

public charter schooling by addressing quality issues; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. VITTER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. WICKER, Mr. INHOFE, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 687. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 15-year recovery period for qualified leasehold improvement property, qualified restaurant property, and qualified retail improvement property; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. BINGAMAN):

S. 688. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to apply the additional Medicare HITECH payment provisions to hospitals in Puerto Rico; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 689. A bill to promote the oil independence of the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. REED, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 690. A bill to establish the Office of the Homeowner Advocate; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 691. A bill to support State and tribal government efforts to promote research and education related to maple syrup production, natural resource sustainability in the maple syrup industry, market promotion of maple products, and greater access to lands containing maple trees for maple-sugaring activities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida:

S. 692. A bill to improve hurricane preparedness by establishing the National Hurricane Research Initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. TESTER (for himself and Mr. BURR):

S. Res. 115. A resolution designating July 8, 2011, as "Collector Car Appreciation Day" and recognizing that the collection and restoration of historic and classic cars is an important part of preserving the technological achievements and cultural heritage of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. REID, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. REED, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. KYL):

S. Res. 116. A resolution to provide for expedited Senate consideration of certain nominations subject to advice and consent; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, Mr.

LEVIN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota):

S. Res. 117. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Professional Social Work Month and World Social Work Day; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. BURR):

S. Res. 118. A resolution designating April 2011 as "National 9-1-1 Education Month"; considered and agreed to.

### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 13

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 13, a bill to promote freedom, fairness, and economic opportunity by repealing the income tax and other taxes, abolishing the Internal Revenue Service, and enacting a national sales tax to be administered primarily by the States.

S. 206

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 206, a bill to reauthorize the DC Opportunity Scholarship Program, and for other purposes.

S. 210

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WEBB) was added as a cosponsor of S. 210, a bill to amend title 44, United States Code, to eliminate the mandatory printing of bills and resolutions for the use of offices of Members of Congress.

S. 244

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 244, a bill to enable States to opt out of certain provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

S. 325

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 325, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require the provision of behavioral health services to members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces necessary to meet pre-deployment and post-deployment readiness and fitness standards, and for other purposes.

S. 395

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 395, a bill to repeal certain amendments to the Energy Policy and Conservation Act with respect to lighting energy efficiency.

S. 418

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) 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. 431

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the names of the Senator from North Caro-

lina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of S. 431, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation's first Federal law enforcement agency, the United States Marshals Service.

S. 504

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 504, a bill to preserve and protect the free choice of individual employees to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities.

S. 520

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) were added as cosponsors of S. 520, a bill to repeal the Volumetric Ethanol Excise Tax Credit.

S. 545

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) was added as a cosponsor of S. 545, a bill to amend the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 to strengthen the quality control measures in place for part B lung disease claims and part E processes with independent reviews.

S. 554

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 554, a bill to prohibit the use of Department of Justice funds for the prosecution in Article III courts of the United States of individuals involved in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

S. 555

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 555, a bill to end discrimination based on actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity in public schools, and for other purposes.

S. 560

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 560, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare program.

S. 567

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors 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. 570

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 570, a bill to prohibit the Department of Justice from tracking and cataloguing the purchases of multiple rifles and shotguns.

S. 600

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) 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. 634

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) 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. 646

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 646, a bill to reauthorize Federal natural hazards reduction programs, and for other purposes.

S. 671

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 671, a bill to authorize the United States Marshals Service to issue administrative subpoenas in investigations relating to unregistered sex offenders.

S. RES. 99

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS) was added as a cosponsor 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. 197

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator

from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. COATS), the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 197 proposed to S. 493, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 220

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 220 intended to be proposed to S. 493, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 241

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 241 intended to be proposed to S. 493, a bill to reauthorize and improve the SBIR and STTR programs, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 267

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 267 intended to be 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 Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BEGICH, and Ms. MURKOWSKI):

S. 675. A bill to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce legislation of great importance to my state, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2011. This bill would ensure parity in federal policy as it relates to the Native Hawaiian people. It would put them on equal footing with American Indians and Alaska Natives. I have sponsored this common-sense legislation since the 106th Congress.

Last December, I spoke here on the Senate floor to reaffirm my commitment to enact this legislation. I made

it clear then to my colleagues and my constituents that I would be reintroducing this legislation in the 112th Congress. I am moving forward with the legislation that was reported out of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs in the 111th Congress.

Throughout my Senate career, I have been a member of the Committee on Indian Affairs. I have worked diligently with my colleagues on the Committee to champion legislation to improve conditions for our Native communities across the United States. At the beginning of the 112th Congress, I became the Chairman of this Committee. I look forward to working on the many pressing issues for American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians. Reconciliation between the United States and the Native Hawaiian people will be a top priority.

In 1993, I sponsored a measure commonly known as the Apology Resolution. This resolution was signed into law by President Bill Clinton. It outlined the history—prior to—and following the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii, including the involvement in the overthrow by agents of the United States. In the resolution, the United States apologized for its involvement—and acknowledged the ramifications of the overthrow. It committed to support reconciliation efforts between the United States and the Native Hawaiian people.

However, additional Congressional action is needed.

My legislation allows us to take the necessary next step in the reconciliation process. The bill does three things. First, it authorizes an office in the Department of the Interior to serve as a liaison between Native Hawaiians and the United States. Second, it forms an interagency task force chaired by the Departments of Justice and Interior, and composed of officials from federal agencies that administer programs and services impacting Native Hawaiians. Third, it authorizes a process for the reorganization of the Native Hawaiian government for the purposes of a federally-recognized government-to-government relationship. Once the Native Hawaiian government is recognized, an inclusive democratic negotiations process representing both Native Hawaiians and non-Native Hawaiians would be established. There are many checks and balances in this process. Any agreements reached would still require the legislative approval of the State and Federal governments.

Opponents have spread misinformation about the bill. Let me be clear on some things that this bill does not do. My bill will not allow for gaming. It does not allow for Hawaii to secede from the United States. It does not allow for private land to be taken. It does not create a reservation in Hawaii.

What this bill does do is allow the people of Hawaii to come together and address issues arising from the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii more than 118 years ago.