

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1336. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize hydroelectric production incentives and hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentives, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 115-250).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment:

S. 1457. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to direct the Secretary of Energy to carry out demonstration projects relating to advanced nuclear reactor technologies to support domestic energy needs (Rept. No. 115-251).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, without amendment:

S. 1799. A bill to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to facilitate the commercialization of energy and related technologies developed at Department of Energy facilities with promising commercial potential (Rept. No. 115-252).

By Ms. MURKOWSKI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute:

H.R. 1109. A bill to amend section 203 of the Federal Power Act (Rept. No. 115-253).

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. MARKEY:

S. 2886. A bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to reinstate the ban on the export of crude oil and natural gas produced in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN):

S. 2887. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for the establishment and operation of reserve component cyber civil support teams, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2888. A bill to amend Title VII of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs that support interprofessional geriatric education, training, and advance research to develop a geriatric-capable workforce, improving health outcomes for a growing and diverse aging American population and their families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. JONES):

S. 2889. A bill to establish the Medgar Evers National Monument in the State of Mississippi, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself, Mr. KING, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 2890. A bill to improve the prosecution of criminal offenses committed by juveniles on military installations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. CASEY, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BURR, Mr. NELSON, Mr. TILLIS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. JONES, Ms. WARREN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. Res. 517. A resolution designating May 2018 as "Older Americans Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HELLER:

S. Res. 518. A resolution reaffirming support for increased media diversity, recognizing May 2018 as "National Media Diversity Month", and encouraging appreciation, awareness, and support for independent, diverse, and local media entities; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 266

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

S. 428

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) were added as cosponsors 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. 548

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 548, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the low-income housing credit, and for other purposes.

S. 774

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 774, a bill to address the psychological, developmental, social, and emotional needs of children, youth, and families who have experienced trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 802

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 802, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal in honor of Lawrence Eugene "Larry" Doby in recognition of his achievements and contributions to American major league athletics, civil rights, and the Armed Forces during World War II.

S. 808

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota

(Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 808, a bill to provide protections for certain sports medicine professionals who provide certain medical services in a secondary State.

S. 915

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 915, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1112

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1112, a bill to support States in their work to save and sustain the health of mothers during pregnancy, childbirth, and in the postpartum period, to eliminate disparities in maternal health outcomes for pregnancy-related and pregnancy-associated deaths, to identify solutions to improve health care quality and health outcomes for mothers, and for other purposes.

S. 1238

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1238, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase and make permanent the exclusion for benefits provided to volunteer firefighters and emergency medical responders.

S. 1270

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1270, a bill to direct the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy to carry out programs and activities to ensure that Federal science agencies and institutions of higher education receiving Federal research and development funding are fully engaging their entire talent pool, and for other purposes.

S. 1347

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1347, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prevent catastrophic out-of-pocket spending on prescription drugs for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

S. 1352

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1352, a bill to establish a tax credit for on-site apprenticeship programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1580

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1580, a bill to enhance the transparency, improve the coordination, and intensify the impact of assistance to support access to primary and secondary education for displaced children and persons, including women and girls, and for other purposes.

S. 1589

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1589, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and the Small Business Act to expand the availability of employee stock ownership plans in S corporations, and for other purposes.

S. 1996

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1996, a bill to require Federal agencies to address environmental justice, to require consideration of cumulative impacts in certain permitting decisions, and for other purposes.

S. 2208

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2208, a bill to provide for the issuance of an Alzheimer's Disease Research Semipostal Stamp.

S. 2364

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2364, a bill to amend the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 to provide to State infrastructure financing authorities additional opportunities to receive loans under that Act to support drinking water and clean water State revolving funds to deliver water infrastructure to communities across the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2372

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. JONES) were added as cosponsors of S. 2372, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide outer burial receptacles for remains buried in National Parks, and for other purposes.

S. 2379

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2379, a bill to improve and expand authorities, programs, services, and benefits for military spouses and military families, and for other purposes.

S. 2415

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2415, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to streamline enrollment of certain Medicaid providers and suppliers across State lines, and for other purposes.

S. 2418

At the request of Ms. HASSAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2418, a bill to direct the Federal Communications Commission to promulgate regulations that establish

a national standard for determining whether mobile and broadband services available in rural areas are reasonably comparable to those services provided in urban areas.

S. 2494

At the request of Ms. BALDWIN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2494, a bill to provide standards for short-term limited duration health insurance policies.

S. 2497

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2497, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Arms Export Control Act to make improvements to certain defense and security assistance provisions and to authorize the appropriations of funds to Israel, and for other purposes.

S. 2506

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2506, a bill to establish an aviation maintenance workforce development pilot program.

S. 2559

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 2559, a bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to implement the Marrakesh Treaty, and for other purposes.

S. 2567

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2567, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to enhance the national strategy for combating and eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

S. 2591

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2591, a bill to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration.

S. 2602

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2602, a bill to support carbon dioxide utilization and direct air capture research, to facilitate the permitting and development of carbon capture, utilization, and sequestration projects and carbon dioxide pipelines, and for other purposes.

S. 2652

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2652, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Stephen Michael Gleason.

S. 2724

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. HARRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2724, a bill to reform the use of solitary confinement and other forms of restrictive housing in the Bureau of Prisons, and for other purposes.

S. 2736

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2736, a bill to develop a long-term strategic vision and a comprehensive, multifaceted, and principled United States policy for the Indo-Pacific region, and for other purposes.

S. 2787

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2787, a bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to clarify and expand food donation under the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act, and for other purposes.

S. 2800

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2800, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2810

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2810, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to establish an efficient system to enable employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, and for other purposes.

S. 2823

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH), the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) and the Senator from Nevada (Ms. CORTEZ MASTO) were added as cosponsors of S. 2823, a bill to modernize copyright law, and for other purposes.

S. 2835

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2835, a bill to require a study of the well-being of the newsprint and publishing industry in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2842

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2842, a bill to prohibit the marketing of bogus opioid treatment programs or products.

S. RES. 319

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee

(Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 319, a resolution supporting the goals, activities, and ideals of Prematurity Awareness Month.

S. RES. 383

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 383, a resolution expressing support for the designation of a “Women’s Health Research Day”.

S. RES. 414

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 414, a resolution condemning the continued undemocratic measures by the Government of Venezuela to undermine the independence of democratic institutions and calling for a free and fair electoral process.

S. RES. 502

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 502, a resolution supporting robust relations with the State of Israel bilaterally and in multilateral fora upon seventy years of statehood, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. CASEY):

S. 2888. A bill to amend Title VII of the Public Health Service Act to reauthorize programs that support inter-professional geriatric education, training, and advance research to develop a geriatric-capable workforce, improving health outcomes for a growing and diverse aging American population and their families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation, with my colleague from Pennsylvania, Senator CASEY, that would reauthorize the only federally funded programs specifically designed to develop a health provider workforce to care for older Americans. The Geriatrics Workforce Improvement Act would reauthorize the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program, known as GWEP, and also reinstate the Geriatric Academic Career Awards program, known as GACA.

The number of Americans aged 65 and older is growing rapidly. In Maine, we are reaching an aging milestone faster than other States—by 2020, the number of seniors is projected to outnumber children. This is 15 years ahead the national projected date of 2035, at which point the number of Americans 65 and older will outnumber those under age 18 for the first time in U.S. history.

The United States is facing a critical shortage of geriatric health professionals and direct service workers to support our aging population. Today, we need 20,000 geriatricians; however, fewer than 7,300 of our Nation’s nearly one million physicians are board-certified geriatricians. By 2030, we will

need 31,000 geriatricians and even more geriatric health professionals and direct service workers. We need to train 1,600 geriatricians per year over the next 12 years to reach the targeted need by 2030.

As many as 90 percent of older adults are expected to have one or more chronic health conditions. Multiple chronic conditions, multiple medications, and changes that occur in aging make caring for older adults complex and challenging, yet also rewarding to healthcare professionals who choose this specialty. In any given year, it is expected that 30 percent of older adults and their families will require specialized geriatric care.

Today there are 44 geriatric workforce enhancement programs or GWEPs in 29 states. GWEP sites include 25 schools of medicine, ten schools of nursing, five healthcare facilities, two schools of allied health, a school of social work, and a certified nurse assistant program. GWEPs have the flexibility to tailor training in geriatrics to the unique needs of their own communities.

GWEP programs focus on Geriatric Education by:

1. Changing clinical training environments so that geriatrics is integrated into primary care delivery systems;
2. Training providers to assess and address the needs of older adults, their families, and caregivers at multiple levels within their communities;
3. Delivering community-based programs for patients, families and caregivers; and
4. Providing Alzheimer’s disease education for families and caregivers, including direct care workers and other providers.

In 2016, the 44 GWEPs produced significant outcomes. They provided continuing education courses to 94,000 practicing public health professionals, from disciplines such as medicine, nursing, allied health, health services administration, social work, and psychology. They have also created opportunities for healthcare providers in rural and underserved areas to learn from and consult with top experts in geriatric care through tele-consults, and educational webcasts, as well as online geriatric education programs that are publicly available and accessible online, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for free.

GACA programs focus on Resource Optimization. Established in 1998, GACA programs were funded to increase the number of faculty engaged in geriatric education. Transitioning from clinical training and practice into an academic faculty role is particularly challenging, and requires gaining new skills as an educator. These skills are not typically taught in clinical training programs.

Following a restructuring of the geriatric workforce program, GACA has gone unfunded since 2015. GACA would be reauthorized as a stand-alone resource within our legislation in order

to optimize future growth and stability of early-career geriatric faculty. GACA supports early career development for emerging leaders by providing funding that supports 50 percent of their effort to develop skills as an inter-professional educator in geriatrics.

The Geriatrics Workforce Improvement Act would reauthorize the GWEP program at \$45 million per year over the next five years, and reinstate GACA at \$6 million per year. Together, these programs would train the current workforce and family caregivers, while simultaneously developing a cadre of emerging leaders in geriatric education, in a variety of disciplines. By doing both, we will assure that older Americans will be cared for by a health care workforce specifically trained to meet their unique and complex health needs for decades to come. This training to use the most efficient and effective methods for older adults will result in improved care while saving valuable resources, and reducing unnecessary costs.

Exposure to geriatrics, particularly through pre-clinical and clinical education, has been identified as an important factor for increasing interest in the field. This exposure provides faculty the opportunities needed to demonstrate the specialty is a viable, complex, yet rewarding specialty. The Geriatrics Workforce Improvement Act would provide these critical platforms by creating the infrastructure needed to attract the best and the brightest into the field of geriatrics.

This legislation already has broad support. I ask to enter into the record a letter of support from the National Association for Geriatric Education and the National Association of Geriatric Education Centers.

Mr. President, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation that would ensure geriatric education for our current workforce, while optimizing resources to bolster academic careers in geriatrics. Together, GWEP and GACA would develop a high-quality geriatric workforce ready to provide care for Americans as we grow older.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR GERIATRIC EDUCATION, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GERIATRIC EDUCATION CENTERS,

May 21, 2018.

Hon. SUSAN COLLINS,
Chair, Special Committee on Aging,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. BOB CASEY,
Ranking Member, Special Committee on Aging,
U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN COLLINS AND RANKING MEMBER CASEY: On behalf of the HRSA Title VII and Title VIII funded Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Programs (GWEPs) across the country, thank you for your past support of geriatric education and for introducing the Geriatrics Workforce Improvement Act. The National Association for Geriatric Education (NAGE) is pleased to offer our support for this important legislation, which will reauthorize the GWEP and once again make the Geriatrics Academic Career Award program (GACA) a part of the effort