(Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 483, a bill to improve enforcement efforts related to prescription drug diversion and abuse, and for other purposes.

S. 498

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 498, a bill to allow reciprocity for the carrying of certain concealed firearms.

S. 582

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 582, a bill to prohibit taxpayer funded abortions.

S. 615

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 615, a bill to provide for congressional review and oversight of agreements relating to Iran's nuclear program, and for other purposes.

S. 681

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify presumptions relating to the exposure of certain veterans who served in the vicinity of the Republic of Vietnam, and for other purposes.

S. 682

At the request of Mr. DONNELLY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 682, a bill to amend the Truth in Lending Act to modify the definitions of a mortgage orginator and a high-cost mortgage.

S. 744

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 744, a bill to rescind certain Federal funds identified by States as unwanted and use the funds to reduce the Federal debt.

S. 898

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 898, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the participation of optometrists in the National Health Service Corps scholarship and loan repayment programs, and for other purposes.

S. 922

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 922, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the treatment of foreign corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 925

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 925, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to convene a panel of citizens to make a recommendation to the Secretary regarding the likeness of a woman on the twenty dollar bill, and for other purposes.

S. 930

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 930, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory.

S. 957

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 957, a bill to increase access to capital for veteran entrepreneurs to help create jobs.

S. 966

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) were added as cosponsors of S. 966, a bill to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration.

S. 967

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER) and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 967, a bill to require the Small Business Administration to make information relating to lenders making covered loans publicly available, and for other purposes.

S. 997

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 997, a bill to extend the authorization for the major medical facility project to replace the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs in Aurora, Colorado, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into an agreement with the Army Corps of Engineers to manage the construction of such project, to transfer the authority to carry out future major medical facility projects of the Department from the Secretary to the Army Corps of Engineers, and for other purposes.

S. 1000

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1000, a bill to strengthen resources for entrepreneurs by improving the SCORE program, and for other purposes.

S. 1001

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1001, a bill to establish authorization levels for general business loans for fiscal years 2015 and 2016.

S. 1016

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1016, a bill to preserve freedom and choice in health care.

S. RES. 140

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 140, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide.

AMENDMENT NO. 290

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 290 proposed to S. 178, a bill to provide justice for the victims of trafficking.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. HEITKAMP (for herself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. UDALL, and Mr. FLAKE):

S. 1049. A bill to allow the financing by United States persons of sales of agricultural commodities to Cuba; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Ms. HEITKAMP. Mr. President, I am proud to introduce today with my friend from Arkansas, Senator BOOZMAN, a bill which will increase our agricultural producer's competitiveness and exports into Cuba, a nation just 90 miles off our southern coast. This timely bill would make relatively simple changes to our country's burdensome regulations and help make our agricultural exporters more competitive at a time in which expanding sales and supporting prices is incredibly important.

When people think of Cuba, they don't usually think of North Dakota, but they should. When I traveled to Cuba with Senators TESTER and SANDERS last year, I saw first-hand just how compatible North Dakota's agricultural production is with the diet of the Cuban people. There are incredible export opportunities for North Dakota's pulse producers, along with exports of soybean products, corn, wheat, barley, beef, and more. Unfortunately, under current regulations, our government is preventing North Dakota's producers from competing in a market in which we should hold majority market share.

Yesterday, the Agriculture Committee held a hearing on opportunities and challenges for agricultural trade with Cuba. Aside from lifting the Cuba embargo altogether, the number one barrier we heard about was the fact that our exporters are prohibited from offering credit for sales into Cuba. Meanwhile, our competitors from Canada, Brazil, Vietnam, and Europe, are offering credit and pushing our farmers

out of a market in which we should be dominant.

The Agricultural Export Expansion Act would remove that barrier and put our producers on a more level playing field with our competitors. It modifies a provision of the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act to allow for exporters and banks to offer private credit for agricultural exports to Cuba. Let me be clear: this bill does not allow for involvement from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's export credit guarantee program or the Export-Import Bank, and no taxpayer dollars will be at risk if Cuba were to default on a deal. This bill simply allows the market and private industry to dictate the terms of sale, weighing all of the risks and benefits, like they do with every other country in the world.

With the current low commodity prices, we should be doing everything we can to support our agricultural producers, and to me this just makes sense. Even if Cuba were to buy all of their wheat from Kansas and soybeans from Arkansas, a bushel sold is a bushel sold, and all of our producers will benefit.

This bill is also good for the people of Cuba. Making trade more efficient and affordable will allow us to provide food to Cuba's population. Given our proximity and our agricultural industry's incredible diversity, we can support both the people of Cuba and our producers by removing this one unnecessary regulation. I hope our colleagues will join us in this important effort to help our producers be more competitive into this natural market.

By Mr. DURBIN:

S. 1051. A bill to include county and municipal correctional facilities among medical facilities that qualify for designation as health professional shortage areas for purposes of the National Health Service Corps; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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. 1051

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 ''National Health Service Corps Expansion Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. MEDICAL FACILITIES.

Section 332(a)(2) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254e(a)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''(including care provided by a city or county health department to inmates of a county or municipal jail)'' after ''county health department''; and

(2) in subparagraph (B), by striking ''State correctional institution'' and inserting ''State, country, or municipal correctional institution''.

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. 1057. A bill to promote geothermal energy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, today on the 45th anniversary of Earth Day, I am proud to introduce a pair of bills, S. 1057 and S. 1058, to promote clean energy and fight climate change.

The first bill is the Geothermal Energy Opportunities Act, or GEO Act for short. Clean, low-carbon geothermal energy can play a starring role in the fight against climate change, and this legislation encourages the development of the geothermal resource in a number of important ways.

The GEO Act helps prospective geothermal developers explore for and develop geothermal resources through a public-private grant program. As part of the partnership, developers report their findings, contributing to a nationwide map of geothermal potential that will reduce the risk and drive down the cost of geothermal energy for the future.

In many cases, Federal lands already under production for oil and gas also have a geothermal resource, and the GEO Act allows for the oil and gas leaseholders to coproduce such geothermal energy without going through an additional competitive lease process. It also fully incorporates the bipartisan Geothermal Production Expansion Act that I introduced with a number of my colleagues earlier this year. That provision would streamline the Federal geothermal leasing program to prevent speculative bidders from unproductively driving up the price of leases for developers of geothermal ''hot spots'' that extend into lands directly adjacent to their existing geothermal lease.

The Bureau of Land Management, which manages geothermal projects on Federal land under lease agreements, estimates about 250 million acres of Federal land contains geothermal power potential. Geothermal energy projects that are producing geothermal power under the BLM's management make up about half of the total geothermal generating capacity in the United States. The GEO Act takes important steps to speed the development of this tremendous clean energy potential on public lands.

I am also introducing the Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Act of 2015, along with my colleagues Senators MERKLEY, SCHATZ, and KING, to spur development of renewable electricity from the water power in oceans, rivers, and lakes. This bill reauthorizes the Department of Energy's marine renewable energy programs, including the national marine renewable energy research, development and demonstration centers around the country, one of which is run by Oregon State University in my home state. The Department of Energy estimates that there is enough potential energy in these nontraditional forms of hydropower to one day power millions of homes.

These two pieces of legislation will each promote the production of clean, domestic energy resources and in doing so help the United States lead the world in the fight against climate change. I strongly urge my colleagues to support both of them.

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. 1057

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 ''Geothermal Energy Opportunities Act'' or the ''GEO Act''.

SEC. 2. NATIONAL GOALS FOR PRODUCTION AND SITE IDENTIFICATION.

It is the sense of Congress that, not later than 10 years after the date of enactment of this Act—

(1) the Secretary of the Interior should seek to have approved more than 15,000 megawatts of new geothermal energy capacity on public land across a geographically diverse set of States using the full range of available technologies; and

(2) the Director of the Geological Survey and the Secretary of Energy should identify sites capable of producing a total of 50,000 megawatts of geothermal power, using the full range of available technologies.

SEC. 3. PRIORITY AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT ON FEDERAL LAND.

The Director of the Bureau of Land Management, in consultation with other appropriate Federal officials, shall—

(1) identify high priority areas for new geothermal development; and

(2) take any actions the Director determines necessary to facilitate that development, consistent with applicable laws.

SEC. 4. FACILITATION OF COPRODUCTION OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY ON OIL AND GAS LEASES.

Section 4(b) of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003(b)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(4) LAND SUBJECT TO OIL AND GAS LEASE.—Land under an oil and gas lease issued pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act (30 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) or the Mineral Leasing Act for Acquired Lands (30 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) that is subject to an approved application for permit to drill and from which oil and gas production is occurring may be available for noncompetitive leasing under this section to the holder of the oil and gas lease—

''(A) on a determination that—

''(i) geothermal energy will be produced from a well producing or capable of producing oil and gas; and

''(ii) national energy security will be improved by the issuance of such a lease; and

''(B) to provide for the coproduction of geothermal energy with oil and gas.''.

SEC. 5. COST-SHARED EXPLORATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—To promote the goals described in section 2, the Secretary of Energy may conduct a federally funded program of cost-shared drilling with industry partners—

(1) to explore and document new geothermal resources in the United States; and

(2) to develop improved tools and methods for geothermal resource identification and extraction, with the goal of achieving material reductions in the cost of exploration with a corresponding increase in the likelihood of drilling success.

(b) GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out the program described in subsection (a), the Secretary of Energy may award cost-share grants on a competitive and merit basis to eligible applicants to support exploration drilling and related activities.

(2) PROJECT CRITERIA.—In selecting applicants to receive grants under paragraph (1), the Secretary of Energy shall—

(A) give preference to applicants proposing projects located in a variety of geologic and geographic settings with previously unexplored, underexplored, or unproven geothermal resources; and

(B) consider—

(i) the potential that the unproven geothermal resources would be explored and developed under the proposed project;

(ii) the expertise and experience of an applicant in developing geothermal resources; and

(iii) the contribution the proposed project would make toward meeting the goals described in section 2.

(c) DATA SHARING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Data from all exploratory wells that are carried out under the program described in subsection (a) shall be provided to the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior for—

(A) use in mapping national geothermal resources; and

(B) other purposes, including—

(i) subsurface geologic data;

(ii) metadata;

(iii) borehole temperature data; and

(iv) inclusion in the National Geothermal Data System of the Department of Energy.

(2) SHARING OF CONFIDENTIAL DATA.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, confidential data from all exploratory wells that are carried out under the program described in subsection (a) shall be provided to the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior for the purposes described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1), to be available for a period of time to be determined by the Secretary of Energy and the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 6. USE OF GEOTHERMAL LEASE REVENUES.

(a) AMOUNTS DEPOSITED.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, beginning in the first full fiscal year after the date of enactment of this Act, any amounts received by the United States as rentals, royalties, and other payments required under leases pursuant to the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) (excluding funds required to be paid to State and county governments) and from new geothermal leases issued after the date of enactment of this Act shall be deposited into a separate account in the Treasury.

(b) USE OF DEPOSITS.—Amounts deposited under subsection (a) shall be available to the Secretary of Energy for expenditure, without further appropriation or fiscal year limitation, to carry out section 5.

(c) TRANSFER OF FUNDS.—To promote the goals described in section 2, the Secretary of Energy may authorize the expenditure or transfer of any funds that are necessary to other cooperating Federal agencies.

SEC. 7. NONCOMPETITIVE LEASING OF ADJOINING AREAS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF GEOTHERMAL RESOURCES.

Section 4(b) of the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 (30 U.S.C. 1003(b)) (as amended by section 4) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(5) ADJOINING LAND.—

''(A) DEFINITIONS.—In this paragraph:

''(i) FAIR MARKET VALUE PER ACRE.—The term 'fair market value per acre' means a dollar amount per acre that—

''(I) except as provided in this clause, shall be equal to the market value per acre (taking into account the determination under subparagraph (B)(iii) regarding a valid discovery on the adjoining land), as determined by the Secretary under regulations issued under this paragraph;

''(II) shall be determined by the Secretary with respect to a lease under this paragraph, by not later than the end of the 180-day period beginning on the date the Secretary receives an application for the lease; and

''(III) shall be not less than the greater of—

''(aa) 4 times the median amount paid per acre for all land leased under this Act during the preceding year; or

''(bb) $50.

''(ii) INDUSTRY STANDARDS.—The term 'industry standards' means the standards by which a qualified geothermal professional assesses whether downhole or flowing temperature measurements with indications of permeability are sufficient to produce energy from geothermal resources, as determined through flow or injection testing or measurement of lost circulation while drilling.

''(iii) QUALIFIED FEDERAL LAND.—The term 'qualified Federal land' means land that is otherwise available for leasing under this Act.

''(iv) QUALIFIED GEOTHERMAL PROFESSIONAL.—The term 'qualified geothermal professional' means an individual who is an engineer or geoscientist in good professional standing with at least 5 years of experience in geothermal exploration, development, or project assessment.

''(v) QUALIFIED LESSEE.—The term 'qualified lessee' means a person that is eligible to hold a geothermal lease under this Act (including applicable regulations).

''(vi) VALID DISCOVERY.—The term 'valid discovery' means a discovery of a geothermal resource by a new or existing slim hole or production well, that exhibits downhole or flowing temperature measurements with indications of permeability that are sufficient to meet industry standards.

''(B) AUTHORITY.—An area of qualified Federal land that adjoins other land for which a qualified lessee holds a legal right to develop geothermal resources may be available for a noncompetitive lease under this section to the qualified lessee at the fair market value per acre, if—

''(i) the area of qualified Federal land—

''(I) consists of not less than 1 acre and not more than 640 acres; and

''(II) is not already leased under this Act or nominated to be leased under subsection (a);

''(ii) the qualified lessee has not previously received a noncompetitive lease under this paragraph in connection with the valid discovery for which data has been submitted under clause (iii)(I); and

''(iii) sufficient geological and other technical data prepared by a qualified geothermal professional has been submitted by the qualified lessee to the applicable Federal land management agency that would lead individuals who are experienced in the subject matter to believe that—

''(I) there is a valid discovery of geothermal resources on the land for which the qualified lessee holds the legal right to develop geothermal resources; and

''(II) that thermal feature extends into the adjoining areas.

''(C) DETERMINATION OF FAIR MARKET VALUE.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

''(I) publish a notice of any request to lease land under this paragraph;

''(II) determine fair market value for purposes of this paragraph in accordance with procedures for making those determinations that are established by regulations issued by the Secretary;

''(III) provide to a qualified lessee and publish, with an opportunity for public comment for a period of 30 days, any proposed determination under this subparagraph of the fair market value of an area that the qualified lessee seeks to lease under this paragraph; and

''(IV) provide to the qualified lessee and any adversely affected party the opportunity to appeal the final determination of fair market value in an administrative proceeding before the applicable Federal land management agency, in accordance with applicable law (including regulations).

''(ii) LIMITATION ON NOMINATION.—After publication of a notice of request to lease land under this paragraph, the Secretary may not accept under subsection (a) any nomination of the land for leasing unless the request has been denied or withdrawn.

''(iii) ANNUAL RENTAL.—For purposes of section 5(a)(3), a lease awarded under this paragraph shall be considered a lease awarded in a competitive lease sale.

''(D) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of the Geothermal Energy Opportunities Act, the Secretary shall issue regulations to carry out this paragraph.''.

SEC. 8. LARGE-SCALE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY.

Title VI of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 is amended by inserting after section 616 (42 U.S.C. 17195) the following:

''SEC. 616A. LARGE-SCALE GEOTHERMAL ENERGY.

''(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

''(1) the Geothermal Technologies Program of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department has included a focus on direct use of geothermal energy in the low-temperature geothermal energy subprogram (including in the development of a research and development plan for the program);

''(2) the Building Technologies Program of the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy of the Department—

''(A) is focused on the energy demand and energy efficiency of buildings; and

''(B) includes geothermal heat pumps as a component technology in the residential and commercial deployment activities of the program; and

''(3) geothermal heat pumps and direct use of geothermal energy, especially in large-scale applications, can make a significant contribution to the use of renewable energy but are underrepresented in research, development, demonstration, and commercialization.

''(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this section are—

''(1) to improve the components, processes, and systems used for geothermal heat pumps and the direct use of geothermal energy; and

''(2) to increase the energy efficiency, lower the cost, increase the use, and improve and demonstrate the applicability of geothermal heat pumps to, and the direct use of geothermal energy in, large buildings, commercial districts, residential communities, and large municipal, agricultural, or industrial projects.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) DIRECT USE OF GEOTHERMAL ENERGY.—The term 'direct use of geothermal energy' means systems that use water that is at a temperature between approximately 38 degrees Celsius and 149 degrees Celsius directly or through a heat exchanger to provide—

''(A) heating to buildings; or

''(B) heat required for industrial processes, agriculture, aquaculture, and other facilities.

''(2) GEOTHERMAL HEAT PUMP.—The term 'geothermal heat pump' means a system that provides heating and cooling by exchanging heat from shallow ground or surface water using—

''(A) a closed loop system, which transfers heat by way of buried or immersed pipes that contain a mix of water and working fluid; or

''(B) an open loop system, which circulates ground or surface water directly into the building and returns the water to the same aquifer or surface water source.

''(3) LARGE-SCALE APPLICATION.—The term 'large-scale application' means an application for space or process heating or cooling for large entities with a name-plate capacity, expected resource, or rating of 10 or more megawatts, such as a large building, commercial district, residential community, or a large municipal, agricultural, or industrial project.

''(4) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Energy, acting through the Assistant Secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy.

''(d) PROGRAM.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a program of research, development, and demonstration for geothermal heat pumps and the direct use of geothermal energy.

''(2) AREAS.—The program may include research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of—

''(A) geothermal ground loop efficiency improvements through more efficient heat transfer fluids;

''(B) geothermal ground loop efficiency improvements through more efficient thermal grouts for wells and trenches;

''(C) geothermal ground loop installation cost reduction through—

''(i) improved drilling methods;

''(ii) improvements in drilling equipment;

''(iii) improvements in design methodology and energy analysis procedures; and

''(iv) improved methods for determination of ground thermal properties and ground temperatures;

''(D) installing geothermal ground loops near the foundation walls of new construction to take advantage of existing structures;

''(E) using gray or black wastewater as a method of heat exchange;

''(F) improving geothermal heat pump system economics through integration of geothermal systems with other building systems, including providing hot and cold water and rejecting or circulating industrial process heat through refrigeration heat rejection and waste heat recovery;

''(G) advanced geothermal systems using variable pumping rates to increase efficiency;

''(H) geothermal heat pump efficiency improvements;

''(I) use of hot water found in mines and mine shafts and other surface waters as the heat exchange medium;

''(J) heating of districts, neighborhoods, communities, large commercial or public buildings (including office, retail, educational, government, and institutional buildings and multifamily residential buildings and campuses), and industrial and manufacturing facilities;

''(K) geothermal system integration with solar thermal water heating or cool roofs and solar-regenerated desiccants to balance loads and use building hot water to store geothermal energy;

''(L) use of hot water coproduced from oil and gas recovery;

''(M) use of water sources at a temperature of less than 150 degrees Celsius for direct use;

''(N) system integration of direct use with geothermal electricity production; and

''(O) coproduction of heat and power, including on-site use.

''(3) ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall identify and mitigate potential environmental impacts in accordance with section 614(c).

''(e) GRANTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make grants available to State and local governments, institutions of higher education, nonprofit entities, utilities, and for-profit companies (including manufacturers of heat-pump and direct-use components and systems) to promote the development of geothermal heat pumps and the direct use of geothermal energy.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In making grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall give priority to proposals that apply to large buildings (including office, retail, educational, government, institutional, and multifamily residential buildings and campuses and industrial and manufacturing facilities), commercial districts, and residential communities.

''(3) NATIONAL SOLICITATION.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall conduct a national solicitation for applications for grants under this section.

''(f) REPORTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Science and Technology of the House of Representatives a report on progress made and results obtained under this section to develop geothermal heat pumps and direct use of geothermal energy.

''(2) AREAS.—Each of the reports required under this subsection shall include—

''(A) an analysis of progress made in each of the areas described in subsection (d)(2); and

''(B)(i) a description of any relevant recommendations made during a review of the program; and

''(ii) any plans to address the recommendations under clause (i).''.

SEC. 9. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this Act and not less frequently than once every 5 years thereafter, the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Energy shall submit to the appropriate committees of Congress a report describing the progress made towards achieving the goals described in section 2.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this Act such sums as are necessary.

By Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. KING):

S. 1058. A bill to promote research, development, and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. WYDEN. 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. 1058

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 ''Marine and Hydrokinetic Renewable Energy Act of 2015''.

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF MARINE AND HYDROKINETIC RENEWABLE ENERGY.

Section 632 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17211) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1) by striking ''electrical''.

SEC. 3. MARINE AND HYDROKINETIC RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

Section 633 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17212) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 633. MARINE AND HYDROKINETIC RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

''The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of the Interior, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, shall carry out a program of research, development, demonstration, and commercial application to accelerate the introduction of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy production into the United States energy supply, giving priority to fostering accelerated research, development, and commercialization of technology, including programs—

''(1) to assist technology development to improve the components, processes, and systems used for power generation from marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy resources;

''(2) to establish critical testing infrastructure necessary—

''(A) to cost effectively and efficiently test and prove marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy devices; and

''(B) to accelerate the technological readiness and commercialization of those devices;

''(3) to support efforts to increase the efficiency of energy conversion, lower the cost, increase the use, improve the reliability, and demonstrate the applicability of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies by participating in demonstration projects;

''(4) to investigate variability issues and the efficient and reliable integration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy with the utility grid;

''(5) to identify and study critical short- and long-term needs to create a sustainable marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy supply chain based in the United States;

''(6) to increase the reliability and survivability of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies;

''(7) to verify the performance, reliability, maintainability, and cost of new marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy device designs and system components in an operating environment;

''(8) to coordinate and avoid duplication of activities across programs of the Department and other applicable Federal agencies, including National Laboratories and to coordinate public-private collaboration in all programs under this section;

''(9) to identify opportunities for joint research and development programs and development of economies of scale between—

''(A) marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies; and

''(B) other renewable energy and fossil energy programs, offshore oil and gas production activities, and activities of the Department of Defense; and

''(10) to support in-water technology development with international partners using existing cooperative procedures (including memoranda of understanding)—

''(A) to allow cooperative funding and other support of value to be exchanged and leveraged; and

''(B) to encourage the participation of international research centers and companies within the United States and the participation of United States research centers and companies in international projects.''.

SEC. 4. NATIONAL MARINE RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT, AND DEMONSTRATION CENTERS.

Section 634 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17213) is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

''(b) PURPOSES.—A Center (in coordination with the Department and National Laboratories) shall—

''(1) advance research, development, demonstration, and commercial application of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies;

''(2) support in-water testing and demonstration of marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy technologies, including facilities capable of testing—

''(A) marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy systems of various technology readiness levels and scales;

''(B) a variety of technologies in multiple test berths at a single location; and

''(C) arrays of technology devices; and

''(3) serve as information clearinghouses for the marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy industry by collecting and disseminating information on best practices in all areas relating to developing and managing marine and hydrokinetic renewable energy resources and energy systems.''.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

Section 636 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (42 U.S.C. 17215) is amended by striking ''2008 through 2012'' and inserting ''2016 through 2019''.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 144—SUPPORTING THE MISSION AND GOALS OF 2015 NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK, WHICH INCLUDE INCREASING PUBLIC AWARENESS OF THE RIGHTS, NEEDS, AND CONCERNS OF, AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO ASSIST, VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES

Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. HATCH, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. VITTER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 144

Whereas in 2013, there were more than 6,000,000 victims and survivors of violent crime and nearly 17,000,000 victims and survivors of property crime in the United States;

Whereas a just society acknowledges the impact of crime on individuals, families, schools, and communities by protecting the rights of crime victims and survivors and ensuring that resources and services are available to help rebuild the lives of the victims and survivors;

Whereas despite impressive accomplishments between 1974 and 2015 in increasing the rights of, and services available to, crime victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors, many challenges remain to ensure that all crime victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors, are—

(1) treated with dignity, fairness, and respect;

(2) offered support and services regardless of whether the victims and survivors report crimes committed against them; and

(3) recognized as key participants within the criminal, juvenile, Federal, tribal, and civil justice systems in the United States when the victims and survivors report crimes;

Whereas crime victims and survivors in the United States, and the families of the victims and survivors, need and deserve support and assistance to help cope with the often devastating consequences of crime;

Whereas during each year between 1984 and 2014, communities across the United States have joined Congress and the Department of Justice in commemorating National Crime Victims' Rights Week to celebrate a shared vision of a comprehensive and collaborative response that identifies and addresses the many needs of crime victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors;

Whereas Congress and the President agree on the need for a renewed commitment to serving all victims and survivors of crime in the 21st century;

Whereas the theme of 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, celebrated during the week of April 19 through April 25, 2015, is ''Engaging Communities. Empowering Victims.'' and highlights the many challenges that confront crime victim assistance, justice, and public safety;

Whereas engaging communities in victim assistance is essential to promoting individual and public safety;

Whereas the United States must empower crime victims and survivors by protecting their legal rights and by providing them with quality, comprehensive services to help them in the aftermath of crime; and

Whereas the people of the United States recognize and appreciate the continued importance of—

(1) promoting the rights of, and services for, crime victims and survivors; and

(2) honoring crime victims and survivors and individuals who provide services for the victims and survivors: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the mission and goals of 2015 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, which include increasing individual and public awareness of—

(A) the impact of crime on victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors;

(B) the challenges to achieving justice for victims and survivors of crime, and the families of the victims and survivors; and

(C) the many solutions to meet such challenges; and

(2) recognizes that crime victims and survivors, and the families of the victims and survivors, should be treated with dignity, fairness, and respect.

SENATE RESOLUTION 145—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF APRIL 2015, AS ''PARKINSON'S AWARENESS MONTH''

Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 145

Whereas Parkinson's disease is a chronic, progressive neurological disease and is the second most common neurodegenerative disease in the United States;

Whereas there is inadequate data on the incidence and prevalence of Parkinson's disease, but the disease affects an estimated 500,000 to 1,500,000 individuals in the United States;

Whereas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Parkinson's disease is the 14th leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas every day Parkinson's disease greatly impacts millions of individuals in the United States who are caregivers, family members, and friends of individuals with Parkinson's disease;

Whereas the economic burden of Parkinson's disease is an estimated $14,400,000,000 each year, including indirect costs to patients and family members of $6,300,000,000 each year;

Whereas although research suggests that the cause of Parkinson's disease is a combination of genetic and environmental factors, the exact cause and exact progression of the disease remain unknown;

Whereas an objective test or biomarker for diagnosing Parkinson's disease does not exist;

Whereas a cure or drug to slow or halt the progression of Parkinson's disease does not exist;

Whereas the symptoms of Parkinson's disease vary from person to person and include tremors, slowness of movement, rigidity, difficulty with balance, swallowing, chewing, and speaking, cognitive impairment, dementia, mood disorders, and a variety of other non-motor symptoms;

Whereas volunteers, researchers, caregivers, and medical professionals are working to improve the quality of life for individuals with Parkinson's disease and the families of those individuals; and

Whereas developing more effective treatments for Parkinson's disease and providing access to quality care to individuals with Parkinson's disease requires increased research, education, and community support services: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates April 2015, as ''Parkinson's Awareness Month'';

(2) supports the goals and ideals of ''Parkinson's Awareness Month'';

(3) continues to support research to develop more effective treatments for Parkinson's disease and to ultimately find a cure for the disease;

(4) recognizes the individuals with Parkinson's disease who participate in vital clinical trials to advance the knowledge of the disease; and

(5) commends the dedication of organizations, volunteers, researchers, and millions of individuals in the United States working to improve the quality of life for individuals with Parkinson's disease and the families of those individuals.

SENATE RESOLUTION 146—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF APRIL 13 THROUGH APRIL 17, 2015, AS ''NATIONAL ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS WEEK''

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. PERDUE, and Ms. MIKULSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 146

Whereas the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP), the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP), and the American Federation of School Administrators (AFSA) have designated the week of April 13 through April 17, 2015, as ''National Assistant Principals Week'';

Whereas an assistant principal, as a member of the school administration, interacts with many sectors of the school community, including support staff, instructional staff, students, and parents;