

which include increasing public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of, and services available to assist, victims and survivors of crime in the United States.

AMENDMENT NO. 1151

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1151 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1191, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

STATEMENT ON INTRODUCED
BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REED (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 1102. A bill to provide for institutional risk-sharing in the Federal student loan programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today postsecondary education is required for most family-sustaining, middle-class jobs, and an educated workforce is essential to a modern, productive economy. A recent report by the Georgetown University Center on Education and the Workforce found that college-intensive business services have replaced manufacturing as the largest sector in the U.S. economy, and that while college-educated workers make up only 32 percent of the workforce, they now produce more than 50 percent of the Nation's economic output, up from 13 percent in 1967. Median annual earnings for bachelor's degree holders were \$23,000 higher compared to high school graduates in 2014.

Yet just as there is growing recognition that postsecondary education is indispensable in the modern economy, families are being required to shoulder growing debt burdens that threaten access to college.

According to a recent analysis of student loan debt by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, between 2004 and 2014, there was an 89 percent increase in the number of student loan borrowers and a 77 percent increase in the average balance size. Today, over 40 million Americans have student loan debt.

This is a growing drag on our economy. As student loan debt has grown, young adults have put off buying homes or cars, starting a family, saving for retirement, or launching new businesses. They have literally mortgaged their economic future.

We know that student loan borrowers are struggling. Default rates are on the rise. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York reported that the number of borrowers who default each year increased from about half a million 10 years ago to 1.2 million annually in 2011 and 2012. Only 37 percent of borrowers are cur-

rent on their loan and actively paying down their debt.

We cannot tackle the student loan debt crisis without States and institutions also stepping up and taking greater responsibility for college costs and student borrowing.

That is why I am pleased to introduce the Protect Student Borrowers Act with Senators DURBIN, WARREN, and MURPHY to ensure there is more skin in the game when it comes to student loan debt by setting stronger market incentives for colleges and universities to provide better and more affordable education to students, which will in turn help put the brakes on rising student loan defaults.

The Protect Student Borrowers Act will hold colleges and universities accountable for student loan defaults by requiring them to repay a percentage of defaulted loans. Only institutions that have 25 percent or more of their students borrow would be included in risk sharing based on their cohort default rate. Risk-sharing requirements would kick in when the default rate exceeds 15 percent. As the institutional default rate rises, so too will the institution's risk-share payment.

The Protect Student Borrowers Act also provides incentives for institutions to take proactive steps to ease student loan debt burdens and reduce default rates. Colleges and universities can reduce or eliminate their payments if they implement a comprehensive student loan management plan. The Secretary may waive or reduce the payments for institutions whose mission is to serve low-income and minority students, such as community colleges, Historically Black Institutions, or Hispanic Serving Institutions provided that they are making progress in their student loan management plans.

The risk-sharing payments will be invested in helping struggling borrowers, preventing future default and delinquency, and reducing shortfalls in the Pell Grant program.

With the stakes so high for students and taxpayers, it is only fair that institutions bear some of the risk in the student loan program.

We need to tackle student loan debt and college affordability from multiple angles. And we need all stakeholders in the system to do their part. With the Protect Student Borrowers Act, we are providing the resources and incentives for institutions to take more responsibility to address college affordability and student loan debt and improve student outcomes. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this bill and look forward to working with them to include it and other key reforms in the upcoming reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. RISCH, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1103. A bill to reinstate and extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project in-

volving Clark Canyon Dam; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, today, I introduce two bills, S. 1103 and S. 1104, with my colleague from Montana, Senator JON TESTER, my Idaho colleagues Senators RISCH and CRAPO and also my counterpart in the House, Montana's Representative RYAN ZINKE. Current uncertainty in the permitting process threaten sources of clean, renewable power in my State. My bills would allow the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to extend a license for nonfederal hydropower development on existing dams in my state of Montana.

The first bill would extend for 3 years a contract for hydropower development on the Clark Canyon Dam in Dillon, Montana. The bill would allow for construction and operation of a project that would power about 1,200 homes each year with clean, renewable hydropower, while replacing 18,000 metric tons of carbon each year. The bill would help create 30 to 40 jobs during construction. Further, the project would produce \$611,000 in State and Federal taxes over the first 5 years of operation and \$37,000 in property tax contributions over the first 5 years.

The second bill would provide a 6 year contract extension for nonfederal hydropower development on the Gibson Dam, near August and Choteau Montana. Once completed, the project will provide for decades of stable of tax revenues per year to each Teton and Lewis and Clark Counties, the state of Montana, and the Federal Government. Gibson Hydro project will benefit the environment as they are required by their FERC license to incorporate measures in their operations and construction that would enhance fish and wildlife resources, water quality, recreational and aesthetic resources. Further, the project would replace 40,000 tons of carbon per year and will strengthen the irrigation component of the Gibson Dam by providing a portion of the power sales to Greenfields Irrigation District to support irrigation improvements, operations, water conservation and usage enhancements. This bill will help create 15-25 construction jobs, \$1 million in local revenue over 2 years, and \$4-5 million in wages during construction phase and over \$200,000 per year for the Sun River Cooperative.

Hydropower development must be a key component of our Nation's all-of-the-above strategy to meet our Nation's needs. Passing these bills will show the Senate's commitment to hydropower as a clean source of power for our country.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bills be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bills were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1103

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR A FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT INVOLVING CLARK CANYON DAM.

Notwithstanding the time period described in section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 12429, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this section as the "Commission") shall, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice and in accordance with the procedures of the Commission under that section, reinstate the license and extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence construction of project works for the 3-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

S. 1104

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXTENSION OF TIME FOR FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION PROJECT INVOLVING GIBSON DAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding the requirements of section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806) that would otherwise apply to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission project numbered 12473-003, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (referred to in this section as the "Commission") may, at the request of the licensee for the project, and after reasonable notice and in accordance with the procedures of the Commission under that section, extend the time period during which the licensee is required to commence construction of the project for a 6-year period that begins on the date described in subsection (b).

(b) DATE DESCRIBED.—The date described in this subsection is the date of the expiration of the extension of the period required for commencement of construction for the project described in subsection (a) that was issued by the Commission prior to the date of enactment of this Act under section 13 of the Federal Power Act (16 U.S.C. 806).

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1153. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1154. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1155. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1156. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1157. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1158. Mr. LEE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1159. Mr. INHOFE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1160. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1161. Mr. ISAKSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1162. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1163. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1164. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1165. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1166. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1167. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1168. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1169. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1170. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1171. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1172. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. COTTON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by Mr. MCCONNELL to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1173. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1174. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1175. Mr. SULLIVAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1176. Mr. ISAKSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1153. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 10, strike lines 10 through 25 and insert the following:

“(A) may not be taken unless—

“(i) the unconditional release of Jason Rezaian, Saeed Abedini, and Amir Hekmati from Iran has occurred; and

“(ii) the President certifies to the appropriate congressional committees, in writing, that Iran is cooperating with United States officials regarding the identification of the location and return of Robert Levinson to the United States; and

“(B) if each of the releases described in subparagraph (A)(i) has occurred and the certification described in clause (A)(ii) has been submitted—

“(i) may be taken, consistent with existing statutory requirements for such action, if, during the period for review provided in subsection (b), the Congress adopts, and there is enacted, a joint resolution stating in substance that the Congress does favor the agreement;

“(ii) may not be taken if, during the period for review provided in subsection (b), the Congress adopts, and there is enacted, a joint resolution stating in substance that the Congress does not favor the agreement; or

“(iii) may be taken, consistent with existing statutory requirements for such action, if, following the period for review provided in subsection (b), there is not enacted any such joint resolution.

SA 1154. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 10, strike lines 10 through 25 and insert the following:

“(A) may not be taken unless the President declares United States policy toward Iran regarding the underground uranium enrichment facility at Fordow, Iran; and

“(B) after the declaration described in subparagraph (A) has been made—

“(i) may be taken, consistent with existing statutory requirements for such action, if, during the period for review provided in subsection (b), the Congress adopts, and there is enacted, a joint resolution stating in substance that the Congress does favor the agreement;

“(ii) may not be taken if, during the period for review provided in subsection (b), the Congress adopts, and there is enacted, a joint resolution stating in substance that the Congress does not favor the agreement; or

“(iii) may be taken, consistent with existing statutory requirements for such action, if, following the period for review provided in subsection (b), there is not enacted any such joint resolution.

SA 1155. Mr. BLUNT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1191, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

SEC. 3. EXTENSION OF ANNUAL DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REPORTS ON THE MILITARY POWER OF IRAN.

Section 1245(d) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (Public