1289, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States and to support programs at the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center.

S. 1782

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1782, a bill to prohibit discrimination on the basis of mental or physical disability in cases of organ transplants.

S. 1789

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1789, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to exclude as income certain payments received by household members from certain employment programs, and for other purposes.

S. 2195

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2195, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the brave women who served in World War II as members of the U.S. Army Nurse Corps and U.S. Navy Nurse Corps.

S. 2229

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2229, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the Foreign Service of the United States and its contribution to United States diplomacy.

S. 2531

At the request of Ms. ALSOBROOKS, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2531, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to increase early detection of and intervention for uterine fibroids, and for other purposes.

S. 2732

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2732, a bill to strengthen employee cost savings suggestions programs within the Federal Government.

S. 2913

At the request of Ms. ALSOBROOKS, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2913, a bill to prohibit the use of appropriated funds to eliminate, consolidate, or otherwise restructure any office within the Department of Education that administers or enforces programs serving individuals with disabilities.

S. 3097

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3097, a bill to provide additional protections with respect to health information, and for other purposes.

S. 3109

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3109, a bill to amend titles 46 and 49, United States Code, to require that individuals who commit human trafficking violations be permanently disqualified from obtaining certain licenses issued by the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Transportation, and for other purposes.

S. 3400

At the request of Mr. CURTIS, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3400, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income

Security Act of 1974, the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to require coverage of hearing devices and systems in certain private health insurance plans, and for other purposes.

S. 3610

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3610, a bill to prohibit the provision of United States financial assistance to any entity that is controlled by an agent of a covered foreign principal.

S. 3863

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3863, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to terminate the Hazardous Substance Superfund financing rate.

S. 4009

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) were added as cosponsors 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. 4271

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4271, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide rest and recuperation leave for employees engaged in wildland firefighting, and for other purposes.

S. 4312

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 4312, a bill to amend the National Energy Conservation Policy Act to include the installation of mechanical insulation property as an energy or water efficiency measure, and for other purposes.

S. 4317

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4317, a bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to withhold Federal highway funding from States that issue driver's licenses, commercial driver's licenses, or personal identification cards to individuals without verifying the legal status of those individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 4494

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4494, a bill to prioritize funding for an expanded and sustained national investment in biomedical research.

S. 4668

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the names of the Senator from Colorado

(Mr. HICKENLOOPER) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. RICKETTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 4668, a bill to protect the name, image, and likeness rights of, and provide protections for, student athletes and to promote fair competition among intercollegiate athletics, and for other purposes.

S. 4873

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. MCCORMICK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4873, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 by limiting non-military foreign assistance to organizations that provide or promote abortion, promote gender ideology, or promote discriminatory equity ideology, and for other purposes.

S. 4944

At the request of Mr. ARMSTRONG, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 4944, a bill to streamline permitting under the Natural Gas Act, the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and for other purposes.

S. 4983

At the request of Mr. MORENO, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4983, a bill to curb criminal activity by aliens, to defend against acts of international terrorism, to protect American workers from unfair labor competition, and to relieve pressure on public services by strengthening border security and stabilizing immigration into the United States.

S. 4986

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4986, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide coverage under the Medicaid program for services provided by doulas, midwives, and lactation support providers, and for other purposes.

S. 5037

At the request of Mr. KIM, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5037, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to make all children eligible for Medicaid from birth until age 26, to require States to automatically enroll children and young adults under age 26 in the State Medicaid program, and for other purposes.

S. 5179

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Ms. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5179, a bill to clarify that for purposes of Federal non-discrimination requirements applicable to education programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance, discrimination prohibited under title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is based on the biological reality of sex.

S. 5189

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5189, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, and the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1994, to codify and clarify gender neutral standards for members of certain Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 5214

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 5214, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to punish criminal offenses targeting law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 5219

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5219, a bill to improve end-of-life care.

S. RES. 819

At the request of Mrs. BLACKBURN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 819, a resolution condemning the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran for its ongoing human rights abuses, including its use of politically motivated espionage claims to justify arbitrary detention and executions.

S. RES. 826

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 826, a resolution honoring the contributions of small manufacturers of firearms to the economy, culture, and recreational heritage of the United States and recognizing the month of August 2026 as "National Shooting Sports Month".

S. RES. 827

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 827, a resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the creation of the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute, Inc. (SAAMI) and commending its work establishing industry standards that ensure the safe interoperability of firearms and ammunition.

AMENDMENT NO. 6733

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 6733 intended to be proposed to H.R. 6500, a bill to extend duty-free treatment provided with respect to imports from certain countries in Africa under the African Growth and Opportunity Act, to extend customs user fees, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 5250. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to decrease fraud related to home health agencies in Medicare, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Medicare Home Health Payment Integrity and Protection Act. This legislation would strengthen the Medicare home health program by advancing two complementary goals: protecting the home health program from fraud and strengthening access to these important services for the Americans who need them.

I have long been a strong supporter of home healthcare. In a home visit I made in one of my first years as a Senator, I saw firsthand the extraordinary difference that skilled nurses, therapists, and other home health professionals make in the lives of patients and their families. Every day, these dedicated caregivers enable millions of our Nation's most frail and vulnerable individuals to remain in the comfort, security, and privacy of their home, which is where they most want to be.

Home healthcare not only improves patients' quality of life but also helps avoid unnecessary hospitalizations and nursing home admissions, producing substantial savings for Medicare, Medicaid, and families alike.

For these reasons, we should be strengthening, not weakening, the Medicare home health program.

Yet recent trends present a troubling paradox. Despite the rapid aging of our population, the number of traditional Medicare beneficiaries receiving home health services has declined in recent years, from approximately 3.3 million beneficiaries in 2019 to 2.7 million just 5 years later.

At the same time, nearly everywhere in our country, the number of Medicare-certified home health agencies has also been dropping. According to the most recent report of MedPAC, which is the independent agency analyzing and advising Congress on Medicare, excluding California, more than 500 home health agencies closed between 2019 and 2024, a decline of 5 percent.

The picture is dramatically different in California, however, where the number of Medicare home health agencies has doubled over the same time period. Nearly all of that growth has occurred in Los Angeles County.

If that strikes you as strange, you are in good company. As MedPAC observed, many stakeholders, including the California State Auditor, have concluded that the unusual pattern of home health agency growth and use in Los Angeles County raises "significant program integrity concerns."

In plain language, that means fraud. MedPAC further noted that Los Angeles County has already been identified as a major hotspot for waste, fraud, and abuse in Medicare hospice

services and that the dramatic increase in home health agencies in the same area raises further flags. The California State auditor reported that one office building housed the corporate offices of more than 100 hospice agencies and dozens of home health agencies—a striking example of how organized fraud can exploit weaknesses in Medicare hospice enrollment and oversight.

The concentration of Medicare home health spending in Los Angeles County is its own issue. This can be seen by the lopsided spending generated there. Even though only 2 percent of the Nation's Medicare fee-for-service beneficiaries live in Los Angeles County, that 2 percent generates 9 percent of all Medicare fee-for-service home health expenditures in the entire Nation—roughly 4½ times the expected share.

CMS is fully aware of the fraud problem in Los Angeles County and has responded aggressively. I commend the Agency for doing so. My legislation builds on those efforts by strengthening CMS's ability to stop fraudulent providers before they enter the Medicare Program, ending the "pay and chase" model.

The bill accomplishes this goal by enhancing enrollment screening for owners and managers of agencies operating in objectively high-risk markets, requiring more rigorous oversight of new and high-risk providers through targeted surveys, strengthening oversight of accrediting organizations, and improving verification that Medicare beneficiaries actually received the services billed to the program. Further, the bill requires agencies in high-risk areas to provide documentation showing that they are legitimate businesses, such as proof of liability insurance. The bill also requires more frequent unannounced site visits for agencies that are new, have changed ownership, or are reactivating their billing privileges. Funding to support these efforts is also authorized. These reforms are designed to identify fraudulent providers early while allowing legitimate agencies to focus on delivering quality patient care.

The consequences of fraud extend well beyond the communities in which it occurs. When billions of dollars are improperly siphoned from the Medicare home health program, the result can undermine the integrity of the payment system used to reimburse legitimate providers. Honest home health agencies—particularly those serving rural communities—already face rising labor costs, workforce shortages, and the challenges of providing care across large geographic areas. Inadequate reimbursement threatens their ability to continue serving the seniors who depend upon them.

Protecting the integrity of the Medicare home health program therefore requires more than identifying and prosecuting fraud; it also requires ensuring that legitimate providers are reimbursed fairly for the medically necessary care they provide.