

AA85) received during adjournment of the Senate in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 18, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1028. A communication from the Chief Human Capital Officer, Corporation for National and Community Service, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to a vacancy in the position of Inspector General of the Corporation for National and Community Service, received in the Office of the President of the Senate on March 17, 2011; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1029. A communication from the Ombudsman, Energy Employees Compensation Program, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-1030. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-160 "Attorney General for the District of Columbia Clarification and Elect- ed Term Amendment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1031. A communication from the Chairman of the Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 18-724 "District of Columbia Official Code Title 29 (Business Organizations) Enactment Act of 2010"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1032. A communication from the District of Columbia Auditor, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled, "Auditor's Examination of the Office of Risk Management's Oversight of the District's Disability Compensation Program"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1033. A communication from the Acting Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Department's Fiscal Year 2010 annual report relative to the Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act of 2002; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC-1034. A communication from the Staff Director, United States Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the appointment of members to the North Dakota Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC-1035. A communication from the Staff Director, United States Commission on Civil Rights, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the appointment of members to the Montana Advisory Committee; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary:

Special Report entitled "Report on the Activities of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary During the 111th Congress" (Rept. No. 112-5).

By Ms. LANDRIEU, from the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship:

Special Report entitled "Summary of Legislative and Oversight Activities During the 111th Congress" (Rept. No. 112-6).

By Mr. LEAHY, from the Committee on the Judiciary, without amendment:

S. 49. A bill to amend the Federal antitrust laws to provide expanded coverage and to eliminate exemptions from such laws that

are contrary to the public interest with respect to railroads.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 653. A bill to allow the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to create or save jobs by providing interest relief on certain outstanding disaster loans relating to damage caused by the 2005 Gulf Coast hurricanes or the 2008 Gulf Coast hurricanes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 654. A bill for the relief of Djibril Coulibaly; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 655. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 95 Dogwood Street in Cary, Mississippi, as the "Spencer Byrd Powers, Jr. Post Office"; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KERRY, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 656. A bill to provide for the adjustment of status of certain nationals of Liberia to that of lawful permanent residents; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. COONS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 657. A bill to encourage, enhance, and integrate Blue Alert plans throughout the United States in order to disseminate information when a law enforcement officer is seriously injured or killed in the line of duty; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Mrs. MCCASKILL):

S. 658. A bill to provide for the preservation of the Department of Defense of documentary evidence of the Department of Defense on incidents of sexual assault and sexual harassment in the military, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. HAGAN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. AYOTTE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. MCCASKILL, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND):

S. Res. 109. A resolution honoring and supporting women in North Africa and the Middle East whose bravery, compassion, and commitment to putting the wellbeing of others before their own have proven that courage can be contagious; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts (for himself, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. Res. 110. A resolution to require that all legislative matters be available and fully scored by CBO 48 hours before consideration by any subcommittee or committee of the Senate or on the floor of the Senate; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 76

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 76, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to investigate and address cancer and disease clusters, including in infants and children.

S. 227

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 227, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure more timely access to home health services for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program.

S. 228

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. PAUL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 228, a bill to preempt regulation of, action relating to, or consideration of greenhouse gases under Federal and common law on enactment of a Federal policy to mitigate climate change.

S. 262

At the request of Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 262, a bill to repeal the excise tax on medical device manufacturers.

S. 350

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 350, a bill to require restitution for victims of criminal violations of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, and for other purposes.

S. 387

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 387, a bill to amend title 37, United States Code, to provide flexible spending arrangements for members of uniformed services, and for other purposes.

S. 398

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 398, a bill to amend the Energy Policy and Conservation Act to improve energy efficiency of certain appliances and equipment, and for other purposes.

S. 412

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

PORTMAN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 412, a bill to ensure that amounts credited to the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund are used for harbor maintenance.

S. 414

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 414, a bill to protect girls in developing countries through the prevention of child marriage, and for other purposes.

S. 418

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 418, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol.

S. 434

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 434, a bill to improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.

S. 437

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 437, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require the Secretary of the Treasury to provide each individual taxpayer a receipt for an income tax payment which itemizes the portion of the payment which is allocable to various Government spending categories.

S. 464

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 464, a bill to establish a grant program to enhance training and services to prevent abuse in later life.

S. 474

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 474, a bill to reform the regulatory process to ensure that small businesses are free to compete and to create jobs, and for other purposes.

S. 486

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 486, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to enhance protections for members of the uniformed services relating to mortgages, mortgage foreclosure, and eviction, and for other purposes.

S. 489

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr.

SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 489, a bill to require certain mortgagees to evaluate loans for modifications, to establish a grant program for State and local government mediation programs, and for other purposes.

S. 496

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 496, a bill to amend the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act to repeal a duplicative program relating to inspection and grading of catfish.

S. 533

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 533, a bill to amend Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure to improve attorney accountability, and for other purposes.

S. 539

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 539, a bill to amend the Public Health Services Act and the Social Security Act to extend health information technology assistance eligibility to behavioral health, mental health, and substance abuse professionals and facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 542

At the request of Mr. BEGICH, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) and the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 542, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize space-available travel on military aircraft for members of the reserve components, a member or former member of a reserve component who is eligible for retired pay but for age, widows and widowers of retired members, and dependents.

S. 550

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 550, a bill to improve the provision of assistance to fire departments, and for other purposes.

S. 567

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 567, a bill to amend the small, rural school achievement program and the rural and low-income school program under part B of title VI of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

S. 578

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 578, a bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to eliminate the abstinence-only education program.

S. 597

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr.

RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to include neurologists as primary care physicians for purposes of incentive payments for primary care services under the Medicare program.

S. 600

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 600, a bill to promote the diligent development of Federal oil and gas leases, and for other purposes.

S. 623

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 623, a bill to amend chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, relating to protective orders, sealing of cases, disclosures of discovery information in civil actions, and for other purposes.

S. 626

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 626, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the shipping investment withdrawal rules in section 955 and to provide an incentive to reinvest foreign shipping earnings in the United States.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act to extend the authorized period for rebuilding of certain overfished fisheries, and for other purposes.

S. 633

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) and the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) were added as cosponsors of S. 633, a bill to prevent fraud in small business contracting, and for other purposes.

S. 634

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 634, a bill to ensure that the courts of the United States may provide an impartial forum for claims brought by United States citizens and others against any railroad organized as a separate legal entity, arising from the deportation of United States citizens and others to Nazi concentration camps on trains owned or operated by such railroad, and by the heirs and survivors of such persons.

S. 641

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 641, a bill to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis within six years by improving the capacity

of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005.

S. CON. RES. 4

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 4, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that an appropriate site on Chaplains Hill in Arlington National Cemetery should be provided for a memorial marker to honor the memory of the Jewish chaplains who died while on active duty in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. RES. 87

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 87, a resolution designating the year of 2012 as the "International Year of Cooperatives".

S. RES. 99

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 99, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the primary safeguard for the well-being and protection of children is the family, and that the primary safeguards for the legal rights of children in the United States are the Constitutions of the United States and the several States, and that, because the use of international treaties to govern policy in the United States on families and children is contrary to principles of self-government and federalism, and that, because the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child undermines traditional principles of law in the United States regarding parents and children, the President should not transmit the Convention to the Senate for its advice and consent.

AMENDMENT NO. 161

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 161 proposed to S. 493, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 183

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 183 proposed to S. 493, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. LANDRIEU (for herself, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. COCHRAN):
S. 653. A bill to allow the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to create or save jobs by providing interest relief on certain outstanding disaster loans relating to damage caused by the 2005 Gulf Coast

hurricanes or the 2008 Gulf Coast hurricanes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, I come to the floor today to speak on an issue that is of great importance to my home State of Louisiana: disaster recovery from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita of 2005; Hurricanes Gustav and Ike of 2008; and the Deepwater Horizon disaster of 2010. Almost 6 years after these first two devastating storms, our eyes are still fixed on our shores during hurricane season as our communities and businesses in the hardest-hit areas continue to rebuild. The region is also still reeling from the oil spill and subsequent Federal deepwater drilling moratorium. As Chair of the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, I remain focused on their ongoing recovery efforts and am here today to introduce a bill that I believe will help these struggling small businesses become successful once again and hire new workers.

Charles R. "Ray" Bergeron and his wife's Fleur de Lis Car Care Center in New Orleans, Louisiana, is one of the businesses that needs this type of assistance. Small Business Administrator Karen Mills and I toured the Bergerons' business back in June 2009. Pre-Katrina, Fleur de Lis, which opened in 1988, had nine employees. After Hurricane Katrina hit, Mr. and Mrs. Bergeron found themselves having to take out two loans, one for their house and another for their small business. As of our visit that June, the Bergerons were down to 2 employees, not including themselves, and their business was back at about 40 percent of pre-Katrina sales, due in large measure to the population not returning. Their neighborhood is mostly empty homes, which Mr. Bergeron attributes in part to high flood insurance premiums, high property taxes and high homeowner's insurance.

When I met with them, the Bergerons had a \$225,000 SBA disaster loan with a standard 30-year term, which Mr. Bergeron says he will not pay off until he is 101 years old. And two years ago now, Mrs. Bergeron contacted my office requesting SBA assistance with their loan repayment after work to repair the flood-damaged roads surrounding their gas station had cut access to their business for even their most loyal customers. Since the project began, Fleur de Lis' sales have been cut almost in half. This latest challenge comes on the heels of the economic downturn, which caused the station to lay off two employees in 2009.

The Bergerons' story is one I have heard from countless businesses. Coupled with their recovery from the 2005 and 2008 hurricanes, and more recently, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill and Federal deepwater drilling moratorium, these businesses—the ones that took the initiative to quickly reopen after the storms—are today struggling with one challenge after another. Yet

these "pioneer" businesses are the ones rebuilding communities, they are the businesses communities need the most because they serve as anchors. If residents see the Bergerons' gas station or their favorite restaurant open, they are more likely to come back to rebuild their homes.

To help ongoing recovery efforts in the Gulf Coast, and to give these struggling businesses immediate assistance, I am introducing today the Southeast Hurricanes Small Business Disaster Relief Act of 2011. This legislation would provide targeted assistance to as many as 11,000 businesses in Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Texas. What these particular businesses have in common is that they received SBA disaster loans following the 2005 or 2008 hurricanes. While they have made payments on these loans, I have heard from countless businesses in my State that they could expand operations if they had additional cash flow. This legislation would inject immediate capital into these hardest-hit businesses by giving SBA the authority to waive up to \$15,000 of interest payments over three years, helping to create or save up to 40,000 jobs.

Under this program, SBA is required to give priority to applications from businesses with 50 employees or less and businesses that re-opened between September 2005 and October 2006 for the 2005 storms or September and December 2008 for the 2008 hurricanes. This ensures that SBA first helps true small businesses and those "pioneer" businesses that were the first to re-open after the disaster. The bill also includes a priority for applications from businesses suffering substantial economic harm from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill last year. The program would end on March 31, 2012.

The Southeast Hurricanes Small Business Disaster Relief Act also includes provisions to help reduce the program's impact on the Federal deficit. First, the bill eliminates a duplicative program at the SBA. This program, the Gulf Coast Disaster Loan Refinancing Program, was created as part of the 2008 Farm Bill. Although it was created almost three years ago, the program has not received any appropriations nor has the SBA utilized the authority to refinance any disaster loans. It is my understanding this is because the program just re-amortizes the same debt of borrowers. Furthermore, any refinancing must not exceed the original loan amount and differ from the original terms of the loan. As a result, this program is not attractive to borrowers, lenders or the SBA. Our bill eliminates this program and creates one that will work better for all stakeholders. Next, the bill allows SBA the authority to get reimbursed by the party responsible for the Deepwater Horizon oil spill for any interest relief provided to businesses impacted by that disaster. This ensures that the taxpayers will be reimbursed for interest relief related to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. I also note that this is