

the bankruptcy process by both consumers and corporations. Unfortunately, the Senate leadership chose to go down a different road.

Because of unforeseen and unavoidable circumstances, I will not be present when the Senate votes on final passage of this bill today. But were I able to be here, I would vote no, because this bill is clearly not in the best interests of the American people.●

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. DOMENICI, from the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, with amendments:

S. 263. A bill to provide for the protection of paleontological resources on Federal lands, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 109-36).

By Mr. GREGG, from the Committee on the Budget, without amendment:

S. Con. Res. 18. An original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2005 and 2007 through 2010.

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 Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BAUCUS, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 603. A bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act to assure meaningful disclosures of the terms of rental-purchase agreements, including disclosures of all costs to consumers under such agreements, to provide certain substantive rights to consumers under such agreements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BURR, Mr. DURBIN, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 604. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize expansion of medicare coverage of medical nutrition therapy services; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 605. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the phaseout of personal exemptions and the overall limitation on itemized deductions, and to create a trust fund for the funding of education programs; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. BOND):

S. 606. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to eliminate methyl tertiary butyl ether from the United States fuel supply, to increase production and use of renewable fuel, and to increase the Nation's energy independence, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 607. A bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to early retirement benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 608. A bill to create an independent office in the Department of Labor to advocate on behalf of pension participants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BROWBACK (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 609. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the provision of scientifically sound information and support services to patients receiving a positive test diagnosis for Down syndrome or other prenatally diagnosed conditions; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TALENT (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HAGEL, and Mr. BOND):

S. 610. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for a small agribiodiesel producer credit and to improve the small ethanol producer credit; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. GREGG:

S. Con. Res. 18. An original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2006 and including the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2005 and 2007 through 2010; from the Committee on the Budget; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Nebraska):

S. Con. Res. 19. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress regarding the importance of life insurance and recognizing and supporting National Life Insurance Awareness Month; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 132

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 132, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for premiums on mortgage insurance.

S. 328

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 328, a bill to facilitate the sale of United States agricultural products to Cuba, as authorized by the Trade Sanctions Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000.

S. 359

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 359, a bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain foreign agricultural workers, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to reform the H-2A worker program under that Act, to provide a stable, legal agricultural workforce, to extend basic legal protections and better working conditions to more workers, and for other purposes.

S. 380

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 380, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a State family support grant program to end the practice of parents giving legal custody of their seriously emotionally disturbed children to State agencies for the purpose of obtaining mental health services for those children.

S. 445

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 445, a resolution to amend part D of title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as added by the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003, to provide for negotiation of fair prices for Medicare prescription drugs.

S. 471

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 471, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for human embryonic stem cell research.

S. 578

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 578, a bill to better manage the national instant criminal background check system and terrorism matches.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BAUCUS, Mrs. LINCOLN, and Mr. SHELBY):

S. 603. A bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act to assure meaningful disclosures of the terms of rental-purchase agreements, including disclosures of all costs to consumers under such agreements, to provide certain substantive rights to consumers under such agreements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 603

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Consumer Rental-Purchase Agreement Act of 2005".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND DECLARATION OF PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the rental-purchase industry provides a service that meets and satisfies the demands of many consumers;

(2) each year, approximately 2,300,000 United States households enter into rental-