

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the Secretary publishes the schedule under subparagraph (A) and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall update the schedule.

“(ii) PUBLIC WORKSHOPS.—In updating the schedule under clause (i), the Secretary shall conduct public workshops in accordance with subparagraph (B).

“(5) COST SHARING.—Section 988 shall apply to initiatives carried out under this section.

“(6) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$50,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012 through 2016.”.

By Mr. BROWN of Ohio (for himself and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 1068. A bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to provide for temporary student loan debt conversion authority; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. President, this month marks commencement season at our great colleges and universities across Ohio and the Nation. I have had the honor of speaking at a few this year—Owens Community College, Ashland University, Cleveland Marshall College of Law, and Ohio Northern University.

It is a day of achievement and accomplishment, a reaffirmation of why education is a key to our economic prosperity. But it is also a day of anxiety. Graduates are leaving campuses to enter a difficult job market saddled with student debt.

Approximately 2/3 of Ohioans who attend a private or public 4-year college or university graduate with an average of nearly \$26,000 in student loan debt. Unfortunately, as student loan debt levels continue to grow, the Nation's hiring climate remains sluggish. This has led to limited employment opportunities for recent graduates; nearly half of the 2009 graduating class is currently unemployed or employed in a position that does not require a college degree.

Such circumstances are leading to undue personal stress and potentially, a lifetime of financial challenges. Far too often, individuals and families are becoming part of the “sandwich generation” where families are paying for the cost of their children's education while also taking care of their aging parents.

That is why last year I supported—and the President signed into law, the Health and Education Reconciliation Act, the single largest federal investment in student aid in generations. The law ends wasteful subsidies to private lenders through the Federal Family Education Loan, FFEL, Program. In doing so, we cut out the middleman and loans are now not only originated, but also serviced, by the U.S. Department of Education.

By ending subsidies to private banks, we saved billions of dollars, and used the savings to allow the maximum Pell Grant award to reach a historic level. We made it easier for students to repay loans through the Income-Based Re-

payment Program. We did this all at no cost to the taxpayer.

For many colleges and universities, the transition from FFEL to the Direct Loan program has been a resounding success as there has been no disruption to borrowers or financial aid administrators.

For those borrowers who are in the middle of the transition period, I, along with my good colleague Senator FRANKEN, am introducing the Student Loan Simplification and Opportunity Act. This legislation, by simplifying loan repayment and reducing the loan amount, benefits college graduates. And this legislation, by removing costly subsidies provided to private lenders, saves 1.8 billion dollars that will be reinvested in the Pell Grant Program, thereby ensuring that other deserving students can afford to attend college.

The Student Loan Simplification and Opportunity Act would allow students with both FFEL loans and Direct Loans to voluntarily transfer their FFEL debt to a Direct Loan servicer over a nine-month period.

By converting loans, the likelihood that a borrower may miss a payment and end up further in debt would decrease. On average, a borrower with multiple loan servicers has a 20 percent higher chance of defaulting on their loan payments. Yet, this program not only simplifies a borrower's loan repayment, it reduces the amount owed. Borrowers who transferred their debt would be rewarded with up to a 2 percent reduction in the principal amount of their FFEL loan.

I am proud to introduce the Student Loan Simplification and Opportunity Act, as this legislation will benefit both borrowers and taxpayers.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 1079. A bill to amend title 41, United States Code, and title 10, United States Code, to extend the number of years that multiyear contracts may be entered into for the purchase of advanced biofuel, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mrs. MURRAY. 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:

S. 1079

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Domestic Fuel for Enhancing National Security Act of 2011”.

#### SEC. 2. MULTIYEAR CONTRACTS FOR ADVANCED BIOFUEL.

(a) CIVILIAN AGENCY CONTRACTS.—Subsection (a) of section 3903 of title 41, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

“(1) MULTIYEAR CONTRACT.—The term ‘multiyear contract’—

“(A) means a contract for the purchase of property or services for more than one, but not more than five, program years, except as provided in subparagraph (B);

“(B) in the case of a contract for the purchase of advanced biofuel, means a contract for the purchase of such fuel for a period of up to 15 program years; and

“(C) may provide that performance under the contract during the second and subsequent years of the contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds and (if it does so provide) may provide for a cancellation payment to be made to the contractor if such appropriations are not made.

“(2) ADVANCED BIOFUEL.—The term ‘advanced biofuel’ has the meaning given such term in section 211(o)(1)(B) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(o)(1)(B)).”.

(b) DEFENSE CONTRACTS.—Subsection (k) of section 2306b of title 10, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“(k) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section:

“(1)(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term ‘multiyear contract’ means a contract for the purchase of property or services for more than one, but not more than five, program years.

“(B) in the case of a contract for the purchase of advanced biofuel, the term ‘multiyear contract’ means a contract for the purchase of such fuel for a period of up to 15 program years.

“(C) Such a contract may provide that performance under the contract during the second and subsequent years of the contract is contingent upon the appropriation of funds and (if it does so provide) may provide for a cancellation payment to be made to the contractor if such appropriations are not made.

“(2) The term ‘advanced biofuel’ has the meaning given such term in section 211(o)(1)(B) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(o)(1)(B)).”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to contracts entered into on or after the date occurring 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 199—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF “CROHN'S AND COLITIS AWARENESS WEEK”

Mr. REID of Nevada (for himself, Mr. REED of Rhode Island, and Mr. COCHRAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 199

Whereas Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are serious, chronic inflammatory diseases of the gastrointestinal tract;

Whereas Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, collectively known as inflammatory bowel disease, afflict approximately 1,400,000 people in the United States, 30 percent of whom are diagnosed as children;

Whereas the cause of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis are unknown and no medical cure exists;

Whereas Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis can affect anyone, at any age, and is being diagnosed with increased frequency in children;

Whereas Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis patients are at high risk for developing colorectal cancer;

Whereas a lack of awareness among health professionals and the general public may

contribute to the misdiagnosis and mismanagement of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis;

Whereas the annual direct cost of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis in the United States is estimated to be \$6,100,000,000;

Whereas the goals of "Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week" are—

(1) to invite and encourage all people in the United States to join the effort to find a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis;

(2) to engage in activities aimed at raising awareness of Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis among the general public and health care providers; and

(3) to promote and support biomedical research needed to find better treatments and a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis; and

Whereas the week of December 1, 2011, through December 7, 2011, has been designated "Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, That the Senate—*

(1) supports the goals and ideals of "Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week";

(2) encourages media organizations to participate in "Crohn's and Colitis Awareness Week" by helping to educate the general public about Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis;

(3) recognizes all people in the United States living with Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis and expresses appreciation to the family members and caregivers who support them; and

(4) commends the dedication of health care professionals and biomedical researchers who care for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis patients and work to advance basic, genetic, and clinical research aimed at developing new treatments and a cure for Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 354. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 355. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 356. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 357. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 358. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 359. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 360. Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. COONS, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. FRANKEN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. AKAKA) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 347 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 361. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 347 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 362. Mr. VITTER (for himself and Mr. DEMINT) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 363. Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. HELLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 347 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 364. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 365. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

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SA 368. Mr. PAUL (for himself and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 369. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 370. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

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SA 381. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 382. Mr. PAUL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 383. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. COONS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 347 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 384. Mr. WYDEN (for himself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 347 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 385. Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 354.** Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

**SEC. . . . TERMINATION OF INVESTIGATIONS OF EMPLOYEES OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.**

The Attorney General shall terminate the investigations of employees of the Central Intelligence Agency regarding treatment or interrogation of detainees at overseas locations during the period beginning on September 18, 2001 and ending on May 2, 2011.

**SA 355.** Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

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**SA 356.** Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 990, to provide for an additional temporary extension of programs under the Small Business Act and the Small Business Investment Act of 1958, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

**SEC. 3. PREVENTION AND DETERRENCE OF TERRORIST SUICIDE BOMBINGS.**

(a) OFFENSE OF REWARDING OR FACILITATING INTERNATIONAL TERRORIST ACTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 113B of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

**“§ 2339E. Providing material support to international terrorism**

“(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section: