

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

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. THUNE (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BURR, Mr. ENZI, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. CASSIDY):

S. 2059. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a 90-day period for the determination of whether a MIPS eligible professional or eligible hospital is a meaningful EHR user and to remove the all-or-nothing approach to meaningful use, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. KAINE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. BOOKER, and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 2060. A bill to promote democracy and human rights in Burma, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. NELSON (for himself and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 2061. A bill to further deployment of Next Generation 9-1-1 services to enhance and upgrade the Nation's 9-1-1 systems, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. FLAKE:

S. 2062. A bill to require the Secretary of Agriculture to convey at market value certain National Forest System land in the State of Arizona; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BLUMENTHAL):

S. 2063. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to submit to Congress certain documents relating to the Electronic Health Record Modernization Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. YOUNG, and Ms. BALDWIN):

S. 2064. A bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to include canned, dried, frozen, and pureed fruits and vegetables in the fresh fruit and vegetable program; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. YOUNG (for himself, Mr. NELSON, Mr. HELLER, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 2065. A bill to establish a demonstration program to provide integrated care for Medicare beneficiaries with end-stage renal disease, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. NELSON (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Ms. HARRIS):

S. 2066. A bill to provide housing and Medicaid assistance to families affected by a major disaster, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CRAPO:

S. 2067. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of certain DNA Specimen Provenance Assay clinical diagnostic laboratory tests; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. DAINES):

S. 2068. A bill to discourage litigation against the Forest Service and the Bureau of

Land Management relating to land management projects, to require the Secretary of the Interior to develop a categorical exclusion for covered vegetative management activities carried out to establish or improve habitat for greater sage-grouse and mule deer, to address the forest health crisis on National Forest System land, to expedite and prioritize forest management activities to achieve ecosystem restoration objectives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. 2069. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to clarify the requirements for meeting the definition of the term "employee", and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2070. A bill to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program, and to promote initiatives that will reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with autism; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself and Mr. SCHATZ):

S. 2071. A bill to authorize the temporary entry into the United States of alien crewmen employed on longline fishing vessels originating in Hawaii, to ensure that such aliens receive reasonable wages and working conditions, and to provide for appropriate enforcement and oversight of fishing companies employing such aliens; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. TESTER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. MARKEY):

S. 2072. A bill to amend the Toxic Substances Control Act to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to take action to eliminate human exposure to asbestos, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. BENNET (for himself, Mr. GARDNER, and Mr. THUNE):

S. 2073. A bill to establish a vegetation management pilot program on National Forest System land to better protect utility infrastructure from passing wildfire, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. HOEVEN:

S. 2074. A bill to establish a procedure for the conveyance of certain Federal property around the Jamestown Reservoir in the State of North Dakota, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. Res. 321. A resolution honoring the career of Major General Richard C. Nash and recognizing his service to the United States and the State of Minnesota; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LANKFORD (for himself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. Con. Res. 29. A concurrent resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 236

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) 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. 322

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 322, a bill to protect victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence from emotional and psychological trauma caused by acts of violence or threats of violence against their pets.

S. 497

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 497, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 514

At the request of Mr. PERDUE, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 514, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to provide access to magnetic EEG/EKG-guided resonance therapy to veterans.

S. 620

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 620, a bill to amend the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act to support community college and industry partnerships, and for other purposes.

S. 654

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 654, a bill to revise section 48 of title 18, United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 699

At the request of Mr. MURPHY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 699, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish mental and behavioral health care to certain individuals discharged or released from the active military, naval, or air service under conditions other than honorable, and for other purposes.

S. 783

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 783, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to distribute maternity

care health professionals to health professional shortage areas identified as in need of maternity care health services.

S. 807

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 807, a bill to provide anti-retaliation protections for anti-trust whistleblowers.

S. 833

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 833, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand health care and benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs for military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 992

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 992, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct an independent review of the deaths of certain veterans by suicide, and for other purposes.

S. 1002

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1002, a bill to enhance the ability of community financial institutions to foster economic growth and serve their communities, boost small businesses, increase individual savings, and for other purposes.

S. 1014

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1014, a bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to make grants to eligible organizations to provide service dogs to veterans with severe post-traumatic stress disorder, and for other purposes.

S. 1027

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1027, a bill to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000.

S. 1089

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1089, a bill to require the Secretary of Energy to review and update a report on the energy and environmental benefits of the re-refining of used lubricating oil.

S. 1109

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 1109, a bill to amend title VIII of the Public Health Service Act to extend advanced education nursing grants to support clinical nurse specialist programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1357

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1357, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide a standard definition of therapeutic family care services in Medicaid.

S. 1568

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1568, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of President John F. Kennedy.

S. 1707

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1707, a bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to provide for a standard medical expense deduction under the supplemental nutrition assistance program, and for other purposes.

S. 1977

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) were added as cosponsors of S. 1977, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the 7.5 percent threshold for the medical expense deduction for individuals age 65 or older.

S. 2042

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2042, a bill to authorize a joint action plan and report on drug waste.

S. RES. 315

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 315, a resolution designating November 4, 2017, as National Bison Day.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 2070. A bill to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program, and to promote initiatives that will reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with autism; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today Senators KLOBUCHAR, TILLIS,

SCHUMER, DURBIN and I will introduce legislation to help America's families locate missing loved ones who have Alzheimer's disease, autism or related conditions that may cause them to wander. Congressman CHRIS SMITH will introduce a virtually identical companion bill in the House of Representatives today as well.

Our bill, which was introduced for the first time in the 114th Congress, extends an existing program that helps locate individuals with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. It also adds new support for people with autism.

We have named the legislation in honor of two boys with autism who perished because their condition caused them to wander. One of these children, nine-year-old Kevin Curtis Wills, slipped into Iowa's Raccoon River near a park and tragically drowned in 2008. The other, 14-year-old Ayonte Oquendo, wandered away from his school and drowned in New York City's East River a few years ago.

Theirs are not isolated cases. Just a few months ago, a four year-old with autism drowned in a pool after wandering away from her caretakers. We've all read or heard the heartbreaking stories of families frantically trying to locate a missing loved one whose condition caused him or her to wander off.

Our bill will give communities the tools they need to help locate people with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia as well as children with autism spectrum disorders who wander away from their families or caregivers and into dangerous situations.

My home State of Iowa has the fifth highest Alzheimer's death rate in America and we have about 63,000 Iowans living with the disease, according to the Alzheimer's Association. Additionally, the CDC identified 1 in 68 children across the country as having autism spectrum disorders. In Iowa alone, about 8,000 individuals have been diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders.

This bill will make resources available to equip first responders, law enforcement officials, and other community leaders with the training and tools necessary to better prevent and respond to these cases as soon as possible. With better information sharing, communities can play a central role in reuniting autistic children and other individuals who wander with their families.

Finally, the bill will ensure that local law enforcement agencies and nonprofits that educate and train people on how to proactively prevent and locate missing individuals who wander are eligible for grants from the U.S. Department of Justice. These grants will facilitate the development of training and emergency protocols for