

such counselor is authorized to furnish under State law.”.

(2) **EFFECTIVE DATE.**—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply to items and services furnished on or after January 1, 2017.

**SA 3413.** Mr. SCHATZ (for himself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. TESTER, Mr. COCHRAN, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 524, to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title I of the bill, add the following:

**SEC. 104. ENHANCING BASIC AND APPLIED RESEARCH ON PAIN TO DISCOVER THERAPIES, INCLUDING ALTERNATIVES TO OPIOIDS, FOR EFFECTIVE PAIN MANAGEMENT.**

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Out of any money appropriated to the National Institutes of Health (referred to in this section as the “NIH”) not otherwise obligated, the Director of the NIH may intensify and coordinate fundamental, translational, and clinical research of the NIH with respect to—

- (1) the understanding of pain;
- (2) the discovery and development of therapies for chronic pain; and
- (3) the development of alternatives to opioids for effective pain treatments.

(b) **PRIORITY AND DIRECTION.**—The prioritization and direction of the Federally funded portfolio of pain research studies shall consider recommendations made by the Interagency Pain Research Coordinating Committee in concert with the Pain Management Best Practices Inter-Agency Task Force, and in accordance with the National Pain Strategy, the Federal Pain Research Strategy, and the NIH-Wide Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2016-2020, the latter which calls for the relative burdens of individual diseases and medical disorders to be regarded as crucial considerations in balancing the priorities of the Federal research portfolio.

**SA 3414.** Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 524, to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 101(d)(1)(C), strike “and local” and insert “, tribal, and local”.

In section 101(f)(2), insert “and the Indian Health Service” before the period at the end.

**SA 3415.** Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 524, to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 302(c)(2)(A), insert “or, in the case of an Indian tribe, Federal or tribal agencies” before “; and”.

In section 302(e)(1), strike “and” at the end.

In section 302(e)(2), strike subparagraph (B) and insert the following:

(B) concluded that the law described in subparagraph (A) provides adequate civil liability protection applicable to such persons; and

(3) consults with affected Indian tribes.

In section 508(r)(3)(B) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 290bb-1) (as amended by section 501(b)(2)), insert “Indian tribes,” after “agencies.”

In section 601(b)(4)(C)(vi), insert “and affected Indian tribes” before “; and”.

In section 601(b)(5)(E), strike “and” at the end.

In section 601(b)(5)(F), strike the period at the end and insert “; and”.

In section 601(b)(5), add at the end the following:

(G) ensures consultation with affected Indian tribes.

**SA 3416.** Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 524, to authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

In section 402(a), strike “or State” and insert “, State, or tribal”.

In section 402(b)(2)(B)(iii), strike “State and” and insert “State, tribal, and”.

In section 402(c)(1)(A), strike “or State” and insert “, State, or tribal”.

**AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET**

**COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 2, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SR-253 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Federal Communications Commission.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 2, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Economic Opportunities from Land Cleanup Programs and a Legislative Hearing on S. 1479, Brownfields Utilization, Investment, and Local Development Act of 2015, S. 2446, Improving Coal Combustion Residuals Regulation Act of 2016 and Discussion Draft of Good Samaritan Cleanup of Orphan Mines Act of 2016.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 2, 2016.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Com-

mittee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 2, 2016, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Economic and Geopolitical Implications of Low Oil.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 2, 2016.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**COMMITTEE ON VETERANS’ AFFAIRS**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on March 2, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SD-G50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR**

Mr. MERKLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Tim Brown, a research fellow on my team, be allowed privileges of the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Jennifer DeVito, a fellow in my office, be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of consideration of S. 524.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

**READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY**

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 384, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:  
A resolution (S. Res. 384) designating March 2, 2016, as “Read Across America Day.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be considered made and laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 384) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.  
(The resolution, with its preamble, is printed in today’s RECORD under “Submitted Resolutions.”)