CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — SENATE
April 24, 2007

JOHNSON, MR. TSTER, MR. INOUE, MR. DOMENICI, MR. BINGMAN, MR. BACUS, MS. KLOBUCAR, MR. THOMAS, MR. OBAMA, AND MS. MURkowski):

S. 1200. A bill to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to revise and extend the Act; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS (for himself, MR. LIEAR, AND MR. FRIEDELD): S. 1201. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to reduce emissions from electric power plants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

S. 1202. A bill to require agencies and persons in possession of computerized data containing sensitive personal information, to disclose security breaches where such breach poses a significant risk of identity theft; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and MR. DOMENICI):

S. 1203. A bill to enhance the management of electricity programs at the Department of Energy; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and MR. KOHL):

S. Res. 167. A resolution congratulating the University of Wisconsin men’s indoor track and field team on becoming the 2006-2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Indoor Track and Field Champions; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and MR. KOHL):

S. Res. 168. A resolution congratulating the University of Wisconsin women’s hockey team for winning the 2007 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women’s Ice Hockey Championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and MS. MIKULSKY):

S. Res. 169. A resolution recognizing Susan G. Komen for the Cure on its leadership in the breast cancer movement on the occasion of its 25th anniversary; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, MR. KERRY, MS. BOXER, MR. INOUYE, MR. FEINGOLD, MR. LAUTENBERG, MR. DURBIN, AND MR. DODD):

S. Res. 170. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of a National Child Care Worthy Wage Day; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSponsors

S. 95

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (MR. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 95, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to ensure that every uninsured child in America has health insurance coverage, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from Michigan (MS. STABENOW) and the Senator from Minnesota (MS. KLOBUCAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 294, a bill to reauthorize Amtrak, and for other purposes.

S. 328

At the request of Mr. CRAPo, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (MR. DOMENICI) and the Senator from California (MRS. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of S. 328, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide coverage for cardiac rehabilitation and pulmonary rehabilitation services.

S. 383

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Washington (MRS. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 383, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the period of eligibility for health care for combat service in the Persian Gulf War or future hostilities from two years to five years after discharge or release.

S. 449

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (MR. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 449, a bill to require that health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies, lumpectomies, and lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for secondary consultations.

S. 475

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (MRS. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 475, a bill to reduce the incidence of suicide among veterans.

S. 573

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (MRS. DOLE), the Senator from Arkansas (MRS. LINCOLN), the Senator from Louisiana (MS. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Missouri (MRS. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Texas (MRS. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from Illinois (MR. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 573, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women.

S. 597

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

S. 614

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (MR. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 614, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to double the child tax credit for the first year, to expand the credit dependent care services, to provide relief from the alternative minimum tax, and for other purposes.

S. 621

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Oregon (MR. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 621, a bill to establish commissions to review the facts and circumstances surrounding injustices suffered by European Americans, European Latin Americans, and Jewish refugees during World War II.

S. 725

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (MR. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 725, a bill to amend the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to reauthorize and improve that Act.

S. 731

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (MR. HAGEL), the Senator from Colorado (MR. ALLARD) and the Senator from Nebraska (MR. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 731, a bill to develop a methodology for, and complete, a national assessment of geological storage capacity for carbon dioxide, and for other purposes.

S. 745

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (MR. COLEMAN) and the Senator from New Mexico (MR. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 745, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require States to provide diabetes screening tests under the Medicaid program for adult enrollees with diabetes risk factors, to ensure that States offer a comprehensive package of benefits under that program for individuals with diabetes, and for other purposes.

S. 761

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Missouri (MR. BOND), the Senator from West Virginia (MR. BYRD), the Senator from Washington (MRS. MURRAY) and the Senator from Louisiana (MR. VITTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 761, a bill to invest in innovation and education to improve the competitiveness of the United States in the global economy.

S. 766

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Illinois (MR. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 766, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies of victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 773

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (MR. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor 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 pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 796

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from New York (MRS. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 796, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch
Act to permit the simplified summer food programs to be carried out in all States and by all service institutions.

S. 829

At the request of Ms. Mikulski, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. Isakson) was added as a cosponsor of S. 829, a bill to reauthorize the HOPE VI program for revitalization of severely distressed public housing, and for other purposes.

S. 840

At the request of Mr. Cole, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Leahy) was added as a cosponsor of S. 840, a bill to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize assistance for domestic and foreign programs and centers for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes.

S. 901

At the request of Mr. Kennedy, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. Tester), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Whitehouse) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. Baukus) were added as cosponsors 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. 935

At the request of Mr. Nelson of Florida, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. Tester) was added as a cosponsor of S. 935, a bill to repeal the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 and for other purposes.

S. 970

At the request of Mr. Smith, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Obama), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. Allard) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. McCain) were added as cosponsors of S. 970, a bill to impose sanctions on Iran and on other countries or persons assisting Iran in developing a nuclear program, and for other purposes.

S. 973

At the request of Mr. Dorgan, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. McCaskill) was added as a cosponsor of S. 973, a bill to amend the Mandatory Victims’ Restitution Act to improve restitution for victims of crime, and for other purposes.

S. 999

At the request of Mr. Kennedy, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. Isakson) was added as a cosponsor of S. 999, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve stroke prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation.

S. 1018

At the request of Mr. Durbin, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kennedy) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1018, a bill to address security risks posed by global climate change and for other purposes.

S. 1041

At the request of Mr. Obama, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. Harkin) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1041, a bill to provide housing assistance for very low-income veterans.

S. 1081

At the request of Mr. Harkin, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Obama) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1081, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit discrimination in the payment of wages on account of sex, race, or national origin, and for other purposes.

S. 1115

At the request of Mr. Bingaman, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. Klobuchar), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Menendez) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. Sanders) were added as cosponsors of S. 1115, 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.

S. 1132

At the request of Mrs. Murkowski, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. Stevens) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1132, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Indian tribes to receive charitable contributions of apparently wholesome food.

S. 1145

At the request of Mr. Leahy, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. Craig) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1145, a bill to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform.

S. 1161

At the request of Mr. Craig, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. Collins) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1161, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize the expansion of Medicare coverage of medical nutrition therapy services.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. Durbin, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. Chambliss) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. Hagel) were added as cosponsors of S. 1172, a bill to reduce hunger in the United States.

S. 1175

At the request of Mr. Durbin, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. Cornyn) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Feingold) were added as cosponsors of S. 1175, a bill to end the use of child soldiers in hostilities around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 1178

At the request of Mr. Inouye, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. Nelson) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1178, a bill to strengthen data protection and safeguards, require data breach notification, and further prevent identity theft.

S. 1183

At the request of Mr. Harkin, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. Graham) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. Whitehouse) were added as cosponsors of S. 1183, a bill to enhance and further research into paralysis and to improve rehabilitation and the quality of life for persons living with paralysis and other physical disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1185

At the request of Mr. Bingaman, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. Clinton) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. Murray) were added as cosponsors of S. 1185, a bill to provide grants to States to improve high schools and raise graduation rates while ensuring rigorous standards, to develop and implement effective school models for struggling students and dropouts, and to improve State policies to raise graduation rates, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 26

At the request of Mrs. Clinton, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Specter) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. Wyden) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 26, a concurrent resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart and commending recipients of the Purple Heart for their courageous demonstrations of gallantry and heroism on behalf of the United States.

S. CON. RES. 27

At the request of Mrs. Clinton, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Specter) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mrs. Feinstein) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. Murray) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 27, a concurrent resolution supporting the goals and ideals of “National Purple Heart Recognition Day”.

S. CON. RES. 39

At the request of Mr. Biden, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Brown), the Senator from Maine (Ms. Collins), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. Durbin), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. Lautenberg), the Senator from Montana (Mr. Tester), the Senator from California (Mrs. Feinstein) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Specter) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 39, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the need for the United States to address global climate change through the negotiation of fair and effective international commitments.

S. RES. 125

At the request of Mrs. Feinstein, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. Akaka) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 125, a resolution designating May 18, 2007, as “Endangered Species Day”, and encouraging the people of the United States to become educated about, and aware of, threats to species, success stories in species recovery, and the opportunity to promote species conservation worldwide.

S. RES. 162

At the request of Mr. Leahy, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr.
Brownback), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. Kohl) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. Kennedy) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 162, a resolution commemorating and acknowledging the dedication and sacrifice made by the men and women who have served while serving as law enforcement officers.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. Durbin (for himself, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Obama):

S. 1190. A bill to promote the deployment and adoption of telecommunications services and information technologies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. Durbin. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the Record.

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

S. 1190

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 “Connect the Nation Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The deployment and adoption of broadband and other advanced information services is vital to ensuring that our Nation remains competitive and continues to create business and job growth.

(2) Continued progress in the deployment and adoption of broadband and other advanced information services is essential to the continued growth of broadband services and information technology for the residents and businesses of the Nation.

SEC. 3. ENCOURAGING STATE INITIATIVES TO IMPROVE BROADBAND.

(a) Purposes.—The purposes of any grant under subsection (b) are—

(1) to ensure that all citizens and businesses in a State have access to affordable and reliable broadband service;

(2) to achieve improved technology literacy, increased computer ownership, and home broadband use among such citizens and businesses;

(3) to establish and empower local grassroots technology teams in each State to plan for improved technology use across multiple community sectors; and

(4) to establish and sustain an environment ripe for broadband services and information technology investment.

(b) ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE BROADBAND DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Commerce shall award grants, taking into account peer review process under subsection (d), to eligible entities for the development and implementation of statewide initiatives to identify and track the availability and adoption of broadband services within each State.

(2) COMPETITIVE BASIS.—Any grant under subsection (b) shall be awarded on a competitive basis.

(c) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under subsection (b), an eligible entity shall—

(1) submit an application to the Secretary of Commerce, at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require; and

(2) contribute any non-Federal funds in an amount equal to not less than 20 percent of the total amount of the grant.

(d) PEEER REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall by regulation require appropriate technical and scientific peer review of applications made for grants under this section.

(2) REVIEW PROCEDURES.—The regulations required by paragraph (1) shall require that any technical and scientific peer review group—

(A) be provided a written description of the grant to be reviewed;

(B) provide the results of any review by such group to the Secretary of Commerce; and

(C) certify that such group will enter into voluntary nondisclosure agreements as necessary to prevent the unauthorized disclosure of confidential and proprietary information generated by broadband service providers in connection with projects funded by any such grant.

(e) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant awarded to an eligible entity under subsection (b) shall be used—

(1) to provide a baseline assessment of broadband service deployment in each State; and

(2) for the purpose of identifying gaps in such service through (A) regional mapping analysis, (B) digitization of existing databases describing the availability and adoption of broadband services within each State.

(f) N O REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(1) IN GENERAL.—The purposes of any grant under this section are to encourage deployment and adoption of broadband services and information technology services; and

(2) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term “nonprofit organization” means a charitable organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code.

SEC. 4. ADVANCING THE USE OF BROADBAND SERVICES.

(a) Purposes.—The purposes of any grant under this section are to—

(1) extend the availability and adoption of broadband services and information technology; and

(b) PUBLIC SERVICE.—The term “public service” means an organization that provides any of the following services:

(1) sharing equipment for public use;

(2) supporting education and research; and

(3) providing services to individuals who are low-income, elderly, or disabled.

(c) REQUIREMENT.—Any grant under this section shall include a requirement that the grantee shall—

(1) distribute the grant funds among a number of entities; and

(2) provide for the provision of services to non-profit organizations.

(d) ELIGIBILITY.—Any grant under this section shall be awarded only to an eligible entity.

(e) USE OF FUNDS.—Any grant under this section shall be used—

(1) to provide a baseline assessment of broadband service deployment in each State;

(2) for the purpose of identifying gaps in such service through (A) regional mapping analysis, (B) digitization of existing databases describing the availability and adoption of broadband services within each State.

(f) N O REGULATORY AUTHORITY.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(1) IN GENERAL.—The purposes of any grant under this section are to encourage deployment and adoption of broadband services and information technology services; and

(2) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term “nonprofit organization” means a charitable organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code.

SEC. 5. TECHNOLOGY PLANNING AND ENCOURAGEMENT GRANTS.

(1) IN GENERAL.—The purposes of any grant under this section are to—

(2) encourage deployment and use, especially in underserved and underserved areas, through the use of local demand aggregation, mapping analysis, and (A) developing and implementing strategies to encourage deployment and demand creation;

(3) to facilitate information exchange regarding the use and availability of broadband services between public and private sectors; and

(4) to create within each State a geographic inventory map of broadband service, which shall—

(A) identify gaps in such service through a method of geographic information system mapping of service availability at the census block level; and

(B) provide a baseline assessment of statewide broadband deployment in terms of households with high-speed availability.

(c) ELIGIBILITY.—Any grant under this section shall be awarded only to an eligible entity.

(d) USE OF FUNDS.—Any grant under this section shall be used—

(1) to provide a baseline assessment of broadband service deployment in each State;

(2) for the purpose of identifying gaps in such service through (A) regional mapping analysis, (B) digitization of existing databases describing the availability and adoption of broadband services within each State.

SEC. 6. TECHNICAL TRAINING GRANTS.

(a) Purposes.—The purposes of any grant under this section are to—

(1) to provide a baseline assessment of broadband service deployment in each State;

(2) for the purpose of identifying gaps in such service through (A) regional mapping analysis, (B) digitization of existing databases describing the availability and adoption of broadband services within each State.

SEC. 7. PROFESSIONAL TRANSPORTATION GRANTS.

(a) Purpose.—The purpose of any grant under this section is to—

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Any grant under this section shall be used—

(1) to provide a baseline assessment of broadband service deployment in each State;

(2) for the purpose of identifying gaps in such service through (A) regional mapping analysis, (B) digitization of existing databases describing the availability and adoption of broadband services within each State.

SEC. 8. BROADBAND INFORMATION SERVICE GRANTS.

(a) Purpose.—The purpose of any grant under this section is to—

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Any grant under this section shall be used—

(1) to provide a baseline assessment of broadband service deployment in each State;

(2) for the purpose of identifying gaps in such service through (A) regional mapping analysis, (B) digitization of existing databases describing the availability and adoption of broadband services within each State.

SEC. 9. TECHNOLOGY INTEGRATION GRANTS.

(a) Purposes.—The purposes of any grant under this section are to—

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Any grant under this section shall be used—

(1) to provide a baseline assessment of broadband service deployment in each State;

(2) for the purpose of identifying gaps in such service through (A) regional mapping analysis, (B) digitization of existing databases describing the availability and adoption of broadband services within each State.

SEC. 10. DATA AND DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) Purpose.—The purposes of any grant under this section are to—

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Any grant under this section shall be used—

(1) to provide a baseline assessment of broadband service deployment in each State;

(2) for the purpose of identifying gaps in such service through (A) regional mapping analysis, (B) digitization of existing databases describing the availability and adoption of broadband services within each State.