

S. 3051

At the request of Mr. HOEVEN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3051, a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish a working group to study regulatory and legislative improvements for the livestock, insect, and agricultural commodities transport industries, and for other purposes.

S. 3057

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3057, a bill to provide for the processing by U.S. Customs and Border Protection of certain international mail shipments and to require the provision of advance electronic information on international mail shipments of mail.

S. RES. 168

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 168, a resolution supporting respect for human rights and encouraging inclusive governance in Ethiopia.

S. RES. 522

At the request of Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 522, a resolution designating the week of September 23 through September 29, 2018 as "Gold Star Families Remembrance Week".

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 551—EX-PRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF JUNE 18 THROUGH JUNE 22, 2018, AS NATIONAL GI BILL COMMEMORATION WEEK

Mr. CARPER (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. NELSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs:

S. RES. 551

Whereas, on June 22, 1944, in demonstration of the full support of the United States for the transition of members of the Armed Forces to civilian life, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 (58 Stat. 284), more commonly known as the "G.I. Bill of Rights";

Whereas such Act made available to 16,000,000 veterans who served in the Armed Forces during World War II immediate financial support and transformational education and home loan programs;

Whereas such Act contributed 450,000 engineers, 240,000 accountants, 238,000 teachers, 91,000 scientists, 67,000 doctors, 122,000 dentists, 17,000 writers and editors, and thousands of other professionals to the workforce of the United States;

Whereas this combination of opportunities changed the social and economic fabric of

the United States, with a 1988 report from the Subcommittee on Education and Health of the Joint Economic Committee of Congress concluding that for every \$1 the United States invested in such Act, \$6.90 was returned in growth to the economy of the United States;

Whereas such Act expressed the duty, responsibility, and desire of a grateful United States to see to it that those who served on active duty in the Armed Forces are afforded every opportunity to become disciplined forces for United States prosperity and progress, through economic opportunity and investment;

Whereas Congress enacted subsequent Acts to provide educational assistance to new generations of veterans, including the Veterans' Readjustment Benefits Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-358), the Post-Vietnam Era Veterans' Educational Assistance Act of 1977 (Public Law 94-502), the Veterans' Educational Assistance Act of 1984 (Public Law 98-525), and the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-252).

Whereas the week of June 18 through June 22, 2018, is an appropriate week to designate as "National GI Bill Commemoration Week": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the achievements of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944 (58 Stat. 284) in democratizing higher education, establishing greater citizenship through economic empowerment, and empowering a generation that would serve for decades to guide the transformation of the United States into a global force for good; and

(2) affirms Congress' responsibility to be faithful stewards of educational assistance provided under laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to ensure that such assistance endures as an honorable investment of public dollars.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2916. Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. DAINES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2917. Mr. CASSIDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2918. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2919. Mr. WHITEHOUSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2920. Mr. CARPER (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra.

SA 2921. Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2922. Ms. BALDWIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2923. Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. JONES) submitted an amendment intended to

be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2924. Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. COTTON, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2925. Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Mr. SCHATZ) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2926. Mr. YOUNG (for himself and Mr. DONNELLY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2927. Mrs. MURRAY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2928. Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Ms. BALDWIN, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2929. Mr. JONES (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. NELSON, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2930. Ms. BALDWIN (for herself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2931. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2932. Mr. TESTER (for himself, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. MURPHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2933. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2934. Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BROWN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2935. Mr. TESTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2936. Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2937. Mr. HOEVEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2938. Mrs. ERNST (for herself and Mr. LANKFORD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2939. Mr. WHITEHOUSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.



SA 2993. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2994. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2995. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2996. Mr. WARNER (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2997. Mr. BROWN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2998. Mr. HEINRICH (for himself and Mr. UDALL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2999. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3000. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3001. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3002. Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3003. Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. MANCHIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3004. Mr. TOOMEY (for himself and Mr. YOUNG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 2916.** Mr. CASSIDY (for himself and Mr. DAINES) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title II of division C, add the following:

**SEC. 2. PUBLICATION OF QUALITY RATING OF NURSING HOMES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not less frequently than annually thereafter, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall publish in the Federal Register and on a publicly available Internet website of the Department of Veterans Affairs the rating with respect to quality of care assigned by the Department to each nursing home of the Department.

**SA 2917.** Mr. CASSIDY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to

amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title II of division C, add the following:

**SEC. 2. PILOT PROGRAM ON SECURE, PATIENT-CENTERED, PORTABLE MEDICAL RECORDS STORAGE SYSTEM OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

(a) **PILOT PROGRAM.**—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall commence a pilot program under which veterans who are enrolled in the patient enrollment system of the Department of Veterans Affairs under section 1705 of title 38, United States Code, use a portable medical records storage system described in subsection (e) to store and share with health care providers of the Department and community health care providers records of their individual medical history.

(b) **SELECTION OF LOCATIONS.**—The Secretary shall select not less than one Veterans Integrated Services Network of the Department in which to carry out the pilot program under subsection (a).

(c) **CONTRACTS.**—

(1) **AUTHORITY.**—The Secretary shall seek to enter into a contract using competitive procedures with an appropriate entity for the provision of the medical records storage system described in subsection (e).

(2) **NOTICE OF COMPETITION.**—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue a request for proposals for the contract described in paragraph (1). Such request shall be full and open to any contractor that has an existing commercially available medical records storage capability described in subsection (e).

(3) **SELECTION.**—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall award a contract to an offeror pursuant to the request for proposals under paragraph (2) if at least one acceptable offer is submitted.

(d) **DURATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall carry out the pilot program under this section for a period of not less than one year.

(2) **AFTER INITIAL PERIOD.**—After carrying out the pilot program for one year, the Secretary may terminate the program, continue the program, expand the program to include additional locations, or implement the use of portable medical records storage systems on a national basis.

(e) **REQUIREMENTS OF PORTABLE MEDICAL RECORDS STORAGE SYSTEM.**—A medical records storage system described in this subsection is a physical device that meets the following requirements:

(1) Capability to store not less than four gigabytes of electronic health records on a physical device, which is not larger than the dimensions of a credit card, issued to each veteran enrolled in the pilot program.

(2) Capability to be used by substantially all electronic health records systems certified by the Office of the National Coordinator for Health IT on or before January 1, 2017.

(3) Capability to limit access to electronic health records stored on each device to the patient and health care providers.

(4) Capability for health care providers to securely access, annotate, and add electronic health records to the physical device, including in instances in which the health care provider is not in possession of the physical storage device.

(5) Requirement that all electronic health records transferred from a health care provider over the internet to the physical storage device be encrypted.

(6) Requirement that the portable medical records system can operate without persistent storage of any electronic health records on the internet or within a cloud computing repository.

(7) Capability to provide a replacement device containing up-to-date electronic health records if the original physical storage device has been removed from the owner's possession or otherwise rendered inoperable.

(f) **DEFINITIONS.**—In this section:

(1) **DIMENSIONS OF A CREDIT CARD.**—The term “dimensions of a credit card” means three and three-eighths inches in width, two and one-eighth inches in length, and five-one hundred twenty-eighths of one inch in depth.

(2) **ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORDS.**—The term “electronic health records” means electronic documentation of physicians' notes, electronic viewing of lab test results, diagnostic images and video, clinical decision support, and interoperability with other systems.

(g) **PROHIBITION ON NEW APPROPRIATIONS.**—No additional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the requirements of this section. Such requirements shall be carried out using amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

**SA 2918.** Mr. BENNET submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2910 proposed by Mr. SHELBY to the bill H.R. 5895, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title II of division C, add the following:

**SEC. 2. CARE FOR SPOUSES OF VETERANS AT CERTAIN STATE HOMES FOR WHICH PAYMENT IS MADE BY THE SECRETARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—If a State home for which payment is made by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs under subchapter V of chapter 17 of title 38, United States Code, is below 90 percent occupancy, the State home may provide care to spouses of veterans such that the percentage of individuals receiving care at the State home who are veterans is not less than 60 percent.

(b) **APPLICATION FOR CONSTRUCTION OR ACQUISITION.**—Section 8135(a)(4) of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking “Reasonable assurance” and inserting “(A) Reasonable assurance”;

(2) by inserting “, except as provided in subparagraph (B),” after “and that”;

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

“(B) Reasonable assurance that, for purposes of providing care to spouses of veterans, during a period in which a facility is operating with a bed occupancy rate of 90 percent or less, not more than 40 percent of the bed occupancy at any one time will consist of patients who are not receiving such level of care as veterans.”

(c) **STATE HOME DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “State home” has the meaning given that term in section 101 of title 38, United States Code.

**SA 2919.** Mr. WHITEHOUSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5895, making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes;