

resulting from catastrophic events. The risk of catastrophes must be addressed through a public-private partnership involving individuals, private industry, local and state governments, and the Federal Government. A national catastrophe insurance program is necessary to promote personal responsibility among policyholders; support strong building codes, development plans, and other mitigation tools; maximize the risk-bearing capacity of the private markets; and provide quantifiable risk management through the Federal Government. The program should encompass:

(a) Providing consumers with a private market residential insurance program that provides all-perils protection.

(b) Promoting personal responsibility through mitigation; promoting the retrofitting of existing housing stock; providing individuals with the ability to manage their own disaster savings accounts that, similar to health savings accounts, accumulate on a tax-advantaged basis for the purpose of paying for mitigation enhancements and catastrophic losses; and providing personal income tax deductions for mitigation expenses.

(c) Creating tax-deferred insurance company catastrophe reserves to benefit policyholders. These tax-deferred reserves would build up over time and only be eligible to be used to pay for future catastrophic losses.

(d) Enhancing local and state government's role in establishing and maintaining effective building codes, mitigation education, and land use management; promoting state emergency management, preparedness, and response; and creating state or multistate regional catastrophic risk financing mechanisms such as the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund.

(e) Creating a national catastrophe financing mechanism that would provide a quantifiable level of risk management and financing for mega-catastrophes; maximizing the risk-bearing capacity of the private markets; and allowing for aggregate risk pooling of natural disasters funded through sound risk-based premiums paid in correct proportion by all policyholders in the United States.

(2) That the Legislature urges the Congress to participate in a federal/state issues summit in this state to discuss and develop policy positions on current and emerging issues of state importance that are likely to be considered by Congress to build better working relationships in order to mutually accomplish goals of benefit to Floridians.

(3) That the Legislature urges Congress to provide federal tax exemptions for:

(a) Catastrophe premium equalization deductions charged and held by the state in a segregated account for the benefit of insurers for use in the event of a catastrophe.

(b) The Florida Property and Casualty Joint Underwriting Association.

(4) That the Legislature urges Congress to provide a federal income tax deduction for residential property insurance premiums paid by consumers to offset the dramatic cost of property insurance.

(5) That the Legislature urges Congress to support the National Hurricane Research Initiative, which is intended to foster a better understanding of hurricane prediction, intensity, and mitigation on coastal populations, infrastructure, and the natural environment.

Be it further resolved, That copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

POM-19. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Com-

missioners relative to urging the Legislature of the State of Florida, the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation, and the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation to develop and implement rating systems for homeowners insurance; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

POM-20. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners relative to urging the Legislature of the State of Florida to prohibit the use of cellular telephones while driving in a school zone at times when reduced speeds are in effect; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

POM-21. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners relative to urging the Legislature of the State of Florida to pass legislation providing a sales tax rebate or similar benefit related to the construction of a public-owned stadium for a Major League Baseball franchise; to the Committee on Finance.

POM-22. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners relative to urging the Legislature of the State of Florida to acknowledge the crisis that now exists related to Florida jails and mentally ill inmates; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

POM-23. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners relative to urging Congress and the Legislature of the State of Florida to add crimes against the homeless to existing hate crimes statutes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

POM-24. A resolution adopted by the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners relative to urging Congress to reinstate the Federal Assault Weapons Ban; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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. DEMINT (for himself and Mr. MARTINEZ):

S. 869. A bill to reform certain provisions of section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to make compliance with that section more efficient, with the goal of maintaining United States capital market global competitiveness; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 870. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the consolidated coverage of home infusion therapy under part B of the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. BUNNING, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. WARNER):

S. 871. A bill to establish and provide for the treatment of Individual Development Accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. COLEMAN):

S. 872. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the excise tax provisions and income tax credit for biodiesel; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER:

S. 873. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax incentive to individuals teaching in elementary and secondary schools located in rural or high unemployment areas and to individuals who achieve certification from the National

Board for Professional Teaching Standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BURR:

S. 874. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a financial assistance program to facilitate the provision of supportive services for very low-income veteran families in permanent housing, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. DORGAN (for himself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 875. A bill to improve energy security of the United States through a 50 percent reduction in the oil intensity of the economy of the United States by 2030 and the prudent expansion of secure oil supplies, to be achieved by raising the fuel efficiency of the vehicular transportation fleet, increasing the availability of alternative fuel sources, fostering responsible oil exploration and production, and improving international arrangements to secure the global oil supply, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MARTINEZ:

S. 876. A bill to exclude from admission to the United States aliens who have made investments contributing to the enhancement of the ability of Cuba to develop its petroleum resources, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 877. A bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to add human growth hormone to schedule III, to prohibit the sale of prescriptions for controlled substances for illegitimate purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KOHL (for himself and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 878. A bill to prevent anti-competitive mergers and acquisitions in the oil and gas industry; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KOHL (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. FEINGOLD, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. COBURN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 879. A bill to amend the Sherman Act to make oil-producing and exporting cartels illegal; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. BYRD and Mr. INOUE):

S. 880. A bill to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to provide for 8 weeks of paid leave for Senate employees giving birth, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. SMITH):

S. 881. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. CASEY):

S. 882. A bill to require a pilot program on the facilitation of the transition of members of the Armed Forces to receipt of veterans health care benefits upon completion of military service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 883. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to extend loan forgiveness for certain loans to Head Start teachers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 884. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act regarding residential treatment

programs for pregnant and parenting women, a program to reduce substance abuse among nonviolent offenders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ISAKSON:

S. 885. A bill to ensure and foster continued patient safety and quality of care by making the antitrust laws apply to negotiations between groups of independent pharmacies and health plans and health insurance issuers in the same manner as such laws apply to collective bargaining by labor organizations under the National Labor Relations Act; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 886. A bill to amend chapter 22 of title 44, United States Code, popularly known as the Presidential Records Act, to establish procedures for the consideration of claims of constitutionally based privilege against disclosure of Presidential records; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 887. A bill to restore import and entry agricultural inspection functions to the Department of Agriculture; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 105. A resolution designating September 2007 as "Campus Fire Safety Month"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. COLEMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. DODD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. REED, Mr. ALLARD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. BROWN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. Res. 106. A resolution calling on the President to ensure that the foreign policy of the United States reflects appropriate understanding and sensitivity concerning issues related to human rights, ethnic cleansing, and genocide documented in the United States record relating to the Armenian Genocide; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. Con. Res. 19. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress on the nuclear program of Iran; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 5

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for human embryonic stem cell research.

S. 26

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S.

26, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a program demonstrating multiple approaches to Lifelong Learning Accounts, which are portable, worker-owned savings accounts that can be used by workers to help finance education, training, and apprenticeships and which are intended to supplement both public and employer-provided education and training resources, and for other purposes.

S. 80

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 80, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for 8 weeks of paid leave for Federal employees giving birth and for other purposes.

S. 93

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 93, a bill to authorize NTIA to borrow against anticipated receipts of the Digital Television and Public Safety Fund to initiate migration to a national IP-enabled emergency network capable of receiving and responding to all citizen activated emergency communications.

S. 185

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 185, a bill to restore habeas corpus for those detained by the United States.

S. 214

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 214, a bill to amend chapter 35 of title 28, United States Code, to preserve the independence of United States attorneys.

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 214, *supra*.

S. 223

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

S. 231

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 231, a bill to authorize the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program at fiscal year 2006 levels through 2012.

S. 294

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 294, a bill to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes.

S. 340

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 340, a bill to improve agricultural job opportunities, benefits, and

security for aliens in the United States and for other purposes.

S. 469

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 469, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 487

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 487, a bill to amend the National Organ Transplant Act to clarify that kidney paired donations shall not be considered to involve the transfer of a human organ for valuable consideration.

S. 500

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 500, a bill to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of the National Museum of the American Latino to develop a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Museum of the American Latino in Washington, DC, and for other purposes.

S. 516

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 516, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the option of including combat pay when computing earned income.

S. 545

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 545, a bill to improve consumer access to passenger vehicle loss data held by insurers.

S. 597

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years.

S. 624

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 624, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide waivers relating to grants for preventive health measures with respect to breast and cervical cancers.

S. 644

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 644, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recodify as part of that title certain educational assistance programs for members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces, to