

activities, to promote innovation in the artificial intelligence industry by ensuring companies of all sizes can succeed and thrive, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 3953. A bill to authorize the Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture to support African American history education programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. ERNST:

S. 3954. A bill to terminate the ability of eligible telecommunications carriers in certain States to use State eligibility determination processes in place of the National Verifier to determine the eligibility of consumers for Lifeline service; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 3955. A bill to authorize grants to States to collect and analyze data from State law enforcement agencies on the number of migrants in the United States who have been charged or convicted of a criminal offense; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. KAINE):

S. Res. 616. A resolution requesting information pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Mr. YOUNG, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAINES, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HAGERTY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. LUJAN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. MARSHALL, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 617. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of "Career and Technical Education Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER (for herself, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. KAINE, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BUDD, and Mr. JUSTICE):

S. Res. 618. A resolution recognizing the importance of career and technical education ("CTE") educators and work-based learning coordinators in delivering high-quality CTE, preparing students for success in the workplace, the classroom, and in life, and supporting dynamic workforce pipelines that enable the United States to grow and lead in critical economic sectors; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. Res. 619. A resolution designating February 16, 2026, as "National Elizabeth Peratrovich Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. Res. 620. A resolution designating February 28, 2026, as "Rare Disease Day"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. REED, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. MARKEY, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. WELCH, Ms. SLOTKIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LUJAN, and Mr. KIM):

S. Res. 621. A resolution designating the week of February 23 through February 27, 2026, as "National Public Schools Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. RISCH, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COTTON, Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER, Mr. DAINES, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. JUSTICE, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. GALLEGRO, Mr. HAGERTY, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. KAINE, Mr. CRAPO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. KING, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. LUJAN, Mr. SHEEHY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mrs. BRITT, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. WARNOCK, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BUDD, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. MULLIN, Mr. RICKETTS, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. BANKS, Mr. SCHIFF, and Mr. MCCORMICK):

S. Res. 622. A resolution expressing support for the designation of February 21 through February 28, 2026, as "National FFA Week", recognizing the important role of the National FFA Organization in developing the next generation of globally conscious leaders who will change the world, and celebrating the 50th anniversary of the chartering of the State of Alaska as a State FFA Association; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself, Ms. SLOTKIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. KIM, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. HASSAN, and Ms. SMITH):

S. Res. 623. A resolution commemorating the accomplishments of Team USA in ice hockey; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 556

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 556, a bill to impose sanctions with respect to persons engaged in logistical transactions and sanctions evasion relating to oil, gas, liquefied natural gas, and related petrochemical products from the Islamic Republic of Iran, and for other purposes.

S. 645

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 645, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the individuals and communities who volunteered or donated items to the North Platte Canteen in North Platte, Ne-

braska, during World War II from December 25, 1941, to April 1, 1946.

S. 952

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. HAGERTY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 952, a bill to amend the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States to provide a uniform 8-digit sub-heading number for all whiskies.

S. 1039

At the request of Mr. SHEEHY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1039, a bill to amend the definitions of firearm silencer and firearm muffler in section 921 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 1281

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1281, a bill to establish a new nonimmigrant visa for mobile entertainment workers.

S. 1379

At the request of Mr. LUJAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1379, a bill to ensure consumers have access to data relating to their motor vehicles, critical repair information, and tools, and to provide them choices for the maintenance, service, and repair of their motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 1705

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1705, a bill to require the Secretary of Commerce to issue standards with respect to chip security mechanisms for integrated circuit products, and for other purposes.

S. 1736

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1736, a bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to clarify the availability and appropriateness of training for local food service personnel, and for other purposes.

S. 1805

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1805, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit nurse practitioners and physician assistants to satisfy the documentation requirement under the Medicare program for coverage of certain shoes for individuals with diabetes.

S. 1821

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. SHEEHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1821, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a tax on income from litigation which is received by third-party entities that provided financing for such litigation.

S. 2019

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2019, a bill to establish a Task Force for Recognizing and Averting Payment Scams, and for other purposes.

S. 2106

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2106, a bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to aliens from certain countries who meet certain eligibility requirements, and for other purposes.

S. 2195

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) 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. 2265

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. 2390

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BUDD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2390, a bill to require the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to reclassify the application of certain requirements under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 for housing-related activities.

S. 2414

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2414, a bill to update the definition of manufactured home, and for other purposes.

S. 2464

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. HUSTED) were added as cosponsors of S. 2464, a bill to allow the Comptroller of the Currency and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to increase the aggregate amount of investments that a national banking association and a State member bank may make to promote the public welfare, and for other purposes.

S. 2528

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2528, a bill to establish AI Innovation Labs that permit certain persons to experiment with artificial intelligence

without expectation of enforcement actions.

S. 2615

At the request of Mr. HICKENLOOPER, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) were added as cosponsors of S. 2615, a bill to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to develop voluntary guidelines and specifications for internal and external assurances of artificial intelligence systems, and for other purposes.

S. 2667

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2667, a bill to prevent violence in the West Bank and authorize the imposition of sanctions with respect to any foreign person endangering United States national security and undermining prospects for a two-state solution by committing illegal violent acts.

S. 3135

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. CURTIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3135, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to authorize manufacturers of certain vehicles to suspend engine de-rate or shutdown functions in prolonged cold weather conditions, and for other purposes.

S. 3267

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3267, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of blood-based dementia screening tests.

S. 3394

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3394, a bill to direct the United States Sentencing Commission to amend the sentencing guideline relating to child sexual abuse material.

S. 3397

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3397, a bill to make coercion of children to commit harm a criminal offense, and for other purposes.

S. 3398

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3398, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to criminalize intentional threats to distribute child sexual abuse material, and to provide appropriate penalties for the use of child sexual abuse material to extort or coerce victims.

S. 3400

At the request of Mr. CURTIS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. KIM) and the Senator

from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors 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. 3659

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. SLOTKIN) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3659, a bill to establish a Strategic Resilience Reserve of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 3747

At the request of Mrs. MOODY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3747, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to recognize students who have completed secondary school education in a home school setting as high school graduates, and for other purposes.

S. 3775

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3775, a bill to reduce the incidence of death by underride by enhancing underride protection on trailers, semitrailers, and single unit trucks, which will result in more survivable truck crashes, to improve motor carrier, passenger motor vehicle, and Vulnerable Road User safety, and for other purposes.

S. 3900

At the request of Mr. MCCORMICK, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. CURTIS), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BANKS), the Senator from California (Mr. SCHIFF), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 3900, a bill to promote human rights, internet freedom and accountability in Iran, and for other purposes.

S. 3904

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3904, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to deny interest and depreciation deductions for certain taxpayers, and for other purposes.

S. 3917

At the request of Mr. BANKS, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. JUSTICE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3917, a bill to prohibit the issuance of commercial driver's licenses to individuals who are not citizens or lawful permanent residents of the United States or holders of certain work visas, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 104

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. GALLEGRO), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from California (Mr. PADILLA) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 104, 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. 236

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) 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. 606

At the request of Mr. LANKFORD, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. YOUNG) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 606, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran for its suppression of the right of Iranians to peacefully assemble.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. PETERS):

S. 3934. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to expand the availability of medical nutrition therapy services under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2026, along with my colleague from Michigan Senator PETERS. Our bill will expand Medicare beneficiaries' access to medical nutrition therapy, or MNT, which is a cost-effective component of treatment for obesity, diabetes, hypertension, and other chronic conditions. Increasing access to MNT should be part of the strategy to improve disease management and prevention for America's seniors. The Medical Nutrition Therapy Act would make two important changes to support patients, improve health outcomes, and reduce unnecessary healthcare costs.

First, the bill would expand Medicare Part B coverage of outpatient medical nutrition therapy services to several currently uncovered diseases or conditions, including prediabetes, obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, malnutrition, eating disorders, cancer, HIV/AIDS, gastrointestinal diseases including celiac disease, and cardiovascular disease. Currently, Medicare Part B only covers outpatient MNT for diabetes, renal disease, and post-kidney transplant.

Second, the bill would allow more types of providers—including nurse practitioners, physician assistants,

clinical nurse specialists, and psychologists—to refer patients to MNT. Right now, only physicians may refer patients to dietitians for medical nutrition therapy. Expanding the types of providers who make these referrals would be especially significant for patients in a rural State like Maine where an NP or PA may be one's trusted primary care provider.

MNT counseling is provided by registered dietitian nutritionists, RDNs, as part of a collaborative healthcare team. It is evidence-based and has been proven to positively affect weight, blood pressure, blood lipids, and blood sugar control. Nutritional counseling by RDNs is recommended by the National Lipid Association to promote long-term adherence to an individualized, heart-healthy diet. Through MST, individuals benefit from in-depth, individualized nutrition assessments. Followup visits help reinforce important behavior and lifestyle changes and increase compliance.

Seniors deserve improved access to this cost-effective medical treatment, but many older adults are missing out under the current Medicare policy. I heard from a dietitian in rural Washington County, ME, who is the only part-time dietitian in the county and works at a federally qualified health center, FQHC. One of her patients is an elderly man with severe tooth decay requiring a modified personalized meal plan. He lost 40 pounds in 1 year despite being cleared for any gastrointestinal or other underlying medical condition that could have caused this extreme weight loss. He became clinically malnourished. Finally, his primary care provider referred him to the dietitian at the FQHC for medical nutrition therapy with a diagnosis of failure to thrive.

Because this patient, however, did not have a diagnosis of diabetes or renal disease, the FQHC at which he received treatment will not receive Medicare reimbursement for the three 60-minute medical nutrition therapy sessions that the dietitian provided. At his third and final session, the patient shared that this dietitian was the most helpful provider with whom he had ever met. He is no longer afraid of eating and has more good days enjoying meals with family and friends.

Another patient from Maine, who is a Medicare beneficiary, was treated for severe obesity with gastric bypass surgery. This patient was unable to afford out of pocket costs to receive post-operative medical nutrition therapy. He struggled with post-operative diet advancement, which led to hospitalization for severe dehydration and failure to thrive within the first 3 months after surgery. One year after surgery, this patient had severe nutritional anemia requiring iron infusion and monthly vitamin B-12 injections. This tragic situation could have been prevented if the MNT he needed had been covered by Medicare. Early treatment with MNT can prevent serious health com-

plications and chronic conditions, particularly in older adults.

In addition to the human cost, there is a financial one: the impact on the Medicare Program. This should not come as a surprise since the health and economic effects of chronic diseases are staggering. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 90 percent of the \$4.9 trillion that the United States spends annually on healthcare goes to the treatment of people with chronic diseases and mental health conditions. Preventing chronic diseases, or managing symptoms when prevention is not possible is an effective way to reduce these costs. This is particularly important for the Medicare Program as more than two-thirds of seniors on Medicare live with multiple chronic conditions. As one registered dietitian nutritionist in Maine told me, "We all know a dollar spent on prevention saves many health care dollars in the long run and is the right thing to do for our seniors at a time when they have limited budgets."

The Medical Nutrition Therapy Act of 2025 is supported by the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, the American Diabetes Association, the Endocrine Society, and UsAgainstAlzheimer's. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation to improve access to cost-effective medical treatment for Medicare patients with chronic diseases.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 616—REQUESTING INFORMATION ON HONDURAS'S HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES PURSUANT TO SECTION 502B(C) OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT OF 1961

Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. KAINE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Finance:

S. RES. 616

*Resolved,*

SECTION 1. REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON HONDURAS'S HUMAN RIGHTS PRACTICES.

(a) STATEMENT REQUESTED.—The Senate requests that the Secretary of State, not later than 30 days after the date of the adoption of this resolution, submit to the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate and the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives, pursuant to section 502B(c) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2304(c)), a statement regarding Honduras's human rights practices that has been prepared in collaboration with the Assistant Secretary of State for Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor and the Office of the Legal Adviser at the Department of State.

(b) ELEMENTS.—The statement submitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall include—

(1) all available credible information concerning alleged violations of internationally recognized human rights by the Government of the Republic of Honduras under former President Juan Orlando Hernández, including—

(A) connections between high-level government officials and drug trafficking organizations, including the Sinaloa Cartel;