S. 113. A bill to facilitate the provision of care and services for members of the Armed Forces for traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

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

S. 114. A bill to reiterate the exclusivity of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978 as the sole authority to permit the conduct of electronic surveillance, to modernize surveillance authorities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. AKAKA, Ms. MURkowski, and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 115. A bill to promote the efficient use of oil, natural gas, and electricity, reduce oil consumption, and heighten energy efficiency standards for consumer products and industrial equipment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DOMENICI, and Mr. THOMAS):

S. 116. A bill to facilitate the use for irrigation and other purposes of water produced in connection with development of energy resources; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BOND (for himself and Mr. DODD):

S. 117. A bill to establish a grant program to provide vision care to children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 118. A bill to improve the energy security of the United States by raising average fuel economy standards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 119. A bill to extend the time for filing certain claims under the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. WEBB, Mr. REID, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BROWN, Mr. BROWN-BRINER, Mr. BURR, Mr. BYRD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COBURN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CHAO, Mr. DeMINT, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. ENSNIO, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. Harkin, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUYE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Ms. KOLOBuchar, Mr. Kyl, Ms. LANDRETH, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. MCCAUIKIL, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MIRKULSI, Ms. MURkowskI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. PERRY, Mr. REED, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SHEPHERD, Ms. SMITH, Mr. SMITH, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. TESTER, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VRONIKOS, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. Res. 149. A resolution expressing the condolences of the Senate on the tragic events at Virginia Tech University; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 22

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 22, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a program of educational assistance for members of the Armed Forces who serve in the Armed Forces after September 11, 2001, and for other purposes.

S. 117

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. Tester) was added as a cosponsor of S. 117, a bill to amend titles 10 and 38, United States Code, to improve benefits and services for members of the Armed Forces, veterans of the Global War on Terrorism, and other veterans, to require reports on the effects of the Global War on Terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 211

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, a bill to facilitate nationwide availability of 2-1-1 telephone service for information and referral on human services, volunteer services, and for other purposes.

S. 231

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 231, a bill to authorize the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program at fiscal year 2006 levels through 2012.

S. 311

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 311, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, dealing, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes.

S. 433

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 433, a bill to amend the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 and the Revised Statutes of the United States to prohibit financial holding companies and national banks from engaging, directly or indirectly, in real estate brokerage or real estate management activities, and for other purposes.

S. 522

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 522, a bill to safeguard the economic health of the United States and the health and safety of the United States citizens by improving the management, coordination, and effectiveness of domestic and international intellectual property rights enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 545

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

S. 630

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 630, a bill to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products.

S. 634

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 634, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to authorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes.

S. 689

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 689, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventories.

S. 694

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 694, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations to reduce the incidence of child injury.
and death occurring inside or outside of light motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 773

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. Bunning) were added as cosponsors of S. 773, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pre-tax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 795

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 795, a bill to assist aliens who have been lawfully admitted in becoming citizens of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to repeal a provision enacted to end Federal matching of State spending of child support incentive payments.

S. 831

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 831, a bill to authorize States and local governments to prohibit the investment of State assets in any company that has a qualifying business relationship with Sudan.

S. 836

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 836, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to authorize appropriations for sewer over-flow control grants.

S. 880

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S. 881

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 881, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 901

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 901, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act.

S. 904

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 904, a bill to provide additional relief for small business owners ordered to active duty as members of reserve components of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 905

At the request of Ms. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 905, a bill to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 907

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 907, a bill to improve support and services for individuals with autism and their families.

S. 927

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 927, a bill to establish an adolescent literacy program.

S. 930

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 930, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II, and for other purposes.

S. 931

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Ms. BARRACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 931, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide benefits to certain veterans of reserve component service in any company that has a qualifying business relationship with Sudan.

S. 938

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 938, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to market exclusivity for certain drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 939

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 939, a bill to provide Federal assistance to States, local jurisdictions, and Indian tribes to prosecute hate crimes, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 106

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 106, a resolution calling on the President to ensure that the foreign policy of the United States reflects appropriate understanding and sensivity concerning issues related to human rights, ethnic cleansing, and genocide documented in the United States record relating to the Armenian Genocide.

S. RES. 118

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 118, a resolution urging the Government of Canada to end the commercial seal hunt.

S. RES. 141

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 141, a resolution urging all member countries of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service who have yet to ratify the May 2006 amendments to the 1955 Bonn Accords to expedite the ratification process to allow for open access to the Holocaust archives located at Bad Arolsen, Germany.

S. RES. 146

At the request of Sen. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 146, a resolution designating June 20, 2007, as "American
By Mr. HATCH (for himself and Mr. BENNETT):
S. 1110. A bill to amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization and Adjustment Act of 1992 to provide for the conjunctive use of surface and ground water in Juab County, Utah; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, I rise today to reinforce the importance of water resource development projects in Juab County, UT, by introducing the Juab County Surface and Ground Water Study and Development Act of 2007, S. 1110. This legislation would amend the Reclamation Projects Authorization Act of 1992 to provide for the conjunctive use of surface and ground water in Juab County.

Juab County’s inclusion in that Act would allow the County to use Central Utah Project funds to complete water resource development projects, thus enabling the County to better utilize their existing water resources. I hope that by passing this legislation, we will ensure that farmers, ranchers, and other citizens of Juab County will have a reliable water supply and a buffer in times of drought.

Under the original plan for the Bonneville Unit of the Central Unit Project, several counties in central Utah, including Juab, were to receive supplemental water through an irrigation and drainage delivery system. Over the years, however, many central Utah Counties have elected not to participate in the plan and no longer pay the requisite taxes to the Central Utah Water Conservancy District, the political division of the State of Utah established to manage Central Utah Project activities in Utah.

Juab County, on the other hand, remained active in the Central Utah Water Conservancy District’s efforts and has paid millions in property taxes to the District in hopes of benefitting from its membership. Currently, most of the water allocated to the Bonneville Unit of the Central Utah Project is planned for use in Wasatch, Salt Lake, and Utah Counties. This legislation would ensure that the citizens of Juab County can benefit from the system that they have financially supported for so many years.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

The motion to proceed to the consideration of S. 1110, the Juab County Surface and Ground Water Study and Development Act of 2007, is agreed to.

By Mr. WYDEN:
S. 1111. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make the Federal income tax system simpler, fairer, and more fiscally responsible, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I have come to the floor to talk a bit about taxes. Millions of Americans are scrambling today to file their taxes, trying to pull together their 1040 forms and “schedule this” and “form that” and are plowing through shoe boxes and filing cabinets trying to find the receipts they accumulated all through this year.

Millions of our citizens have to calculate their taxes twice to find out the hard way that they have been ensnared in the alternative minimum tax and that they have to pay a much larger burden than they had expected. I believe there is a better way for our country to handle taxes, one where most Americans do not have to fear tax day, do not have to shell out billions of dollars of their idea, do not have to worry about getting crushed by the alternative minimum tax that years ago, when it was created, was not supposed to clobber middle-class folks in the Pacific Northwest and across the country.

Today I am introducing the Fair Flat Tax Act, along with my colleague in the other body, Congresswoman MANDELKER, to make it possible for all Americans to want everybody to do well, we never want to penalize success. But let’s make it possible for all Americans to share the American dream and not just the fortunate few.

Under the current Federal Tax Code, all income is not treated fairly. My colleague in the other body, Congress- man MANSEL, and I would change that. We are not interested in soaking investors. We believe in markets. We believe in creating wealth. But we want everybody to be able to share in that wealth, and under the Fair Flat Tax Act, they would be.

The Fair Flat Tax adopts the flat tax idea to provide real relief to the middle class through fewer exclusions, exemptions, deductions, deferrals, credits and special rates for certain favored business owners. Very often, we have been added to the Tax Code because those powerful interests have lobbyists that middle-class folks we represent do not.

We triple the standard deduction for single filers from $5,000 to $15,000 and from $10,000 to $30,000 for married couples. As a result, the vast majority of Americans would be better off claiming the standard deduction than having to itemize their deductions, so their filing will be simplified. We do keep the key deductions most used by middle-income folks across the country. We keep the deduction for mortgage interest and education. We keep the credits for children, for education, and earned income credits.

Nobody would have to calculate their taxes twice under the Fair Flat Tax Act. Our proposal eliminates the individual alternative minimum tax which could ensnare as many as 100 million taxpayers by the end of the decade. We eliminate an estimated $20 billion each year in special breaks for special interests.

Eliminating those breaks would sustain current benefits for our men and women in uniform, our veterans, our elderly, and our disabled, as well as those tax incentives that promote savings and help our families pay for medical care and for education.

I think an especially important feature of the Fair Flat Tax Act is it corrects one of the most glaring inequities in the current tax system; and that is regressive State and local taxes. Under current law, low- and middle-income taxpayers get hit with a double whammy. Compared to wealthier folks, they pay a bigger share of their income in State and local taxes. Poor families pay more than 11 percent and middle-income families pay about 10 percent of their effect, drain the country of revenue and never find their way to helping the middle class.

We make a radical statement about tax law in our legislation. We say something is out of whack when the person who pays a lot higher tax rate than the person who makes all their money in the stock market. I wish to make it clear: we want everybody to get ahead, we want everybody to do well, we never want to penalize success. But let’s make it possible for all Americans to share the American dream and not just the fortunate few.

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