S. 949

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 949, a bill to amend the National Oilheat Research Alliance Act of 2000 to reauthorize and improve that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 951

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 951, a bill to improve the provision of Federal transition, rehabilitation, vocational, and unemployment benefits to members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 957

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 957, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of rehabilitative services for veterans with traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes.

S. 1002

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1002, a bill to prohibit theft of medical products, and for other purposes.

S. 1048

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1048, a bill to expand sanctions imposed with respect to the Islamic Republic of Iran, North Korea, and Syria, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. THUNE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1048, supra.

S. 1131

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1131, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services, acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, to establish and implement a birth defects prevention, risk reduction, and public awareness program.

S. 1189

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1189, a bill to amend the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) to provide for regulatory impact analyses for certain rules, consideration of the least burdensome regulatory alternative, and for other purposes.

S. 1200

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1200, a bill to require the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to impose unilaterally position limits and margin requirements to eliminate excessive oil speculation, and to take other actions to ensure that the price of crude oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, and heating oil accurately reflects the fundamentals of supply and demand, to remain in effect until the date on which the Commission establishes position limits to diminish, eliminate, or prevent excessive speculation as required by title VII of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1206

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1206, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require drug manufacturers to provide drug rebates for drugs dispensed to low-income individuals under the Medicare prescription drug benefit program.

S. 1241

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1241, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.

S.J. RES. 19

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 19, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

S.J. RES. 20

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 20, a joint resolution authorizing the limited use of the United States Armed Forces in support of the NATO mission in Libya.

S. RES. 80

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 80, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran for its state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 185

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 185, a resolution reaffirming the commitment of the United States to a negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through direct Israeli-Palestinian negotiations, reaffirming opposition to the inclusion of Hamas in a unity government unless it is willing to accept peace with Israel and renounce violence, and declaring that Palestinian efforts to gain recognition of a state outside direct negotiations demonstrates absence of a good faith commitment to peace negotiations, and will have implications for continued United States aid.

S. RES. 213

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 213, a resolution commending and expressing thanks to professionals of the intelligence community.

AMENDMENT NO. 468

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 468 intended to be proposed to S. 782, a bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to reauthorize that Act, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. INOUYE (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. REID, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 1244. A bill to provide for preferential duty treatment to certain apparel articles of the Philippines; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. INOUYE. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce legislation today, cosponsored by my colleagues Senator REID of Nevada, Senator BLUNT of Missouri, and Senator AKAKA of Hawaii, that will provide duty-free treatment to U.S. imports of finished Philippine apparel in return for purchasing and using fabrics and yarns made in the United States. This bill will promptly create an incentivized export market for our shrinking textile industry, and create new jobs.

The Philippine apparel industry estimates that U.S. fabric sales spurred by the SAVE Act could reach potentially hundreds of millions of dollars and translate into upwards of 2,000 additional jobs in the United States fabric mill sector. With almost 99 percent of the U.S. apparel market now served by imports, U.S. textile manufacturers are reliant on export markets for their survival.

The SAVE Act is patterned after the Dominican Republic, Central America Free Trade Agreement, or CAFTA, which permits tariff-free import of apparel assembled in those countries in return for using cotton and manmade fiber fabrics still made in the United States. The SAVE Act will provide our textile companies with a new opportunity to export fabrics into the dynamic Asian market.

The Philippine apparel manufacturing industry is well established and known for its quality needlework and high-end fashion. It has been supplying top American brands and U.S. retailers for decades. With the growth of China in apparel production and the end of the quota system, Philippine apparel exports to the United States have dropped by 50 percent in the last five years. The Philippine apparel sector is in critical decline, with employment dropping by 75 percent since 2003.

The Philippines has been, arguably, our closest and most steadfast friend in Southeast Asia. They were our protectorate and strategic partner from the Spanish-American War through World War II. 10,000 American and Filipino servicemen died together in the infamous Bataan Death March after our forces were overwhelmed by the Japanese Army in 1942. More than 100,000 Filipinos then volunteered to fight alongside the United States and under U.S. command.

More recently, the United States and the Philippines have partnered in successful efforts to combat terrorists in and around their islands. Campaigns by the Armed Forces of the Philippines, trained in counterterrorism by U.S. troops, resulted in the deaths of the Abu Sayyaf leader and his deputy in 2006, as well as two other leaders in 2010.

Our close partnership deserves to be mutually rewarding on an economic level. The SAVE Act would represent the first trade initiative with the Philippines in nearly four decades. Unlike other countries in the region, the United States and the Philippines share a balanced trade relationship. The SAVE Act would continue to build on this positive trade relationship and strengthen our economic ties with the Philippines by helping each other reestablish competitive textile industries.

The SAVE Act would also allow duty-free treatment for a limited range of apparel not using U.S. fabrics so Philippine manufacturers can offer a complementary product line to U.S. brands and retailers. This category of apparel, which includes certain lines of coats, dresses, skirts, blouses, and infants' wear, will not contain any components that could have been made in the United States. These lines of apparel also will not compete against imports from third countries using U.S. components.

With the Republic of the Philippines as a partner, we can expect proper customs enforcement. We believe the enforcement provisions of the SAVE Act are more rigorous than any comparable bill. At our request, Customs and Border Patrol, CBP, conducted an informal technical review of the SAVE bill. With their recommendations included, CBP concluded that the SAVE Act can be administered and enforced. The Philippine Department of Trade and Industry then reviewed and agreed to all the enforcement provisions.

This bill will provide our manufacturers with new export markets and provide mutual benefits to a longstanding and erstwhile friend in Southeast Asia. The Philippines, in my view, should never be relegated to secondary consideration even as our focus shifts from one priority to another.

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

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

S. 1244

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Save Our Industries Act of 2011'' or the ''SAVE Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The United States and the Republic of the Philippines (in this Act referred to as the ''Philippines''), a former colony, share deep historical and cultural ties. The Philippines holds enduring political and security significance to the United States. The 2 countries have partnered very successfully in combating terrorism in Southeast Asia.

(2) The United States and the Philippines maintain a fair trading relationship that should be expanded to the mutual benefit of both countries. In 2010, United States exports to the Philippines were valued at $7,375,000,000, and United States imports from the Philippines were valued at $7,960,000,000.

(3) United States textile exports to the Philippines were valued at just over $48,000,000 in 2010, consisting mostly of industrial, specialty, broadwoven, and nonwoven fabrics. The potential for export growth in this area can sustain and create thousands of jobs.

(4) The Philippines' textile and apparel industries, like that of their counterparts in the United States, share the same challenges and risks stemming from the end of the textile and apparel quota system and from the end of United States safe-guards that continued to control apparel imports from the People's Republic of China until January 1, 2009.

(5) The United States apparel fabrics industry is heavily dependent on sewing outside the United States, and, for the first time, United States textile manufacturers would have a program that utilizes sewing done in an Asian country. In contrast, most sewing of United States fabric occurs in the Western Hemisphere, with about two-thirds of United States fabric exports presently going to countries that are parties to the North American Free Trade Agreement and the Dominican Republic-Central America-United States Free Trade Agreement. Increased demand for United States fabric in Asia will increase opportunities for the United States industry.

(6) Apparel producers in the Western Hemisphere are excellent at making basic garments such as T-shirts and standard 5-pocket jeans. However, the needle capability does not exist to make high fashion, more sophisticated garments such as embroidered T-shirts and fashion jeans with embellishments. Such apparel manufacturing is done almost exclusively in Asia.

(7) A program that provides preferential duty treatment for certain apparel articles of the Philippines will provide a strong incentive for Philippine apparel manufacturers to use United States fabrics, which will open new opportunities for the United States textile industry and increase opportunities for United States yarn manufacturers. At the same time, the United States would be provided a more diverse range of sourcing opportunities.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to encourage higher levels of trade in textiles and apparel between the United States and the Philippines and enhance the commercial well-being of their respective industries in times of global economic hardship;

(2) to enhance and broaden the economic, security, and political ties between the United States and the Philippines;

(3) to stimulate economic activity and development throughout the Philippines, including regions such as Manila and Mindanao; and

(4) to provide a stepping stone to an eventual free trade agreement between the United States and the Philippines, either bilaterally or as part of a regional agreement.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CLASSIFICATION UNDER THE HTS.—The term ''classification under the HTS'' means, with respect to an article, the 6-digit subheading or 10-digit statistical reporting number under which the article is classified in the HTS.

(2) DOBBY WOVEN FABRIC.—The term ''dobby woven fabric'' means fabric, other than jacquard fabric, woven with the use of a dobby attachment that raises or lowers the warp threads during the weaving process to create patterns including, stripes, and checks and similar designs.

(3) ENTERED.—The term ''entered'' means entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, in the customs territory of the United States.

(4) HTS.—The term ''HTS'' means the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

(5) KNIT-TO-SHAPE.—An article is ''knit-to shape'' if 50 percent or more of the exterior surface area of the article is formed by major parts that have been knitted or crocheted directly to the shape used in the article, with no consideration being given to patch pockets, appliqués, or the like. Minor cutting, trimming, or sewing of those major parts shall not affect the determination of whether an article is ''knit-to-shape''.

(6) WHOLLY ASSEMBLED.—An article is ''wholly assembled'' in the Philippines or the United States if—

(A) all components of the article pre-existed in essentially the same condition as the components exist in the finished article and the components were combined to form the finished article in the Philippines or the United States; and

(B) the article is comprised of at least 2 components.

(7) WHOLLY FORMED.—A yarn is ''wholly formed in the United States'' if all of the yarn forming and finishing operations, starting with the extrusion of filaments, strips, film, or sheet, and including slitting a film or sheet into strip, or the spinning of all fibers into yarn, or both, and ending with a finished yarn or plied yarn, takes place in the United States.

SEC. 4. TRADE BENEFITS.

(a) ELIGIBLE APPAREL ARTICLE.—For purposes of this section, an eligible apparel article is any one of the following:

(1) Men's and boys' cotton shirts, T-shirts and tank tops (other than underwear T-shirts and tank tops), pullovers, sweatshirts, tops, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6105.10, 6105.90, 6109.10, 6110.20, 6110.90, 6112.11, or 6114.20 of the HTS.

(2) Women's and girls' cotton shirts, blouses, T-shirts and tank tops (other than underwear T-shirts and tank tops), pullovers,

sweatshirts, tops, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6106.10, 6106.90, 6109.10, 6110.20, 6110.90, 6112.11, 6114.20, or 6117.90 of the HTS.

(3) Men's and boys' cotton trousers, breeches, and shorts classifiable under subheading 6103.10, 6103.42, 6103.49, 6112.11, 6113.00, 6203.19, 6203.42, 6203.49, 6210.40, 6211.20, 6211.32 of the HTS.

(4) Women's and girls' cotton trousers, breeches, and shorts classifiable under subheading 6104.19, 6104.62, 6104.69, 6112.11, 6113.00, 6117.90, 6204.12, 6204.19, 6204.62, 6204.69, 6210.50, 6211.20, 6211.42, or 6217.90 of the HTS.

(5) Men's and boys' cotton underpants, briefs, underwear-type T-shirts and singlets, thermal undershirts, other undershirts, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6107.11, 6109.10, 6207.11, or 6207.91 of the HTS.

(6) Men's and boys' manmade fiber underpants, briefs, underwear-type T-shirts and singlets, thermal undershirts, other undershirts, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6107.12, 6109.90, 6207.19, or 6207.99 of the HTS.

(7) Men's and boys' manmade fiber shirts, T-shirts and tank tops (other than underwear T-shirts and tank tops), pullovers, sweatshirts, tops, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6105.20, 6105.90, 6110.30, 6110.90, 6112.12, 6112.19, or 6114.30 of the HTS.

(8) Women's and girls' manmade fiber shirts, blouses, T-shirts and tank tops (other than underwear T-shirts and tank tops), pullovers, sweatshirts, tops, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6106.20, 6106.90, 6110.30, 6110.90, 6112.12, 6112.19, 6114.30, or 6117.90 of the HTS.

(9) Men's and boys' manmade fiber trousers, breeches, and shorts classifiable under subheading 6103.43, 6103.49, 6112.12, 6112.19, 6112.20, 6113.00, 6203.43, 6203.49, 6210.40, 6211.20, or 6211.33 of the HTS.

(10) Women's and girls' manmade fiber trousers, breeches, and shorts classifiable under subheading 6104.63, 6104.69, 6112.12, 6112.19, 6112.20, 6113.00, 6117.90, 6204.63, 6204.69, 6210.50, 6211.20, 6211.43, or 6217.90 of the HTS.

(11) Men's and boys' manmade fiber shirts classifiable under subheading 6205.30, 6205.90, or 6211.33 of the HTS.

(12) Cotton brassieres and other body support garments classifiable under subheading 6212.10, 6212.20, or 6212.30 of the HTS.

(13) Manmade fiber brassieres and other body support garments classifiable under subheading 6212.10, 6212.20, or 6212.30 of the HTS.

(14) Manmade fiber swimwear classifiable under subheading 6112.31, 6112.41, 6211.11, or 6211.12 of the HTS.

(15) Cotton swimwear classifiable under subheading 6112.39, 6112.49, 6211.11, or 6211.12 of the HTS.

(16) Men's and boys' manmade fiber coats, overcoats, carcoats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), windbreakers, padded sleeveless jackets with attachments for sleeves, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6101.30, 6101.90, 6112.12, 6112.19, 6112.20, or 6113.00 of the HTS.

(17) Women's and girls' manmade fiber coats, overcoats, carcoats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), windbreakers, padded sleeveless jackets with attachments for sleeves, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6102.30, 6102.90, 6104.33, 6104.39, 6112.12, 6112.19, 6112.20, 6113.00, or 6117.90 of the HTS.

(18) Gloves, mittens, and mitts of manmade fibers classifiable under subheading 6116.10, 6116.93, 6116.99, or 6216.00 of the HTS.

(b) DUTY-FREE TREATMENT FOR CERTAIN ELIGIBLE APPAREL ARTICLES.—

(1) DUTY-FREE TREATMENT.—Subject to paragraphs (2) and (3), an eligible apparel article shall enter the United States free of duty if the article is wholly assembled in the United States or the Philippines, or both, and if the component determining the article's classification under the HTS consists entirely of—

(A) fabric cut in the United States or the Philippines, or both, from fabric wholly formed in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States;

(B) components knit-to-shape in the United States from yarns wholly formed in the United States; or

(C) any combination of fabric or components knit-to-shape described in subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(2) DYEING, PRINTING, OR FINISHING.—An apparel article described in paragraph (1) shall be ineligible for duty-free treatment under such paragraph if any component determining the article's classification under the HTS comprises any fabric, fabric component, or component knit-to-shape in the United States that was dyed, printed, or finished at any place other than in the United States.

(3) OTHER PROCESSES.—An apparel article described in paragraph (1) shall not be disqualified from eligibility for duty-free treatment under such paragraph because it undergoes stone-washing, enzyme-washing, acid-washing, permapressing, oven baking, bleaching, garment-dyeing, screen printing, or other similar processes in either the United States or the Philippines.

(c) KNIT-TO-SHAPE APPAREL ARTICLES.—A knit-to-shape apparel article shall enter the United States free of duty if it is wholly assembled in the Philippines and if the component determining the article's classification under the HTS consists entirely of components knit-to-shape in the Philippines from yarns wholly formed in the United States.

(d) DE MINIMIS RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An article that would otherwise be ineligible for preferential treatment under this section because the article contains fibers or yarns not wholly formed in the United States or in the Philippines shall not be ineligible for such treatment if the total weight of all such fibers or yarns is not more than 10 percent of the total weight of the article.

(2) ELASTOMERIC YARNS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an article described in subsection (b) or (c) that contains elastomeric yarns in the component of the article that determines the article's classification under the HTS shall be eligible for duty-free treatment under this section only if such elastomeric yarns are wholly formed in the United States or the Philippines.

(3) DIRECT SHIPMENT.—Any apparel article described in subsection (b) or (c) is an eligible article only if it is imported directly into the United States from the Philippines.

(e) SINGLE TRANSFORMATION RULES.—Any of the following apparel articles that are cut and wholly assembled, or knit-to-shape, in the Philippines from any combination of fabrics, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns and are imported directly into the United States from the Philippines shall enter the United States free of duty, without regard to the source of the fabric, fabric components, components knit-to-shape, or yarns from which the articles are made:

(1) Except for brassieres classified in subheading 6212.10 of the HTS, any apparel article that is of a type listed in chapter rule 3(a), 4(a), or 5(a) for chapter 62 of the HTS, as such chapter rule is contained in paragraph 9 of section A of the Annex to Proclamation 8213 of the President of December 20, 2007, (as amended by Proclamation 8272 of June 30, 2008, or any subsequent proclamation by the President).

(2) Any article not described in paragraph (1) that is any of the following:

(A) Baby garments, clothing accessories, and headwear classifiable under subheading 6111.20, 6111.30, 6111.90, 6209.20, 6209.30, 6209.90, or 6505.90 of the HTS.

(B) Women's and girls' cotton coats, over coats, carcoats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), windbreakers, padded sleeveless jackets with attachments for sleeves, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6102.20, 6102.90, 6104.19, 6104.32, 6104.39, 6112.11, 6113.00, 6117.90, 6202.12, 6202.19, 6202.92, 6202.99, 6204.12, 6204.19, 6204.32, 6204.39, 6210.30, 6210.50, 6211.20, 6211.42, or 6217.90 of the HTS.

(C) Cotton dresses classifiable under subheading 6104.42, 6104.49, 6204.42, or 6204.49 of the HTS.

(D) Manmade fiber dresses classifiable under subheading 6104.43, 6104.44, 6104.49, 6204.43, 6204.44, or 6204.49 of the HTS.

(E) Men's and boys' cotton shirts classifiable under statistical reporting number 6205.20.1000, 6205.20.2021, 6205.20.2026, 6205.20.2031, 6205.20.2061, 6205.20.2076, 6205.90, or 6211.32 of the HTS.

(F) Men's and boys' cotton shirts not containing dobby woven fabric classifiable under statistical reporting number 6205.20.2003, 6205.20.2016, 6205.20.2051, 6205.20.2066 of the HTS.

(G) Manmade fiber pajamas and sleepwear classifiable under subheading 6107.22, 6107.99, 6108.32, 6207.22, 6207.99, or 6208.22 of the HTS.

(H) Women's and girls' wool coats, overcoats, carcoats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), windbreakers, padded sleeveless jackets with attachments for sleeves, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6102.10, 6102.30, 6102.90, 6104.31, 6104.33, 6104.39, 6117.90, 6202.11, 6202.13, 6202.19, 6202.91, 6202.93, 6202.99, 6204.31, 6204.33, 6204.39, 6211.20, 6211.41, or 6117.90 of the HTS.

(I) Women's and girls' wool trousers, breeches, and shorts classifiable under subheading 6104.61, 6104.63, 6104.69, 6117.90, 6204.61, 6204.63, 6204.69, 6211.20, 6211.41, or 6217.90 of the HTS.

(J) Women's and girls' cotton shirts and blouses classifiable under subheading 6206.10, 6206.30, 6206.90, 6211.42, or 6217.90 of the HTS.

(K) Women's and girls' manmade fiber shirts, blouses, shirt-blouses, sleeveless tank styles, and similar upper body garments classifiable under subheading 6206.10, 6206.40, 6206.90, 6211.43, or 6217.90 of the HTS.

(L) Women's and girls' manmade fiber coats, jackets, carcoats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), windbreakers, padded sleeveless jackets with attachments for sleeves, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6202.13, 6202.19, 6202.93, 6202.99, 6204.33, 6204.39, 6210.30, 6210.50, 6211.20, 6211.43, or 6217.90 of the HTS.

(M) Cotton skirts classifiable under subheading 6104.19, 6104.52, 6104.59, 6204.12, 6204.19, 6204.52, or 6204.59 of the HTS.

(N) Manmade fiber skirts classifiable under subheading 6104.53, 6104.59, 6204.53, or 6204.59 of the HTS.

(O) Men's and boys' manmade fiber coats, overcoats, carcoats, capes, cloaks, anoraks (including ski-jackets), windbreakers, padded sleeveless jackets with attachments for sleeves, and similar articles classifiable under subheading 6201.13, 6201.19, 6201.93, 6201.99, 6210.20, 6210.40, 6211.20, or 6211.33 of the HTS.

(P) Women's and girls' manmade fiber slips, petticoats, briefs, panties, and underwear classifiable under subheading 6108.11, 6108.22, 6108.92, 6109.90, 6208.11, or 6208.92 of the HTS.

(Q) Gloves, mittens, and mitts of cotton classifiable under subheading 6116.10, 6116.92, 6116.99, or 6216.00 of the HTS.

(R) Other men's or boys' garments classifiable under statistical reporting number 6211.32.0081 of the HTS.

(f) REVIEW AND REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall, not later than 3 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 3 years thereafter, review the effectiveness of this section in supporting the use of United States fabrics and make recommendations necessary to improve or expand the provisions of this section to ensure support for the use of United States fabrics.

(2) RECOMMENDATIONS.—After the second review required under paragraph (1), the Comptroller General shall make a determination regarding whether this section is effective in supporting the use of United States fabrics and recommend to Congress whether or not this section should be renewed.

(g) ENFORCEMENT.—Preferential treatment under this section shall not be provided to textile and apparel articles that are imported from the Philippines unless the President certifies to Congress that the Philippines is meeting the following conditions:

(1) A valid original textile visa issued by the Philippines is provided to U.S. Customs and Border Protection with respect to any article for which preferential treatment is claimed. The visa issued is in the standard 9-digit format required under the Electronic Visa Information System (ELVIS) and meets all reporting requirements of ELVIS.

(2) The Philippines is implementing the Electronic Visa Information System (ELVIS) to assist in the prevention of transshipment of apparel articles and the use of counterfeit documents relating to the importation of apparel articles into the United States.

(3) The Philippines is enforcing the Memorandum of Understanding between the United States of America and the Republic of the Philippines Concerning Cooperation in Trade in Textile and Apparel Goods, signed on August 23, 2006.

(4) The Philippines agrees to provide, on a timely basis at the request of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and consistently with the manner in which the records are kept in the Philippines, a report on exports from the Philippines of apparel articles eligible for preferential treatment under this section, and on imports into the Philippines of yarns, fabrics, fabric components, or components knit-to-shape that are wholly formed in the United States.

(5) The Philippines agrees to cooperate fully with the United States to address and take action necessary to prevent circumvention as provided in Article 5 of the Agreement on Textiles and Clothing referred to in section 101(d)(4) of the Uruguay Round Agreements Act (19 U.S.C. 3511(d)(4)).

(6) The Philippines agrees to require Philippines producers and exporters of articles eligible for preferential treatment under this section to maintain, for at least 5 years after the date of export, complete records of the production and the export of such articles, including records of yarns, fabrics, fabric components, and components knit-to-shape and used in the production of such articles.

(7) The Philippines agrees to provide, on a timely basis, at the request of U.S. Customs and Border Protection, documentation establishing the country of origin of articles eligible for preferential treatment under this section, as used by that country in implementing an effective visa system.

(8) The Philippines is to establish, within 60 days after the date of the President's certification under this paragraph, procedures that allow the Office of Textiles and Apparel of the Department of Commerce (OTEXA) to obtain information when fabric wholly formed in the United States is exported to the Philippines to allow for monitoring and verification before the imports of apparel articles containing the fabric for which preferential treatment is sought under this section reach the United States. The information provided upon export of the fabrics shall include, among other things, the name of the importer of the fabric in the Philippines, the 8-digit HTS subheading covering the apparel articles to be made from the fabric, and the quantity of the apparel articles to be made from the fabric for importation into the United States.

(9) The Philippines has enacted legislation or promulgated regulations to allow for the seizure of merchandise physically transiting the territory of the Philippines and that appears to be destined for the United States in circumvention of the provisions of this Act.

(h) CUSTOMS PROCEDURES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) PENALTIES FOR EXPORTERS.—If the President determines, based on sufficient evidence, that an exporter has engaged in transshipments as defined in paragraph (2), then the President shall deny for a period of 5 years all benefits under this section to such exporter, any successor of such exporter, and any other entity owned or operated by the principal of the exporter.

(B) PENALTIES FOR IMPORTERS.—If the President determines, based on sufficient evidence, that an importer has engaged in transshipments as defined in paragraph (2), then the President shall deny for a period of 5 years all benefits under this section to such importer, any successor of such importer, or any entity owned or operated by the principal of the importer.

(2) DEFINITION OF TRANSHIPMENT.—For purposes of paragraph (1) and subsection (g), transshipment has occurred when preferential treatment for an apparel article under this section has been claimed on the basis of material false information concerning the country of origin, manufacture, processing, cutting, or assembly of the article or of any fabric, fabric component, or component knit-to-shape from which the apparel article was cut and assembled. For purposes of this paragraph, false information is material if disclosure of the true information would have meant that the article is or was ineligible for preferential treatment under this section.

(i) PROCLAMATION AUTHORITY.—The President shall issue a proclamation to carry out this section not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act. The President shall consult with the Committee on Finance of the Senate and the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives in preparing such proclamation.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall apply to articles entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the 15th day after the date on which the President issues the proclamation required by section 4(i).

SEC. 6. TERMINATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The preferential duty treatment provided under this Act shall remain in effect for a period of 7 years beginning on the effective date provided for in section 5.

(b) GSP ELIGIBILITY.—The preferential duty treatment provided under this Act shall terminate if and when the Philippines becomes ineligible for designation as a beneficiary developing country under title V of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2461 et seq.).

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 1245. A bill to provide for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my friend Senator CARL LEVIN in introducing this legislation to create a new U.S. Department of State special envoy for religious minorities in the Middle East.

As we observe the political upheavals occurring throughout the region, we need to remember that this region is the birthplace of three of the world's major religions. I am particularly interested in ensuring that the shrinking minority of Christians in places like Egypt, Iraq, the West Bank, and Afghanistan receive adequate attention by our foreign emissaries.

I expect this bill to encourage the State Department to redouble its efforts to call attention to all religious minorities and demonstrate to leaders in the region that the United States takes religious freedom seriously. I am hopeful that as change takes place in many of these countries, they will look to the United States as a model of religious tolerance and freedom.

I thank my friends in the House of Representatives, FRANK WOLF, ANNA ESHOO, JOE PITTS, and many others, for their efforts on this bill's House companion, which was introduced earlier this year.

I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the Capitol and with the Administration to enact this important legislation.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, today Senator BLUNT and I have introduced the Near East and South Central Asia Religious Freedom Act of 2011. The purpose of this legislation is to establish within the State Department a special envoy to promote freedom of worship for religious minorities in this important region of the world.

It is a tragic fact that in many of the nations of the Near East and South Central Asia, this universal human right, the freedom to worship in keeping with one's conscience, is in doubt. I would point my colleagues to the State Department's most recent Report on International Religious Freedom, published late last year. The report concludes, among other things, that: in Iran, ''government respect for religious freedom in the country continued to deteriorate''; in Iraq, ''violence conducted by terrorists, extremists, and criminal gangs restricted the free exercise of religion and posed a significant threat to the country's vulnerable religious minorities''; in Afghanistan, respect for the rights of religious minorities deteriorated; in Pakistan organized violence against religious minorities had increased; and in Tajikistan the government passed new laws restricting religious practice.

The legislation we introduce today seeks to combat such abuses by placing a high-level official within the State Department to focus the Nation's diplomatic efforts on promoting freedom

of worship. The special envoy would be tasked with promoting religious freedom within the Near East and South Central Asia; monitoring and combating intolerance and incitements to violence against religious minorities within the region; and working with the region's governments to address laws and practices that infringe on religious freedom.

It is in the interest of the United States to promote freedom of worship and the rights of religious minorities around the world, and especially in nations where those freedoms are under threat. Such violence is a threat to regional stability in a part of the world where U.S. interests are great. Moreover, our support for these universal human values affirms the principles upon which our own Nation was founded.

I thank my colleague from Missouri for joining with me in introducing this important legislation. I urge my colleagues to support our efforts to protect the lives and freedoms of religious minorities, and to promote the universal values upon which our Nation is built.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. TESTER, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1249. A bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to facilitate the establishment of additional or expanded public target ranges in certain States; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act with the support of Senators RISCH, TESTER, and BENNET. I thank my colleagues for joining me in this bipartisan effort.

This bill would provide funding flexibility to the states to help construct and maintain needed public shooting ranges, designated areas where people can sharpen their marksmanship skills and safely enjoy recreational shooting.

For a variety of reasons, the number of places where people can safely engage in recreational shooting and target practicing has steadily dwindled. This includes areas on our public lands. In an effort to establish, maintain and promote safe and established areas for such activities, this legislation would allow States to allocate a greater proportion of their Federal wildlife funds for these purposes.

Currently, states are allocated funds for a variety of wildlife purposes under the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act. This act established an excise tax on sporting equipment and ammunition that is used to fund many state activities, including wildlife restoration and hunter education and safety programs. Pittman-Robertson funds can also be used for the development and maintenance of shooting ranges. However, the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act contains certain restrictions on the use of Pittman-Robertson funds that limit their effectiveness for establishing and maintaining shooting ranges.

The Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act would amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to adjust certain funding limitations so that States have greater flexibility over the use of funds available for the creation and maintenance of shooting ranges.

To be clear, the bill would not allocate any new funding to the construction of shooting ranges, it would not raise any fees or taxes, nor would it require states to apply their allocated Pittman-Robertson funds to shooting ranges. Instead, by reducing the amount of other funds states would have to raise and allowing states to ''bank'' Pittman-Robertson funds for 5 years for shooting ranges, the bill gives States greater flexibility to use their existing Pittman-Robertson funds as they think best. Also as a result of this bill, States will be able to extend their existing license fee revenue and other State-generated funds on other important programs, such as wildlife habitat conservation.

Hunting and recreational shooting are an integral part of the Colorado way of life, activities that also are appropriate where not prohibited on our public lands. This bill is designed to improve the quality of the recreational shooting experience by promoting safe, designated places to shoot. In addition to the improvements this bill contains, it is my hope that the public land management agencies will continue to work with the States, sportsmen and women, the recreational shooting interests, local communities, and others so that these opportunities are safe and available.

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

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

S. 1249

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Target Practice and Marksmanship Training Support Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the use of firearms and archery equipment for target practice and marksmanship training activities on Federal land is allowed, except to the extent specific portions of that land have been closed to those activities;

(2) in recent years preceding the date of enactment of this Act, portions of Federal land have been closed to target practice and marksmanship training for many reasons;

(3) the availability of public target ranges on non-Federal land has been declining for a variety of reasons, including continued population growth and development near former ranges;

(4) providing opportunities for target practice and marksmanship training at public target ranges on Federal and non-Federal land can help—

(A) to promote enjoyment of shooting, recreational, and hunting activities; and

(B) to ensure safe and convenient locations for those activities;

(5) Federal law in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, including the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669 et seq.), provides Federal support for construction and expansion of public target ranges by making available to States amounts that may be used for construction, operation, and maintenance of public target ranges; and

(6) it is in the public interest to provide increased Federal support to facilitate the construction or expansion of public target ranges.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this Act is to facilitate the construction and expansion of public target ranges, including ranges on Federal land managed by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF PUBLIC TARGET RANGE.

In this Act, the term ''public target range'' means a specific location that—

(1) is identified by a governmental agency for recreational shooting;

(2) is open to the public;

(3) may be supervised; and

(4) may accommodate archery or rifle, pistol, or shotgun shooting.

SEC. 4. AMENDMENTS TO PITTMAN-ROBERTSON WILDLIFE RESTORATION ACT.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—Section 2 of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669a) is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (2) through (8) as paragraphs (3) through (9), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following:

''(2) the term 'public target range' means a specific location that—

''(A) is identified by a governmental agency for recreational shooting;

''(B) is open to the public;

''(C) may be supervised; and

''(D) may accommodate archery or rifle, pistol, or shotgun shooting;''.

(b) EXPENDITURES FOR MANAGEMENT OF WILDLIFE AREAS AND RESOURCES.—Section 8(b) of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669g(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''(b) Each State'' and inserting the following:

''(b) EXPENDITURES FOR MANAGEMENT OF WILDLIFE AREAS AND RESOURCES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), each State'';

(2) in paragraph (1) (as so designated), by striking ''construction, operation,'' and inserting ''operation'';

(3) in the second sentence, by striking ''The non-Federal share'' and inserting the following:

''(3) NON-FEDERAL SHARE.—The non-Federal share'';

(4) in the third sentence, by striking ''The Secretary'' and inserting the following:

''(4) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary''; and

(5) by inserting after paragraph (1) (as designated by paragraph (1) of this subsection) the following:

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding the limitation described in paragraph (1), a State may pay up to 90 percent of the cost of acquiring land for, expanding, or constructing a public target range.''.

(c) FIREARM AND BOW HUNTER EDUCATION AND SAFETY PROGRAM GRANTS.—Section 10 of the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669h–1) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by adding at the end the following:

''(3) ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS.—Of the amount apportioned to a State for any fiscal year under section 4(b), the State

may elect to allocate not more than 10 percent, to be combined with the amount apportioned to the State under paragraph (1) for that fiscal year, for acquiring land for, expanding, or constructing a public target range.'';

(2) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) COST SHARING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Federal share of the cost of any activity carried out using a grant under this section shall not exceed 75 percent of the total cost of the activity.

''(2) PUBLIC TARGET RANGE CONSTRUCTION OR EXPANSION.—The Federal share of the cost of acquiring land for, expanding, or constructing a public target range in a State on Federal or non-Federal land pursuant to this section or section 8(b) shall not exceed 90 percent of the cost of the activity.''; and

(3) in subsection (c)(1)—

(A) by striking ''Amounts made'' and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), amounts made''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Amounts provided for acquiring land for, constructing, or expanding a public target range shall remain available for expenditure and obligation during the 5-fiscal-year period beginning on October 1 of the first fiscal year for which the amounts are made available.''.

SEC. 5. LIMITS ON LIABILITY.

(a) DISCRETIONARY FUNCTION.—For purposes of chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code (commonly referred to as the ''Federal Tort Claims Act''), any action by an agent or employee of the United States to manage or allow the use of Federal land for purposes of target practice or marksmanship training by a member of the public shall be considered to be the exercise or performance of a discretionary function.

(b) CIVIL ACTION OR CLAIMS.—Except to the extent provided in chapter 171 of title 28, United States Code, the United States shall not be subject to any civil action or claim for money damages for any injury to or loss of property, personal injury, or death caused by an activity occurring at a public target range that is—

(1) funded in whole or in part by the Federal Government pursuant to the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act (16 U.S.C. 669 et seq.); or

(2) located on Federal land.

SEC. 6. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING COOPERATION.

It is the sense of Congress that, consistent with applicable laws and regulations, the Chief of the Forest Service and the Director of the Bureau of Land Management should cooperate with State and local authorities and other entities to carry out waste removal and other activities on any Federal land used as a public target range to encourage continued use of that land for target practice or marksmanship training.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON):

S. 1257. A bill establish grant programs to improve the health of border area residents and for for all hazards preparedness in the border area including bioterrorism and infectious disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Border Health Security Act of 2011.

This legislation is designed to make several important changes to current law to address pressing public health challenges along the U.S.-Mexico border.

In 1993, along with Senators HUTCHISON and MCCAIN, I introduced the original United States-Mexico Border Health Commission Act. With the support of Members from both chambers, and from both parties, we passed this landmark legislation, which was signed into law in 1994 by President Clinton. I was gratified when the bi-national agreement to establish the Commission was signed in 2000. And, I have monitored with interest the important work of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission in the years since.

As the Commission enters its second decade, the problems it seeks to deal with are no less pressing than those we originally set out to tackle with the Border Health Commission Act.

Health disparities and chronic diseases for the over 14 million people who live in the border region, comprised of two sovereign nations, 25 Native American tribes, and four states in the United States and six states in Mexico, remain at unacceptable levels, far outpacing rates in most of the United States. Far too many border residents remain uninsured. Texas and New Mexico, for instance, rank first and fifth, respectively, in the percentage of residents who are uninsured. Many who live in the region still do not have access to adequate primary, preventive, and specialty care. If the border region were considered a state, it would rank at or near the bottom on many key health indicators, such as rates of tuberculosis, hepatitis, diabetes, and access to health professionals. Compounding all these problems are high rates of poverty; three of the ten poorest counties in the United States are located in the border area.

In addition, communicable diseases that can easily travel across borders, such as tuberculosis and H1N1, strain our border's public health systems. Amplifying our public health surveillance efforts at our border can help mitigate the impact of such diseases, as well as other bio-security threats, in the rest of the nation.

I believe, just as I did when I introduced the original legislation, that the public health problems the border region faces are truly bi-national in nature. As such, they demand a truly bi-national public health architecture. Over the last 11 years, the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission has provided this structure as it worked to address these issues. It has had a number of successes, including notable conferences and reports on infectious disease surveillance, childhood obesity, and tuberculosis, developed jointly by both its U.S. and Mexican members. Its programs were particularly helpful as we coordinated our response to the H1N1 pandemic in 2009.

Still, the public health challenges in the border remain great. As the Commission enters into its second decade, this bipartisan legislation will strengthen the capacity of the Commission and authorize appropriate federal resources for its important work.

The legislation does this in several ways. First, through a new grant program, it authorizes additional funding to improve the infrastructure, access, and the delivery of health care services along the entire U.S.-Mexico border.

These grants would be flexible and allow the individual communities to establish their own priorities with which to spend these funds for the following range of purposes: maternal and child health, primary care and preventative health, public health and public health infrastructure, health promotion, oral health, behavioral and mental health, substance abuse, health conditions that have a high prevalence in the border region, medical and health services research, community health workers or promotoras, health care infrastructure, including planning and construction grants, health disparities, environmental health, health education, and research.

Second, it authorizes new, funding for the successful Early Warning Infectious Disease Surveillance, EWIDS, program in the U.S.-Mexico border region. EWIDS is designed to bolster preparedness for bioterrorism and infectious disease. The legislation also establishes a health alert network to identify and communicate information quickly to health providers about emerging health care threats. It requires the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Homeland Security to coordinate this system.

Third, it strengthens the capacity of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission by undertaking several key organizational reforms.

Finally, the legislation encourages more coordination, recommendations, and study of these complex border health challenges. The bill affirms the need for integrated efforts across national, federal, state and local agencies to properly address border health issues. It specifies that recommendations and advice on how to improve border health will be communicated to Congress. Further, the legislation authorizes two key studies conducted by the Institute of Medicine: the first on bi-national health infrastructure and a second on health insurance coverage for border residents. A total of $31 million is authorized to carry out the act.

Without the changes and resources this legislation envisions, border residents will continue to lag behind the United States in many key indicators of good public health. Without this bill, both of our countries will be less prepared when the next bi-national health security threat hits.

I would like to thank Senator HUTCHISON, who was an original cosponsor of the U.S.-Mexico Border Health Commission legislation, Public Law 103–400, that we passed in 1994 and is the lead cosponsor of this legislation today. She has also been the lead Senator in getting funding for the U.S.-

Mexico Border Health Commission since its inception.

I urge the adoption of this bipartisan legislation by this Congress.

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

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

S. 1257

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Border Health Security Act of 2011''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The United States-Mexico border is an interdependent and dynamic region of 14,538,209 people with significant and unique public health challenges.

(2) These challenges include low rates of health insurance coverage, poor access to health care services, and high rates of dangerous diseases, such as tuberculosis, diabetes, and obesity.

(3) As the 2009 novel influenza A (H1N1) outbreak illustrates, diseases do not respect international boundaries, therefore, a strong public health effort at and along the U.S.-Mexico border is crucial to not only protect and improve the health of Americans but also to help secure the country against biosecurity threats.

(4) For 11 years, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission has served as a crucial bi-national institution to address these unique and truly cross-border health issues.

(5) Two initiatives resulting from the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission's work speak to the importance of an infrastructure that facilitates cross border communication at the ground level. First, the Early Warning Infectious Disease Surveillance (EWIDS), started in 2004, surveys infectious diseases passing among border States allowing for early detection and intervention. Second, the Ventanillas de Salud program, allows Mexican consulates, in collaboration with United States nonprofit health organizations, to provide information and education to Mexican citizens living and working in the United States through a combination of Mexican state funds and private grants. This program reaches an estimated 1,500,000 people in the United States.

(6) As the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission enters its second decade, and as these issues grow in number and complexity, the Commission requires additional resources and modifications which will allow it to provide stronger leadership to optimize health and quality of life along the United States-Mexico border.

SEC. 3. UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER HEALTH COMMISSION ACT AMENDMENTS.

The United States-Mexico Border Health Commission Act (22 U.S.C. 290n et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 3—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(3) to serve as an independent and objective body to both recommend and implement initiatives that solve border health issues'';

(2) in section 5—

(A) in subsection (b), by striking ''should be the leader'' and inserting ''shall be the Chair''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

''(d) PROVIDING ADVICE AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO CONGRESS.—A member of the Commission may at any time provide advice or recommendations to Congress concerning issues that are considered by the Commission. Such advice or recommendations may be provided whether or not a request for such is made by a member of Congress and regardless of whether the member or individual is authorized to provide such advice or recommendations by the Commission or any other Federal official.'';

(3) by redesignating section 8 as section 13;

(4) by striking section 7 and inserting the following:

''SEC. 7. BORDER HEALTH GRANTS.

''(a) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'eligible entity' means a State, public institution of higher education, local government, Indian tribe, tribal organization, urban Indian organization, nonprofit health organization, trauma center, or community health center receiving assistance under section 330 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b), that is located in the border area.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION.—From amounts appropriated under section 12, the Secretary, acting through the Commissioners, shall award grants to eligible entities to address priorities and recommendations outlined by the Commission's Strategic and Operational Plans, as authorized under section 9, to improve the health of border area residents.

''(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires a grant under subsection (b) shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

''(d) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under subsection (b) shall use the grant funds for—

''(1) programs relating to—

''(A) maternal and child health;

''(B) primary care and preventative health;

''(C) infectious disease testing and monitoring;

''(D) public health and public health infrastructure;

''(E) health promotion;

''(F) oral health;

''(G) behavioral and mental health;

''(H) substance abuse;

''(I) health conditions that have a high prevalence in the border area;

''(J) medical and health services research;

''(K) workforce training and development;

''(L) community health workers or promotoras;

''(M) health care infrastructure problems in the border area (including planning and construction grants);

''(N) health disparities in the border area;

''(O) environmental health;

''(P) health education;

''(Q) outreach and enrollment services with respect to Federal programs (including programs authorized under titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 and 1397aa));

''(R) trauma care;

''(S) health research with an emphasis on infectious disease;

''(T) epidemiology and health research;

''(U) cross-border health surveillance coordinated with Mexican Health Authorities;

''(V) obesity, particularly childhood obesity;

''(W) crisis communication, domestic violence, substance abuse, health literacy, and cancer; or

''(X) community-based participatory research on border health issues; or

''(2) other programs determined appropriate by the Secretary.

''(e) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Amounts provided to an eligible entity awarded a grant under subsection (b) shall be used to supplement and not supplant other funds available to the eligible entity to carry out the activities described in subsection (d).

''SEC. 8. GRANTS FOR EARLY WARNING INFECTIOUS DISEASE SURVEILLANCE (EWIDS) PROJECTS IN THE BORDER AREA.

''(a) ELIGIBLE ENTITY DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'eligible entity' means a State, local government, Indian tribe, tribal organization, urban Indian organization, trauma centers, regional trauma center coordinating entity, or public health entity.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION.—From funds appropriated under section 12, the Secretary shall award grants under the Early Warning Infectious Disease Surveillance (EWIDS) project to eligible entities for infectious disease surveillance activities in the border area.

''(c) APPLICATION.—An eligible entity that desires a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

''(d) USES OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity that receives a grant under subsection (b) shall use the grant funds to, in coordination with State and local all hazards programs—

''(1) develop and implement infectious disease surveillance plans and readiness assessments and purchase items necessary for such plans;

''(2) coordinate infectious disease surveillance planning in the region with appropriate United States-based agencies and organizations as well as appropriate authorities in Mexico or Canada;

''(3) improve infrastructure, including surge capacity, syndromic surveillance, laboratory capacity, and isolation/decontamination capacity;

''(4) create a health alert network, including risk communication and information dissemination;

''(5) educate and train clinicians, epidemiologists, laboratories, and emergency personnel;

''(6) implement electronic data systems to coordinate the triage, transportation, and treatment of multi-casualty incident victims;

''(7) provide infectious disease testing in the border area; and

''(8) carry out such other activities identified by the Secretary, the United States-Mexico Border Health Commission, State and local public health offices, and border health offices at the United States-Mexico or United States-Canada borders.

''SEC. 9. PLANS, REPORTS, AUDITS, AND BY-LAWS.

''(a) STRATEGIC PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after the date of enactment of this section, and every 5 years thereafter, the Commission (including the participation of members of both the United States and Mexican sections) shall prepare a binational strategic plan to guide the operations of the Commission and submit such plan to the Secretary and Congress (and the Mexican legislature).

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—The binational strategic plan under paragraph (1) shall include—

''(A) health-related priority areas determined most important by the full membership of the Commission;

''(B) recommendations for goals, objectives, strategies and actions designed to address such priority areas; and

''(C) a proposed evaluation framework with output and outcome indicators appropriate to gauge progress toward meeting the objectives and priorities of the Commission.

''(b) WORK PLAN.—Not later than January 1, 2012 and every other January 1 thereafter, the Commission shall develop and approve an

operational work plan and budget based on the strategic plan under subsection (a). At the end of each such work plan cycle, the Government Accountability Office shall conduct an evaluation of the activities conducted by the Commission based on output and outcome indicators included in the strategic plan. The evaluation shall include a request for written evaluations from the commissioners about barriers and facilitators to executing successfully the Commission work plan.

''(c) BIANNUAL REPORTING.—The Commission shall issue a biannual report to the Secretary which provides independent policy recommendations related to border health issues. Not later than 3 months following receipt of each such biannual report, the Secretary shall provide the report and any studies or other material produced independently by the Commission to Congress.

''(d) AUDITS.—The Secretary shall annually prepare an audited financial report to account for all appropriated assets expended by the Commission to address both the strategic and operational work plans for the year involved.

''(e) BY-LAWS.—Not less than 6 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Commission shall develop and approve bylaws to provide fully for compliance with the requirements of this section.

''(f) TRANSMITTAL TO CONGRESS.—The Commission shall submit copies of the work plan and by-laws to Congress. The Government Accountability Office shall submit a copy of the evaluation to Congress.

''SEC. 10. BINATIONAL HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE AND HEALTH INSURANCE.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter into a contract with the Institute of Medicine for the conduct of a study concerning binational health infrastructure (including trauma and emergency care) and health insurance efforts. In conducting such study, the Institute shall solicit input from border health experts and health insurance issuers.

''(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary enters into the contract under subsection (a), the Institute of Medicine shall submit to the Secretary and the appropriate committees of Congress a report concerning the study conducted under such contract. Such report shall include the recommendations of the Institute on ways to establish, expand, or improve binational health infrastructure and health insurance efforts.

''SEC. 11. COORDINATION.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—To the extent practicable and appropriate, plans, systems and activities to be funded (or supported) under this Act for all hazard preparedness, and general border health, should be coordinated with Federal, State, and local authorities in Mexico and the United States.

''(b) COORDINATION OF HEALTH SERVICES AND SURVEILLANCE.—The Secretary may coordinate with the Secretary of Homeland Security in establishing a health alert system that—

''(1) alerts clinicians and public health officials of emerging disease clusters and syndromes along the border area; and

''(2) is alerted to signs of health threats, disasters of mass scale, or bioterrorism along the border area.

''SEC. 12. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act $31,000,000 for fiscal year 2012 and each succeeding year subject to the availability of appropriations for such purpose. Of the amount appropriated for each fiscal year, at least $1,000,000 shall be made available to fund operationally-feasible functions and activities with respect to Mexico. The remaining funds shall be allocated for the administration of United States activities under this Act, border health activities under cooperative agreements with the border health offices of the States of California, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas, the border health and EWIDS grant programs, and the Institute of Medicine and Government Accountability Office reports.''; and

(5) in section 13 (as so redesignated)—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after paragraph (2), the following:

''(3) INDIANS; INDIAN TRIBE; TRIBAL ORGANIZATION; URBAN INDIAN ORGANIZATION.—The terms 'Indian', 'Indian tribe', 'tribal organization', and 'urban Indian organization' have the meanings given such terms in section 4 of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1603).''.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. BOOZMAN):

S. 1259. A bill to amend the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 to prohibit the provision of peacekeeping operations assistance to governments of countries that recruit and use child soldiers; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

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

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

S. 1259

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Trafficking Victims Enhanced Protection Act of 2011''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) There are as many as 300,000 child soldiers in use by state-run armies, paramilitaries, and guerilla groups in roughly 21 countries around the world and in almost every region of the world.

(2) The 2010 Trafficking in Persons Report defines a child soldier as any person under 18 years of age who directly takes part in hostilities, has been compulsorily or voluntarily recruited as a member of a government's armed forces, or has been recruited or used in hostilities by armed forces distinct from the armed forces of a state.

(3) Children are used as soldiers, combatants, spies, scouts, decoys, guards, cooks, human mine detectors, and even sex slaves, robbing them of their childhood. Children are forced to join such groups physically, economically, or socially, or lured with promises of food, money, or security.

(4) Exploitation of these children leaves them stigmatized and traumatized. Children also suffer higher mortality, disease, and injury rates in combat situations than adults, putting their health and lives at risk.

(5) The William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–457) prohibits the provision of International Military Education and Training (IMET) and Foreign Military Funds (FMF) assistance to countries found to use child soldiers.

(6) The first report required under WTVPRA, published in 2010, identified 6 countries found to use child soldiers: Burma, Somalia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Sudan, Yemen, and Chad.

(7) On October 25, 2010, President Barack Obama exercised his waiver authority for 4 of the 6 countries to include the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Sudan, Yemen, and Chad, which allowed the United States Government to provide both IMET and FMF funding to these countries.

(8) United States peacekeeping funds that were not restricted in the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 have been provided to Somalia, despite the use of child soldiers in that country and United States efforts to halt such practices.

SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON PROVISION OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN GOVERNMENTS.

Section 404(a) of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 (22 U.S.C. 2370c–1(a)) is amended by striking ''section 516 or 541 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321j or 2347)'' and inserting ''section 516, 541, or 551 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321j, 2347, or 2348)''.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 1260. A bill to require financial literacy and economic education counseling for student borrowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

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

S. 1260

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''College Literacy in Finance and Economics Act of 2011'' or the ''College LIFE Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Student borrowing is widespread in higher education, and more than $100,000,000,000 in Federal education loans are originated each year. In 2008, 62 percent of recipients of a baccalaureate degree graduated with student debt.

(2) Forty-eight percent of students at 4-year public institutions of higher education borrow money to pay for college, as do 57 percent of students at 4-year private institutions of higher education, and 96 percent of students at for-profit institutions of higher education.

(3) In 2008, 92 percent of Black students, 85 percent of Hispanic students, 85 percent of American Indian/Alaska Native students, 82 percent of multi-racial students, 80 percent of Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander students, 77 percent of White students, and 68 percent of Asian students received financial aid.

(4) Students depart from institutions of higher education with significant debt. In 2008, the average student loan debt among graduates of institutions of higher education was $23,186, and 1 in 10 recipients of a baccalaureate degree graduated at least $40,000 in debt. In 2008, 57 percent of recipients of a baccalaureate degree from a for-profit institution of higher education owed more than $30,000, and the median amount of debt was $32,700. Since 2003, the average cumulative debt among students at institutions of higher education has increased by 5.6 percent each year.

(5) Students enrolled in for-profit institutions of higher education account for 47 percent of all student loan defaults, despite representing approximately 10 percent of all

students enrolled in institutions of higher education. Since 2003, the national cohort default rate has increased from 4.5 percent to 7 percent.

(6) Students rely on access to credit. Fifty-six percent of dependent students at institutions of higher education had a credit card in their own name in 2004. The average credit card balance among such students who were carrying a balance on their cards was $2,000.

(7) According to the National Foundation for Credit Counseling, the majority of adults (56 percent of adults in the United States, or 127,000,000 people) do not have a budget or keep close track of expenses or spending.

(8) According to a 2009 National Bankruptcy Research Center study, consumers who received financial education through pre-bankruptcy counseling had 27.5 percent fewer delinquent accounts and remained current on their accounts for 29 percent longer.

(9) According to the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority Investor Education Foundation, less than one-third of young adults (ages 18 to 29) set aside emergency savings to weather unexpected financial challenges.

(10) According to a Jump$tart Coalition for Personal Financial Literacy survey, 62 percent of high school students cannot pass a basic personal finance exam, and financial literacy scores among future higher education students are low.

(11) According to research by the National Endowment for Financial Education and the University of Arizona, schools are the institutions that students trust most to help increase their knowledge of personal finance.

SEC. 3. FINANCIAL LITERACY COUNSELING.

Section 485 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1092) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(n) FINANCIAL LITERACY COUNSELING.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each eligible institution shall provide financial literacy counseling to student borrowers in accordance with the requirements of this subsection, through—

''(A) financial aid offices;

''(B) an employee or group of employees designated under subsection (c); or

''(C) a partnership with a nonprofit organization that has substantial experience developing or administering financial literacy and economic education curricula, which may include an organization that has received grant funding under the Excellence in Economic Education Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. 7267 et seq.).

''(2) ENTRANCE AND EXIT COUNSELING REQUIRED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Financial literacy counseling, as required under this subsection, shall be provided to student borrowers on the following 2 occasions:

''(i) ENTRANCE COUNSELING.—Such counseling shall be provided not later than 45 days after the first disbursement of a borrower's first loan that is made, insured, or guaranteed under part B, made under part D, or made under part E. Financial literacy counseling on this occasion may be provided in conjunction with the entrance counseling described in subsection (l), if the financial literacy counseling component is provided in accordance with the requirements of subparagraph (C).

''(ii) EXIT COUNSELING.—Such financial literacy counseling shall be provided, in addition to the financial literacy counseling provided under clause (i), prior to the completion of the course of study for which the borrower enrolled at the institution or at the time of departure from such institution, to each borrower of a loan that is made, insured, or guaranteed under part B, made under part D, or made under part E. Financial literacy counseling on this occasion may be provided in conjunction with the exit counseling described in subsection (b), if the financial literacy counseling component is provided in accordance with the requirements of subparagraph (C).

''(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The requirements of subparagraph (A) shall not apply to borrowers of—

''(i) a loan made, insured, or guaranteed pursuant to section 428C;

''(ii) a loan made, insured, or guaranteed on behalf of a student pursuant to section 428B; or

''(iii) a loan made under part D that is a Federal Direct Consolidation Loan or a Federal Direct PLUS loan made on behalf of a student.

''(C) MINIMUM COUNSELING REQUIREMENTS.—Such financial literacy counseling shall include a total of not less than 4 hours of counseling on the occasion described in subparagraph (A)(i), and an additional period of not less than 4 hours of counseling on the occasion described in subparagraph (A)(ii). A total of not more than 2 hours of counseling for each of the occasions described in subparagraph (A) shall be provided electronically.

''(D) EARLY DEPARTURE.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (C), if a borrower leaves an eligible institution without the prior knowledge of such institution, the institution shall attempt to provide the information required under this subsection to the student in writing.

''(3) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED.—Financial literacy counseling, as required under this subsection, shall include information on the Financial Education Core Competencies as determined by the Financial Literacy and Education Commission established under title V of the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003 (20 U.S.C. 9701 et seq.).

''(4) USE OF INTERACTIVE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary may encourage institutions to carry out the requirements of this subsection through the use of interactive programs that test the borrower's understanding of the financial literacy information provided through counseling under this subsection, using simple and understandable language and clear formatting.

''(5) MODEL FINANCIAL LITERACY COUNSELING CURRICULUM.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the College Literacy in Finance and Economics Act of 2011, the Secretary shall develop a curriculum in accordance with the requirements of paragraph (3), which eligible institutions may use to fulfill the requirements of this subsection. In developing such curriculum, the Secretary may consult with members of the Financial Literacy and Education Commission.''.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 499. Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. HELLER, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, to reduce the number of executive positions subject to Senate confirmation.

SA 500. Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BURR, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. UDALL of Colorado) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 501. Mr. DEMINT (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. HATCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 502. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 503. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 504. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 505. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 506. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 507. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. LEE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 508. Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 509. Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 510. Mr. DEMINT proposed an amendment to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 511. Mr. DEMINT proposed an amendment to the bill S. 679, supra.

SA 512. Mr. AKAKA submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 499. Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. HELLER, and Mr. GRASSLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 679, to reduce the number of executive positions subject to Senate confirmation; as follows:

On page 75, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

SEC. 5. PROHIBITION OF FUNDS FOR OFFICES HEADED BY CZARS.

(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ''Czar''—

(1) means the head of any task force, council, policy office, or similar office established by or at the direction of the President who—

(A) is appointed to such position (other than on an interim basis) without the advice and consent of the Senate;

(B) is excepted from the competitive service by reason of such position's confidential, policy-determining, policy-making, or policy-advocating character; and

(C) performs or delegates functions which (but for the establishment of such task force, council, policy office, or similar office) would be performed or delegated by an individual in a position that the President appoints by and with the advice and consent of the Senate; and

(2) does not include—

(A) any individual who, before the date of the enactment of this Act, was serving in the position of Assistant Secretary, or an equivalent position, that requires confirmation by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, or a designee; or

(B) the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs.

(b) PROHIBITION OF FUNDS.—Appropriated funds may not be used to pay for any salaries or expenses of any task force, council, policy office within the Executive Office of the President, or similar office—

(1) that is established by or at the direction of the President; and

(2) the head of which is a Czar.

SA 500. Mr. COBURN (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. BURR, Mr. PAUL, and