

Miranda Du, of Nevada, to be United States District Judge for the District of Nevada.

(Nominations without an asterisk were reported with the recommendation that they be confirmed.)

#### 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. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. JOHANNIS):

S. 1795. A bill to require the Corps of Engineers to revise the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System Master Water Control Manual to ensure greater storage capacity to prevent serious downstream flooding; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. PRYOR (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON):

S. 1796. A bill to make permanent the Internal Revenue Service Free File program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. MERKLEY:

S. 1797. A bill to amend title 23, United States Code, to permit as part of certain highway projects the installation of charging infrastructure for plug-in electric drive vehicles; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. CORKER, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. ALEXANDER):

S. 1798. A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to establish an open burn pit registry to ensure that members of the Armed Forces who may have been exposed to toxic chemicals and fumes caused by open burn pits while deployed to Afghanistan or Iraq receive information regarding such exposure, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. TESTER (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. PRYOR):

S. 1799. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for certain requirements relating to the immunization of veterans, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. PAUL:

S. 1800. A bill to prohibit the use of Federal funds for any universal or mandatory mental health screening program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 1801. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain provisions of the Creating Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MERKLEY, and Mr. BENNET):

S. 1802. A bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to carry out programs and activities that connect Americans, especially children, youth, and families, with the outdoors; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. MCCASKILL:

S. 1803. A bill to amend the Clean Air Act to limit Federal regulation of nuisance dust in areas in which that dust is regulated under State, tribal, or local law, to establish a prohibition against revising any national ambient air quality standard applicable to nuisance dust, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1804. A bill to amend title IV of the Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2008 to provide for the continuation of certain unemployment benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JOHANNIS:

S. 1805. A bill to prohibit the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency from rejecting or otherwise determining to be inadequate a State implementation plan in any case in which the State submitting the plan has not been given a reasonable time to develop and submit the plan in accordance with a certain provision of the Clean Air Act; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. BEGICH, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1806. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow taxpayers to designate overpayments of tax as contributions to the homeless veterans assistance fund; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BINGAMAN:

S. 1807. A bill to amend the Federal Non-nuclear Energy Research and Development Act of 1974 to provide for the prioritization, coordination, and streamlining of energy research, development, and demonstration programs to meet current and future energy needs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COONS (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 1808. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to toll, during active-duty service abroad in the Armed Forces, the periods of time to file a petition and appear for an interview to remove the conditional basis for permanent resident status, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KERRY:

S. 1809. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the program for viral hepatitis surveillance, education, and testing in order to prevent deaths from liver cancer, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

#### SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Ms. COLLINS):

S. Res. 310. A resolution designating 2012 as the "Year of the Girl" and Congratulating Girl Scouts of the USA on its 100th anniversary; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 311. A resolution to authorize the printing of a collection of the rules of the committees of the Senate; considered and agreed to.

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 91

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 91, a bill to implement equal protection under the 14th article of amendment to the Constitution for the right to life of each born and unborn human person.

S. 299

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE)

was added as a cosponsor of S. 299, a bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

S. 412

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) 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. 700

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 700, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the treatment of certain farming business machinery and equipment as 5-year property for purposes of depreciation.

S. 704

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 704, a bill to provide for duty-free treatment of certain recreational performance outerwear, and for other purposes.

S. 707

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 707, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide further protection for puppies.

S. 720

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 720, a bill to repeal the CLASS program.

S. 752

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 752, a bill to establish a comprehensive interagency response to reduce lung cancer mortality in a timely manner.

S. 829

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 829, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 1002

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1002, a bill to prohibit theft of medical products, and for other purposes.

S. 1251

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1251, a bill to amend title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to curb waste, fraud, and abuse in the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

S. 1391

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1391, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the disability compensation evaluation procedure of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder or mental health conditions related to military sexual trauma, and for other purposes.

S. 1451

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1451, a bill to prohibit the sale of billfish.

S. 1506

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1506, a bill to prevent the Secretary of the Treasury from expanding United States bank reporting requirements with respect to interest on deposits paid to nonresident aliens.

S. 1527

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) were added as cosponsors of S. 1527, a bill to authorize the award of a Congressional gold medal to the Montford Point Marines of World War II.

S. 1582

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1582, a bill to amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to modify provisions relating to beach monitoring, and for other purposes.

S. 1588

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1588, a bill to protect the right of individuals to bear arms at water resources development projects administered by the Secretary of the Army, and for other purposes.

S. 1616

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1616, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt certain stock of real estate investment trusts from the tax on foreign investments in United States real property interests, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1616, *supra*.

S. 1671

At the request of Mrs. HAGAN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1671, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a temporary dividends received deduc-

tion for dividends received from a controlled foreign corporation.

S. 1702

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1702, a bill to provide that the rules of the Environmental Protection Agency entitled "National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Reciprocating Internal Combustion Engines" have no force or effect with respect to existing stationary compression and spark ignition reciprocating internal combustion engines operated by certain persons and entities for the purpose of generating electricity or operating a water pump.

S. 1707

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1707, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify the conditions under which certain persons may be treated as adjudicated mentally incompetent for certain purposes.

S. 1718

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1718, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act with respect to the application of Medicare secondary payer rules for certain claims.

S. 1737

At the request of Mr. BENNET, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1737, a bill to improve the accuracy of mortgage underwriting used by Federal mortgage agencies by ensuring that energy costs are included in the underwriting process, to reduce the amount of energy consumed by homes, to facilitate the creation of energy efficiency retrofit and construction jobs, and for other purposes.

S. 1759

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1759, a bill to facilitate the hosting in the United States of the 34th America's Cup by authorizing certain eligible vessels to participate in activities related to the competition.

S. 1769

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1769, a bill to put workers back on the job while rebuilding and modernizing America.

At the request of Mr. CARPER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1769, *supra*.

S. 1780

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1780, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to consolidate the reporting obligations of the Federal

Communications Commission in order to improve congressional oversight and reduce reporting burdens.

S. 1784

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1784, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for greater transparency and efficiency in the procedures followed by the Federal Communications Commission.

S.J. RES. 29

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 29, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

S. RES. 274

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 274, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that funding for the Federal Pell Grant program should not be cut in any deficit reduction program.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. SNOWE:

S. 1801. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain provisions of the Creating Small Business Jobs Act of 2010, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Ms. SNOWE. Mr. President, today I introduce the Small Business Tax Extenders Act of 2011, targeted tax relief legislation to extend, for one year, the essential tax relief provisions that were included in the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010.

When the Small Business Jobs Act was crafted, I worked closely with Finance Committee Chair BAUCUS and then Ranking Member GRASSLEY to ensure the critical small business tax provisions that reflected our shared priorities were included in that legislation. I sincerely appreciate all of their hard work on that legislation.

As the former Chair and now Ranking Member of the Small Business Committee, I am well aware of the urgent imperative of job creation in our country. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the average annual unemployment rate for 2010 was 9.6 percent. For 27 out of the past 32 months the unemployment rate has been at 9 percent or above. About 45 percent of the unemployed have been out of work for at least 6 months—a level previously unseen in the 6 decades since World War II.

At a time when 14 million Americans are still unemployed, and have been so for the longest period since record keeping began in 1948, our government should be taking every possible step to ease the burden on job creators. We