

the world to address the continuing threat of terrorism. For these reasons, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect the national emergency declared on September 14, 2001, in response to certain terrorist attacks.

DONALD J. TRUMP.
THE WHITE HOUSE, September 11, 2017.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE RECEIVED DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 8, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has agreed to the following concurrent resolution, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 24. Concurrent resolution providing for a correction in the enrollment of H.R. 601.

The message also announced that the House has agreed to the amendment of the Senate to the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 601) to enhance the transparency and accelerate the impact of assistance provided under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to promote quality basic education in developing countries, to better enable such countries to achieve universal access to quality basic education and improved learning outcomes, to eliminate duplication and waste, and for other purposes.

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the Secretary of the Senate, on September 8, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker had signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 1616. An act to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Bob Dole, in recognition for his service to the nation as a soldier, legislator, and statesman.

H.R. 601. An act making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2018, and for other purposes.

H.R. 624. An act to restrict the inclusion of social security account numbers on Federal documents sent by mail, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 3, 2017, the enrolled bills were signed on September 8, 2017, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the Vice President.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 4:46 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mr. Novotny, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3732. An act to amend section 1113 of the Social Security Act to provide authority for increased fiscal year 2017 and 2018 payments for temporary assistance to United

States citizens returned from foreign countries.

ENROLLED BILL PRESENTED

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on today, September 11, 2017, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 1616. An act to award the Congressional Gold Medal to Bob Dole, in recognition for his service to the nation as a soldier, legislator, and statesman.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-82. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to develop, implement, and enforce additional safeguards, policies, and procedures that will significantly enhance airport safety; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 1

Whereas, according to the United States Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics, United States airlines and foreign airlines serving the United States carried over eight hundred ninety-five million passengers in 2015; and

Whereas, airports contribute significantly to local, national, and global economies and provide jobs and fuel trade for economic development; and

Whereas, approximately forty percent of all tourists travel by air, forty-five million tons of freight are transported annually by air, and fourteen million jobs around the world are tied to air travel, which heavily contribute to economic advancement; and

Whereas, there are over nineteen thousand airports serving the United States with seven commercial service airports located in the state of Louisiana; and

Whereas, safety and security are of great concern and are key influencing factors when people select a mode of transportation and a travel destination; and

Whereas, on a daily basis, the lives of countless airline passengers are dependent upon the implementation of safety regulations adopted to protect the public interest both in the air and at the airport; and

Whereas, while significant measures have been taken to enhance airport and traveler safety and security professionals are focused on extensive security investments to protect airports and civilians from threats, considerable vulnerabilities still remain; and

Whereas, public areas of an airport, such as the baggage claim and ticket areas, remain vulnerable because the focus of security is primarily devoted to screening passengers to keep flights safe; and

Whereas, the perceived weaknesses of an airport can be transformed into potential strengths with appropriate security solutions; and

Whereas, as security systems become more reliable, competitively priced, and advanced, and there is better integration of products from various equipment manufacturers, security challenges can be overcome with effective solutions; and

Whereas, in addition to detection and monitoring of movement prior to accessing the terminal of airports, perimeter security

could be used to control, manage, and verify a high volume of traffic at the initial point of contact at an airport; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to develop, implement, and enforce additional safeguards, policies, and procedures that will significantly enhance airport safety; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-83. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to continue to provide appropriate and sufficient funding for the National Sea Grant College Program, including that for Louisiana Sea Grant; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 66

Whereas, the National Sea Grant College Program, a network of thirty-three sea grant colleges and universities, was created in 1966 by the United States Congress in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the United States Department of Commerce; and

Whereas, the colleges and universities designated under the National Sea Grant College Program were so designated because they were involved in scientific research, education, training, and extension projects and programs that were aimed at preservation and practical development of coastal resources, including those along the Atlantic Ocean, the Pacific Ocean, the Gulf of Mexico, and the Great Lakes; and

Whereas, the Act that created the National Sea Grant College Program stated that the program was to support education, research, and extension by "Encouraging and developing programs consisting of instruction, practical demonstrations, publications, and otherwise, by sea grant colleges and other suitable institutes, laboratories, and public and private agencies through marine advisory programs with the object of imparting useful information to persons currently employed or interested in the various fields related to the development of marine resources, the scientific community, and the general public."; and

Whereas, in 1978, Louisiana Sea Grant, located at Louisiana State University, was designated as the thirteenth sea grant college and in its most recent program review conducted by the National Sea Grant Office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was rated as ". . . exceeds expectations by a substantial margin in some areas/aspects."; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant, similar to the agricultural extension or "county agent" program of the United States Department of Agriculture, provides many educational and support services to local coastal communities and businesses, including our state's commercial fishermen; and

Whereas, in 2015, Louisiana Sea Grant activities in the state resulted in \$17.7 million in economic benefits, the establishment of nearly one hundred twenty businesses, and the educational experiences of nearly twenty-nine thousand students in our elementary and secondary schools; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant was also able to assist twenty-four communities in the development and implementation of sustainable economic and environmental practices to the benefit of those communities and their citizens; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant has been a part of the first response to many coastal crises including hurricanes, floods, and even the Deepwater Horizon oil disaster, and the Louisiana Sea Grant has been an essential part of the short-term and long-term recovery from those disasters by local coastal communities; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant annually reaches more than twenty-five thousand of our state's kindergarten through twelfth grade schoolchildren through professional development for teachers and development of student coastal stewardship activities and has supported more than twelve hundred graduate and undergraduate students in their quest for applicable degrees and research opportunities, furthering the mission of Louisiana Sea Grant to impart “. . . useful information to persons currently employed or interested in the various fields related to the development of marine resources, the scientific community, and the general public”; and

Whereas, one of the programs slated to be cut by \$30 million in the Fiscal Year 2018 President's budget request is the National Sea Grant College Program with an additional Fiscal Year 2019 budget proposal that would eliminate funding for the Sea Grant program entirely; and

Whereas, the Fiscal Year 2018 proposed cut would eliminate the remaining budget for the National Sea Grant College Program this year and, if adopted, would terminate the National Sea Grant Office on the day such a budget cut became effective; and

Whereas, Louisiana Sea Grant provides vital services to the state of Louisiana and its citizens through the scientific research, education, training, and extension projects and programs that are aimed at preservation and practical development of coastal resources and the loss of these services would deal a devastating blow to communities already stressed due to the magnitude of coastal loss and repeated natural disasters, such as hurricanes and flooding: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to continue to provide appropriate and sufficient funding for the National Sea Grant College Program, including that for Louisiana Sea Grant; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-84. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation to take such actions as are necessary to rectify the revenue sharing inequities between coastal and interior energy producing states and to ensure the dependability of such revenue sharing, to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 101

Whereas, since 1920, interior states with mineral production in the United States have been privy to a revenue sharing agreement with the federal government that allowed those states to keep fifty percent of the revenues generated in their states from mineral production on federal lands within their borders, including royalties, severance taxes, and bonuses; and

Whereas, coastal states with onshore and offshore oil and gas production were not included in that revenue sharing agreement and therefore face inequities under the fed-

eral energy policies because those coastal states have not been party to this same level of revenue sharing partnership with the federal government; and

Whereas, coastal energy producing states have a limited partnership with the federal government that allows them to retain very little revenue generated from their offshore energy production and transportation, and activities associated with energy that are produced and transported for use throughout the nation; and

Whereas, in 2006 the United States Congress passed the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) from which the state of Louisiana will begin receiving revenue sharing payments from mineral production in the Gulf of Mexico in 2017; an Act that calls for a sharing of thirty-seven and five tenths percent of coastal production revenues with four gulf states with a cap of \$500 million per year; and

Whereas, according to the most recent data from the United States Energy Information Administration, Louisiana, including its state waters, is the ninth largest producer of oil in the United States while if offshore oil production from federal waters is included, it is the second largest oil producer in the country; and from wells located within the state boundaries including the state waters, Louisiana is the fourth largest producer of gas in the United States while if gas production from federal offshore waters in the Gulf of Mexico is included, it is the second largest gas producer in the United States; and

Whereas, with eighteen operating refineries in the state, Louisiana is second only to Texas in both total number of refineries and total refinery operating capacity, accounting for nearly one-fifth of the nation's total refining capacity; and

Whereas, Louisiana contributes to the United States Strategic Petroleum Reserve with two facilities located in the state consisting of twenty-nine caverns capable of holding nearly three hundred million barrels of crude oil; and

Whereas, with three onshore liquified natural gas (LNG) facilities and others already permitted, more LNG facilities than any other state in the country, and the Louisiana Offshore Oil Port, the nation's only deep-water oil port, Louisiana plays an essential role in the movement of natural gas from the United States Gulf Coast region to markets throughout the country; and

Whereas, it is apparent that Louisiana plays an essential role in supplying the nation with energy and it is vital to the security of our nation's energy supply, roles that should be recognized and compensated at an appropriate revenue sharing level; and

Whereas, the majority of the oil and gas production from the Gulf of Mexico enters the United States through coastal Louisiana with all of the infrastructure necessary to receive and transport such production, infrastructure that has for many decades damaged the coastal areas of Louisiana, an impact that should be compensated through appropriate revenue sharing with the federal government; and

Whereas, because Louisiana is losing more coastal wetlands than any other state in the country, in 2006 the people of Louisiana overwhelmingly approved a constitutional amendment dedicating revenues received from Outer Continental Shelf oil and gas activity through GOMESA to the Coastal Protection and Restoration Fund for the purposes of coastal protection, including conservation, coastal restoration, hurricane protection, and infrastructure directly impacted by coastal wetland losses; and

Whereas, the state of Louisiana has developed, through a science-based and stakeholder-involved process, a “2017 Comprehen-

sive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast” which identifies and prioritizes the most efficient and effective projects in order to meet the state's critical coastal protection and restoration needs and has received many accolades from the country's scientific community; and

Whereas, the Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority is making great progress implementing the projects in the “Comprehensive Master Plan for a Sustainable Coast” with all available funding, projects that are essential to the protection of the infrastructure that is critical to the energy needs of the United States; and

Whereas, the federal budget proposal released on May 23, 2017, recommends the complete elimination of the revenue sharing payments under the GOMESA Act, in effect negating the long-fought-for agreement that our congressional delegation along with the delegations from the other Gulf of Mexico states had entered into with the federal government to compensate those states for the infrastructure demands and damages; and

Whereas, in order to properly compensate the coastal states for the infrastructure demands that result from production of energy and fuels that heat and cool the nation's homes, offices, and businesses and fuel the nation's transportation needs, revenue sharing for coastal states needs to at least be at the same rate as interior states that produce oil, gas, and coal. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation to take such actions as are necessary to treat oil and gas production in the Gulf Coast states in a manner that is at least equal to onshore oil, gas, and coal production in interior states for revenue purposes; and to rectify the revenue sharing inequities between coastal and interior energy producing states in order to address the nationally significant crisis of wetland loss in the state of Louisiana; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress and the Louisiana Congressional Delegation, along with the delegations from the other Gulf of Mexico states, to ensure that the agreement codified through the Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) remains in place and that the Gulf Coast states receive their anticipated revenue sharing payments during Fiscal Year 2017–2018 as outlined in the Act; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana Congressional Delegation.

POM-85. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the State of California relative to a New Five-year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program on the Outer Continental Shelf; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 51

Whereas, California's iconic coastal and marine waters are one of our state's most precious resources, and, as elected officials, it is our duty to ensure the long-term viability of California's fish and wildlife resources, and thriving fishing, tourism, and recreation sectors; and

Whereas, Hundreds of millions of California residents and visitors enjoy the state's ocean and coast for recreation, exploration, and relaxation; and tourism and recreation comprise the largest sector of the state's \$445 billion ocean economy; and

Whereas, There have been no new offshore oil and gas leases in California since the 1969 blowout of a well in federal waters; and

Whereas, Beginning in 1921, and many times since, the California Legislature has enacted laws that withdrew certain offshore areas from oil and gas leasing, and by 1989 the state's offshore oil and gas leasing moratorium was in place; and

Whereas, In 1994, the California Legislature made findings in Assembly Bill 2444, Chapter 970 of the Statutes of 1994, that offshore oil and gas production in certain areas of state waters poses an unacceptably high risk of damage and disruption to the marine environment; and

Whereas, In the same bill, the Legislature created the California Coastal Sanctuary Act, which included all of the state's unleased waters subject to tidal influence and prohibited new oil and gas leases in the sanctuary, unless the President of the United States has found a severe energy supply interruption and has ordered distribution of the Strategic Petroleum Reserve, the Governor finds that the energy resources of the sanctuary will contribute significantly to alleviating that interruption, and the Legislature subsequently amends Chapter 970 of the Statutes of 1994 to allow that extraction; and

Whereas, Section 18 of the federal Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. Sec. 1331 et seq.) requires the preparation of a nationwide offshore oil and gas leasing program that sets a five-year schedule of lease sales implemented by the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management within the United States Department of the Interior; and

Whereas, Consistent with the principles of Section 18 and the resulting regionally tailored leasing strategy, the current exclusion of the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf from new oil and gas development is consistent with the longstanding interests of Pacific coast states, as framed in the 2006 West Coast Governors' Agreement on Ocean Health adopted by the Governors of California, Washington, and Oregon; and

Whereas, In November 2016, the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management released a final 2017–2022 leasing program that continues the moratorium on oil and gas leasing in the undeveloped areas of the Pacific Outer Continental Shelf; and

Whereas, Governor Brown, in December 2016, requested that then President Obama permanently withdraw California's Outer Continental Shelf from new oil and gas leasing, and along with previous California Governors, has united with the Governors of Oregon and Washington in an effort to commit to developing robust renewable energy sources to reduce our dependence on fossil fuel and help us reach our carbon emission goals; and

Whereas, The California Legislature has led the nation with its landmark climate change legislation, requiring ambitious greenhouse gas emission reductions of a 40-percent emissions reduction below 1990 levels by 2030, and achieving a renewables portfolio standard of 50 percent by 2030; California must lead the nation in fostering the transition away from offshore fossil fuel production to protect both our climate and oceans from the damaging impacts of climate change, which will affect all life on earth for generations to come; and

Whereas, President Trump's proposed five-year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program represents a renewed call for opening offshore areas for drilling and for lifting moratoriums on energy production in federal areas, that could lead to more oil spills, increased dependence on fossil fuel, and more damaging impact from climate change; and

Whereas, The California Legislature considers new oil and gas development offshore of the Pacific coast to be a threat to the nation's economy and national security, and to the state's ambitious renewable energy goals; and

Whereas, The California Senate has previously adopted Senate Resolutions 35 and 44 in 2017, which support the current federal prohibition on new oil or gas drilling in federal waters offshore California, oppose attempts to modify the prohibition, and defend the United States' National Marine Sanctuaries; and

Whereas, Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke took action on June 29, 2017, to open up a 45-day public comment period for a new five-year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program on the Pacific coast's Outer Continental Shelf pursuant to President Donald J. Trump's Executive order on American energy that was issued on April 28, 2017; and

Whereas, Despite the Trump administration's assertion of support for the program from state and local governments, the States of Washington, Oregon, and California have been consistently united in their opposition to any new oil and gas activities off their coasts, which has resulted in the exclusion of the Pacific coast's Outer Continental Shelf from any National Outer Continental Shelf Program since the 1989–1992 program; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate strongly urges the President and the Congress of the United States to permanently safeguard and protect the Pacific coast's Outer Continental Shelf from new oil and gas leasing, and declares the Senate's unequivocal support for the current federal prohibition on new oil or gas drilling in federal waters offshore of the Pacific coast, its opposition to the proposed five-year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program on the Outer Continental Shelf or any attempts to modify that prohibition, and its determination to consider any appropriate actions to maintain the current prohibition; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the National Program Manager of the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management as the public comment of the Legislature in opposition to the proposed new five-year National Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program on the Outer Continental Shelf; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the President and the Vice President of the United States, to the Governor of California, to the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, to the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, to the Secretary of the United States Department of the Interior, to the Director of the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, and to each member of the California State Senate and Assembly.

POM-86. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislative Assembly of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico requesting the Comptroller General of the United States comply with the provisions of Section 411 of Public Law 114-187, known as the "Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act," in order to conduct and submit to the United States Congress an audit of the public debt of the territory of Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

S. CON. RES. 17
STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

The Government of Puerto Rico is under the control of the "Puerto Rico Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act" (PROMESA), passed on June 30, 2016. Said federal statute provides for the creation of a

Fiscal Oversight Board to assist the Government of Puerto Rico in managing its public finances and enable Puerto Rico to regain access to capital markets.

During the floor debate on PROMESA, it was made clear that the intent of said federal measure was to provide for the restructuring of the debt without favoring any specific creditor. To achieve this, the aforementioned federal legislation requires transparent audits along with annual fiscal and budget plans, and the temporary stay of litigations, to allow the Fiscal Oversight Board a space for carrying out voluntary negotiations. Thus, it was made clear that Puerto Rico's debt would be audited. In the words of Congressman Ryan: "Congress and the President will appoint the members of this board. It will audit Puerto Rico's books and make sure the restructuring is open and fair [. . .]."

In light of such reality and as part of said processes and the approval of PROMESA, Section 411 was incorporated, directing the Comptroller General of the United States to submit reports on the public debt of the territory, that is, Puerto Rico, within a year of enactment, and thereafter not less than once every two years. Said report would include the historical levels of public debt, current amount and composition thereof, and future projections of each territory's public debt. It should also include the historical levels of each territory's revenue, current amount and composition of each territory's revenue, and future projections of each territory's revenue. Moreover, the report shall state the drivers and composition of the public debt as well as the ability of each territory to repay its public debt. To fulfill said undertaking, the Government of Puerto Rico would provide the Comptroller General with any information necessary to carry out said statutory task.

The approval of PROMESA and Section 411 invalidated the functions of the Commission for the Comprehensive Audit of the Public Credit (hereinafter, the Commission) created under Act No. 97-2015, to set a fiscal and financial restructuring process in motion in order to audit the entire public debt of Puerto Rico. Consequently, the Commission's purpose became redundant, entailing superfluous public spending.

The objectives of the Commission were considered even during the incorporation of Section 411 to PROMESA. For such reason, upon the enactment of said federal statute, it was clearly stated in Section 413 that the functions of the Commission would be independent to those provided in PROMESA. Furthermore, it was stated that "[. . .] this particular amendment does not override the authority of the oversight board." Therefore, given the fiscal situation facing the Island, it would be contradictory to allocate resources and efforts, when the provisions of PROMESA require an audit conducted by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Consequently, and in accordance with PROMESA's provisions, the Comptroller General of the United States is entrusted with the audit Puerto Rico's debt, including the historical levels, current amount and composition thereof in the best interest of the People of Puerto Rico. Thusly, we obtain an independent and transparent evaluation of accountability that may be free from collateral attack and that may be effectively used by the Fiscal Oversight Board in carrying out the task entrusted thereto under PROMESA.

Be it Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of Puerto Rico:

Section 1.—The Comptroller General of the United States is hereby required to comply with the provisions of Section 411 of Public Law 114-187, known as the "Puerto Rico

Oversight, Management, and Economic Stability Act," in order to conduct and submit to the U.S. Congress an audit of the public debt of the territory of Puerto Rico.

Section 2.—A copy of this Concurrent Resolution, translated into English, shall be delivered to the President of the United States, the leadership of the United States Congress, the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico in Washington D.C., and the media for its disclosure.

Section 3.—This Concurrent Resolution shall take effect immediately after its approval.

POM-87. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey opposing the President of the United States's nomination for Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and urging the United States Congress to oppose the nomination, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 211

Whereas, Created in the wake of elevated concern about environmental pollution, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) was established on December 2, 1970 to consolidate in one agency a variety of federal research, monitoring, standard-setting, and enforcement activities to ensure protection of the environment and public health; and

Whereas, With a stated mission to protect the environment and human health, the EPA, since its inception, has been working for a cleaner, healthier environment for the American people; and

Whereas, The EPA's primary focus has always been, and should be, protecting residents of this country from threats to their air, water, and health, not serving as an advocate for the interests of the very industries that it is charged with regulating; and

Whereas, President Trump nominated Scott Pruitt, the attorney general of the oil and natural gas-intensive state of Oklahoma, to serve as Administrator of the EPA; and

Whereas, Mr. Pruitt has spent much of his energy as attorney general fighting the very agency he is being nominated to lead, and according to a biography publicly available on the website of the Oklahoma Office of the Attorney General, Mr. Pruitt "is a leading advocate against the EPA's activist agenda"; and

Whereas, As Oklahoma Attorney General, Mr. Pruitt has engaged in lawsuits opposing EPA's policies aimed at protecting air quality and water quality, including being part of the coalition of state attorney generals suing the EPA over its Clean Power Plan, which is aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the electricity sector, its regulations seeking to curtail emissions of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas, from the oil and natural gas sector, and its regulation concerning the definition of "Waters of the United States," which defines the rivers, streams, lakes, and marshes that fall under the protection of the EPA and the United States Army Corps of Engineers; and

Whereas, According to numerous press reports, President Trump has said "For too long, the Environmental Protection Agency has spent taxpayer dollars on an out-of-control anti-energy agenda that has destroyed millions of Jobs"; and

Whereas, Strong environmental standards that protect public health and the environmental resources of this country are not contrary to a strong economy and the creation of jobs; and

Whereas, The Sierra Club, the nation's largest environmental organization, released the following statement about the nomination. "Having Scott Pruitt in charge of the U

S. Environmental Protection Agency is like putting an arsonist in charge of fighting fires He is a climate science denier who, as Attorney General for the state of Oklahoma, regularly conspired with the fossil fuel industry to attack EPA protections. Nothing less than our children's health is at stake . . ."; and

Whereas, Instead of nominating a person who seeks to promote the lobbying agenda of special interests and believes that strong environmental protections are obstacles that should be dismantled, the President should nominate a person who is guided by science and will work to ensure that residents of this country have clean air to breathe, clean water to drink, clean soils on which to live and play, and jobs that do not endanger their public health and safety; and

Whereas, In order to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the country's residents and its natural resources, it is altogether fitting and proper for this House to object to the President's nomination of Scott Pruitt as Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. This House strongly opposes President Trump's nomination of Scott Pruitt as Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and urges the United States Congress to oppose this nomination.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Senate Majority Leader, the Senate Minority Leader, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and each member of Congress elected from the State of New Jersey.

POM-88. A concurrent resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project, and to take such actions as are necessary to authorize the use of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to complete the construction of an authorized United States Army Corps of Engineers project under the current emergency rules and circumstances, to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 97

Whereas, the flooding of August 2016 was declared a state and national disaster resulting in the loss of life and destruction of property; and

Whereas, the Comite River Diversion Canal Project remains incomplete twenty-five years after its authorization and if completed could have substantially reduced flood stages by as much as five feet and mitigated the devastation caused by the floods; and

Whereas, approximately \$117 million of local, state, and federal funding has been invested in the project; and

Whereas, the state of Louisiana anticipates receiving Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a result of the flood and the national declaration of emergency; and

Whereas, the flood of 2016 has shown the urgent need to complete the project as a means to protect life and property in the future as citizens impacted by the flood rebuild their homes and lives: Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are nec-

essary to complete the Comite River Diversion Canal Project; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to authorize the use of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program funds to complete the construction of an authorized United States Army Corps of Engineers project under the current emergency rules and circumstances; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-89. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey urging the United States Senate not to enact H.R. 1628, the "American Health Care Act of 2017", to the Committee on Finance.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 252

Whereas, The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA), which was signed into law on March 23, 2010, established a comprehensive series of health insurance reforms designed to make universal, quality, affordable health coverage available to all Americans while ending certain common health insurance industry practices that limited access to coverage; and

Whereas, since its enactment, the ACA has helped reduce the number of people without health insurance through the use of tax subsidies, coverage mandates, and expansions to Medicaid. In New Jersey alone, an additional 480,000 people obtained coverage under the Medicaid expansion, and the uninsured rate in the State was reduced to 8.7 percent, representing a 34 percent decrease in the uninsured population between 2013 and 2015; and

Whereas, on March 20, 2017, H.R.1628, the American Health Care Act of 2017 (AHCA), sometimes known as "Trumpcare," was introduced in the United States House of Representatives. On May 4, 2017, the House voted to pass the bill; and

Whereas, on March 23, 2017, the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that the AHCA would result in an additional 24 million people being without health insurance by 2026, as compared with the uninsured rate under the ACA. Although the House of Representatives amended the bill prior to passage, the membership did not wait for a new CBO score before holding a vote, suggesting the House passed the bill without the benefit of an impartial analysis of its potential effects; and

Whereas, as passed by the House of Representatives, the AHCA would eliminate many of the provisions of the ACA that were designed to expand access to health insurance, including rolling back the Medicaid expansion; and

Whereas, in its current form, Trumpcare would revise the way tax subsidies are structured and allow states to opt out of certain ACA protections designed to prevent certain industry practices that limited access to health care for women and individuals with preexisting conditions; and

Whereas, specifically, under the current version of the AHCA, states would be allowed to opt out of the requirement that all health insurance policies include coverage for essential health benefits, including emergency services, habilitative and rehabilitative services, inpatient care, outpatient care, maternity and newborn care, mental health and addiction treatment, lab tests, preventative care, prescriptions, and pediatric services; and

Whereas, before enactment of the ACA, women who wanted coverage for maternity

and newborn care were frequently charged premiums and deductibles that nearly matched the out of pocket costs for those services. Experts predict that, in states that opt out of the maternity and newborn care coverage requirement, women will again be charged significantly higher rates for this coverage; and

Whereas, the nation is currently in the midst of an opioid addiction epidemic that has caused overdose and mortality rates to skyrocket. Efforts to address and curtail opioid addiction could be significantly hampered in states that opt out of mandatory coverage for mental health and addiction treatment; and

Whereas, prior to enactment of the ACA, insurers denied coverage to people with pre-existing conditions or charged them significantly higher premiums and deductibles; 35 states and the federal government created high risk pools to attempt to provide coverage to these individuals, however, the pools were expensive to operate and required significant governmental subsidies. Even with the subsidies, the pools were generally unable to provide coverage to everyone with a preexisting condition, and many pools implemented waiting lists, annual and lifetime limits on coverage, high deductibles, and waiting periods before coverage began; and

Whereas, in its current form, Trumpcare would replace coverage protections for people with preexisting conditions with the same high risk pools that failed in the past. According to an analysis published by Avelere, the \$23 billion included in the Trumpcare plan to fund the pools would cover approximately five percent of the 2.2 million people with preexisting conditions; the Commonwealth Fund estimates that high risk pools will require \$178 billion in funding each year to cover everyone with a preexisting condition; and

Whereas, New Jersey Policy Perspective predicts that rolling back the Medicaid expansion will eliminate coverage for 562,000 people in New Jersey, and permanent structural changes to Medicaid will jeopardize coverage for an additional 1.8 million State residents, including seniors, people with disabilities, and children; and

Whereas, under the AHCA, it is estimated that a total of 1.25 million New Jersey residents will be uninsured by 2020. This would be an increase of 127,000 over the number of uninsured people prior to the enactment of the ACA, and includes 86,000 people who had coverage under Medicaid prior to enactment of the ACA, but are expected to lose coverage because the State will not be able to replace lost federal funding; and

Whereas, it would cost New Jersey an estimated \$3.8 billion over the next decade to maintain Medicaid coverage at the expanded levels, assuming there is no increase in enrollment; and

Whereas, according to New Jersey Policy Perspective, caps on Medicaid spending under Trumpcare will cost New Jersey \$30 billion in federal funds and potentially result in tens of thousands of lost jobs; and

Whereas, the AHCA is expected to increase out-of-pocket health care costs by an average of \$2,740 per year for each of the 250,000 New Jersey residents who purchase insurance through the ACA marketplace; and

Whereas, although the AHCA would provide 250 New Jersey millionaires with a federal tax break averaging \$57,000 per year, it is expected to increase federal taxes by 30 percent for middle and lower income New Jerseyans; and

Whereas, the Center for American Progress conservatively estimates that it will cost \$790 million per year to provide health coverage for the 37,000 New Jerseyans with a preexisting condition. Currently, the AHCA

would allocate an average \$353 million to each state, leaving New Jersey with a \$437 million funding gap, the 11th highest in the nation; and

Whereas, numerous health care groups have expressed opposition to the AHCA, including the American Medical Association, the American Hospital Association, the American Academy of Family Physicians, the National Alliance on Mental Illness, and the American Diabetes Association; and

Whereas, an increase in the number of uninsured individuals will likely increase costs for hospitals, which are required to treat anyone who presents at the emergency department, regardless of their coverage status. In New Jersey, expanded Medicaid coverage under the ACA resulted in \$400 million in cost savings from payments to hospitals to offset the cost of caring for individuals without insurance. These gains are likely to be erased under Trumpcare to its current form; and

Whereas, if enacted, the AHCA will eliminate health security for millions of Americans, particularly older adults, women, and individuals with preexisting conditions. The United States Senate has both the opportunity and the responsibility to stop this disastrous legislation from becoming law; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. The General Assembly of New Jersey respectfully urges the United States Senate not to enact H.R. 1628, titled the American Health Care Act of 2017.

2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and every member of the Congress of the United States elected from the State of New Jersey.

POM-90. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Texas urging the United States Congress to support policies to increase the operational efficiency, and thereby the environmental performance, of existing electric-generating units and to support the preservation of a fuel-diverse electric generation portfolio critical to our domestic economic, energy, and national security; to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. No. 1833

Whereas, Fossil fuels, including coal, natural gas, and oil, currently meet more than three quarters of primary global energy demand around the world and in the United States; and

Whereas, According to the International Energy Agency, under current energy and environmental policies, fossil fuels will continue to play a role of this magnitude for the next quarter century or more; even assuming global adoption of policies consistent with the IEA's "climate-stabilizing" 450 Scenario, more than half of total worldwide and U.S. energy demand would still be met by fossil fuels in 2040; and

Whereas, The U.S. Department of Energy has reported that "carbon capture, utilization, and storage technologies provide a key pathway to address the urgent U.S. and global need for affordable, secure, resilient, and reliable sources of clean energy"; environmental advocates who recognize the value and enduring role of fossil fuels as an essential source of energy have come to support the accelerated development and broad deployment of carbon capture technologies for fossil fuels as part of a sustainable energy fu-

ture; similarly, fossil energy advocates who have recognized the role carbon capture can play in creating new opportunities support the development and deployment of carbon capture technologies for fossil fuels; and

Whereas, The United States and Texas have abundant supplies of fossil energy, the production and use of which provide important economic, energy, and national security benefits to our nation and our state; Texas is the nation's largest producer of natural gas, oil, lignite coal, and fossil fuels in total, and it has the nation's largest proved reserves of both natural gas and oil, as well as the ninth-largest recoverable reserves of coal; it is the nation's largest consumer of coal for electricity generation and the largest consumer of natural gas for both electricity generation and industrial use; 77 percent of the electricity generated in Texas is produced from the use of fossil fuels; and

Whereas, Reliable and affordable electricity is vital to economic growth and job creation and to the well-being of all citizens; according to the U.S. Department of Energy, "A diverse portfolio of energy resources is critical to U.S. energy and national policy . . . being more robust and resilient in comparison to a system that is heavily dependent on a limited set of energy resources . . . [and] helps insulate the economy from certain risks, including price volatility and risks from supply disruptions"; and

Whereas, Texas is a leader in the research and development of technologies that provide clean, safe, and reliable power generation, and it is committed to continued research and development of carbon reduction strategies for fossil fuels, including existing and emerging CCUS technologies such as geological sequestration, mineral carbonation, and the beneficial use of captured carbon dioxide; and

Whereas, In Texas, many academic, private, and governmental initiatives and institutions are engaged in efforts to address the environmental, health, and economic impacts of energy production and use through collaborations on applied CO2 research, practical applications, workforce development, and public education; among them are the Petra Nova Project at the W. A. Parish Electric Generating Station in Fort Bend County, the Texas Clean Energy Project in Ector County, the NET Power project in Harris County, the Energy and Environment Initiative at Rice University, the Texas Carbon Management Project, and the Gulf Coast Carbon Center at The University of Texas at Austin; and

Whereas, Legislation was introduced in the 114th U.S. Congress to enhance and extend current federal tax incentives, under Section 45Q of the Internal Revenue Code, that sustain and promote such collaborations and encourage private industry in energy generation, manufacturing, and agriculture to adopt and deploy existing and emerging technologies that increase carbon capture, utilization, and storage; environmental and energy advocates have come together in support of this legislation in a groundbreaking coalition of environmental advocacy groups, labor unions, and energy producers from the coal, oil and gas, ethanol, and algae-biomass industries; moreover, the legislation has received strong bipartisan support in both the United States Senate and the United States House of Representatives; and

Whereas, Congress and the president are also currently considering a large-scale federal infrastructure initiative to strengthen our nation's transportation, public works, and energy infrastructure, which could also serve as a vehicle for advancing "jobs-ready" carbon capture projects; the U.S. Department of Energy has determined that "a combination of tax incentives and research, development, demonstration, and deployment

(RDD&D) will be critical to developing transformational carbon capture technologies and to driving down the costs of capture"; and

Whereas, The Lone Star State has long been committed to a forward-looking energy strategy that maximizes both environmental quality and economic opportunity; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas Legislature hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to enact legislation to expand and extend the current federal tax credit for carbon capture, utilization, and storage under Section 45Q of the Internal Revenue Code; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas House of Representatives respectfully urge Congress to provide appropriations to the U.S. Department of Energy sufficient to achieve and sustain a robust carbon capture research, development, demonstration, and deployment program and to support the inclusion of economically and environmentally beneficial carbon capture projects in any forthcoming federal infrastructure initiative; and, be it further

Resolved, That the Texas House of Representatives respectfully urge Congress to support policies to increase the operational efficiency, and thereby the environmental performance, of existing electric-generating units and to support the preservation of a fuel-diverse electric generation portfolio critical to our domestic economic, energy, and national security; and, be it further

Resolved, That the chief clerk forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

POM-91. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of California opposing cuts to and proposals to privatize Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid and calling on California's Representatives in the United States Congress to vote against cuts and proposals to privatize and to support legislation to improve and expand these systems to strengthen their protections, to the Committee on Finance.

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 8

Whereas, Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid are the foundation of the income and health security of older Americans, younger Americans with permanent and severe disabilities, and American families, whose economic circumstances preclude them from purchasing health insurance in the private market; and

Whereas, Social Security is our nation's most important source of retirement income, providing more than half the income of two-thirds of senior beneficiaries and virtually all the income of one-third of them; its most important source of disability insurance; and its most important life insurance program; and

Whereas, Social Security and Medicare are the foundations of income and health security for older Californians and those with severe work disabilities, providing monthly cash benefits and health insurance to over 5.5 million residents, including almost 4 million retired workers and over 700,000 disabled workers; and

Whereas, Social Security is the single most important source of life insurance for California's children, which currently provides a virtually guaranteed income to over 350,000 children throughout our state; and

Whereas, Social Security prevents more than 1.9 million Californians from living in poverty; and

Whereas, Social Security is even more important to rural Californians, one in 4 of whom received benefits in 2014, than to metropolitan Californians, one in 7 of whom received benefits; and

Whereas, Social Security benefits annually contribute over \$80 billion to our state's economy; and

Whereas, Social Security provides benefits to over 9 million veterans nationwide, which is about 4 out of every 10 veterans; and

Whereas, Our nation is facing a retirement income crisis as the result of the decline of traditional pensions, the failure of 401(k) balances, and the stagnation or even decline in many areas of home equity and earnings, all of which have caused many workers to fear that they will never be able to retire and maintain their standard of living; and

Whereas, 47 percent of elderly Californians are struggling just to make ends meet and more than half of working Californians will not have saved enough to be able to maintain their standard of living in retirement; and

Whereas, Improving Social Security benefits is a solution to the retirement crisis; as well as to other serious problems such as rising income and wealth inequality; and

Whereas, Social Security's funding is independent of that of the rest of the federal government, and has never contributed to, and by law can never contribute to, the federal deficit; and

Whereas, Social Security in fact had a surplus of \$2.8 trillion at the end of 2015 that is expected to grow to \$2.9 trillion by 2020; and

Whereas, Social Security has sufficient resources to meet all its obligations through 2034 and has dedicated revenues that would meet three-quarters of promised benefits thereafter; and

Whereas, Social Security's funding shortfall after 2034 is modest: about half the cost of the Bush tax cuts of 2001 and 2003; and

Whereas, There are many policy options available to Congress to close Social Security's long-term funding gap and to improve its benefits, including eliminating or increasing the cap on earnings subject to the payroll tax, or gradually increasing the contribution rate from 6.2 percent to 7.2 percent, or subjecting investment income to Social Security contributions, or treating contributions to all salary reduction plans like 401(k) plans as covered earnings for Social Security, or by dedicating revenues from progressive taxes like the estate tax or a financial transactions tax to pay part of the future cost of Social Security; and

Whereas, According to a multigeneration study conducted by the National Academy of Social Insurance, 77 percent of Americans (69 percent of Republicans, 84 percent of Democrats, and 76 percent of Independents) agree that it is critical to preserve Social Security for future generations even if it means increasing taxes paid by working Americans, and there is even greater bipartisan support (71 percent of Republicans, 92 percent of Democrats, and 84 percent of Independents) for preserving it by increasing taxes paid by wealthier Americans; and

Whereas, Medicare has provided health care in retirement since 1965 and in disability since 1972 to several generations of American workers; and

Whereas, Medicare now covers over 5.6 million Californians, providing over \$50 billion in benefits to California's senior and disabled beneficiaries in 2009 (22 percent of all health spending in the state); and

Whereas, Medicare insures these people, who represent the part of our population with the highest health care costs, at a frac-

tion of the administrative costs of private health care plans; and

Whereas, Medicare has controlled its costs of care better than private insurance plans; and

Whereas, Other nations, which essentially have Medicare for all of their citizens, are able to provide high-quality health care at a fraction of the cost and with better health care outcomes; and

Whereas, Current proposals in Congress to radically reduce Medicare to a "premium support" or "voucher" program and to further privatize the system would result in increased health care insecurity and costs for seniors and disabled beneficiaries and reduce the ability of our government to contain our nation's overall health care expenditures, which currently equal 17.8 percent of our gross domestic product (GDP), by far the highest relative cost of any industrialized nation (the euro area's costs are about 8 percent); and

Whereas, Medicaid is our nation's most important source of long-term care, as well as vital insurance for our most vulnerable seniors, children, and people with disabilities, providing health coverage to over 74 million people; and

Whereas, Medicaid provides health coverage to over 12 million Californians whose economic circumstances preclude them from participating in the private health care insurance system, yet who need and deserve medical treatment as much as any American in better economic circumstances; and

Whereas, Current Congressional proposals to limit federal Medicaid funding through the use of block grants to the states threaten to severely limit Medicaid's ability to provide adequate health care coverage to the most vulnerable among us; and

Whereas, Our Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid systems are fundamental to protecting against risks to which all Californians are subject; and

Whereas, Our Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid systems give expression to widely held values, including caring for our families, our neighbors, and ourselves, personal responsibility, hard work, and personal dignity; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, jointly, That the Legislature opposes cuts to and proposals to privatize Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid and calls on our state's Representatives in Congress to vote against cuts and proposals to privatize and to support legislation to improve and expand these systems to strengthen their protections; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature calls on the President of the United States to honor his campaign promise not to cut these programs, to veto any legislation to do so, and to work with Congress to expand and improve these programs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President and Vice President of the United States, to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, to the Majority Leader of the Senate, and to each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States.

POM-92. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the Legislature of the State of Texas urging the United States Congress to recognize the importance of trade between Texas and Mexico and foster international commerce, to the Committee on Finance.

H.R. No. 1025

Whereas, Trade between Texas and Mexico plays a vital role in the economic prosperity of the Lone Star State; and

Whereas, Each year, Texas sends about 36 percent of the state's total exports to Mexico, and in 2015, exports to Mexico totaled nearly \$92.5 million; goods exported to Mexico include computer and electronic products, petroleum and coal products, chemicals, machinery, and transportation equipment, all of which are produced by industries that supply hundreds of thousands of jobs to the Lone Star State; and

Whereas, Since the ratification of the North American Free Trade Agreement in 1994, the export of U.S. goods to Mexico has risen 325 percent, while imports into the United States from Mexico have increased 458 percent; in 2012, Americans spent \$277.5 billion for goods from Mexico, and Mexico is America's third-largest supplier of oil, after Canada and Saudi Arabia; additionally, nearly half of the tomatoes and two-thirds of the mangoes consumed in the United States come from Mexico; and

Whereas, The importance of this trade to Texas border cities, counties, and businesses is very significant, and disruption to international commerce would be economically damaging; and

Whereas, Mexico is the largest trading partner of Texas and the third-largest of the United States, and it is imperative that our federal government take proactive steps to strengthen ties with Mexico and build bridges of economic opportunity that will benefit Texas and the entire nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the 85th Texas Legislature hereby urge the United States Congress to recognize the importance of trade between Texas and Mexico and foster international commerce; and, be it further

Resolved, That the chief clerk of the house forward official copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, to the president of the Senate and the speaker of the House of Representatives of the United States Congress, and to all the members of the Texas delegation to Congress with the request that this resolution be entered in the Congressional Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of America.

POM-93. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida opposing United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 and requesting its repeal or fundamental alteration; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 281

Whereas, the United States has long supported a negotiated settlement leading to a sustainable two-state solution with the democratic, Jewish state of Israel and a demilitarized, democratic Palestinian state living side-by-side in peace and security, and

Whereas, since 1993, the United States has facilitated direct, bilateral negotiations between both parties toward achieving a two-state solution and ending all outstanding claims, and

Whereas, it is the long-standing policy of the United States that a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will only come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the two parties, and

Whereas, it was the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto United Nations Security Council resolutions dictating additional binding parameters on the peace process, and

Whereas, it was also the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto one-sided or anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions, and

Whereas, the United States has stood in the minority internationally over successive

administrations in defending Israel in international forums, including vetoing one-sided resolutions in 1995, 1997, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, and 2011 before the United Nations Security Council, and

Whereas, the United States recently signed a new memorandum of understanding with the Israeli government regarding security assistance, consistent with long-standing support for Israel among successive administrations and Congresses and representing an important United States commitment toward Israel's qualitative military edge, and

Whereas, on November 29, 2016, the United States House of Representatives unanimously passed House Concurrent Resolution 165, expressing and reaffirming long-standing United States policy in support of a direct, bilaterally negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and in opposition to United Nations Security Council resolutions that impose a solution to the conflict, and

Whereas, on December 23, 2016, the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations disregarded House Concurrent Resolution 165 and departed from long-standing United States policy by abstaining and permitting United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 to be adopted under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter, and

Whereas, the United States' abstention on United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 contradicts the Oslo Accords and its associated process that is predicated on resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict between the parties through direct, bilateral negotiations, and

Whereas, United States Security Council Resolution 2334 claims that "the establishment by Israel of settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, has no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-State solution and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace," and

Whereas, by referring to the "4 June 1967 lines" as the basis for negotiations, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 effectively states that the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem and the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, are "occupied territory," thereby equating these sites with outposts in the West Bank that the Israeli government has deemed illegal, and

Whereas, passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 effectively legitimizes efforts by the Palestinian Authority to impose its own solution through international organizations and unjustified boycotts or divestment campaigns against Israel by calling "upon all States, bearing in mind paragraph 1 of this resolution, to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967;" and will require the United States and Israel to take effective action to counteract the resolution's potential harmful impacts, and

Whereas, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 did not directly call upon Palestinian leadership to fulfill their obligations toward negotiations or mention that part of the eventual Palestinian state is currently controlled by Hamas, a designated terrorist organization, and

Whereas, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 sought to impose or unduly influence solutions to final-status issues and is biased against Israel: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida, That the Florida House of Representatives finds:

(1) The passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 undermined the long-standing position of the United States

to oppose and veto United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues or are one-sided and anti-Israel, reversing decades of bipartisan agreement.

(2) The passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 undermines the prospect of Israelis and Palestinians resuming productive, direct, bilateral negotiations.

(3) The passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 contributes to the politically motivated acts of boycotting, divesting from, and sanctioning Israel and represents a concerted effort to extract concessions from Israel outside of direct, bilateral negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians, which must be actively rejected.

(4) Any future measures taken by any organization, including the United Nations Security Council, to impose an agreement or parameters for an agreement will set back the peace process, harm the security of Israel, contradict the enduring bipartisan consensus on strengthening the United States-Israel relationship, and weaken support for such organizations.

(5) A durable and sustainable peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians is only possible with direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties resulting in a Jewish, democratic state living next to a demilitarized Palestinian state in peace and security.

(6) The United States government should work to facilitate serious, direct, unconditional negotiations between the parties toward a sustainable peace agreement.

(7) The United States government should oppose and veto future one-sided, anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues.

That the Florida House of Representatives opposes and requests the repeal or fundamental alteration of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 so that the resolution:

(1) Is no longer one-sided and anti-Israel.
(2) Authorizes all final-status issues toward a two-state solution to be resolved through direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties involved. Be it further

Resolved That copies of this resolution be presented to the President of the United States, the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C. for transmission to the proper authorities of the State of Israel as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.

POM-94. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida opposing United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 and requesting its repeal or fundamental alteration; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

HOUSE RESOLUTION 281

Whereas, the United States has long supported a negotiated settlement leading to a sustainable two-state solution with the democratic, Jewish state of Israel and a demilitarized, democratic Palestinian state living side-by-side in peace and security, and

Whereas, since 1993, the United States has facilitated direct, bilateral negotiations between both parties toward achieving a two-state solution and ending all outstanding claims, and

Whereas, it is the long-standing policy of the United States that a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict will only come through direct, bilateral negotiations between the two parties, and

Whereas, it was the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto United Nations Security Council

resolutions dictating additional binding parameters on the peace process, and

Whereas, it was also the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and, if necessary, veto one-sided or anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions, and

Whereas, the United States has stood in the minority internationally over successive administrations in defending Israel in international forums, including vetoing one-sided resolutions in 1995, 1997, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2006, and 2011 before the United Nations Security Council, and

Whereas, the United States recently signed a new memorandum of understanding with the Israeli government regarding security assistance, consistent with long-standing support for Israel among successive administrations and Congresses and representing an important United States commitment toward Israel's qualitative military edge, and

Whereas, on November 29, 2016, the United States House of Representatives unanimously passed House Concurrent Resolution 165, expressing and reaffirming long-standing United States policy in support of a direct, bilaterally negotiated settlement of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and in opposition to United Nations Security Council resolutions that impose a solution to the conflict, and

Whereas, on December 23, 2016, the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations disregarded House Concurrent Resolution 165 and departed from long-standing United States policy by abstaining and permitting United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 to be adopted under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter, and

Whereas, the United States' abstention on United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 contradicts the Oslo Accords and its associated process that is predicated on resolving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict between the parties through direct, bilateral negotiations, and

Whereas, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 claims that "the establishment by Israel of settlements in the Palestinian territory occupied since 1967, including East Jerusalem, has no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-State solution and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace," and

Whereas, by referring to the "4 June 1967 lines" as the basis for negotiations, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 effectively states that the Jewish Quarter of the Old City of Jerusalem and the Western Wall, Judaism's holiest site, are "occupied territory," thereby equating these sites with outposts in the West Bank that the Israeli government has deemed illegal, and

Whereas, passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 effectively legitimizes efforts by the Palestinian Authority to impose its own solution through international organizations and unjustified boycotts or divestment campaigns against Israel by calling "upon all States, bearing in mind paragraph 1 of this resolution, to distinguish, in their relevant dealings, between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967," and will require the United States and Israel to take effective action to counteract the resolution's potential harmful impacts, and

Whereas, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 did not directly call upon Palestinian leadership to fulfill their obligations toward negotiations or mention that part of the eventual Palestinian state is currently controlled by Hamas, a designated terrorist organization, and

Whereas, United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 sought to impose or unduly

influence solutions to final-status issues and is biased against Israel; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

That the Florida House of Representatives finds:

(1) The passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 undermined the long-standing position of the United States to oppose and veto United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues or are one-sided and anti-Israel, reversing decades of bipartisan agreement.

(2) The passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 undermines the prospect of Israelis and Palestinians resuming productive, direct, bilateral negotiations.

(3) The passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 contributes to the politically motivated acts of boycotting, divesting from, and sanctioning Israel and represents a concerted effort to extract concessions from Israel outside of direct, bilateral negotiations between the Israelis and Palestinians, which must be actively rejected.

(4) Any future measures taken by any organization, including the United Nations Security Council, to impose an agreement or parameters for an agreement will set back the peace process, harm the security of Israel, contradict the enduring bipartisan consensus on strengthening the United States-Israel relationship, and weaken support for such organizations.

(5) A durable and sustainable peace agreement between Israel and the Palestinians is only possible with direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties resulting in a Jewish, democratic state living next to a demilitarized Palestinian state in peace and security.

(6) The United States government should work to facilitate serious, direct, unconditional negotiations between the parties toward a sustainable peace agreement.

(7) The United States government should oppose and veto future one-sided, anti-Israel United Nations Security Council resolutions that seek to impose solutions to final-status issues.

That the Florida House of Representatives opposes and requests the repeal or fundamental alteration of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2334 so that the resolution:

(1) Is no longer one-sided and anti-Israel.

(2) Authorizes all final-status issues toward a two-state solution to be resolved through direct, bilateral negotiations between the parties involved; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be presented to the President of the United States, the President and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, and the Israeli Embassy in Washington, D.C., for transmission to the proper authorities of the State of Israel as a tangible token of the sentiments expressed herein.

POM-95. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana recognizing the Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana as an Indian tribe; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 227

Whereas, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 forced many Indians living east of the Mississippi River to sell their lands and move to less fertile lands on a Western reservation that would not be taken from them; and

Whereas, the five tribes most affected by the Indian Removal Act of 1830 through the loss of lives, homes, and land were the Chickasaw, Creek, Choctaw, Seminole, and Cherokee; and

Whereas, the Indian Removal Act of 1830 caused Indians living in the South to embark on what became known as the "Trail of Tears" from 1830 to 1842; and

Whereas, as a result of the Indian Removal Act of 1830, many small groups of the five tribes escaped and crossed the Mississippi River into Louisiana and settled near the central and western part of Louisiana in the present-day parishes of Rapides, Vernon, Natchitoches, and Calcasieu, which was referred to as "No Man's Land" or "Rio Hondo"; and

Whereas, the Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana exists today, and the tribe has full documentation of bloodlines of all tribal members, as well as many documented sources regarding the activities of the tribe; and

Whereas, it is imperative that the state of Louisiana recognize Indian tribes within its borders, to support their tribal aspirations, to preserve their cultural heritage and improve their economic conditions, and to assist them in the achievement of their just rights; Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize the Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana as an Indian tribe of the state; be it further

Resolved, That the Congress of the United States and the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs are hereby memorialized, requested, and urged to take such steps as are necessary to effect the formal recognition of the Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana as an Indian tribe, and to acknowledge that the rights of the Natchitoches Tribe of Louisiana are no less than those of other Indian tribes in the United States, and, accordingly, to take such executive or congressional action as may be appropriate; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the president of the United States, the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States, each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation, and the director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, United States Department of the Interior.

POM-96. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico rescinding three previous applications to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 10

Whereas, Article 5 of the United States constitution reads in part as follows: "the Congress . . . on the Application of the Legislatures and two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States"; and

Whereas, in 1951, the legislature of New Mexico passed House Joint Resolution Number 12 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose specified amendments to the United States constitution; and

Whereas, in 1965, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 2 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States constitution; and

Whereas, in 1976, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution 1 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States constitution; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the Legislature of the State of New Mexico that House Joint Resolution Number 12, passed in the first session of the twentieth legislature of the state of New Mexico, Senate Joint Resolution Number 2, passed in the first session of the twenty-seventh legislature of the state of New Mexico, and Senate Joint Resolution 1, passed in the second session of the thirty-second legislature of the state of New Mexico, be rescinded; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted, within thirty days of its passage, to the speaker of the United States house of representatives, the clerk of the United States house of representatives, the president of the United States senate, the secretary of the United States senate and the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation; and be it further

Resolved, That a request be hereby made that the official journals and record of the senate and the house of representatives of the United States congress include the resolution or a notice of its receipt.

POM-97. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey condemning the United States Executive Order concerning immigration and the firing of the Acting Attorney General, and supporting legal action by other states against the immigration ban; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 138

Whereas, President Donald Trump signed an Executive Order on January 27, 2017 selectively banning entry of immigrants and non-immigrants from seven Muslim-majority countries: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen for 90 days; suspending refugee admission for 120 days; and barring all Syrian refugees from entering the United States indefinitely; and

Whereas, the ban reportedly has resulted in individuals with legal resident status and valid visas being denied entry into the United States, many of whom have been trapped overseas and separated from their families; and

Whereas, those reportedly denied entry include children, students and professors of United States institutions of higher education, employees of United States corporations, and Iraqis who have worked with the United States military against militant extremist groups in their own country; and

Whereas, the states of Washington and Minnesota have challenged the ban in federal court on the grounds that it violates the equal protection, establishment, and due process clauses of the United States Constitution and the federal Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965; and

Whereas, Judge Robart of the Federal District Court in Seattle, Washington issued a temporary nationwide restraining order halting the President's Executive Order; and

Whereas, President Trump's reaction was to immediately ridicule the Judge referring to him as a "so-called Judge"; and

Whereas, the President's action disrespects the separation of powers which forms the basis of our government; and

Whereas, more than 15 Attorneys General have filed an amicus brief supporting the court's temporary stay against the Executive Order; and

Whereas, nearly 100 United States corporations have filed an amicus brief opposing the President's immigration ban, arguing that American workers and the economy will suffer; and

Whereas, the President of the United States fired the Acting Attorney General of the United States for refusing to defend the Executive Order, as she was not convinced

the Executive Order was lawful, and as such, not consistent with her responsibility to uphold the laws of the United States; and

Whereas, firing the Acting Attorney General for upholding her oath of office sends a negative message to top-level federal Executive Branch employees, likely having a chilling effect on their willingness to speak truth to power and uphold their responsibilities; and

Whereas, the immigration ban is arbitrarily directed at those adhering to one specific religion, violating one of the United States Constitution's most fundamental tenets, the freedom of religion; and

Whereas, the United States has always been a nation that welcomes and protects those seeking to practice their religious beliefs without fear of government interference or persecution; and

Whereas, the United States is a nation of immigrants, built by those seeking a better life for themselves, their families, and generations to follow; and

Whereas, the State of New Jersey, home to Ellis Island, celebrates the diversity of our residents and takes pride in the contributions made to our great State by immigrants, past and present, who came to our shores "yearning to breathe free"; and

Whereas, a brief has been filed by former Central Intelligence Agency and Department of State officials countering the President's national security arguments, claiming the ban "could do long-term damage to our national security and foreign policy interests, endangering U.S. troops in the field and disrupting counterterrorism and national security partnerships. It will aid ISIL's propaganda effort and serve its recruitment message by feeding into the narrative that the United States is at war with Islam. It will hinder relationships with the very communities that law enforcement professionals need to address the threat"; and

Whereas, approximately 900 United States Department of State diplomats have signed a dissent memo opposing the President's ban as it "stands in opposition to the core American and constitutional values that we, as federal employees, took an oath to uphold"; and

Whereas, the memo cautions that the ban "will immediately sour relations" with governments that are "important allies and partners in the fight against terrorism, regionally and globally"; and

Whereas, in addition to the ban being ill-conceived and mean-spirited, the processes associated with the ban were mismanaged, including the reported failure to allow for legal review by the Department of Homeland Security; and

Whereas, the mismanagement extended to the implementation of the ban which resulted, in part, in individuals being detained in airports across the country and, despite an order to do so by a New York District Judge, the federal government has yet to produce a list of these individuals; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. This House condemns the Executive Order signed by President Trump suspending immigration for 90 days from seven Muslim-majority countries; suspending all refugee admissions into the United States for 120 days; and indefinitely barring all Syrian refugees from entering the United States.

2. This House condemns the firing of the Acting Attorney General for refusing to enforce the ban which she deemed unlawful.

3. This House extends its support to the states of Washington and Minnesota in their legal fight against the President's immigration ban.

4. This House urges the New Jersey Attorney General to join his fellow Attorneys

General in their amicus brief supporting a federal district court's stay of the ban.

5. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Majority and Minority Leader of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives, every member of Congress elected from New Jersey, and the New Jersey Attorney General.

POM-98. A resolution adopted by the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urging the United States Congress to reauthorize the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment to prevent the United States Department of Justice from spending funds to interfere with the implementation of state medical marijuana laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE RESOLUTION No. 36

Whereas, The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment prevents the United States Department of Justice from spending funds to interfere with the implementation of state medical marijuana laws; and

Whereas, The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment does not change the status of marijuana with respect to Federal law; and

Whereas, The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment states, "None of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Justice may be used, with respect to any of the States of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin, or with respect to either the District of Columbia as Guam, to prevent any of them from implementing their own laws that authorize the use, distribution, possession, or cultivation of medical marijuana"; and

Whereas, On December 16, 2014, the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment was initially signed into Federal law as part of an omnibus spending bill; and

Whereas, On December 18, 2015, the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment was reauthorized as part of the fiscal year 2016 Federal omnibus appropriations bill; and

Whereas, In September 2016, the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment was reauthorized again as a part of a short-term spending bill; and

Whereas, The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment must be reauthorized each fiscal year in order to remain in effect; and

Whereas, The Rohrabacher-Farr amendment expires on April 28, 2017; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urge the Congress of the United States to reauthorize the Rohrabacher-Farr amendment to prevent the United States Department of Justice from spending funds to interfere with the implementation of state medical marijuana laws; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the presiding officers of each house of Congress and to each member of Congress from Pennsylvania.

POM-99. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico rescinding three previous applications to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution, to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 10

Whereas, Article 5 of the United States constitution reads in part as follows: “the Congress . . . on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States”; and

Whereas, in 1951, the legislature of New Mexico passed House Joint Resolution Number 12 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose specified amendments to the United States constitution; and

Whereas, in 1965, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 2 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States constitution; and

Whereas, in 1976, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution 1 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States constitution: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the legislature of the State of New Mexico That House Joint Resolution Number 12, passed in the first session of the twentieth legislature of the state of New Mexico, Senate Joint Resolution Number 2, passed in the first session of the twenty-seventh legislature of the state of New Mexico, and Senate Joint Resolution 1, passed in the second session of the thirty-second legislature of the state of New Mexico, be rescinded; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted, within thirty days of its passage, to the speaker of the United States house of representatives, the clerk of the United States house of representatives, the president of the United States senate, the secretary of the United States senate and the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation; and be it further

Resolved, That a request be hereby made that the official journals and record of the senate and the house of representatives of the United States congress include the resolution or a notice of its receipt.

POM-100. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico rescinding three previous applications to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 10

Whereas, Article 5 of the United States constitution reads in part as follows: “the Congress . . . on the Application of the Legislatures of two thirds of the several States, shall call a Convention for proposing Amendments, which, in either Case, shall be valid to all Intents and Purposes, as Part of this Constitution, when ratified by the Legislatures of three fourths of the several States”; and

Whereas, in 1951, the legislature of New Mexico passed House Joint Resolution Number 12 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose specified amendments to the United States constitution; and

Whereas, in 1965, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution Number 2 to make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States constitution; and

Whereas, in 1976, the legislature of New Mexico passed Senate Joint Resolution 1 to

make an application to the United States congress to call a convention to propose a specified amendment to the United States constitution; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Legislature of the State of New Mexico that House Joint Resolution Number 12, passed in the first session of the twentieth legislature of the state of New Mexico, Senate Joint Resolution Number 2, passed in the first session of the twenty-seventh legislature of the state of New Mexico, and Senate Joint Resolution 1, passed in the second session of the thirty-second legislature of the state of New Mexico, be rescinded; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this resolution be transmitted, within thirty days of its passage, to the speaker of the United States house of representatives, the clerk of the United States house of representatives, the president of the United States senate, the secretary of the United States senate and the members of the New Mexico congressional delegation; and be it further

Resolved, That a request be hereby made that the official journals and record of the senate and the house of representatives of the United States congress include the resolution or a notice of its receipt.

POM-101. A resolution adopted by the House of Representatives of the State of Louisiana memorializing the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to investigate the current condition of economic development in the State of Louisiana concerning the Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response Trust’s fulfillment of fiduciary duties regarding the former General Motors Shreveport plant and operations; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A RESOLUTION

To memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to investigate the current condition of economic development in the state of Louisiana concerning the Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response Trust’s (hereinafter “RACER Trust”) fulfillment of fiduciary duties regarding the former General Motors Shreveport plant (hereinafter “GM-Shreveport plant”) and operations.

Whereas, perpetual declining sales and employment loss led to the 2009 bankruptcy of the General Motors Corporation, and by 2012, a complete cessation of automobile manufacturing at the former GM-Shreveport plant, which for more than thirty years was a generator of jobs and economic opportunity in the state of Louisiana; and

Whereas, the bankruptcy of General Motors was not an ordinary business bankruptcy; rather, it was orderly and structured in a way to facilitate General Motors’ ability to be absolved of certain environmental and tax liabilities; and

Whereas, this included a cash infusion from the federal government to the benefit of General Motors, and General Motors’ consideration for the properties left behind to be leveraged in the public’s general and equitable interests, with such interests defined and directed toward the replacement of lost jobs; and

Whereas, according to a Report to Congressional Committees issued by the United States Government Accountability Office, the Department of the Treasury (Treasury) “provided unprecedented support to two of the nation’s three largest auto manufacturers—General Motors and Chrysler—after deteriorating economic conditions resulted in a dramatic decline in auto sales and significant financial losses to these companies”; and

Whereas, “through the Automotive Industry Financing Program (AIFP) under the

Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP), Treasury committed \$62 billion to help GM and Chrysler continue operating while restructuring into more viable companies”; and

Whereas, the website of the RACER Trust explains that after the bankruptcy of General Motors, “the RACER Trust was created in March 2011 by the U.S. Bankruptcy Court” and equipped with “nearly \$500 million...received at the time of the Trust’s establishment” to “clean up and position for redevelopment the properties and other facilities owned by the former General Motors Corporation”; and

Whereas, such properties and facilities to be included for clean up and revitalization necessarily include the former GM-Shreveport plant; and

Whereas, during February 2013, the RACER Trust and Elio Motors entered into a Purchase and Sale Agreement whereby Elio Motors was expected to acquire from the RACER Trust all of the property, both movable and immovable property, relative to the former GM-Shreveport plant; however, Elio Motors purchased only the movable property and as such, entered into a Security Agreement with the RACER Trust in the amount of twenty-three million dollars to acquire the movable property; and

Whereas, circumstances changed regarding the sale of all of the former GM-Shreveport plant to Elio Motors; instead, the immovable property of the plant was purchased by the Caddo Parish Industrial Development Board; and

Whereas, at the request of the Caddo Parish Industrial Development Board, a parent company known as Industrial Realty Group first purchased the immovable property of the former GM-Shreveport plant and immediately resold this same property to the Caddo Parish Industrial Development Board; and

Whereas, the Caddo Parish Industrial Development Board then leased the immovable property back to Industrial Realty Group; and

Whereas, as the lessee and property manager of the former GM-Shreveport plant, Industrial Realty Group next subleased a portion of the plant to Elio Motors; and

Whereas, Elio Motors assumed the plant as a sublessee during the latter part of 2013 and was expected to manufacture automobiles, stimulate economic growth, and create approximately one thousand five hundred jobs by the end of 2015; and

Whereas, since 2013 and currently, Elio Motors is not engaged in automobile manufacturing at the former GM-Shreveport plant, and as a result, related economic development and stimulated growth in this state have not materialized as projected and desired; and

Whereas, with the present and future state of the former GM-Shreveport plant subject to the direction and actions of Industrial Realty Group and Elio Motors, the House Committee on Commerce was interested to hear the testimony of certain stakeholders to identify and expound upon the circumstances, challenges, and barriers surrounding automobile manufacturing and the anticipated accompanying job growth; and

Whereas, pursuant to House Resolution No. 37 of the 2016 Second Extraordinary Session, the House Committee on Commerce met in Shreveport, Louisiana, on October 26, 2016, to do all of the following:

(1) Study the state of the automotive manufacturing industry in the state of Louisiana since the onset of the most recent worldwide economic downturn that began in 2008.

(2) Investigate and report on the activities of the RACER Trust in the state of Louisiana.

(3) Tour and assess the current condition and circumstances of any Louisiana based properties either currently or previously under the control and supervision of the RACER Trust in the state of Louisiana.

(4) Take testimony from local, regional, and state officials and economic development stakeholders regarding barriers and obstacles impacting the ability to effectively market facilities either currently or previously under the control of the RACER Trust; and

Whereas, though representatives were present to testify, the representatives were not parties to nor directly privy to the process of negotiations between the RACER Trust, Industrial Realty Group, the Department of Economic Development, the Caddo Parish Commission, and the Caddo Parish Industrial Development Board; and

Whereas, the RACER Trust's commitment of the former GM-Shreveport plant to Industrial Realty Group and Elio Motors is a matter of vital concern regarding the economic development in this state, not solely due to the lack of automobile manufacturing on behalf of Elio Motors, but because prior to this divestment, in a letter dated November 14, 2013, the Department of Economic Development and the North Louisiana Economic Partnership expressed concern to the RACER Trust regarding the transaction; and

Whereas, despite the value of the assets encompassed within the former GM-Shreveport plant, the RACER Trust is believed to have provided the Caddo Parish Commission with only the following two options in consideration for the eventual fate of the former GM-Shreveport plant:

(1) Committal of the former GM-Shreveport plant to Industrial Realty Group.

(2) Complete demolition of the plant; and

Whereas, it is a matter of state interest and concern that the prospect of the former GM-Shreveport plant's demise may have actually been a false threat used as a catalyst to urge the Caddo Parish Commission and other local and state economic development officials to support and commit the former GM-Shreveport plant into the contractual care of Industrial Realty Group and Elio Motors; and

Whereas, the assets of the former GM-Shreveport plant possess great potential to be a source of real opportunity for economic growth and job creation in Louisiana, but although publicly owned, no provisions or mechanisms for federal or local oversight are in place to rectify this agreement made in furtherance of the state's economic development that has not materialized to provide an economic benefit to this state; and

Whereas, in light of the dire circumstances surrounding the former GM-Shreveport plant, the state is compelled, and requests the United States Congress in its constitutional power, to investigate the process of negotiations which resulted in Industrial Realty Group's and Elio Motors' attainment of the former GM-Shreveport plant, per the recommendation of the federally created RACER Trust: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby memorialize the United States Congress to take such actions as are necessary to investigate the current condition of economic development in the state of Louisiana, relative to the RACER Trust's fulfillment of fiduciary duties concerning the former GM-Shreveport plant and operations; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States of America and to each member of the Louisiana congressional delegation.

POM-102. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland rescinding any and all prior applications by the General Assembly to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution, pursuant to the terms of Article V; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Whereas, The Constitution of the United States has been, since its creation in 1787, the bulwark of American liberty and strength. It was the first written national Charter to clearly set forth the respective duties and powers of the Chief Executive, the Legislature, and the Judiciary, and is the basis of America's checks and balances system of government, assuring the rule of the majority while protecting the rights of the minority. It provides for the peaceful resolution of our basic political disputes and allows for an orderly succession of political leaders without bloodshed or revolution; and

Whereas, Since its ratification, the Constitution has been amended 27 times, each time by the proposal of an amendment by the Congress, often on initial petition by the states and always with subsequent ratification by the requisite number of state legislatures. Despite wrenching debate, political turmoil, and many grave political and economic problems—including the Great Depression—our nation has not had another Constitutional Convention since 1787; and

Whereas, The first Convention was called to make revisions to the Articles of Confederation and decided instead to discard that governmental system altogether and create an entirely new and extremely different one. In recent years, we have heard such diverse proposals as the elimination of portions of the Bill of Rights or granting the President the power to dissolve Congress; and

Whereas, Although historical records maintained by the State and the Library of Congress are incomplete and in some instances unclear as to the final disposition of legislation proposed by the General Assembly to initiate a call to Congress for a Constitutional Convention, it is reported that the Maryland General Assembly has passed several such calls for a Constitutional Convention since the 1930s. These calls include: (1) House Resolution (1939) (unconfirmed) calling for limitations on the federal taxing power; (2) House Joint Resolution 40 (1964) calling for standards concerning the size and boundaries of congressional districts; (3) Senate Joint Resolution 1 (1965) calling for legislative autonomy concerning the apportionment of State legislative bodies; (4) Senate Resolution 47 (1973) (unconfirmed), a memorial from the Senate of Maryland calling for the allowance of school prayer in public schools; and (5) Senate Joint Resolution 4 (1975) calling for a balanced federal budget. It is generally believed that these calls never expire, and current generations are now bound by decisions made in a different time and culture. The need to advance these various policy reforms should be debated anew, and not bind future generations without any consideration; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the General Assembly of Maryland, That this body does hereby rescind, repeal, cancel, void, nullify, and supersede any and all prior applications by the General Assembly to the Congress of the United States of America to call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America, whether or not the calls are confirmed by the historical records maintained by the State or the Library of Congress, pursuant to the terms of Article V thereof, regardless of when and regardless of whether such applications were for a more limited convention to

propose one or more amendments regarding one or more specific subjects and purposes or for a general convention to propose an unlimited number of amendments upon an unlimited number of subjects; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly urges the legislatures of each and every state which has applied to Congress to call a convention for either a general or limited Constitutional Convention to repeal and withdraw such applications; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it further

Resolved, That certified copies of this Joint Resolution be sent by the Secretary of State to:

(1) the Honorable Michael R. Pence, Vice President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, Suite S-212, United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Orrin Hatch, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, 104 Hart Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and the Honorable Paul D. Ryan, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, 1233 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and

(2) the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Benjamin L. Cardin and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Andrew P. Harris, C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger III, John P. Sarbanes, Anthony G. Brown, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, John Delaney, Elijah E. Cummings, and Jamie Raskin, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and

(3) the Honorable David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, 709 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20408; and

(4) the Honorable Julie E. Adams, Secretary of the United States Senate, United States Capitol Building, Suite S-312, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Elizabeth MacDonough, Parliamentarian of the United States Senate, United States Capitol Building, Suite 5-133, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the United States, House of Representatives, Suite H-154, United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and the Honorable Thomas J. Wickham, Jr., Parliamentarian of the United States, House of Representatives, Room H-209, United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, requesting that they publish this Joint Resolution in the Congressional Record and list this application in the official tally of state legislative applications that repeal and withdraw any prior application by a state legislature that calls for the Congress of the United States of America to call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States, pursuant to the terms of Article V thereof, regardless of when and regardless of whether such applications were for a more limited convention to propose one or more amendments regarding one or more specific subjects and purposes or for a general convention to propose an unlimited number of amendments upon an unlimited number of subjects.

POM-103. A joint resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of Maryland rescinding any and all prior applications by the General Assembly to the United States Congress to call a convention to propose amendments to the United States Constitution, pursuant to the terms of Article V, to the Committee on the Judiciary.

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 0003

Whereas, The Constitution of the United States has been, since its creation in 1787, the bulwark of American liberty and strength. It was the first written national Charter to clearly set forth the respective duties and powers of the Chief Executive, the Legislature, and the Judiciary, and is the basis of America's checks and balances system of government, assuring the rule of the majority while protecting the rights of the minority. It provides for the peaceful resolution of our basic political disputes and allows for an orderly succession of political leaders without bloodshed or revolution; and

Whereas, Since its ratification, the Constitution has been amended 27 times, each time by the proposal of an amendment by the Congress, often on initial petition by the states and always with subsequent ratification by the requisite number of state legislatures. Despite wrenching debate, political turmoil, and many grave political and economic problems—including the Great Depression—our nation has not had another Constitutional Convention since 1787; and

Whereas, The first Convention was called to make revisions to the Articles of Confederation and decided instead to discard that governmental system altogether and create an entirely new and extremely different one. In recent years, we have heard such diverse proposals as the elimination of portions of the Bill of Rights or granting the President the power to dissolve Congress; and

Whereas, Although historical records maintained by the State and by the Library of Congress are incomplete and in some instances unclear as to the final disposition of legislation proposed by the General Assembly to initiate a call to Congress for a Constitutional Convention, it is reported that the Maryland General Assembly has passed several such calls for a Constitutional Convention since the 1930s. These calls include: (1) House Resolution (1939) (unconfirmed) calling for limitation on the federal taxing power; (2) House Joint Resolution 40 (1964) calling for standards concerning the size and boundaries of congressional districts; (3) Senate Joint Resolution 1 (1965) calling for legislative autonomy concerning the apportionment of State legislative bodies; (4) Senate Resolution 47 (1973) (unconfirmed), a memorial from the Senate of Maryland calling for the allowance of school prayer in public schools; and (5) Senate Joint Resolution 4 (1975) calling for a balanced federal budget. It is generally believed that these calls never expire, and current generations are now bound by decisions made in a different time and culture. The need to advance these various policy reforms should be debated anew, and not bind future generations without any consideration; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the General Assembly of Maryland, That this body does hereby rescind, repeal, cancel, void, nullify, and supersede any and all prior applications by the General Assembly to the Congress of the United States of America to call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States of America, whether or not the calls are confirmed by the historical records maintained by the State or the Library of Congress, pursuant to the terms of Article V thereof, regardless of when and regardless of whether such applications were for a more limited convention to propose one or more amendments regarding one or more specific subjects and purposes or for a general convention to propose an unlimited number of amendments upon an unlimited number of subjects; and be it further

Resolved, That the General Assembly urges the legislatures of each and every state which has applied to Congress to call a convention for either a general or limited Constitutional Convention to repeal and withdraw such applications; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr., Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Michael E. Busch, Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it further

Resolved, That certified copies of this Joint Resolution be sent by the Secretary of State to:

(1) the Honorable Michael R. Pence, Vice President of the United States, President of the United States Senate, Suite S-212, United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Orrin Hatch, President Pro Tempore of the United States Senate, 104 Hart Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and the Honorable Paul D. Ryan, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, 1233 Longworth House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and

(2) the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Benjamin L. Cardin and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Andrew P. Harris, C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger III, John P. Sarbanes, Anthony G. Brown, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, John Delaney, Elijah E. Cummings, and Jamie Raskin, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and

(3) the Honorable David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States, National Archives and Records Administration, 709 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20408; and

(4) the Honorable Julie E. Adams, Secretary of the United States Senate, United States Capitol Building, Suite S-312, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Elizabeth MacDonough, Parliamentarian of the United States Senate, United States Capitol Building, Suite S-133, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Suite H-154, United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and the Honorable Thomas J. Wickham, Jr., Parliamentarian of the United States House of Representatives, Room H-209, United States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, requesting that they publish this Joint Resolution in the Congressional Record and list this application in the official tally of state legislative applications that repeal and withdraw any prior application by a state legislature that calls for the Congress of the United States of America to call a convention to propose amendments to the Constitution of the United States, pursuant to the terms of Article V thereof, regardless of when and regardless of whether such applications were for a more limited convention to propose one or more amendments regarding one or more specific subjects and purposes or for a general convention to propose an unlimited number of amendments upon an unlimited number of subjects.

POM-104. A resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey opposing action by the President of the United States to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy, to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION NO. 210

Whereas, New Jersey has long been a welcoming home for immigrants from around the world and appreciates the valuable contributions immigrants make to our State and our nation; and

Whereas, New Jersey's immigrant population includes undocumented immigrants who have come to the United States in pursuit of the American dream and to build a better life for themselves and their families, and

Whereas, Many of these families include children who were brought to New Jersey at

a very young age and were raised and educated in the State, and

Whereas, In 2013, the New Jersey Legislature passed Senate Bill No. 2479, informally referred to as the New Jersey Dream Act, to ensure that these children have access to affordable higher education by allowing them to qualify for in-State tuition rates at public institutions of higher education, and

Whereas, The New Jersey Dream Act bill, in its original form, also permitted these students to apply for State student financial aid programs; and

Whereas, Governor Chris Christie conditionally vetoed the New Jersey Dream Act based on his objections to the section of the bill that allowed undocumented students to participate in State student financial aid programs, and asked the Legislature to remove that provision; and

Whereas, The Legislature, in order to provide tuition equality for these students, concurred with the terms of Governor Christie's conditional veto, and

Whereas, Without eligibility for State student financial aid programs, many of these students need to work to afford the cost of a college education, and

Whereas, As a result of Governor Christie's conditional veto and in order to continue their pursuit of higher education, many of these students registered with the federal Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program, a policy implemented under President Barack Obama's Administration. Under DACA, the federal government agreed to exercise its prosecutorial discretion to defer deportation of undocumented immigrants brought to the United States as children and allowed these students to qualify for employment authorization in the United States, and

Whereas, President Donald Trump was sworn into office on January 20, 2017 and is expected to rescind DACA, exposing these students to the threat of immediate deportation, and

Whereas, Such action by President Trump would punish young men and women who followed the proper course of action in registering for DACA so that they could pursue their higher education, and

Whereas, These students have spent their formative years in the United States and know only America as their home, pay taxes and contribute to our economy as hard-working employees, and add rich diversity to our schools through class participation and campus programs; and

Whereas, Rescinding the DACA policy would deprive the State of the many contributions of these students: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, By the General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. This House opposes any action by President Donald Trump to rescind the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policy.

2. This House further urges Governor Chris Christie, given that his conditional veto of the New Jersey Dream Act bill led many of these students to register for DACA, to use all power within his means to urge President Trump to leave DACA intact so that these New Jersey students are not subject to immediate deportation to a country they have never known and so that these students may continue to work and pursue their higher education

3. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State, shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the President and Vice-President of the United States, the Governor of this State, the Majority and Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and Minority

Leader of the United States House of Representatives, and every member of Congress elected from this State.

POM-105. A resolution adopted by the Fish and Game Commission of the State of California supporting the existing four California national marine sanctuaries, their boundaries, and legal protections; strongly and unequivocally supporting the current federal prohibition on new oil or gas drilling in federal waters offshore California; opposing attempts to modify the prohibition, and considering any appropriate actions to maintain the prohibition; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-106. A resolution adopted by the City Council of the City of Lakeport, California urging the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Interior, and the Secretary of Agriculture to protect the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument and the economic, historical, cultural, and ecological values which it provides, and to honor and protect the integrity of all National Monuments as they have been designated by Presidents of the United States since 1906; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

POM-107. A resolution adopted by the Lauderdale Lakes City Commission, Lauderdale Lakes, Florida recommending that the Affordable Care Act be maintained, particularly those provisions regarding pre-existing conditions and coverage for children up to the age of 26 years, for at least a work-in-period of ten (10) years, in order to give the citizens and other covered persons the opportunity to make the necessary adjustments consequent of reduced coverage; to the Committee on Finance.

POM-108. A resolution adopted by the Mayor and City Commission of the City of Miami Beach, Florida opposing the President of the United States's withdrawal of the United States from the Paris Climate Agreement; honoring and upholding the City's commitment to the policies, goals, and standards set forth in the Paris Climate Agreement; reaffirming the City's role as a global urban leader in efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, mitigate the impacts of human activities that contribute to climate change, and enhance resiliency; and respectfully urging Governor Rick Scott and the Florida Legislature to join the growing list of states seeking to meet or exceed the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-109. A resolution adopted by the Lauderdale Lakes City Commission, Lauderdale Lakes, Florida expressing support for the Paris Climate Accord and expressing an intent to symbolically join with other local governments to adopt, honor and uphold the commitments to the goals enshrined in the Paris Climate Accord; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. THUNE, from the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

S. 770. A bill to require the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology to disseminate resources to help reduce small business cybersecurity risks, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-153).

By Mr. GRASSLEY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, with amendments:

S. 705. A bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system

and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BROWN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. HARRIS, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 1784. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to improve the determination of cohort default rates and provide for enhanced civil penalties, to ensure personal liability of owners, officers, and executives of institutions of higher education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MARKEY:

S. 1785. A bill to prohibit the implementation of a policy change to permit small, non-locking knives on passenger aircraft; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 1786. A bill to amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act to enhance the accuracy of credit reporting and provide greater rights to consumers who dispute errors in their credit reports, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. KING):

S. 1787. A bill to reauthorize the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 1788. A bill to encourage companies to expand employee ownership, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROUNDS (for himself, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 1789. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require an annual report on participation in the Transition Assistance Program for members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 102

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 102, a bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to commence proceedings related to the resiliency of critical communications networks during times of emergency, and for other purposes.

S. 194

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 194, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a public health insurance option, and for other purposes.

S. 236

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from North Da-

kota (Ms. HEITKAMP) was added as a cosponsor of S. 236, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 307

At the request of Mrs. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 307, a bill to enhance the database of emergency response capabilities of the Department of Defense.

S. 313

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 313, a bill to clarify that volunteers at a children's consignment event are not employees under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938.

S. 428

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 428, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to authorize States to provide coordinated care to children with complex medical conditions through enhanced pediatric health homes, and for other purposes.

S. 479

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 479, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

S. 568

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 568, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.

S. 609

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 609, a bill to amend the Department of Veterans Affairs Health Care Programs Enhancement Act of 2001 and title 38, United States Code, to require the provision of chiropractic care and services to veterans at all Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers and to expand access to such care and services, and for other purposes.

S. 705

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 705, a bill to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a national criminal history background check system and criminal history review program for certain individuals who, related to their employment, have access to children, the elderly, or individuals with disabilities, and for other purposes.