

requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation.

S. 765

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 765, a bill to help provide relief to State education budgets during a recovering economy, to help fulfill the Federal mandate to provide higher educational opportunities for Native American Indians, and for other purposes.

S. 878

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 878, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 967

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 967, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify various authorities relating to procedures for courts-martial under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and for other purposes.

S. 1028

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1028, a bill to reauthorize and improve the Older Americans Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

S. 1046

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1046, a bill to clarify certain provisions of the Native American Veterans' Memorial Establishment Act of 1994.

S. 1072

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1072, a bill to ensure that the Federal Aviation Administration advances the safety of small airplanes and the continued development of the general aviation industry, and for other purposes.

S. 1143

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1143, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to physician supervision of therapeutic hospital outpatient services.

S. 1152

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1152, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to help build a stronger health care workforce.

S. 1158

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from

Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1158, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins commemorating the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the National Park Service, and for other purposes.

S. 1166

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1166, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to provide for appropriate designation of collective bargaining units.

S. 1271

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1271, a bill to direct the President to establish guidelines for the United States foreign assistance programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1274

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1274, a bill to extend assistance to certain private nonprofit facilities following a disaster, and for other purposes.

S. 1300

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1300, a bill to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to provide for the conduct of stewardship end result contracting projects.

S. 1302

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1302, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for cooperative and small employer charity pension plans.

S. 1310

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1310, a bill to require Senate confirmation of Inspector General of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and for other purposes.

S. 1313

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1313, a bill to promote transparency, accountability, and reform within the United Nations system, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 75

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 75, 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. 197

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 197, a resolution recommending the posthumous award of the Navy Cross to Lieutenant Thomas M. Conway of Waterbury, Connecticut.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 1323. A bill to address the continued threat posed by dangerous synthetic drugs by amending the Controlled Substances Act relating to controlled substance analogues; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Protecting Our Youth From Dangerous Synthetic Drugs Act of 2013 along with my colleagues and friends, Senators KLOBUCHAR, MANCHIN and SCHUMER. This bill will provide law enforcement and prosecutors with an important new tool to address the growing threat posed by dangerous, synthetic drugs.

Synthetic drugs are unregulated substances designed by scientists to mimic the effects of controlled substances. They are packaged in a manner which is intended to appeal to our Nation's youth and are sold at gas stations, head shops and over the Internet.

Manufacturers of these products boldly seek to circumvent Federal law by marketing their merchandise as innocuous items like potpourri, incense, bath salts and plant food and stating that they are "not intended for human consumption." Make no mistake; the individuals who produce, distribute and sell these products are nothing more than drug traffickers who seek to profit from the human use of these drug products.

When Congress outlawed several of these synthetic drugs last year, traffickers did not stop producing them. Instead, they made slight alterations to the chemical structure of the illegal drugs to skirt the law. By doing this, the traffickers produced "controlled substance analogues."

The bill I am introducing today will give law enforcement the tools they need to prosecute individuals who produce and distribute controlled substance analogues.

Many of the controlled substance analogues on the market today are designed to mimic the effects of THC, the principal chemical in marijuana. The Monitoring the Future survey, which tracks the drug-using behaviors of adolescents, began studying the use of synthetic marijuana in in 2011. Their 2012 report found that 11.3 percent of 12th graders had used synthetic marijuana in the prior 12 months. Aside from alcohol and tobacco, synthetic marijuana was the second most widely used drug among 12th graders after marijuana.

There are many other "families" of controlled substance analogues which

have been encountered in the market place. They mimic the effects of drugs like ecstasy, PCP and LSD and therefore produce strong stimulant and/or hallucinogenic effects when ingested.

Altogether, there are an estimated 200 controlled substance analogues available today. The threat is global and is rapidly expanding.

Fortunately, the Obama Administration has made progress combatting this threat. Two nationwide operations targeting designer synthetic drugs—one in 2012 dubbed Operation LogJam and the other which culminated approximately two weeks ago named Operation Synergy—demonstrate this progress. These operations resulted in at least 318 arrests; 681 executed search warrants, including at least 29 for drug manufacturing facilities; \$93 million in cash and assets seized; and the removal of 10 tons of synthetic drugs from the supply chain.

Today, I am introducing a bill that will put these drug traffickers on notice that if they seek to develop products containing controlled substance analogues that put our nation's youth in harm's way, then they will be brought to justice. This will be accomplished by creating a new tool by which the administration can designate, and publish, an administrative list of outlawed controlled substance analogues.

First, the Protecting Our Youth from Dangerous Synthetic Drugs Act of 2013 will establish an inter-agency committee of scientists, headed by the Drug Enforcement Administration, DEA, which will be responsible for establishing and maintaining an administrative list of controlled substance analogues. The Committee is structured so that it can respond quickly and robustly to the threat.

Second, DEA officials have informed my staff that virtually all of these controlled substance analogues arrive as bulk powders from outside our borders. My bill will make it illegal to import a controlled substance analogue on the list unless the importation is intended for non-human use.

Third, the bill directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to review, and if appropriate, amend the federal sentencing guidelines for violations of the Controlled Substances Act pertaining to controlled substance analogues.

Finally, it is important to note that controlled substance analogues are not controlled substances, meaning that the registration, reporting and record-keeping requirements of the Controlled Substances Act do not apply to those who seek to perform bona fide scientific research or use a controlled substance analogue for non-human industrial applications.

This bill sends a strong message to drug traffickers who continue to circumvent our Nation's laws. Congress recognizes that no matter how you alter the chemical structure of synthetic drugs to get around the law, they remain dangerous and should not be available for human consumption.

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. 1323

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 "Protecting Our Youth from Dangerous Synthetic Drugs Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. ENFORCEMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 801 et seq) is amended—

(1) in section 102(32), by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

"(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (C), the term 'controlled substance analogue' means—

"(i) a substance whose chemical structure is substantially similar to the chemical structure of a controlled substance in schedule I or II—

"(I) which has a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system that is substantially similar to or greater than the stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system of a controlled substance in schedule I or II; or

"(II) with respect to a particular person, which such person represents or intends to have a stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system that is substantially similar to or greater than the stimulant, depressant, or hallucinogenic effect on the central nervous system of a controlled substance in schedule I or II; or

"(ii) a substance designated as a controlled substance analogue by the Controlled Substance Analogue Committee in accordance with section 201(i)."; and

(2) in section 201, by adding at the end the following:

"(i)(1) The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, shall establish an inter-agency committee, to be known as the Controlled Substance Analogue Committee (referred to in this subsection as the 'Committee').

"(2) The Committee shall be—

"(A) headed by the Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration; and

"(B) comprised of scientific experts in the fields of chemistry and pharmacology from—

"(i) the Drug Enforcement Administration;

"(ii) the National Institute on Drug Abuse;

"(iii) the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

"(iv) any other Federal agency determined by the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, to be appropriate.

"(3)(A) The Committee shall convene, on an as needed basis, to establish and maintain a list of controlled substance analogues.

"(B) A substance may be designated as a controlled substance analogue by the Committee under this subsection if the substance is determined by the Committee to be similar to a Schedule I or II controlled substance in either its chemical structure or its predictive effect on the body, in such a manner as to make it likely that the substance will, or can be reasonably expected to have a potential for abuse.

"(C) Evidence of human consumption by an individual or the public at large is not necessary before a substance may be designated as a controlled substance analogue under this subsection.

"(D) The Attorney General shall, through rulemaking, establish procedures of operation for the Committee.

"(4)(A) Not later than 30 days before each meeting of the Committee, the Attorney General shall submit to the Secretary of Health and Human Services a notice of the meeting of the Committee, which shall include—

"(i) a list of the substances to be considered by the Committee during the meeting for designation as a controlled substance analogue; and

"(ii) a request for the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make a determination of whether an exemption or approval for each substance listed under clause (i) is in effect under section 505 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 355).

"(B) Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Secretary of Health and Human Services receives notice under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall submit to the Attorney General a written response to the request described under subparagraph (A)(ii). The Committee shall consider the response submitted by the Secretary of Health and Human Services in determining whether to designate a substance considered by the Committee at the meeting as a controlled substance analogue.

"(5)(A) The Attorney General shall publish in the Federal Register any designation made by the Committee under this subsection.

"(B) The Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration shall publish, on the website of the Drug Enforcement Administration, a description of each designation made by the Committee under this subsection, which shall include—

"(i) the chemical and common name of the controlled substance analogue;

"(ii) the effective date of the determination, as described in paragraph (6)(A); and

"(iii) any Schedule I or II controlled substance that the Committee has determined a substance is an analogue of.

"(6) A designation made by the Committee under this subsection shall take effect on the date that is 30 days after the date on which the designation is published in the Federal Register under paragraph (5)(A).

"(7) If a substance designated as a controlled substance analogue by the Committee under this section is subsequently scheduled through a rulemaking proceeding under subsection (a), (d), or (h), the substance shall be automatically removed from the controlled substance analogue list.

"(8) If a defendant challenges the designation of a controlled substance analogue made by the Committee under this subsection the issue shall be considered a question of law."

(b) FUNDING.—Section 111(b)(2)(B) of Public Law 102-395 (21 U.S.C. 886a(2)(B)) is amended by inserting "controlled substance analogues," after "substances."

SEC. 3. IMPORTATION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE ANALOGUES.

Section 1002 of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 952) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) through (e) as subsections (d) through (f), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

"(c) It shall be unlawful to import into the customs territory of the United States from any place outside thereof (but within the United States), or to import into the United States from any place outside thereof, any controlled substance analogue designated pursuant to section 201(i) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 811(i)) unless the controlled substance analogue is imported pursuant to such notification or declaration

as the Attorney General may by regulation prescribe.”.

SEC. 4. DIRECTIVE TO SENTENCING COMMISSION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Pursuant to its authority under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, the United States Sentencing Commission shall review and, if appropriate, amend the Federal sentencing guidelines and policy statements to ensure the guidelines and policy statements provide adequate penalties for any offense involving the unlawful manufacturing, importing, exporting, or trafficking of controlled substance analogues under part D of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841 et seq.) or part A of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 951 et seq.) and similar offenses, including unlawful possession, possession with intent to commit any of the foregoing offenses, and attempt and conspiracy to commit any of the foregoing offenses.

(b) COMMISSION DUTIES.—In carrying out this section, the Sentencing Commission shall—

(1) ensure that the sentences, guidelines, and policy statements relating to offenders convicted of these offenses are appropriately severe and reasonably consistent with other relevant directives and other Federal sentencing guidelines and policy statements;

(2) make any necessary conforming changes to the Federal sentencing guidelines; and

(3) assure that the guidelines adequately meet the purposes of sentencing as set forth in section 3553(a)(2) of title 18, United States Code.

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

S. 1328. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of the archeological site and surrounding land of the New Philadelphia town site in the State of Illinois, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. KIRK. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with Senator DURBIN to introduce a bill in support of New Philadelphia, the first town founded by a freed African-American. This bipartisan legislation directs the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study of New Philadelphia to determine the feasibility of designating the area as a unit of the National Park System.

In 1836, Frank McWorter platted and officially registered the town of New Philadelphia, the first known town founded by a freed African-American before the Civil War. After saving money from neighboring labor jobs to purchase his own freedom and the freedom of fifteen additional family members, Mr. McWorter purchased a plot of land between the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers in Pike County to establish New Philadelphia. The town became a station along the Underground Railroad and was a community where European-American, freeborn African-Americans and formerly enslaved individuals were able to live together during a time of intense racial strife.

In 2005, the town of New Philadelphia was designated as a National Historic Place and in 2009 the town was designated a National Historic Landmark.

Further designating New Philadelphia as a unit of the National Park System will ensure that its historical legacy is preserved as an inspiring example of freedom and opportunity for future generations.

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. 1328

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 “New Philadelphia, Illinois, Study Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) Frank McWorter, an enslaved man, bought his freedom and the freedom of 15 family members by mining for crude niter in Kentucky caves and processing the mined material into saltpeter;

(2) New Philadelphia, founded in 1836 by Frank McWorter, was the first town planned and legally registered by a free African-American before the Civil War;

(3) the first railroad constructed in the area of New Philadelphia bypassed New Philadelphia, which led to the decline of New Philadelphia; and

(4) the New Philadelphia site—

(A) is a registered National Historic Landmark;

(B) is covered by farmland; and

(C) does not contain any original buildings of the town or the McWorter farm and home that are visible above ground.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of the Interior.

(2) STUDY AREA.—The term “Study Area” means the New Philadelphia archeological site and the surrounding land in the State of Illinois.

SEC. 4. SPECIAL RESOURCE STUDY.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a special resource study of the Study Area.

(b) CONTENTS.—In conducting the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall—

(1) evaluate the national significance of the Study Area;

(2) determine the suitability and feasibility of designating the Study Area as a unit of the National Park System;

(3) consider other alternatives for preservation, protection, and interpretation of the Study Area by—

(A) Federal, State, or local governmental entities; or

(B) private and nonprofit organizations;

(4) consult with—

(A) interested Federal, State, or local governmental entities;

(B) private and nonprofit organizations; or

(C) any other interested individuals; and

(5) identify cost estimates for any Federal acquisition, development, interpretation, operation, and maintenance associated with the alternatives considered under paragraph (3).

(c) APPLICABLE LAW.—The study required under subsection (a) shall be conducted in accordance with section 8 of Public Law 91-383 (16 U.S.C. 1a-5).

(d) REPORT.—Not later than 3 years after the date on which funds are first made available for the study under subsection (a), the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy

and Natural Resources of the Senate a report containing—

(1) the results of the study; and

(2) any conclusions and recommendations of the Secretary.

(e) FUNDING.—The study authorized under this section shall be carried out using existing funds of the National Park Service

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

S. 1332. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today on behalf of myself and Senator SCHUMER to introduce legislation to ensure that our seniors and disabled citizens have timely access to home health services under the Medicare program.

Nurse practitioners, physician assistants, certified nurse midwives and clinical nurse specialists are all playing increasingly important roles in the delivery of health care services, particularly in rural and medically underserved areas of our country where physicians may be in scarce supply. In recognition of their growing role, Congress, in 1997, authorized Medicare to begin paying for physician services provided by these health professionals as long as those services are within their scope of practice under state law.

Despite their expanded role, these advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants are currently unable to order home health services for their Medicare patients. Under current law, only physicians are allowed to certify or initiate home health care for Medicare patients, even though they may not be as familiar with the patient’s case as the non-physician provider. In fact, in many cases, the certifying physician may not even have a relationship with the patient and must rely upon the input of the nurse practitioner, physician assistant, clinical nurse specialist or certified nurse midwife to order the medically necessary home health care. At best, this requirement adds more paperwork and a number of unnecessary steps to the process before home health care can be provided. At worst, it can lead to needless delays in getting Medicare patients the home health care they need simply because a physician is not readily available to sign the form.

The inability of advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants to order home health care is particularly burdensome for Medicare beneficiaries in medically underserved areas, where these providers may be the only health care professionals available. For example, needed home health care was delayed by more than a week for a Medicare patient in Nevada because the physician assistant was the only health care professional serving the patient’s small town, and the supervising physician was located 60 miles away.

A nurse practitioner told me about another case in which her collaborating physician had just lost her father and was not available. As a consequence, the patient experienced a two-day delay in getting needed care while they waited to get the paperwork signed by another physician. Another nurse practitioner pointed out that it is ridiculous that she can order physical and occupational therapy in a subacute facility but cannot order home health care. One of her patients had to wait eleven days after being discharged before his physical and occupational therapy could continue simply because the home health agency had difficulty finding a physician to certify the continuation of the same therapy that the nurse practitioner had been able to authorize when the patient was in the facility.

The Home Health Care planning Improvement Act will help to ensure that our Medicare beneficiaries get the home health care that they need when they need it by allowing physician assistants, nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists and certified nurse midwives to order home health services. Our legislation is supported by the National Association for Home Care and Hospice, the American Nurses Association, the American Academy of Physician Assistants, the American College of Nurse Practitioners, the American College of Nurse Midwives, the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners and the Visiting Nurse Associations of America. I urge all of my colleagues to join us as cosponsors of this important legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 198—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION SHOULD TURN OVER EDWARD SNOWDEN TO UNITED STATES AUTHORITIES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 198

Whereas Edward Snowden leaked classified information to various sources including the Guardian and the Washington Post;

Whereas Mr. Snowden fled the United States to Hong Kong on May 20, 2013, with multiple laptops containing highly classified information;

Whereas, on June 5, 2013, the press reported classified information relating to the national security of the United States;

Whereas Mr. Snowden's actions have compromised the national security of the United States;

Whereas, on June 9, 2013, Mr. Snowden publicly stated, "I have no intention of hiding who I am because I know I have done nothing wrong.";

Whereas, on June 23, 2013, Mr. Snowden departed Hong Kong en route to Moscow, Russia;

Whereas Mr. Snowden has been staying on Russian territory in the Sheremetyevo Airport since his arrival;

Whereas the Sheremetyevo Airport is part of the sovereign territory of the Russian Federation;

Whereas, on June 14, 2013, the United States Government filed a criminal complaint against Edward Snowden for charges under section 641 (relating to theft of Government property), section 793(d) (relating to unauthorized communication of national defense information), and section 798(a)(3) (relating to the willful communication of classified communications intelligence information to an unauthorized person) of title 18, United States Code.

Whereas Mr. Snowden has stated his intentions to continue to leak classified information and poses a continuing threat to the security of the United States;

Whereas Mr. Snowden has applied for asylum in at least 21 countries, including a number of countries with some of the worst human rights records, including the Russian Federation, Cuba, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Bolivia, and Ecuador;

Whereas, on July 16, 2013, Mr. Snowden applied for temporary asylum in the Russian Federation in order to facilitate his transit to Latin America;

Whereas the Department of State Human Rights Report for 2012 cites the Russian Federation's restrictions on civil liberties and the denial of due process, allegations of torture and excessive force by law enforcement officials; life-threatening prison conditions; interference in the judiciary and the right to a fair trial; abridgement of the right to privacy; restrictions on minority religions; widespread corruption; societal and official intimidation of civil society and labor activists; limitations on the rights of workers; trafficking in persons; and attacks on migrants and select religious and ethnic minorities;

Whereas, on July 6, 2013, President of Venezuela Nicolas Maduro offered asylum to Snowden, stating, "In the name of America's dignity. . . I have decided to offer humanitarian asylum to Edward Snowden.";

Whereas the Department of State Human Rights Report for 2012 cites the Government of Venezuela for corruption, inefficiency, and politicization in the judicial system; government actions to impede freedom of expression; harsh and life-threatening prison conditions; government use of the judiciary to intimidate and selectively prosecute political, union, business, and civil society leaders who were critical of government policies or actions; government harassment and intimidation of privately-owned television stations, other media outlets, and journalists throughout the year, using threats, fines, property seizures, targeted regulations, and criminal investigations and prosecutions; and failure to provide for due process rights, physical safety, and humane conditions for inmates, which contributed to widespread violence, riots, injuries, and deaths in prisons;

Whereas, on June 25, 2013, President of Russia Vladimir Putin stated that the Russian Federation would never extradite Edward Snowden to the United States;

Whereas, on July 16, 2013, White House spokesman Jay Carney stated that Mr. Snowden should be expelled from the Russian Federation and returned to the United States to face trial, stating, "He is not a human rights activist, he is not a dissident. He is accused of leaking classified information."; and

Whereas, on July 16, 2013, President Putin stated that Mr. Snowden "came to our territory without invitation, we did not invite him" and that "[we] have certain relations with the United States and we don't want

[Snowden] to damage our ties": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) the Government of the Russian Federation's continued willingness to provide shelter to Edward Snowden is negatively impacting bilateral relations with the United States;

(2) the Government of the Russian Federation should immediately turn Edward Snowden over to the appropriate United States authorities so he can stand trial in the United States;

(3) the President should consider options, including recommending a different location for the September 2013 G20 summit in St. Petersburg, Russia, should the Russian Federation continue to allow shelter for Mr. Snowden; and

(4) the United States Government should consider all economic and diplomatic options when pursuing Mr. Snowden.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in open session on Tuesday, July 23, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled "Hearing on National Labor Relations Board Nominees."

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Sarah Cupp of the committee staff on (202) 224-5441.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR,
AND PENSIONS

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will meet in executive session on Wednesday, July 24, 2013, at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to mark-up the nominations of Kent Yoshiho Hirozawa, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board and Nancy Jean Schiffer, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, as well as any additional nominations cleared for action.

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact the Committee at (202) 224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL
RESOURCES

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining. The hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 30, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills:

S. 37, to sustain the economic development and recreational use of National Forest System land and other public land in the State of Montana, to add certain land to the National Wilderness Preservation System, to release certain wilderness study areas, to designate new areas for recreation, and for other purposes;

S. 343, to provide for the conveyance of certain Federal land in Clark County, Nevada,