

and businesses all across the country to ourselves. The Congressional Accountability Act did just that.

It applied a number of important laws to Congress, including, the Fair Labor Standards Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Age Discrimination and Employment Act, the Family Medical Leave Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Employee Polygraph Protection Act, the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, the Rehabilitation Act, as well as some provisions of title 5 related to Federal service labor-management relations. It also created the Office of Compliance in the Legislative Branch that oversees application of these important laws to the Legislative Branch and ensures that employee's rights under these laws are protected. While the Congressional Accountability Act was a good start, the Office of Compliance has recommended additional laws be applied to the Legislative Branch, including the Whistleblower Protection Act.

We have already taken the steps to protect whistleblowers in the Executive Branch. It doesn't make sense not to extend these same protections to whistleblowers in our own backyard. This bill will, very simply, give congressional employees the same protections that workers in the other branches of government already possess. It does this by simply adding the Whistleblower Protection Act to the preexisting list of statutes that are applied to the Legislative Branch by the Congressional Accountability Act. This is a straightforward and simple solution to ensure that employees of the Legislative Branch are not without vital whistleblower protections.

I hope my colleagues will join me and Senator MCCASKILL in supporting this bill to ensure that those who help us in the fight to hold government accountable are not punished for their efforts.

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) (by request):

S. 590. A bill to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the North Mariana Islands in order to give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, today I join with my colleague and the Ranking Member of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, LISA MURKOWSKI, in re-introducing, by request, legislation to convey certain submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the North Mariana Islands, CNMI, that would give that territory the same benefits in its submerged lands as Guam, the Virgin Islands, and American Samoa have in their submerged lands.

This bill is identical to H.R. 934 that was considered in the 111th Congress

and which passed the House on July 15, 2009 and was reported by the Committee on May 6, 2010. Enactment of this legislation is time-sensitive because there is currently no Federal or local administrative regime in place to manage the lands from the mean high-tide line out to 3 miles surrounding the 14 islands of the CNMI. As a result, development and other near shore activities are on hold, or are conducted under a cloud of legal uncertainty.

I refer those interested in additional information on this proposal to Senate Report 111-197. Included in that report, is the CBO estimate which states that enacting H.R. 934 would not affect direct spending or revenues; therefore, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a letter of support be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, March 14, 2011.

Hon. JEFF BINGAMAN,  
*Chairman, Energy and Natural Resources Committee, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

Hon. LISA MURKOWSKI,  
*Ranking Member, Energy and Natural Resources Committee, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CHAIRMAN BINGAMAN AND RANKING MEMBER MURKOWSKI: As you know, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee favorably reported in the last Congress H.R. 934, a bill conveying submerged lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The measure had received unanimous support in the House. And it was included in Majority Leader Reid's amendment to S. 303, the America's Great Outdoors Act, but proceeded no further in the Senate.

I have now reintroduced the bill, exactly as reported by the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, as H.R. 670 in this Congress; and I would like to request that, as a courtesy, you together introduce companion legislation in the Senate.

For your ready reference a copy of H.R. 670 is attached.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
GREGORIO KILLI CAMACHO SABLAN,  
*Member of Congress.*

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 102—CALLING FOR A NO-FLY ZONE AND THE RECOGNITION OF THE TRANSITIONAL NATIONAL COUNCIL IN LIBYA

Mr. MCCAIN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 102

Whereas peaceful demonstrations, inspired by similar peaceful demonstrations in Tunisia, Egypt, and elsewhere in the Middle East, began in Libya with calls for greater political reform, opportunity, justice, and the rule of law and quickly spread to cities around the country.

Whereas Muammar Qaddafi, his sons, and forces loyal to them have responded to the

peaceful demonstrations by authorizing and initiating violence against civilian non-combatants in Libya, including the use of airpower, foreign mercenaries, helicopters, mortar and artillery fire, naval assets, snipers, and soldiers;

Whereas, in response to Qaddafi's assault on the people of Libya, the imposition of a "no-fly zone" in Libya was called for by the Gulf Cooperation Council on March 7, 2011; by the head of the Organization of the Islamic Conference on March 8, 2011; and by the Arab League on March 12, 2011;

Whereas the Governments of France and the United Kingdom have drafted a United Nations Security Council Resolution to mandate the imposition of a "no-fly zone" in Libya;

Whereas the Libyan Transitional National Council was formed in Benghazi, with representation of Libyan leaders from across the country;

Whereas, on March 10, 2011, the Government of France recognized the Libyan Transitional National Council, based in Benghazi, as the sole legitimate government of Libya and has announced its intention to send an ambassador there;

Whereas, despite initial gains, the opposition has been losing ground against Qaddafi's forces, which are currently advancing against the opposition stronghold of Benghazi;

Whereas, on March 3, 2011, President Barack Obama said, "Let me just be very unambiguous about this. Colonel Qaddafi needs to step down from power and leave"; and

Whereas, on March 10, 2011, the Director of National Intelligence testified before Congress that, because of Qaddafi's superior military resources, including airpower, and in the absence of outside assistance to the opposition, "I think [over] the long term that the [Qaddafi] regime will prevail." Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) applauds the bravery of the Libyan people, who are fighting to secure their universal rights against the violent dictatorship of Muammar Qaddafi;

(2) condemns Muammar Qaddafi, and the forces loyal to him, for using overwhelming and indiscriminate violence, including the use of airpower and foreign mercenaries, against peaceful demonstrators and civilians, which has resulted in gross human rights abuses, grave loss of innocent life, and potentially crimes against humanity;

(3) strongly welcomes the calls for imposing a "no-fly zone" in Libya made by the Arab League, the Gulf Cooperation Council, and the Organization of the Islamic Conference;

(4) reiterates that it is the policy of the United States, as stated by President Obama, that Colonel Qaddafi must step down and leave power; and

(5) calls on the President—

(A) to recognize the Libyan Transitional National Council, based in Benghazi but representative of Libyan communities across the country, as the sole legitimate governing authority in Libya;

(B) to take immediate steps to implement a "no-fly zone" in Libya with international support; and

(C) to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to achieve the stated United States policy objective of Qaddafi leaving power.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 170. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the

SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 171. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 172. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 173. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 174. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 175. Mr. RUBIO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 176. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 177. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 178. Mr. VITTER proposed an amendment to the bill S. 493, supra.

SA 179. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 180. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1, 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; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 181. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 182. Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for himself, Mr. TESTER, Mr. PRYOR, and Mr. MERKLEY) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 493, supra.

SA 183. Mr. MCCONNELL proposed an amendment to the bill S. 493, supra.

SA 184. Mr. COBURN (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. MCCASKILL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 185. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 186. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 187. Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 188. Mr. PRYOR (for himself, Mr. KOHL, and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 189. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 190. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 191. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the

bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 192. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 193. Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COBURN, Mr. WEBB, and Mr. KERRY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, supra.

SA 194. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 195. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 196. Ms. COLLINS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 197. Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. MORAN, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. KYL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 198. Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. VITTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. WEBB) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 199. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 200. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 201. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 202. Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 203. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 204. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 205. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 206. Mr. SANDERS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 207. Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. LAUTENBERG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 208. Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 209. Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 210. Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 211. Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. COBURN) submitted an amendment intended

to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 212. Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts (for himself and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 213. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 214. Mr. NELSON of Nebraska submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 215. Mr. ROCKEFELLER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 216. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 217. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 218. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 219. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 220. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 221. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 222. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 223. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 224. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 225. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 226. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 227. Mr. THUNE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 228. Mr. CARDIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 170.** Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 493, to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 49, strike line 11 and all that follows through page 51, line 15.

**SA 171.** Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by