

By Mr. CONRAD:

S. Con. Res. 63. A concurrent resolution correcting the enrollment of S. 2367; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL):

S. Con. Res. 64. A concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for the lying in state of the remains of the late Honorable Daniel K. Inouye; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 1301

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1301, a bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2012 through 2015 for the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, to enhance measures to combat trafficking in persons, and for other purposes.

S. 1872

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1872, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the tax treatment of ABLE accounts established under State programs for the care of family members with disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 2347

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2347, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure the continued access of Medicare beneficiaries to diagnostic imaging services.

S. 3458

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3458, a bill to require face to face purchases of ammunition, to require licensing of ammunition dealers, and to require reporting regarding bulk purchases of ammunition.

S. 3655

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3655, a bill to provide enhanced disaster unemployment assistance to States affected by Hurricane Sandy and Tropical Storm Sandy of 2012, and for other purposes.

S. 3678

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3678, a bill to help ensure the fiscal solvency of the FHA mortgage insurance programs of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 574

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 574, a resolution calling on the United Nations to take concerted actions against leaders in Iran for their statements calling for the de-

struction of another United Nations Member State, Israel.

S. RES. 613

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 613, a resolution urging the governments of Europe and the European Union to designate Hizballah as a terrorist organization and impose sanctions, and urging the President to provide information about Hizballah to the European allies of the United States and to support to the Government of Bulgaria in investigating the July 18, 2012, terrorist attack in Burgas.

S. RES. 618

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 618, a resolution observing the 100th birthday of civil rights icon Rosa Parks and commemorating her legacy.

AMENDMENT NO. 3344

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3344 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1, a bill making appropriations for the Department of Defense and the other departments and agencies of the Government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2011, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 3689. A bill to establish a grant program to encourage the use of assistance dogs by certain members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, today, I am introducing the Senior Airman Michael Malarsie Act to increase the number of assistance dogs available to disabled servicemembers and veterans.

I met Senior Airman Malarsie earlier this year, and his story and perseverance have inspired this legislation. In 2008, during a deployment to Afghanistan, Senior Airman Malarsie was seriously injured and blinded by an improvised explosive device. Blinded in both eyes, Senior Airman Malarsie was placed on a waiting list for several months before he was paired with his guide dog, Xxon. Only through generous donations totaling \$45,000, Senior Airman Malarsie was able to receive a guide dog. Unfortunately, too often our wounded warriors must wait several months before receiving assistance dogs. According to Assistance Dogs International, last year there was a backlog of 188 veterans waiting for placement. I strongly believe we must do more so that they do not wait months for a trained assistance dog.

The bill will create a joint grant program between the Department of De-

fense and Department of Veterans Affairs to assist qualified assistance dog agencies provide trained dogs to covered servicemembers and veterans. The competitive grant program would be used for dogs that assist with specific disabilities such as hearing loss, mobility loss, visual impairment, and post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury. A portion of each grant would be used for evaluation to ensure that grant funds are being used properly and that each member or veteran is provided with best trained dog possible. This bill authorizes \$15 million for the competitive grant program.

The number of veterans who require the assistance of assistance dogs is expected to increase as military members returning from combat are diagnosed with disabilities. The non-profit organizations that train and provide the service dogs free of charge to veterans cannot keep up with the surge of returning wounded warriors. Each service dog can cost up to \$45,000 to train, and assistance dog organizations must rely on grants and the generosity of individuals, foundations, and corporations for funding. Through a competitive grant program, this bill will increase the number of assistance dogs available for veterans and active-duty members and decrease the waiting time for disabled warriors waiting for assistance. We must do more than watch as our servicemen return home from war and are forced to wait several months for an assistance dog simply due to a lack of funds.

A number of organizations are supportive of this bill, including the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, the Disabled Veterans National Foundation, The Retired Enlisted Association, and Military Exits.

I look forward to continued progress in assisting our wounded warriors and ask all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 622—NOTIFYING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. REID of Nevada (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 622

Resolved, That the House of Representatives be notified of the election of the Honorable Patrick J. Leahy as President of the Senate pro tempore.

SENATE RESOLUTION 623—NOTIFYING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

Mr. REID of Nevada (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to: