

## ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 240

At the request of Mr. SANDERS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 240, a bill to set the United States on track to ensure children are ready to learn when they begin kindergarten.

S. 254

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. 254, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of home infusion therapy under the Medicare Program.

S. 259

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 259, a bill to establish a grant program to provide vision care to children, and for other purposes.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors 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. 434

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 434, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to improve the State plan amendment option for providing home and community-based services under the Medicaid program, and for other purposes.

S. 435

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 435, a bill to provide for evidence-based and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention to help build individual, family, and community strength and resiliency to ensure that youth lead productive, safe, health, gang-free, and law-abiding lives.

S. 451

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. 451, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

S. 455

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 455, a bill to require the

Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of 5 United States Army Five-Star Generals, George Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, Dwight Eisenhower, Henry "Hap" Arnold, and Omar Bradley, alumni of the United States Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to coincide with the celebration of the 132nd Anniversary of the founding of the United States Army Command and General Staff College.

S. 461

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 461, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 471

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 471, a bill to amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 to require the Statistics Commissioner to collect information from coeducational secondary schools on such schools' athletic programs, and for other purposes.

S. 476

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 476, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reduce the minimum distance of travel necessary for reimbursement of covered beneficiaries of the military health care system for travel for specialty health care.

S. 538

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 538, a bill to increase the recruitment and retention of school counselors, school social workers, and school psychologists by low-income local educational agencies.

S. 624

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 624, a bill to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis by 2015 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that the payment of the manufacturers' excise tax on recreational equipment be paid quarterly.

S. 645

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 645, a bill to amend title 32, United States Code, to modify the Department of Defense share of expenses under the National Guard Youth Challenge Program.

S. 653

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 653, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the bicentennial of the writing of the Star-Spangled Banner, and for other purposes.

S. 654

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 654, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to cover physician services delivered by podiatric physicians to ensure access by Medicaid beneficiaries to appropriate quality foot and ankle care.

S. 662

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 662, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for reimbursement of certified midwife services and to provide for more equitable reimbursement rates for certified nurse-midwife services.

S. 663

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 663, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish the Merchant Mariner Equity Compensation Fund 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.

S. 717

At the request of Mr. DODD, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 717, a bill to modernize cancer research, increase access to preventative cancer services, provide cancer treatment and survivorship initiatives, and for other purposes.

S. 749

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. JOHANNIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 749, a bill to improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.

S. 769

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 769, a bill to amend title

XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to, and increase utilization of, bone mass measurement benefits under the Medicare part B program.

S. 801

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 801, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to waive charges for humanitarian care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to family members accompanying veterans severely injured after September 11, 2001, as they receive medical care from the Department and to provide assistance to family caregivers, and for other purposes.

S. 812

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 812, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 819

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 819, a bill to provide for enhanced treatment, support, services, and research for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

S. 831

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 831, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include service after September 11, 2001, as service qualifying for the determination of a reduced eligibility age for receipt of non-regular service retired pay.

S. 832

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 832, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America, and for other purposes.

S. 833

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 833, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States the option to provide Medicaid coverage for low-income individuals infected with HIV.

S. 841

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 841, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to study and establish a motor vehicle safety standard that provides for a means of alerting

blind and other pedestrians of motor vehicle operation.

S. 870

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 870, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the credit for renewable electricity production to include electricity produced from biomass for on-site use and to modify the credit period for certain facilities producing electricity from open-loop biomass.

S. 883

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ), and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 883, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the Medal of Honor in 1861, America's highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States, to honor the American military men and women who have been recipients of the Medal of Honor, and to promote awareness of what the Medal of Honor represents and how ordinary Americans, through courage, sacrifice, selfless service and patriotism, can challenge fate and change the course of history.

S. 908

At the request of Mr. BAYH, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 908, a bill to amend the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 to enhance United States diplomatic efforts with respect to Iran by expanding economic sanctions against Iran.

S. 909

At the request of Mr. BENNET, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 909, a bill to provide Federal assistance to States, local jurisdictions, and Indian tribes to prosecute hate crimes, and for other purposes.

S. 921

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 921, a bill to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, to recognize the interconnected nature of the Internet and agency networks, improve situational awareness of Government cyberspace, enhance information security of the Federal Government, unify policies, procedures, and guidelines for securing information systems and national security systems, establish security standards for Government purchased products and services, and for other purposes.

S. 935

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 935, a bill to extend subsections (c) and (d) of section 114 of the Medi-

care, Medicaid, and SCHIP Extension Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-173) to provide for regulatory stability during the development of facility and patient criteria for long-term care hospitals under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 944

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) were added as cosponsors of S. 944, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the Secretaries of the military departments to give wounded members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces the option of remaining on active duty during the transition process in order to continue to receive military pay and allowances, to authorize members to reside at their permanent places of residence during the process, and for other purposes.

S. 970

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 970, a bill to promote and enhance the operation of local building code enforcement administration across the country by establishing a competitive Federal matching grant program.

S. 975

At the request of Mr. MARTINEZ, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 975, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce fraud under the Medicare program.

S. 984

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 984, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for arthritis research and public health, and for other purposes.

S. 994

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 994, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase awareness of the risks of breast cancer in young women and provide support for young women diagnosed with breast cancer.

S. 1002

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1002, a bill to provide for the acquisition, construction, renovation, and improvement of child care facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1020

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a

cosponsor of S. 1020, a bill to optimize the delivery of critical care medicine and expand the critical care workforce.

S. 1026

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1026, a bill to amend the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act to improve procedures for the collection and delivery of marked absentee ballots of absent overseas uniformed service voters, and for other purposes.

S. 1065

At the request of Mr. BROWNBAC, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1065, a bill to authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of \$20,000,000 or more in Iran's energy sector, and for other purposes.

S. 1066

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1066, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve access to ambulance services under the Medicare program.

S. 1067

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) were added as cosponsors of S. 1067, a bill to support stabilization and lasting peace in northern Uganda and areas affected by the Lord's Resistance Army through development of a regional strategy to support multilateral efforts to successfully protect civilians and eliminate the threat posed by the Lord's Resistance Army and to authorize funds for humanitarian relief and reconstruction, reconciliation, and transitional justice, and for other purposes.

S. 1079

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1079, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend reasonable cost contracts under the Medicare program.

S. 1091

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1091, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for an energy investment credit for energy storage property connected to the grid, and for other purposes.

S. 1129

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsyl-

vania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1129, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to local educational agencies to improve college enrollment.

S. 1132

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1132, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes.

S. 1157

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 1157, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect and preserve access of Medicare beneficiaries in rural areas to health care providers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1160

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1160, a bill to provide housing assistance for very low-income veterans.

S. 1166

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1166, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to designate part or all of any income tax refund to support reservists and National Guard members.

S. 1167

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1167, a bill to require that the Federal Government procure from the private sector the goods and services necessary for the operations and management of certain Government agencies, and for other purposes.

S. 1183

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1183, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to provide assistance to the Government of Haiti to end within 5 years the deforestation in Haiti and restore within 30 years the extent of tropical forest cover in existence in Haiti in 1990, and for other purposes.

S. 1203

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1203, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the research credit through 2010 and to increase and make permanent the alternative simplified research credit, and for other purposes.

S. 1223

At the request of Mr. JOHANNES, the name of the Senator from Tennessee

(Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1223, a bill to require prior Congressional approval of emergency funding resulting in Government ownership of private entities.

S. 1229

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1229, a bill to reauthorize and improve the entrepreneurial development programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1230

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1230, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a Federal income tax credit for certain home purchases.

S. 1233

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1233, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs and for other purposes.

S. 1243

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1243, a bill to require repayments of obligations and proceeds from the sale of assets under the Troubled Asset Relief Program to be repaid directly into the Treasury for reduction of the public debt.

S. 1249

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1249, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to create a value indexing mechanism for the physician work component of the Medicare physician fee schedule.

S. 1253

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) were added as cosponsors of S. 1253, a bill to address reimbursement of certain costs to automobile dealers.

S. 1261

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1261, a bill to repeal title II of the REAL ID Act of 2005 and amend title II of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to better protect the security, confidentiality, and integrity of personally identifiable information collected by States when issuing driver's licenses and identification documents, and for other purposes.

S. 1265

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1265, a bill to amend the National

Voter Registration Act of 1993 to provide members of the Armed Forces and their family members equal access to voter registration assistance, and for other purposes.

S. 1267

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1267, a bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to provide grants to establish or expand quality programs providing home visitation for low-income pregnant women and low-income families with young children, and for other purposes.

S. 1283

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1283, a bill to require persons that operate Internet websites that sell airline tickets to disclose to the purchaser of each ticket the air carrier that operates each segment of the flight, and for other purposes.

S. 1304

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 1304, a bill to restore the economic rights of automobile dealers, and for other purposes.

S. 1308

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1308, a bill to reauthorize the Maritime Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 1348

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1348, a bill to recognize the heritage of hunting and provide opportunities for continued hunting on Federal public land.

S. 1375

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1375, a bill to amend the Agricultural Credit Act of 1987 to reauthorize State mediation programs.

S. 1382

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1382, a bill to improve and expand the Peace Corps for the 21st century, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to

provide a senior housing facility plan option under the Medicare Advantage program.

S. 1389

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1389, a bill to clarify the exemption for certain annuity contracts and insurance policies from Federal regulation under the Securities Act of 1933.

S.J. RES. 17

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 17, a joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 25

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 25, a concurrent resolution recognizing the value and benefits that community health centers provide as health care homes for over 18,000,000 individuals, and the importance of enabling health centers and other safety net providers to continue to offer accessible, affordable, and continuous care to their current patients and to every American who lacks access to preventive and primary care services.

S. RES. 206

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 206, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the United States should immediately implement the United States-Colombia Trade Promotion Agreement.

AMENDMENT NO. 1367

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1367 proposed to H.R. 2918, a bill making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2010, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 1396. A bill to direct the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to carry out a pilot program to promote the production and use of fuel-efficient stoves engineered to produce significantly less black carbon than traditional stoves, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I rise today to offer a bill to reduce the pro-

duction of black carbon, a potent contributor to global climate change. I am pleased to be joined on this bill by my friend and colleague, Senator DURBIN, as the lead cosponsor.

Black carbon is a particulate produced during the incomplete combustion of carbon-containing materials. It has been estimated to have, on an equivalent mass basis, more than 500 times the global warming potential of carbon dioxide. Reducing the production of black carbon would help stabilize the global climate.

Black carbon is produced by some events, such as forest fires, that cannot easily be corrected by Senate actions. My bill addresses a mechanism of black carbon production that we can influence.

Throughout the world today, an estimated two billion people cook with solid fuels over an open fire or with primitive stoves. More than 50 percent of the controllable black carbon emissions in the world are due to these practices. Modern stoves, designed to efficiently burn fuel, can eliminate up to 90 percent of the black carbon produced during cooking and home heating.

Additionally, cooking and heating with poorly designed stoves emits noxious gases and particulates. Experts believe that these pollutants cause the premature deaths of over 1 million people, chiefly women and children, each year. Replacing these stoves with modern alternatives will strongly reduce the number of these deaths. There is a real need to find alternatives to those poorly performing stoves to improve global environmental and human health.

The U.S. Agency for International Development carries out activities under a number of existing projects to place low-cost, fuel efficient stoves in poor communities. It has found that, to be successful, the new stoves must be customized to fit the needs and cooking traditions of the community. These programs have had a very positive impact. But, they have not had the resources to optimize stoves to minimize black carbon emissions.

Our bill authorizes \$1 million per year for 2 years for the U.S. Agency for International Development to conduct a pilot program to develop and test stoves that optimize both fuel efficiency and black carbon reduction.

This measure addresses an issue, global climate change, that we must take very seriously. It also provides funding that, while addressing an important global pollutant, also alleviates a public health disaster affecting developing nations. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

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: