S. 2072

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2072, a bill to require the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program under which the Administrator shall defer the designation of an area as a nonattainment area for purposes of the 8-hour ozone national ambient air quality standard if the area achieves and maintains certain standards under a voluntary early action compact plan.

S. 2095

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2095, a bill to establish certain requirements with respect to pollock and golden king crab.

S. 2123

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mrs. ERNST) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2123, a bill to reform sentencing laws and correctional institutions, and for other purposes.

S. 2193

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2193, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to increase penalties for individuals who illegally reenter the United States after being removed and for other purposes.

S. 2196

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2196, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the non-application of Medicare competitive acquisition rates to complex rehabilitative wheelchairs and accessories.

S. 2200

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2200, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to strengthen equal pay requirements.

S. 2213

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2213, a bill to prohibit firearms dealers from selling a firearm prior to the completion of a background check.

S. 2234

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2234, a bill to award the Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the members of the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) in recognition of their superior service and major contributions during World War II.

S. 2263

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) were added as cosponsors of S. 2263, a bill to encourage effective, voluntary private sector investments to recruit, employ, and retain men and women who have served in the United States military with annual Federal awards to private sector employers recognizing such investments, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 1

At the request of Ms. AYOTTE, her name was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 1, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to limiting the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve.

S. RES. 148

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 148, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

S. RES. 237

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 237, a resolution condemning Joseph Kony and the Lord's Resistance Army for continuing to perpetrate crimes against humanity, war crimes, and mass atrocities, and supporting ongoing efforts by the United States Government, the African Union, and governments and regional organizations in central Africa to remove Joseph Kony and Lord's Resistance Army commanders from the battlefield and promote protection and recovery of affected communities.

S. RES. 282

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 282, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of American Diabetes Month.

S. RES. 302

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 302, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate in support of Israel and in condemnation of Palestinian terror attacks.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. VITTER (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. PERDUE, Mr. CASSIDY, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 2284. A bill to suspend the admission and resettlement of aliens seeking refugee status because of the conflict in Syria until adequate protocols are established to protect the national security of the United States and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I rise to strongly urge the adoption of my bill, S. 2284, to stop the Syrian refugee resettlement program, unless and until we have complete and adequate safeguards in place for the security of our homeland and all of our States. It is very clear to me that we do not have those safeguards right now.

What my bill would do is stop the program for 270 days, demand a thorough review of all security issues related to the program, demand that changes be made and brought before Congress, and that the program only continue with the consent of Congress after we are assured the homeland and all of our States will be fully protected. Again, it is very clear to me that is not the case now.

I expressed strong concerns and opposition to this program from the very beginning. When I first learned of it in September, I wrote Secretaries Kerry and Johnson regarding the real dangers of taking in thousands upon thousands of refugees from a country and an area of the world where enemies of the United States are all around them, and that clearly it posed a danger of those terrorist enemies infiltrating the refugee resettlement process. Tragically, we saw that happen and we saw the horrible results in Paris last Friday. As we all know now, at least one of those terrorists in Paris got into France under the Syrian refugee resettlement program there, and that is the same danger that is posed to us.

Now, I have looked at this. I have had briefings on this. It is clear to me that we do not have adequate safeguards against this. Let me just cite one example of testimony in this regard. FBI Director James Comey has testified that the Federal Government doesn't have the ability to fully vet 10,000 or more Syrians refugees. Recently, during a hearing before the House Committee on Homeland Security, Mr. Comey stated:

> We can only query against that which we have collected. And so if someone has never made a ripple in the pond in Syria in a way that would get their identity or their interest reflected in our database, we can query our database until the cows come home, but there will be nothing show up because we have no record of them.

That puts in simple, straightforward terms the real danger—that we cannot properly vet all of these refugees. And this is not from just any part of the world or any country. This is from a hotbed of anti-American terrorist elements.

There is an additional grave danger with the program as it stands now, and that is our complete inability to track these individuals once they are in our country. Unfortunately, I have an example of this right from my home

State of Louisiana. Just last week, a Syrian refugee was resettled into Baton Rouge. As of today, he is no longer there. He has gone missing. Allegedly, he, on his own, is relocating to Washington, DC. But from the briefings I have had from the State police, no one is in contact with him, no law enforcement or government agency is tracking him in any way, and he may or may not check in to a social service agency in Washington, DC. They have his information. Apparently, they are not in contact with him.

Now, this is within a week of his being resettled into where he was supposed to be, in Baton Rouge, LA, which I object to as a Louisianian. Again, he allegedly is coming to Washington. By the way, our Nation's capital is under high security alert. And no one knows exactly where he is. No one is tracking him adequately at all.

This clearly underscores the inadequacy of our current program. We need to put a stop to this until proper, full, and aggressive safeguards are in place. My bill, S. 2284, would do that. I am very happy the House of Representatives is acting and considering similar legislation.

I believe Congressman GRAVES will be introducing my legislation in the House, and the House may take up this matter as soon as Thursday. I hope that they do, because it is very time sensitive and our security is at stake. I hope that we do, by considering this and similar ideas absolutely as soon as possible. We must put a stop to this. We must put real security measures in place. We must not allow the flow to continue until we do.

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By Mr. KAINE (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 2289. A bill to modernize and improve the Family Unification Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. KAINE. Mr. President, children raised in loving and supportive households grow up to become more productive individuals, benefiting both the individual child and society at large. However, housing instability is linked to poor outcomes for children. Unsafe housing conditions and homelessness can threaten a child's safety. These conditions are often the reason for an investigation by the local child welfare agency, out-of-home placement, or a delay in family reunification.

Homelessness can also lead parents to voluntarily place their children in foster care while they search for housing. Families may also be separated because of shelter policies that exclude teenagers, especially boys. Further, youth aging out of the foster care system are particularly vulnerable to homelessness because they must make the transition to adulthood without support, financial or otherwise, from parents or other trusted guardians.

In Virginia, the Governor's office reported that as of September 2015 there were 5,140 total children in the Virginia foster care program. For fiscal year 2015, the average annual cost of foster care in Virginia was almost $47,000. Further, in 2013 Virginia had approximately 550 youth age out of the foster care system at age 18 without being connected to families. Nationally, over one-fifth of children who age out of the foster care system will experience homelessness at some time after age 18.

The Family Unification Program, FUP, an interagency collaboration between the Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD, and the Department of Health and Human Services to provide housing vouchers to youth aging out of foster care and families involved with the child welfare system. Some of these vouchers also include supportive services, such as money management skills, job preparation, educational counseling, and proper nutrition and meal preparation. Research has shown that housing vouchers, coupled with supportive services, promotes family stabilization and reduces youth homelessness.

While these vouchers have yielded some success, the connections between HUD and HHS are often inadequate to provide effective assistance. Further, no dedicated source of funding is available for the supportive services promised, and too often families and youth are left without the help they need.

That is why I am pleased to introduce with my colleagues Senator COLLINS, Senator SCHATZ, and Senator MURRAY, the Family Unification, Preservation and Modernization Act. This legislation modernizes and improves FUP vouchers, as well as creates and provides supportive housing for at-risk youth and families involved with the child welfare system. By utilizing a housing first model, similar to the one used to combat veterans' homelessness, this legislation will ensure safe and stable housing for youth and families. This bill also strengthens the connections between local public housing agencies and child welfare agencies to promote family stabilization and reunification, replaces the arbitrary 18-month time limit for youth vouchers with a more workable 36-month time limit, expands youth eligibility to those who are 18 to 24 who have left foster care at age 14 or older or will leave foster care within 90 days and are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, provides competitive grants for supportive services specifically targeted to FUP recipients, and promotes self-sufficiency by providing incentive payments to successful, data-driven interventions that improve outcomes.

My wife Anne and I have been long-term supporters in improving our child welfare system. When I served as Governor, we worked together to reform Virginia's foster care system. I am proud to introduce this commonsense, bipartisan legislation that will ensure family preservation and reduce youth homelessness.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

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### SENATE RESOLUTION 314—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATION OF THE THIRD TUESDAY IN NOVEMBER AS ''NATIONAL ENTREPRENEURS' DAY''

Mr. MORAN (for himself and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 314

Whereas, since the founding of the United States, innovation, creativity, industriousness, and entrepreneurship have formed the economic fiber of the United States;

Whereas entrepreneurs have long been vital to the economic growth of the United States by advancing innovation, improving productivity, and creating jobs;

Whereas the willingness of entrepreneurs to assume risk has resulted in unparalleled contributions to the development of the United States;

Whereas entrepreneur-led innovation has built and continues to sustain a critical United States competitive advantage;

Whereas more than 400,000 new businesses were created in the United States in 2013;

Whereas research shows that businesses 5 years or younger were responsible for nearly every net new job in the economy of the United States between 1982 and 2011;

Whereas entrepreneurs and the businesses created by entrepreneurs accounted for the creation of nearly 2,300,000 jobs in 2013;

Whereas, despite economic instability, over 50 percent of the population of the United States believes good opportunities exist for starting businesses and, in 2014, entrepreneurship rose to its highest level in 16 years, indicating that entrepreneurial spirit remains strong in the United States;

Whereas collaboration and cooperation among a broad coalition of organizations, including nonprofit entrepreneurial incubators, angel investors, venture capitalists, crowd-funding initiatives, and other early-stage investors, catalyze entrepreneurial ventures;

Whereas the Federal Government must continue to promote entrepreneurship in all communities by ensuring that entrepreneurs find the necessary resources to pursue their ideas;

Whereas support for all entrepreneurs, including women and minorities, who own and manage businesses of all sizes, from sole proprietorships to large enterprises, strengthens the overall economy of the United States;

Whereas entrepreneurial literacy skills serve as one of the 21st-century content areas critical to success in communities and workplaces;

Whereas 54 percent of young people (ages 18–34) in the United States envision starting a business or have already started a business;

Whereas positive outcomes for youth who participate in entrepreneurship education programs include improved academic performance, increased critical thinking skills, and heightened occupational aspirations;

Whereas, to maintain the position of the United States as a world economic leader, government, entrepreneurs, institutions of higher education, and businesses of all sizes must be united in a comprehensive effort to welcome and cultivate entrepreneurial activities in the United States;

Whereas entrepreneurs face various barriers that the Federal Government must work to reduce so that all entrepreneurs in the United States have a chance at success;