

Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. CARPER, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. KAUFMAN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. 560. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to establish an efficient system to enable employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to provide for mandatory injunctions for unfair labor practices during the organizing efforts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. TESTER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. HATCH):

S. 561. A bill to authorize a supplemental funding source for catastrophic emergency wildland fire suppression activities on Department of the Interior and National Forest System lands, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a cohesive wildland fire management strategy, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 562. A bill to require accurate and reasonable disclosure of the terms and conditions of prepaid telephone calling cards and services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BENNETT (for himself and Mr. HATCH):

S. 563. A bill to direct the exchange of certain land in Grand, San Juan, and Uintah Counties, Utah, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. CARDIN, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 564. 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; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. DORGAN):

S. 565. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide continued entitlement to coverage for immunosuppressive drugs furnished to beneficiaries under the Medicare Program that have received a kidney transplant and whose entitlement to coverage would otherwise expire, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 566. A bill to create a Financial Product Safety Commission, to provide consumers with stronger protections and better information in connection with consumer financial products, and to give providers of consumer financial products more regulatory certainty; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban 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. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, and Mr. LUGAR):

S. Res. 72. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding drug trafficking in Mexico; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. BENNETT):

S. Res. 73. A resolution authorizing expenditures by committees of the Senate for the periods March 1, 2009, through September 30, 2009, and October 1, 2009, through September 30, 2010, and October 1, 2010, through February 28, 2011; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 61

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 61, a bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code with respect to modification of certain mortgages on principal residences, and for other purposes.

S. 261

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 261, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restore the deduction for the travel expenses of a taxpayer's spouse who accompanies the taxpayer on business travel.

S. 277

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 277, a bill to amend the National and Community Service Act of 1990 to expand and improve opportunities for service, and for other purposes.

S. 317

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 317, a bill to repeal the provision of law that provides automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 423, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize advance appropriations for certain medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs by providing two-fiscal year budget authority, and for other purposes.

S. 428

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 428, a bill to allow travel between the United States and Cuba.

S. 475

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 475, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to guarantee the equity of spouses of military personnel with regard to matters of residency, and for other purposes.

S. 484

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana

(Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 484, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 542

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 542, a bill to repeal the provision of law that provides automatic pay adjustments for Members of Congress.

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. 542, *supra*.

S. 546

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) were added as cosponsors of S. 546, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

S. RES. 60

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) and the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 60, a resolution commemorating the 10-year anniversary of the accession of the Czech Republic, the Republic of Hungary, and the Republic of Poland as members of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

S. RES. 64

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 64, a resolution recognizing the need for the Environmental Protection Agency to end decades of delay and utilize existing authority under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act to comprehensively regulate coal combustion waste and the need for the Tennessee Valley Authority to be a national leader in technological innovation, low-cost power, and environmental stewardship.

S. RES. 70

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. BYRD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 70, a resolution congratulating the people of the Republic of Lithuania on the 1000th anniversary of Lithuania and celebrating the rich history of Lithuania.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. UDALL, of Colorado (for himself and Mr. BENNET):

S. 555. A bill to provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. UDALL. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Sugar Loaf Fire Station Land Exchange Act of 2009.

This bill is the same as the version I introduced in the House of Representatives in the last Congress, H.R. 3181. It will facilitate a fair exchange of lands on the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest near Boulder, CO., between the Forest Service and the Sugar Loaf Fire District. The Fire District is seeking this exchange so that they can maintain and upgrade their fire stations serving the Sugar Loaf community and other nearby communities and properties—areas that are in the wildland/urban interface and thus at risk of wildfires. In fact, these fire stations serve the area that was burned in the Black Tiger Fire in 1989. That fire was the motivation for the Sugar Loaf community to invest more strongly in fire protection. The Fire District has grown a lot over the years, and will be celebrating its 40th anniversary this August.

The bill relates to two fire stations. The Fire District acquired station 1 through an original mining claim under the 1872 mining laws. In 1967, a public meeting was held on this property to establish a fire district and modify the old school building on the site into a firehouse to hold a fire truck and other firefighting equipment. On May 14, 1969, the U.S. Forest Service approved a special use permit, which allowed the fire department to use both the firehouse and approximately 5 acres of the property under it. The special use permit was reissued on August 11, 1994, with a life of 10 years.

In 1970, the fire department applied for a special use permit to operate and maintain a second firehouse—station

2—on Sugar Loaf Road. The original permit was approved of in 1970, and had an expiration date of December 31, 1991. The permit boundary included 2 acres.

The special use permit issued in 1994 combined the two permits for stations 1 and 2 into one. The new permit for station 2 reduced the permit area to one acre, because the area of impact and existing improvements did not exceed one acre.

The Fire District entered into discussions with the Forest Service about a land swap. In August 1997, the Fire District filed an application to acquire the property under stations 1 and 2 pursuant to the Small Tracts Act, STA. The STA allows for transfers of small mineral fractions by the sale of property for market value, or by the exchange of properties of nearly equal value. The application proposed trading a mining claim surrounded by National Forest, for approximately 3 acres under station 1 and 1.5 acres under station 2.

The Fire District worked in good faith to comply with the STA. In November 2002, officials from the Fire District met with officials from the Forest Service. Upon review of the STA application, the Forest Service concluded that the parcel under station 2 did not qualify for a land exchange and that the Fire District would have to pursue a new special use permit for the property under station 2. As a result, the Fire District is interested in securing ownership of the land under these stations through this exchange legislation.

The Fire District has occupied and operated these fire stations on these properties for over 30 years. If they can secure ownership, the lands will continue to be used as sites for fire stations. The Fire District has made a strong, persistent, good faith effort to acquire the land under the stations through administrative means and has demonstrated its sincere commitment to this project by expending its monetary resources and the time of its staff to satisfy the requirements set forth by the Forest Service.

However, those efforts have not succeeded and it has become evident that legislation is required to resolve the situation.

The Fire District is willing to trade the property it owns for the property under the stations. However, the Fire District is firm in its position that it wants land under both stations, and that the amount of land must be adequate to satisfy both its current and anticipated needs.

Under the bill, the land exchange will proceed if the Fire District offers to convey acceptable title to a specified parcel of land amounting to about 5.17 acres in an unincorporated part of Boulder County within National Forest boundaries between the communities of Boulder and Nederland. In return, the land—about 5.08 acres—where the two fire stations are located will be transferred to the Fire District.

The lands transferred to the Federal government will become part of the

Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest and managed accordingly.

The bill provides that the Forest Service shall determine the values of all lands involved through appraisals in accordance with Federal standards. If the lands conveyed by the Fire District are not equal in value to the lands where the fire stations are located, the Fire District will make a cash payment to make up the difference. If the lands being conveyed to the Federal government are worth more than the lands where the fire stations are located, the Forest Service can equalize values by reducing the lands it receives or by paying to make up the difference or by a combination of both methods. The bill requires the Fire District to pay for the appraisals and any necessary land surveys.

The bill permits the Fire District to modify the fire stations without waiting for completion of the exchange if the Fire District holds the Federal government harmless for any liability arising from the construction work and indemnifies the Federal Government against any costs related to the construction or other activities on the lands before they are conveyed to the Fire District.

This is a relatively minor bill but one that is important to the Fire District and the people it serves. I think it deserves enactment without unnecessary delay.

By Mr. REID (for Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. DODD, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. BYRD, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. REID, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. CARPER, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. KAUFMAN, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND)):

S. 560. A bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to establish an efficient system to enable employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to provide for mandatory injunctions for unfair labor practices during the organizing efforts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. KENNEDY. We are facing a profound economic crisis, the likes of which we have not seen since the Great Depression. Countless working families who were already living on the edge of financial disaster have been hit hard, and they have nothing to fall back on. Their faith in the American dream has been replaced by fear for their families and their future.