

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. Res. 485. A resolution to encourage the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to abide by constitutional provisions regarding the holding of presidential elections in 2016, with the aim of ensuring a peaceful and orderly democratic transition of power; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. Res. 486. A resolution commemorating "Cruise Travel Professional Month" in October 2016; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. ERNST:

S. Res. 487. A resolution commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps program of the Army; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 217

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 217, a bill to protect a woman's right to determine whether and when to bear a child or end a pregnancy by limiting restrictions on the provision of abortion services.

S. 461

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 461, a bill to provide for alternative financing arrangements for the provision of certain services and the construction and maintenance of infrastructure at land border ports of entry, and for other purposes.

S. 1301

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1301, a bill to amend title IV of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to restore Medicaid coverage for citizens of the Freely Associated States lawfully residing in the United States under the Compacts of Free Association between the Government of the United States and the Governments of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

S. 1421

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1421, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to authorize a 6-month extension of certain exclusivity periods in the case of approved drugs that are subsequently approved for a new indication to prevent, diagnose, or treat a rare disease or condition, and for other purposes.

S. 1661

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from New Mexico

(Mr. HEINRICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1661, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to preserve consumer and employer access to licensed independent insurance producers.

S. 1911

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1911, a bill to implement policies to end preventable maternal, newborn, and child deaths globally.

S. 2212

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2212, a bill to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to require all political committees to notify the Federal Election Commission within 48 hours of receiving cumulative contributions of \$1,000 or more from any contributor during a calendar year, and for other purposes.

S. 2551

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2551, a bill to help prevent acts of genocide and mass atrocities, which threaten national and international security, by enhancing United States civilian capacities to prevent and mitigate such crises.

S. 2595

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2595, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 2694

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2694, a bill to ensure America's law enforcement officers have access to lifesaving equipment needed to defend themselves and civilians from attacks by terrorists and violent criminals.

S. 2759

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2759, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a non-refundable credit for working family caregivers.

S. 2854

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2854, a bill to reauthorize the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act of 2007.

S. 2882

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2882, a bill to facilitate efficient State implementation of

ground-level ozone standards, and for other purposes.

S. 2892

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2892, a bill to accelerate the use of wood in buildings, especially tall wood buildings, and for other purposes.

S. 2904

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2904, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the five month waiting period for disability insurance benefits under such title for individuals with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis.

S. 2912

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2912, a bill to authorize the use of unapproved medical products by patients diagnosed with a terminal illness in accordance with State law, and for other purposes.

S. 2918

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2918, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to clarify the eligibility of employees of a land management agency in a time-limited appointment to compete for a permanent appointment at any Federal agency, and for other purposes.

S. 2924

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) and the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) were added as cosponsors of S. 2924, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to former United States Senator Max Cleland.

S. 2946

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2946, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to include certain Federal positions within the definition of law enforcement officer for retirement purposes, and for other purposes.

S. 2984

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2984, a bill to impose sanctions in relation to violations by Iran of the Geneva Convention (III) or the right under international law to conduct innocent passage, and for other purposes.

S. 2993

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2993, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to change the spill prevention, control, and countermeasure rule with respect to certain farms.

S. 3009

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3009, a bill to support entrepreneurs serving in the National Guard and Reserve, and for other purposes.

S. 3022

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3022, a bill to designate certain National Forest System land and certain public land under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of the Interior in the States of Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming as wilderness, wild and scenic rivers, wildland recovery areas, and biological connecting corridors, and for other purposes.

S. 3024

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3024, a bill to improve cyber security for small businesses.

S. RES. 349

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 349, a resolution congratulating the Farm Credit System on the celebration of its 100th anniversary.

S. RES. 479

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 479, a resolution urging the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to comply with constitutional limits on presidential terms and fulfill its constitutional mandate for a democratic transition of power in 2016.

S. RES. 482

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 482, a resolution urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization and to increase pressure on the organization and its members to the fullest extent possible.

S. RES. 483

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 483, a resolution designating June 20, 2016, as "American Eagle Day" and celebrating the recovery and restoration of the bald eagle, the national symbol of the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 4118

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as

cosponsors of amendment No. 4118 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4178

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4178 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4222

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4222 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4229

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4229 proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4250

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4250 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4267

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Nebraska (Mrs. FISCHER), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of

amendment No. 4267 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4310

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4310 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4320

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4320 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4327

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4327 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4336

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4336 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4364

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4364 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4390

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4390 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4410

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4410 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4426

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4426 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4438

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4438 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4441

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4441 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4448

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELL-

ER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4448 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4475

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4475 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4483

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4483 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4498

At the request of Mr. KIRK, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4498 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4567

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4567 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4574

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4574 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4580

At the request of Mr. KIRK, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4580 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4588

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4588 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4597

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4597 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4599

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4599 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4600

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4600 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4601

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4601 intended to be proposed to S. 2943, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of

the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 3045. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to reform certain forfeiture procedures, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I am introducing the DUE PROCESS Act. I am very pleased that Senator LEAHY is a cosponsor of the bill. This legislation will make important reforms to the practice of civil asset forfeiture.

The Senate Judiciary Committee held hearings last year on the problems associated with civil asset forfeiture. This is a process by which a person who has been convicted of no crime, and in fact is often not even charged with a crime, can nonetheless lose his property if the property is suspected to be owned as a result of wrongdoing. Civil asset forfeiture has a place in our society, including gaining control over assets used to further terrorism and the drug trade. But there have been excesses, and this bill is designed to address many of them.

Working together in a bipartisan and bicameral way, we have had months long discussions about how to draft legislation to improve the fairness of civil asset forfeiture. The bill that I am introducing today has been introduced and passed through the House Judiciary Committee on a bipartisan voice vote. It is the result of these bipartisan and bicameral discussions. The Senate should consider the same bill.

The DUE PROCESS Act broadens the timelines for an owner to challenge forfeitures. It extends protections in existing law to judicial forfeitures, not only administrative forfeitures. The government must provide greater notice to owners whose property has been seized, including notice of the rights that they may invoke to regain their property and their right to be represented by counsel in contesting a forfeiture either judicially or administratively. The property owner is given more time to respond to the seizure. Very importantly, an owner who challenges the seizure receives an initial hearing, at which time she is further notified of her rights and will have her property released if the seizure was not made according to law. Under the bill, the government must prove that seizure is warranted by clear and convincing evidence, rather than the current preponderance of the evidence standard.

Some of these provisions are in the bill because of media reports, including in my home state of Iowa. For instance, the Des Moines Register has reported that in many instances, innocent motorists surrender the property

that law enforcement seizes without always having an understanding of how the seizure can be challenged. The bill will ensure that those whose assets are seized are given notice of the process by which the seizure can be contested and their right to have counsel represent them in the forfeiture proceeding.

In a change to criminal forfeiture, which can take place after a defendant is convicted of a crime, the bill overturns the Supreme Court's recent decision in *Kaley v. United States*. A defendant will have the right to ask for a hearing to modify the seizure so as to demonstrate that assets not associated with the charged criminal activity can be used to hire the attorney of the defendant's choice. The court is directed to consider various factors at the hearing.

Additionally, the bill makes it easier for those whose assets have been seized to recover their attorney's fees when they settle their cases. The bill requires the Justice Department's Inspector General to audit a sample of civil forfeitures to make sure they are consistent with the Constitution and the law. And it directs the Attorney General to establish databases on real-time status of forfeitures and on the types of forfeitures sought, the agencies seeking them, and the conduct that leads the property to be forfeited.

Further, the bill codifies DOJARS policy to allow civil forfeiture in structuring cases only when the property to be seized is derived from an underlying crime other than structuring, or where it is done to conceal illegal activity. Structuring is a crime by which cash deposits or withdrawals are made with the intent of avoiding government reporting requirements. In Iowa, for instance, prosecutors brought an action against a restaurateur, Carole Hinder, who had deposited cash from her operations without any intention to evade any reporting requirement or to conceal some other illegal activity. After IRS changed its policy, prosecutors dropped the case. The bill will prevent the government from pursuing civil asset forfeiture cases such as these in the future.

Finally, the bill expands existing protections for innocent owners of property that is sought to be forfeited. The government will have to prove that there is a substantial connection between the property and an offense and that the owner of the seized property intentionally used the property, knowingly consented to its criminal use, or reasonably should have known that the property might be used in connection with the offense.

Many of these provisions strengthen the Civil Asset Forfeiture Reform Act. That legislation improved the process and provided greater protection for innocent owners involved in civil asset forfeiture than had previously been the case. But, as we have seen, excesses and injustices still remain. The DUE PROCESS Act is designed to make fur-

ther progress in this area to protect the rights of people whose property has been seized without any judicial finding of criminal wrongdoing.

The problems associated with civil asset forfeiture need to be addressed. In various ways, it would have been preferable to make changes that go even beyond those in this bill. However, we do want to work with law enforcement and address their legitimate interests and concerns. I can assure them that we will continue to talk as this legislation works its way to Senate passage.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 485—TO ENCOURAGE THE GOVERNMENT OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO TO ABIDE BY CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS REGARDING THE HOLDING OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS IN 2016, WITH THE AIM OF ENSURING A PEACEFUL AND ORDERLY DEMOCRATIC TRANSITION OF POWER

Mr. FLAKE (for himself, Mr. COONS, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. DURBIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 485

Whereas the United States Government has supported and will continue to support the principle that the people of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (in this resolution referred to as "the DRC") should choose their own government in accordance with their constitution and all relevant laws and regulations;

Whereas the constitution of the DRC requires that elections be held in time for the inauguration of a new president on December 19, 2016, when the current presidential term expires;

Whereas, on March 30, 2016, the United Nations Security Council adopted resolution 2277, which called upon the Government of the DRC and its national partners, including the CENI (Independent National Electoral Commission), "to ensure a transparent and credible electoral process, in fulfillment of their primary responsibility to create propitious conditions for the forthcoming elections . . . scheduled for November 2016 in accordance with the Constitution" and urged the Government of the DRC and all relevant parties to ensure an electoral environment conducive to a "free, fair, credible, inclusive, transparent, peaceful, and timely electoral process, in accordance with the Congolese constitution";

Whereas events in the DRC over the last year and a half have called into serious question the commitment of the Government of the DRC to hold such elections on the required timeline, and President Joseph Kabila has not publicly committed to stepping down at the end of his term;

Whereas there are 12 presidential elections slated to take place on the continent of Africa by the end of 2017, and what transpires in the DRC will set an important example for the leaders of those countries; and

Whereas many observers have expressed concern that failure to move ahead with elections in the DRC could lead to violence and instability inside the DRC, which could reverberate throughout central Africa's Great Lakes region: Now, therefore, be it