

AMENDMENT NO. 2306

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2306 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2325

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2325 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2366

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2366 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2367

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2367 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2382

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2382 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2385

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2385 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2386

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2386 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2396

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2396 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2399

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2399 in-

tended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2413

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2413 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2416

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2416 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2418

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2418 intended to be proposed to S. 3240, an original bill to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 493—RECOGNIZING THAT THE OCCURRENCE OF PROSTATE CANCER IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN MEN HAS REACHED EPIDEMIC PROPORTIONS AND URGING FEDERAL AGENCIES TO ADDRESS THAT HEALTH CRISIS BY SUPPORTING EDUCATION, AWARENESS OUTREACH, AND RESEARCH SPECIFICALLY FOCUSED ON HOW PROSTATE CANCER AFFECTS AFRICAN-AMERICAN MEN

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 493

Whereas the incidence of prostate cancer in African-American men is more than one and a half times higher than in any other racial or ethnic group in the United States;

Whereas African-American men have the highest mortality rate of any ethnic and racial group in the United States, dying at a rate that is approximately two and a half times higher than other ethnic and racial groups;

Whereas that rate of mortality represents the largest disparity of mortality rates in any of the major cancers;

Whereas prostate cancer can be cured with early detection and the proper treatment, regardless of the ethnic or racial group of the cancer patient;

Whereas African Americans are more likely to be diagnosed at an earlier age and at a later stage of cancer progression than all other ethnic and racial groups, leading to lower cure rates and lower chances of survival;

Whereas, for cases diagnosed early, studies show a 5-year survival rate of nearly 100 per-

cent, but the survival rate drops significantly to 28 percent for cases diagnosed in late stages; and

Whereas recent genomics research has increased the ability to identify men at high risk for aggressive prostate cancer: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that prostate cancer has created a health crisis for African-American men;

(2) recognizes the importance of health coverage and access to care, as well as promoting informed decision making between men and their doctors, taking into consideration the known risks and potential benefits of screening and treatment options for prostate cancer;

(3) urges Federal agencies to support—

(A) research to address and attempt to end the health crisis created by prostate cancer;

(B) efforts relating to education, awareness, and early detection at the grassroots level to end that health crisis; and

(C) the Office of Minority Health of the Department of Health and Human Services in focusing on improving health and healthcare outcomes for African Americans at an elevated risk of prostate cancer; and

(4) urges investment by the National Cancer Institute and National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, and other elements of the National Institutes of Health, as well as the Department of Defense, in research focusing on the improvement of early detection and treatment of prostate cancer, such as by using biomarkers to accurately distinguish indolent forms of prostate cancer from lethal forms and advanced imaging tools to assure the best level of individualized patient care.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, as we approach Father's Day, I would like to take the opportunity to discuss an important men's health issue that has personally affected my family and the families of many of my colleagues in the Chamber.

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer in men. Every year, more than 200,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer, and more than 25,000 men die from it. When caught early, five-year survival rates are near 100 percent. But when this cancer is caught in later stages, the survival rate drops significantly to only 28 percent.

African-American men are one and a half times more likely to get prostate cancer and two and a half times more likely to be killed by it than any other racial or ethnic group in the United States. As we move forward with better screening and treatment options, we must also close disparity gaps so all men have improved outcomes.

This is why Senators CHAMBLISS, CARDIN, AKAKA, WYDEN and I are submitting a resolution to recognize the disproportionate occurrence of prostate cancer in African-American men. This resolution acknowledges the importance of health care coverage for prostate cancer screenings and the need for informed decision making between men and their doctors, taking into consideration the known risks and potential benefits of screening and treatment options. It also encourages Federal agencies to place a greater emphasis on education, awareness, and research focused on improved screening tools such

as more effective biomarkers and advanced imaging.

I would like to recognize the Prostate Health Education Network, PHEN, AdMeTech Foundation, and ZERO—The Project to End Prostate Cancer for their work on the development of this resolution and their ongoing advocacy to support innovative research that holds real promise in turning the tide against cancer.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in the Senate to pass this important resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 494—CONDEMNING THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION FOR PROVIDING WEAPONS TO THE REGIME OF PRESIDENT BASHAR AL-ASSAD OF SYRIA

Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. AYOTTE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 494

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has an extensive history of providing weapons and political support to the regime of President Bashar al-Assad of Syria, a country designated by the Secretary of State as a “state sponsor of terrorism”;

Whereas, at the Port of Tartus in Syria, the Government of the Russian Federation maintains for the Russian Navy its only permanent warm-water naval port outside of the former Soviet Union, which bolsters the Assad regime;

Whereas the Assad regime responded to the widespread, peaceful, and sustained calls for political reform that began in March 2011 in a manner that has caused the deaths of more than 10,000 people in Syria, mostly civilians, as of June 2012, according to an estimate by the United Nations;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation remains the top supplier of weapons to the Government of Syria, reportedly providing nearly \$1,000,000,000 worth of arms to the Government of Syria in 2011 alone;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has unabatedly continued to ship arms to the Government of Syria during the ongoing popular uprisings;

Whereas, on October 4, 2011, the Russian Federation, together with the People's Republic of China, vetoed a United Nations Security Council resolution that would have condemned “grave and systematic human rights violations” in Syria and would have warned the Government of Syria of the actions, including sanctions, to be considered against it, if warranted;

Whereas, on January 18, 2012, Foreign Minister of the Russian Federation Sergei Lavrov criticized “the sending of so-called humanitarian convoys to Syria”;

Whereas, on January 19, 2012, Foreign Minister Lavrov stated that, with regard to the Government of Syria, “For us, the red line is fairly clearly drawn. We will not support any sanctions.”;

Whereas, on February 4, 2012, the Russian Federation, together with the People's Republic of China, vetoed a United Nations Security Council resolution calling for an end to the violence in Syria, demanding that all parties in Syria cease all violence and reprisals and implement the plan set out by the League of Arab States, expressing grave con-

cern for the deteriorating situation in Syria, and condemning the widespread gross violations of human rights;

Whereas, on March 13, 2012, Deputy Minister of Defence of the Russian Federation Anatoly Antonov stated that the Government of the Russian Federation would not halt arms shipments to Syria, acknowledging that the Government of the Russian Federation has military instructors on the ground training the Syrian Arab Army and stating, “Russia enjoys good and strong military technical co-operation with Syria, and we see no reason to reconsider it. Russian-Syria military co-operation is perfectly legitimate.”;

Whereas, on May 30, 2012, Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations Susan Rice condemned recent reports of an arms shipment that arrived in Syria from the Russian Federation on May 26, 2012, as “reprehensible,” stating that “this is obviously of the utmost concern given that the Syrian government continues to use deadly forces against civilians”;

Whereas, on May 31, 2012, Secretary of State Hillary Clinton stated that the policy of the Government of the Russian Federation toward the Government of Syria “is going to help contribute to a civil war,” maintaining that Russian officials “are just vociferous in their claim that they are providing a stabilizing influence,” and stating, “I reject that. I think they are, in effect, propping up the regime at a time when we should be working on a political transition.”;

Whereas the Government of the Russian Federation has thus far failed to effectively use its influence and relationship with the Assad regime to halt the murder of civilians in Syria, including the massacre of over 100 people, many of them women and children, in Houla on May 25 to 26, 2012;

Whereas Russian Federation President Vladimir Putin rejected appeals by President of France François Hollande for tougher United Nations sanctions aimed at ending violence in Syria;

Whereas, on June 5, 2012, Secretary of State Clinton stated that “it’s pretty clear that we all have to intensify our efforts to speed a political transition. . . . And we invite the Russians and the Chinese to be part of the solution of what is happening in Syria”;

Whereas, on June 7, 2012, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations Vitaly Churkin publicly criticized the Governments of Saudi Arabia and Qatar for supporting the opposition in Syria; and

Whereas, on June 12, 2012, Secretary of State Clinton stated that “there are attack helicopters on the way from Russia to Syria, which will escalate the conflict quite dramatically”; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) condemns the Government of the Russian Federation for—

(A) its longstanding and ongoing support for the criminal regime of President Bashar al-Assad in Syria;

(B) continuing to transfer weapons to the Assad regime, which cannot be considered legitimate for purposes of self-defense; and

(C) its troubling opposition to resolutions from the United Nations Security Council regarding Syria, including those recently tabled by the United States;

(2) concludes that the actions of the Government of the Russian Federation—

(A) have enabled the Assad regime to maintain power and perpetrate mass atrocities against its own people; and

(B) directly undermine the core national security interests of the United States, as well as the stability of the entire Middle East; and

(3) urges the Government of the Russian Federation to—

(A) immediately end all transfers of weapons to the Assad regime;

(B) call on the Assad regime to end all violence against civilians;

(C) support international sanctions against Syria; and

(D) support a peaceful transition of leadership in the Government of Syria, starting with the early departure of Bashar al-Assad.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2423. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 3240, to reauthorize agricultural programs through 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2424. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2425. Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. HOEVEN, and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2426. Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. CHAMBLISS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2427. Mr. SCHUMER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2428. Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. CONRAD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2429. Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. TESTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2430. Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2431. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2432. Mr. CHAMBLISS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2433. Mr. TOOMEY (for himself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. LUGAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2434. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2435. Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2436. Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2437. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3240, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2438. Mr. CHAMBLISS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him