

Relations Act, 1947 to deter labor slowdowns at ports of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS):

S. 703. A bill to extend the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to carry out the Equus Beds Division of the Wichita Project; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Con. Res. 11. A concurrent resolution recognizing the life and legacy of Henrietta Lacks during Women's History Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 158

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 158, a bill to eliminate the payroll tax for individuals who have attained retirement age, to amend title II of the Social Security Act to remove the limitation upon the amount of outside income which an individual may earn while receiving benefits under such title, and for other purposes.

S. 260

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) were added as cosponsors of S. 260, a bill to repeal the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act providing for the Independent Payment Advisory Board.

S. 261

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 261, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve and clarify certain disclosure requirements for restaurants and similar retail food establishments, and to amend the authority to bring proceedings under section 403A.

S. 266

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 266, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Anwar Sadat in recognition of his heroic achievements and courageous contributions to peace in the Middle East.

S. 382

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 382, a bill to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to develop a voluntary registry to collect data on cancer incidence among firefighters.

S. 407

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin

(Ms. BALDWIN), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 407, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 425

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve the historic rehabilitation tax credit, and for other purposes.

S. 534

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 534, a bill to prevent the sexual abuse of minors and amateur athletes by requiring the prompt reporting of sexual abuse to law enforcement authorities, and for other purposes.

S. 573

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 573, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 591

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 591, a bill to expand eligibility for the program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to expand benefits available to participants under such program, to enhance special compensation for members of the uniformed services who require assistance in everyday life, and for other purposes.

S. 636

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to allow Americans to earn paid sick time so that they can address their own health needs and the health needs of their families.

S. 637

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 637, a bill to amend titles XI and XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide greater transparency of discounts provided by drug manufacturers.

S. 672

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 672, a bill to require a report on designation of North Korea as a state sponsor of terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 681

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 681, a bill to amend

title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 17

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 17, a joint resolution approving the discontinuation of the process for consideration and automatic implementation of the annual proposal of the Independent Medicare Advisory Board under section 1899A of the Social Security Act.

S.J. RES. 27

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 27, a joint resolution disapproving the rule submitted by the Department of Labor relating to "Clarification of Employer's Continuing Obligation to Make and Maintain an Accurate Record of Each Recordable Injury and Illness".

S. CON. RES. 6

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 6, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

S. RES. 88

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 88, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the President and the Secretary of State should ensure that the Government of Canada does not permanently store nuclear waste in the Great Lakes Basin.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DAINES:

S. 697. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to lower the mileage threshold for deduction in determining adjusted gross income of certain expenses of members of reserve components of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, since 2001 our Nation has frequently called upon members of the National Guard and Armed Forces Reserve to confront our enemies and protect our interests around the globe.

Without the contributions from the Guard and Reserve components, the joint force would be far less capable and unable to perform many critical tasks.

Often, members of the Guard and Reserve incur out-of-pocket expenses to travel to and from their training locations. There are many challenges that these servicemembers face, but subsidizing the cost of training with after-tax income should not be one of them.

This issue is particularly relevant to Montana. My home State is widely recognized as having one of the highest

per capita veteran populations in the Nation, with many Montanans serving in the Guard or Reserve. The distances between homes and training sites can be challenging. As the son of a marine, I understand the costs associated with service.

With a deep appreciation for the commitment and sacrifice expected from members of Guard and Reserve, I offer the Tax Relief for Guard and Reserve Training Act. This bill lowers the mileage threshold from 100 to 50 for tax-deductible expenses. This change would put the Guard and Reserve on equal footing with most government and military travel regulations.

The Tax Relief for Guard and Reserve Training Act is a reasonable reform, specifically targeted at those who are often asked to shoulder burdens for the common good.

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. 697

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 “Tax Relief for Guard and Reserve Training Act”.

SEC. 2. REDUCTION OF MILEAGE THRESHOLD FOR DEDUCTION IN DETERMINING ADJUSTED GROSS INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (E) of section 62(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking “100 miles” and inserting “50 miles”, and

(2) by striking “for any period” and inserting “for any period (without regard to whether such period includes an overnight stay)”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

SEC. 3. EXEMPTION FROM 2 PERCENT FLOOR ON MISCELLANEOUS ITEMIZED DEDUCTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 67 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (11),

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (12) and inserting “, and”, and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(13) the deductions allowed by section 162 which consist of expenses paid or incurred by the taxpayer in connection with the performance of services by such taxpayer as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces of the United States for any period (without regard to whether such period includes an overnight stay) during which such individual is more than 50 miles away from home in connection with such services.”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2016.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 11—RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HENRIETTA LACKS DURING WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. CON. RES. 11

Whereas Henrietta Lacks, an African-American woman born on August 1, 1920, in Roanoke, Virginia, was raised by her grandfather on a tobacco farm in Clover, Virginia;

Whereas Henrietta Lacks married David “Day” Lacks in 1941 in Halifax County, Virginia, and they later moved to the Baltimore County, Maryland, community of Turner Station, to build a life for themselves and their 5 children, Lawrence, Elsie, David, Deborah, and Joseph (Zakariyya);

Whereas, in 1951, Henrietta Lacks, at the age of 31, was diagnosed with cervical cancer, and despite receiving painful radium treatments, Henrietta Lacks passed away on October 4, 1981;

Whereas medical researchers took samples of Henrietta Lacks’ tumor during her treatment and the HeLa cell line from her tumor proved remarkably resilient;

Whereas Henrietta Lacks died 8 months after her cancer diagnosis, leaving behind her children, husband, and “immortal cells” that would change the world;

Whereas HeLa cells were the first immortal line of human cells, doubling every 24 hours, dividing and replenishing indefinitely in a laboratory, and successfully growing outside of the human body for longer than 36 hours;

Whereas Henrietta Lacks’ cells are unique, grow by the millions, and are commercialized and distributed worldwide to researchers, resulting in advances in medicine;

Whereas the advances made possible by Henrietta Lacks’ cells and the revenues the advances generated were not known to her family for more than 20 years;

Whereas an estimated 50,000,000 metric tons of HeLa cells have been distributed around the world to become the subject of more than 74,000 studies;

Whereas Henrietta Lacks’ prolific cells continue to grow and contribute to remarkable advances in medicine, including the development of the polio vaccine, and drugs for treating the effects of cancer, HIV/AIDS, hemophilia, leukemia, and Parkinson’s disease;

Whereas Henrietta Lacks’ cells have been used in research that has contributed to the understanding of the effects of radiation and zero gravity on human cells;

Whereas Henrietta Lacks’ immortal cells have informed research on chromosomal conditions, cancer, gene mapping, and precision medicine;

Whereas Henrietta Lacks’ legacy has been recognized around the world through memorials, conferences, museum exhibitions, libraries, and print and visual media;

Whereas Henrietta Lacks and her family’s experience is fundamental to modern bioethics policies and informed consent laws that benefit patients nationwide by building patient trust and protecting research participants;

Whereas the family of Henrietta Lacks entered the groundbreaking HeLa Genome Data Use Agreement in 2013 with the medical, scientific, and bioethics communities, giving the family a role in regulating HeLa genome sequences and discoveries;

Whereas Women’s History Month is celebrated in March to pay tribute to the many contributions women have made to the United States; and

Whereas Henrietta Lacks and her immortal cells have made a significant contribution to global health, scientific research, quality of life, and patient rights: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress, during Women’s History month—

(1) celebrates the life of Henrietta Lacks, an African-American woman who unknowingly changed the face of medical science, contributing to lasting, worldwide improvements in health;

(2) honors Henrietta Lacks as a hero of modern medicine for her contributions to the medical discoveries resulting from her HeLa cells, which helped make possible some of the most important medical advances of the last century; and

(3) recognizes the legacy of Henrietta Lacks, which has contributed to developments in bioethics and patient rights that benefit all of the people of the United States.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. CORNYN. Mr. President, I have 9 requests for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

The Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to hold a meeting during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2017, at 10 a.m. in room 106 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing on “The Promises and Perils of Emerging Technologies for Cybersecurity.”

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

The Committee on Environment and Public Works is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 22, 2017, at 10 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate office building.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

The Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 10 a.m., to hold a hearing entitled “Flashing Red: The State of Global Humanitarian Affairs.”

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Nomination of Alex Acosta to serve as Secretary of Labor” on Wednesday, March 22, 2017, at 9 a.m., in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized to meet during the session of