

the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

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 Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. BARRASSO):

S. 785. A bill to require that the Federal Government procure from the private sector the goods and services necessary for the operations and management of certain Government agencies, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

S. 786. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to modify the appointment and grade of the Chief of the Army Medical Specialist Corps; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 787. A bill to provide grants to promote financial literacy; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 788. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit discrimination in the payment of wages on account of sex, race, or national origin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself and Mr. NELSON of Florida):

S. 789. A bill to express the sense of the Senate that Medicare should not be dismantled and turned into a voucher program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 790. A bill to provide for mandatory training for Federal Government supervisors and the assessment of management competencies; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. RISCH):

S. 791. A bill to amend the Radiation Exposure Compensation Act to improve compensation for workers involved in uranium mining, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. PRYOR:

S. 792. A bill to authorize the waiver of certain debts relating to assistance provided to individuals and households since 2005; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. GRAHAM:

S. 793. A bill to allow the Corps of Engineers to use certain amounts to carry out harbor deepening projects; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. 794. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to disallow any deduction for punitive damages, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mrs. GILLIBRAND:

S. 795. A bill to address HIV/AIDS in the African-American community, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota):

S. 796. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code to extend qualified school construction bonds and qualified zone academy bonds, to treat qualified zone academy bonds as specified tax credit bonds, and to modify the private business contribution requirement for qualified zone academy bonds; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. KERRY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mrs. HAGAN):

S. 797. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 798. A bill to provide an amnesty period during which veterans and their family members can register certain firearms in the National Firearms Registration and Transfer Record, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. MCCAIN):

S. 799. A bill to establish a regulatory framework for the comprehensive protection of personal data for individuals under the aegis of the Federal Trade Commission, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BENNET, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CARDIN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 800. A bill to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to reauthorize and improve the safe routes to school program; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. CARPER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts):

S. 801. A bill to amend chapter 113 of title 40, United States Code, to require executive agency participation in real-time transparency of investment projects, to require performance and governance reviews of all cost overruns on Federal information technology investment projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. RUBIO (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. LIEBERMAN):

S. Res. 140. A resolution commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Bay of Pigs operation and commending the members of Brigada de Asalto 2506 (Assault Brigade 2506); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. CONRAD (for himself and Mr. HOEVEN):

S. Res. 141. A resolution recognizing the efforts and accomplishments of the GOD'S

CHILD Project and congratulating the GOD'S CHILD Project on its 20th anniversary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 142. A resolution congratulating the Lady Aggies of Texas A&M University on winning the 2011 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Women's Basketball Championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself and Mr. THUNE):

S. Res. 143. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of National Safe Digging Month; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. INHOFE, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Con. Res. 12. A concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the President should take certain actions with respect to the Government of Burma; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 69

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 69, a bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 to exclude secondary sales, repair services, and certain vehicles from the ban on lead in children's products, and for other purposes.

S. 136

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 136, a bill to establish requirements with respect to bisphenol A.

S. 146

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 146, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the work opportunity credit to certain recently discharged veterans.

S. 210

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL) 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. 211

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 211, a bill to provide for a biennial budget process and a biennial appropriations process and to enhance oversight and performance of the Federal Government.

S. 217

At the request of Mr. DEMINT, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 217, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to ensure the right of employees to a secret ballot election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board.

S. 260

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 260, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal the requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans' dependency and indemnity compensation.

S. 357

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 357, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to identify and declare wildlife disease emergencies and to coordinate rapid response to those emergencies, and for other purposes.

S. 366

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 366, a bill to require disclosure to the Securities and Exchange Commission of certain sanctionable activities, and for other purposes.

S. 418

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 418, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the World War II members of the Civil Air Patrol.

S. 425

At the request of Mr. UDALL of Colorado, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 425, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of permanent national surveillance systems for multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, and other neurological diseases and disorders.

S. 431

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) 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. 468

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 468, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to clarify the authority of the Administrator to disapprove specifications of disposal sites for the discharge of, dredged or fill material, and to clarify the procedure under which a higher review of specifications may be requested.

S. 489

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

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

S. 491

At the request of Mr. PRYOR, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to recognize the service in the reserve components of the Armed Forces of certain persons by honoring them with status as veterans under law, and for other purposes.

S. 496

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) 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. 514

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 514, a bill to amend chapter 21 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that fathers of permanently disabled or deceased veterans shall be included with mothers of such veterans as preference eligibles for treatment in the civil service.

S. 529

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mrs. HAGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 529, a bill to extend the temporary duty suspensions on certain cotton shirting fabrics, and for other purposes.

S. 547

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 547, a bill to direct the Secretary of Education to establish an award program recognizing excellence exhibited by public school system employees providing services to students in pre-kindergarten through higher education.

S. 570

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) 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. 584

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 584, a bill to establish the Social Work Reinvestment Commission to provide independent counsel to Congress and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on policy issues associated with recruitment, retention, research, and reinvestment in the profession of social work, and for other purposes.

S. 595

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 595, a bill to amend title VIII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to require the Secretary of Education to complete payments under such title to local educational agencies eligible for such payments within 3 fiscal years.

S. 603

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 603, a bill to modify the prohibition on recognition by United States courts of certain rights relating to certain marks, trade names, or commercial names.

S. 646

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

S. 648

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 648, a bill to require the Commissioner of Social Security to revise the medical and evaluation criteria for determining disability in a person diagnosed with Huntington's Disease and to waive the 24-month waiting period for Medicare eligibility for individuals disabled by Huntington's Disease.

S. 662

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 662, a bill to provide for payments to certain natural resource trustees to assist in restoring natural resources damaged as a result of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, and for other purposes.

S. 668

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 668, a bill to remove unelected, unaccountable bureaucrats from seniors' personal health decisions by repealing the Independent Payment Advisory Board.

S. 714

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 714, a bill to reauthorize the Federal Land Transaction Facilitation Act, and for other purposes.

S. 718

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 718, a bill to amend the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act to improve the use of certain registered pesticides.

S. 724

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 724, a bill to appropriate such funds as may be necessary to ensure that members of the Armed

Forces, including reserve components thereof, and supporting civilian and contractor personnel continue to receive pay and allowances for active service performed when a funding gap caused by the failure to enact interim or full-year appropriations for the Armed Forces occurs, which results in the furlough of non-emergency personnel and the curtailment of Government activities and services.

S. 726

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 726, a bill to rescind \$45 billion of unobligated discretionary appropriations, and for other purposes.

S. 733

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 733, a bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exclude customary prompt pay discounts from manufacturers to wholesalers from the average sales price for drugs and biologicals under Medicare.

S. 740

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 740, a bill to revise and extend provisions under the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act.

S. 782

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 782, a bill to amend the Public Works and Economic Development Act of 1965 to reauthorize that Act, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 109

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIBBERMAN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of 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.

S. RES. 127

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 127, a resolution designating April 2011 as "National Child Abuse Prevention Month".

S. RES. 132

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 132, a resolution recognizing and honoring the zoos and aquariums of the United States.

S. RES. 138

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 138, a resolution calling on the United Nations to rescind the Goldstone report, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 788. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit discrimination in the payment of wages on account of sex, race, or national origin, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, today Americans observe Equal Pay Day—the date that marks the extra days that women must work into 2011 in order to equal what men earned in 2010. On this day, I am proud to introduce the Fair Pay Act of 2011, a bill I have introduced every Congress since 1996.

In 1963, Congress enacted the Equal Pay Act to end unfair discrimination against women in the workforce. While we have made progress toward this important goal, nearly half a century later, too many women still do not get paid what men do for the same or nearly the same work. On average, a woman makes only 77 cents for every dollar that a man makes. That translates into an average of \$400,000 over her lifetime that a woman loses because of unequal pay practices. The circumstances are even worse for Latinas and women of color.

This is wrong, it is unjust, and it threatens the economic security of our families. The fact is millions of Americans are dependent on a woman's paycheck just to get by, to put food on the table, pay for child care, and deal with rising health care bills. Two-thirds of mothers bring home at least a quarter of their family's earnings. In many families, a woman is the sole breadwinner.

The evidence shows that discrimination accounts for much of the pay gap, and our laws have not done enough to prevent this discrimination from occurring. That is why passage of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act was a critical first step, and why it is important to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act, introduced today by Senator MIKULSKI and Representative DELAURO, of which I am a proud original cosponsor. There are too many loopholes and barriers to effective enforcement of our existing laws. We need to strengthen penalties and give women the tools they need to confront discrimination.

At the same time, we must recognize that the problem of unequal pay goes beyond insidious discrimination. As a nation, we unjustly devalue jobs traditionally performed by women, even when they require comparable skills to jobs traditionally performed by men.

Today, millions of female-dominated jobs—for example, social workers, teachers, child care workers and nurses—are equivalent in skills, effort, responsibility and working conditions to similar jobs dominated by men. But, the female-dominated jobs pay significantly less. This is inexplicable. Why is a housekeeper worth less than a janitor? Why is a parking meter reader worth less than an electrical meter reader? Why is a social worker worth less than a probation officer?

To address this more subtle, deep-rooted discrimination, today I am joining with Representative ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON to introduce the Fair Pay Act, which will ensure that employers provide equal pay for jobs that are equivalent in skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions.

This important legislation would also require employers to publicly disclose their job categories and their pay scales, without requiring specific information on individual employees. If we give women information about what their male colleagues are earning, they can negotiate a better deal for themselves in the workplace.

Right now, women who believe they are the victim of pay discrimination must file a lawsuit and endure a drawn-out legal discovery process to find out whether they make less than the man working beside them. With pay statistics readily available, this expensive process could be avoided.

The number of lawsuits would surely go down if employees could see up front whether they are being treated fairly. In fact, I once asked Lilly Ledbetter: if the Fair Pay Act had been law, would it have averted her wage discrimination case? She said that with the information about pay scales that the bill provides, she would have known that she was a victim of discrimination and could have tried to address the problem sooner, rather than suffering a lifelong drop in her earnings and a trip all the way to the Supreme Court to try to make things right.

On this Equal Pay Day, let us make sure that what happened to Lilly never happens again by recommitting to eliminate discrimination in the workplace and make equal pay for equal work a reality. America's working women and the families that rely on them deserve fairness on the job. Hopefully, soon, we can achieve true equality in the workplace so there is no need to commemorate equal pay day any more.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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