

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BURR, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. COTTON, Mr. RISCH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KING, Mr. RUBIO, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. HEINRICH, Ms. HIRONO, and Mr. COATS):

S. 2234. A bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the members of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) in recognition of their superior service and major contributions during World War II; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. WARREN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 2235. A bill to repeal debt collection amendments made by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. CRAPO:

S. 2236. A bill to provide that silencers be treated the same as long guns; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 2237. A bill to limit the application of Federal laws to the distribution and consumption of marihuana, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. LEAHY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2238. A bill to prohibit drilling in the outer Continental Shelf, to prohibit coal leases on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. UDALL (for himself, Mr. LEE, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 2239. A bill to restrict funds related to escalating United States military involvement in Syria; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 2240. A bill to improve the control and management of invasive species that threaten and harm Federal land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of the Interior, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN:

S. 2241. A bill to combat the heroin epidemic and drug sample backlogs; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BLUNT (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. MORAN):

S. Res. 305. A resolution commending and congratulating the Kansas City Royals on their 2015 World Series victory; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SCOTT, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. COONS, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. KAINE, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. PETERS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Mr. REED):

S. Res. 306. A resolution designating the week beginning November 2, 2015, as "National Apprenticeship Week"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 637

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 637, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 681

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) 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. 885

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 885, a bill to direct the Architect of the Capitol to place in the United States Capitol a chair honoring American Prisoners of War/Missing in Action.

S. 1491

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1491, a bill to provide sensible relief to community financial institutions, to protect consumers, and for other purposes.

S. 1524

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1524, a bill to enable concrete masonry products manufacturers to establish, finance, and carry out a coordinated program of research, education, and promotion to improve, maintain, and develop markets for concrete masonry products.

S. 1562

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1562, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 1686

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1686, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the proper tax treatment of personal service income earned in pass-thru entities.

S. 1715

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1715, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 400th anniversary of the arrival of the Pilgrims.

S. 1719

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 1719, a bill to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Family Caregiving Strategy, and for other purposes.

S. 1830

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1830, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1834

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1834, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect more victims of domestic violence by preventing their abusers from possessing or receiving firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 1856

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1856, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for suspension and removal of employees of the Department of Veterans Affairs for performance or misconduct that is a threat to public health or safety and to improve accountability of employees of the Department, and for other purposes.

S. 1890

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1890, a bill to amend chapter 90 of title 18, United States Code, to provide Federal jurisdiction for the theft of trade secrets, and for other purposes.

S. 1915

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1915, a bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to make anthrax vaccines and antimicrobials available to emergency response providers, and for other purposes.

S. 1945

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1945, a bill to make available needed psychiatric, psychological, and supportive services for individuals with mental illness and families in mental health crisis, and for other purposes.

S. 1975

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1975, a bill to establish the Sewall-Beimont House National Historic Site as a unit of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

S. 1982

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1982, a bill to authorize a Wall of Remembrance as part of the Korean War Veterans Memorial and to allow certain private contributions to fund the Wall of Remembrance.

S. 2044

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2044, a bill to prohibit the use of certain clauses in form contracts that restrict the ability of a consumer to communicate regarding the goods or services offered in interstate commerce that were the subject of the contract, and for other purposes.

S. 2052

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2052, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to waive the requirement of certain veterans to make copayments for hospital care and medical services in the case of an error by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 2123

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2123, a bill to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 2152

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2152, a bill to establish a comprehensive United States Government policy to encourage the efforts of countries in sub-Saharan Africa to develop an appropriate mix of power solutions, including renewable energy, for more broadly distributed electricity access in order to support poverty reduction, promote development outcomes, and drive economic growth, and for other purposes.

S. 2208

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2208, a bill to promote the economic security and safety of survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 148

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 148, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 282

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr.

DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 282, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month.

S. RES. 302

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 302, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of Israel and in condemnation of Palestinian terror attacks.

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 302, *supra*.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. LEAHY, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2238. A bill to prohibit drilling in the outer Continental Shelf, to prohibit coal leases on Federal land, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I rise to recognize the damage global warming is doing to our beautiful blue-green planet and talk about a specific bill, the keep it in the ground bill, that can be part of the way we successfully address global warming. There is no doubt our planet is getting hot: 2014 was the hottest year ever recorded, and 2015 is on course to be yet hotter and set a new record.

In fact, the top 10 hottest years have all occurred since 1998. We see the evidence of warming everywhere. The Earth is crying out. Maine's lobsters are moving North, Pacific oysters are struggling to form shells in a more acidic Pacific Ocean, glaciers are disappearing from Glacier Park, moose are dying in Minnesota and New Hampshire because winters are too warm to kill the ticks that prey on the moose, and they are also too warm to kill the pine beetles that kill our trees.

Wildfires are raging in the West, towns in Florida are flooding at normal high tide, droughts are killing crops, and the most powerful storms are doing major damage to communities across our Nation. Everywhere the impacts of global warming are substantial. They are damaging. Our planet is in danger. So we need to act to keep our planet from being destroyed. It is

time for our Federal Government to show some real leadership on this. Specifically, we need to accelerate the transition from a fossil fuel energy economy to a clean energy economy. All the damage I was citing, damage to our forestry, damage to our farms, damage to our fisheries, all of this is caused by a less-than-1-degree-Celsius change. The current estimate is about 0.9 Celsius degrees.

Scientists have said the maximum the planet can tolerate without catastrophic damage is 2 degrees Celsius or about 3.6 degrees Fahrenheit. So we have almost used up half of that global warming quotient. How much more damage will we see if we get to 2 degrees? The answer is, a whole lot more. Scientists say it will be catastrophic for our ecosystems, it will be catastrophic for human civilization.

The simple fact is that carbon dioxide is serving as a blanket on our planet making it warmer. The simple fact is that the major culprit for carbon dioxide is the burning of fossil fuels. To limit our planet's warming to 2 degrees Celsius, we must leave, as human civilization of this planet, 80 percent of the identified proven fossil fuel reserves in the ground—not to extract it, not to burn it.

Part of the answer to this challenge is beneath our feet. We, the U.S. citizens, own fossil fuel reserves that constitute a substantial percentage of the proven reserves on the planet. Various estimates are 6 to 10 percent. If we must keep it in the ground; that is, keep our fossil fuels—80 percent of them—in the ground, then isn't it counterproductive to do new leases, leases that will extend production not 10 or 15 years but 20 or 30 years on gas and 40 or 50 years on coal, into the future? We lock in extraction and burning of fossil fuels far into the future, when our planet cannot bear the burden of the carbon dioxide from burning that far into the future.

Shouldn't our public reserve, that citizen-owned reserve, be managed for the public benefit and not for private profit? It is said that if you find yourself in a hole, quit digging. This is one place where literally we must quit digging. That is why today I have introduced, with a number of my colleagues, the keep it in the ground bill. A big thank-you to my cosponsors: PATRICK LEAHY, KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND, ELIZABETH WARREN, BERNIE SANDERS, BEN CARDIN, and BARBARA BOXER. That group of Senators are standing up and saying we must be responsible stewards of our ecosystem and particularly we must stop this global warming that is doing so much harm to rural America.

The bill does three things: It stops new leases and ends nonproducing leases for coal, oil, gas, oil shale, and tar sands on all Federal lands. It stops new leases and ends nonproducing leases for offshore drilling in the Pacific and the Gulf of Mexico. It prohibits offshore drilling in the Arctic and in the Atlantic.