

Florida (Mr. RUBIO) and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. MANCHIN) 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. 1692

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) were added as cosponsors of S. 1692, a bill to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, to provide full funding for the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program, and for other purposes.

S. 1707

At the request of Mr. BURR, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. AYOTTE) 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. 1720

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1720, a bill to provide American jobs through economic growth.

S. 1750

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1750, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish a Home Care Consumer Bill of Rights, to establish State Home Care Ombudsman Programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1758

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1758, a bill to amend the Federal Power Act to prohibit the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission from requiring the removal or modification of existing structures or encroachments in licenses of the Commission.

S. 1804

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of 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.

S.J. RES. 21

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 21, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relative to equal rights for men and women.

S.J. RES. 29

At the request of Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. FRANKEN)

were added as cosponsors 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. 180

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 180, a resolution expressing support for peaceful demonstrations and universal freedoms in Syria and condemning the human rights violations by the Assad regime.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mrs. BOXER):

S. 1810. A bill to authorize improvements to flood damage reduction facilities adjacent to the American and Sacramento Rivers near Sacramento, California, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Natomas Basin Flood Protection Improvements Act of 2011.

This legislation will authorize the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to improve the flood control infrastructure in the Sacramento area, safeguarding many thousands of homes and businesses.

There is a pressing need to improve levees in Sacramento, a city that is perpetually cited as one of our Nation's most at-risk for severe flooding.

But even in this high-risk city, there are priority areas. Natomas, which lies between the American and Sacramento rivers, is the top priority for Sacramento flood control.

More than 100,000 people in the Natomas flood plain are at high or moderate risk of flooding.

The vast majority of these homes would be inundated with over 10 feet of water should a levee break.

In some places, inundation levels would exceed 20 feet.

The risk is clear. Estimates by the Army Corps of Engineers put the risk of levee failure at 1 in 3. Damages from a single flood could top \$7 billion.

Recognizing the need to upgrade the levees in Natomas, the Corps of Engineers completed a Chief's Report in December 2010 that identified \$1.1 billion in essential levee improvements.

According to the report, the principal levee modifications include the widening of 41.9 miles of existing levees; installation of about 34.8 miles of soil bentonite cutoff wall; installation of 8.3 miles of seepage berms, and bridge remediation on State Route 99.

In addition, the report recommends the creation of 75 acres of canal habitat, 200 acres of Marsh habitat, and 60 acres of woodland habitat to ensure the project complies with the Endangered Species Act.

The cost of these improvements will be significant, but the burden will be

shared. The Chief's Report recommends that the costs of the improvements be split between the federal government and state and local stakeholders.

The report recommends roughly a 65 percent federal share and a 35 percent state and local share.

The Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency, SAFCA, and the California Department of Water Resources have taken the cost-share agreement to heart and are outpacing the Corps of Engineers. They have begun their work on the project even before the federal work has been authorized.

SAFCA and California have already invested more than \$320 million in the Natomas Basin project and repaired about 18 miles of the basin's 42 miles of levees. By the end of 2012, this amount will increase to \$370 million.

I want to take a moment to recognize SAFCA and the people of Sacramento for their efforts. They have put their money where their mouth is. This project would not be possible without the significant leadership and resources they have already committed.

County voters twice approved special tax assessments, in 2007 and 2011, to raise local funds needed to improve the levee system. These assessments will provide more than \$80 million of local funds for flood control projects. In addition, local interests have provided an additional \$40 million in advance of federal participation for which credit will be sought, that is a total commitment thus far of \$120 million.

The most recent assessment passed overwhelmingly, 84.5 percent of voters supported the measure.

Sacramento residents and homeowners understand that this levee improvement project is critical to the safety and viability of their community. Even during the worst economic downturns in a generation, voters stood together, passed the measure and sent a definitive message to Congress.

I also want to recognize Representative DORIS MATSUI, author of companion legislation in the House and a champion on this issue. I have had the pleasure of working with my good friend from Sacramento on flood control for nearly a decade, and her commitment and advocacy is unparalleled.

I want to reinforce the importance of this legislation. If Sacramento levees fail, the results will be devastating. Sacramento International Airport, which serves 4.4 million passengers per year and is the primary air-cargo hub for the region, will be largely underwater.

Interstate 5, Interstate 80 and State Route 99 will be closed or restricted. These roads serve as freight arteries and facilitate the passage of more than 2,500 trucks per day.

Access to the Port of West Sacramento, the city's primary seaport, will be jeopardized.

Flooding in Sacramento is not a question of if, but when.

Recordbreaking storms hit the region in 1951, 1956, 1964, 1986 and 1997.

During the 1997 storm, levee failures in the nearby cities of Olivehurst, Arboga, Wilton, Manteca and Modesto caused mass evacuations and millions of dollars in damages.

An even more devastating flood occurred in 1861 when the American River Levee failed. California's newly elected Governor, Leland Stanford, was forced to take a row-boat to his inauguration and the state capital was temporarily moved to San Francisco.

In January of this year, the U.S. Geological Survey released a study entitled "ARkStorm" that examined the impacts of an atmospheric river storm event in California. This storm scenario produced rainfall levels seen once every 500 to 1,000 years.

In this model, the Central Valley would experience 300 miles of flooding, 20 or more miles wide. Evacuations could involve 1.5 million residents, with hundreds of landslides damaging roads, highways, and homes.

There is a statistical possibility that the cataclysmic scenario run by the U.S.G.S. will occur in our lifetime. The possibility is small, but it could happen.

So we must be prepared if it does.

The Natomas Basin Flood Protection Improvements Act of 2011 is one small step toward achieving that.

This legislation addresses the needs of one of the highest-risk communities in our Nation.

While this legislation isn't cheap, the cost-share relieves a sizable share of the Federal responsibility.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

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. 1815

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 "Natomas Basin Flood Protection Improvements Act of 2011".

SEC. 2. PROJECT MODIFICATION, AMERICAN AND SACRAMENTO RIVERS, CALIFORNIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The project for flood damage reduction, American and Sacramento Rivers, California, authorized by section 101(a)(1) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-303; 110 Stat. 3662; 113 Stat. 319; 117 Stat. 1839; 121 Stat. 1947), is modified to authorize the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to construct improvements to flood damage reduction facilities adjacent to the American and Sacramento Rivers in the vicinity of Sacramento, California, substantially in accordance with the report of the Chief of Engineers entitled "American River Watershed (Common Features) Project, Natomas Basin, Sacramento and Sutter Counties, California", and dated December 30, 2010, at an estimated total cost of \$1,389,500,000, with an estimated Federal cost of \$921,200,000 and an estimated non-Federal cost of \$468,300,000.

(b) CREDIT FOR NON-FEDERAL WORK.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The non-Federal interest shall receive credit for expenses and in-kind contributions incurred by the non-Federal interest in carrying out a project described in subsection (a) for planning, design, and construction of the project and acquisition of any land, easement, right-of-way, relocation, and dredged material disposal area for the project.

(2) APPLICATION OF CREDIT.—The credit under paragraph (1) shall be applied toward the non-Federal share of—

(A) the project; or

(B) any other project for which the non-Federal interest has entered into a cost-sharing agreement with the Secretary.

(3) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection limits the ability of the non-Federal interest to pursue credit or reimbursement for work performed by the non-Federal interest in connection with the project under any other law (including regulations), authority, or procedure, including section 104 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 (33 U.S.C. 2214).

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

S. 1815. A bill to codify and delay the implementation of and compliance dates for a final rule relating to interstate transport of air pollution; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. President, later this week the Senate will vote on a resolution to disapprove the Clean Air Act rule designed to limit the blowing of powerplant pollution from one State to another. In my opinion, overturning the rule would throw the matter back to regulators, back to courts, back to lawsuits, and back into a delay.

Senator PRYOR of Arkansas and I are introducing today S. 1815. We have sent it to the desk. It is bipartisan legislation that will provide what we believe is a better approach, and that approach is to enact the clean air rule into law but give utilities 1 additional year in which to comply with it. Our approach would provide certainty and cleaner air at the lowest possible cost to ratepayers.

The motion to overturn the clean air rule will be offered by the junior Senator from Kentucky, Mr. PAUL.

Tennesseans admire much about our Kentucky neighbors. We admire their bluegrass, we admire their basketball, we admire their distinguished Senators. But Tennesseans don't want Kentucky's State income tax, and we don't want Kentucky's dirty air. We also know our neighbors in North Carolina don't want Tennessee's dirty air blowing into North Carolina because they have told us that through lawsuits in the courts, which they have won.

Air pollution blowing from one State into another makes our citizens sick, especially our younger Tennesseans and our older Tennesseans. Air pollution blowing from other States into our State is a jobs issue. Pollution makes our Great Smoky Mountains

more like the "Great Smoggy Mountains." We like to see our mountains and we like for the 9 million visitors who come to visit us every year to stay a long time and to spend a lot of money because that supports our schools and it supports our State revenue.

Dirty air blowing into Tennessee from other States makes it harder for us to create jobs in yet another way. I remember 30 years ago when I was Governor of Tennessee and the Nissan corporation came to our State. The very first thing Nissan did when it came to Tennessee was to go down to the State Air Quality Board and ask for an air quality permit in order to operate its paint plant. Fortunately, the air quality in the Nashville area was clean enough that Nissan could locate there. If Nissan hadn't been able to obtain an air quality permit to operate its paint plant, it would have been in Georgia or some other State. As a result the auto jobs which have come to Tennessee in the tens of thousands over the last 30 years would most likely have went to some other State.

So dirty air blowing from Kentucky into Tennessee or Tennessee into North Carolina or from any State into another State makes it harder for the recipient State's communities to get their quality permits. It makes it harder, for example, for us to say to Volkswagen and its suppliers: We can provide a home to you because our air is clean enough so that you can get our air quality permit.

Mr. President, in 2005, the Bush administration first put into place the predecessor to the Cross-State Air Pollution Rule that we will be voting on later this week. Federal courts found that the Bush rule was flawed in some technical respects and ordered the Environmental Protection Agency to write a new rule, which some now seek to overturn by means of the Congressional Review Act. The Bush clean air rule that was put in place in 2005 has now been there for 6 years. Many utilities have already taken steps to comply with it.

The pollution standards in the new rule we will be voting on are about the same as those established in the 2005 Bush rule. As an example of costs, the Tennessee Valley Authority, the Nation's largest public utility, tells us that complying with the amended rule will cost its ratepayers between \$1 and \$2 a month.

We often hear, and I will have to say that a lot of those comments often come from our side of the aisle, that it is the job of Congress, not the bureaucrats and the courts, to write the clean air rules. The commonsense legislation that Senator PRYOR and I offer today is an opportunity for Congress to do its job in a way that will clean the air at the lowest possible cost to ratepayers.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 312—COMMENDING GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA ON THE SPECIAL OCCASION OF ITS 52ND ANNUAL CONVENTION AND COMMENDING THE COMMITMENT OF GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA TO THE MISSION OF FOSTERING THE COURAGE, CONFIDENCE, AND CHARACTER THAT GIRLS NEED TO BECOME LEADERS AND MAKE THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE

Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 312

Whereas, on March 12, 1912, founder Juliette Gordon Low organized the first troop of Girl Scouts of the USA (referred to in this preamble as “Girl Scouts”);

Whereas, on March 16, 1950, Girl Scouts became the first national organization for girls to be granted a Federal charter by Congress;

Whereas Girl Scouts regularly informs Congress of its progress and program initiatives through annual reports;

Whereas Girl Scouts actively promotes initiatives to help young women discover their full potential by—

- (1) instilling a sound foundation of positive values;
- (2) developing a sense of service;
- (3) facilitating creative decision-making; and
- (4) turning girls into model citizens and leaders of their community, the country, and the world;

Whereas Girl Scouts is holding its 52nd Convention in November 2011 in Houston, Texas;

Whereas the 2011 Girl Scout Leadership Institute, which will run at the 52nd Convention, encourages young women, ages 13 to 18, to explore and build skills in math, science, business, and technology to prepare for future success in the increasingly competitive global marketplace;

Whereas the 2011 Girl Scout Leadership Institute, under the theme of “Leadership and Innovation, the Next 100 Years”—

- (1) seeks to advance leadership opportunities for girls;
- (2) promotes programs that offer advanced curriculum;
- (3) engages over 1,200 young women from across the globe;
- (4) connects young women to industry professionals;
- (5) builds the interest of young women in innovation and technology;
- (6) addresses global issues; and
- (7) teaches life-long leadership abilities and teamwork skills in an interactive environment;

Whereas Girl Scouts has renewed the focus on involving girls in “innovative, hands-on experiences in science, technology, engineering, and math” (referred to in this preamble as “STEM”) that “strengthen the natural aptitudes of girls and acquaint them with new career options and tools for future independence”;

Whereas Girl Scouts develops girl-centered programs that—

- (1) are attuned to the ever-changing needs of women working in the current global market; and
- (2) encourage girls to actively engage in STEM activities, facilitating valuable real-world experiences that are integral to developing the next female leaders of the United States;

Whereas Girl Scouts remains a preeminent organization with 3,200,000 members, dedicated solely to—

(1) inspiring generations of girls to reach for their goals, challenge stereotypes, and develop to their full potential; and

(2) advancing opportunities for women to accomplish feats previously thought impossible for the female gender; and

Whereas Girl Scouts has significantly contributed to the advancement of the United States for 100 years by instilling in young women the leadership qualities on which the strength of the United States depends: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Girl Scouts of the USA for organizing—

(A) the 2011 National Council Session and the 52nd Convention;

(B) the 2011 Girl Scout Leadership Institute; and

(C) the 2011 “Leadership and Innovation, the Next 100 Years” workshops; and

(2) commends Girl Scouts of the USA for continuing to create learning opportunities and activities for young women to develop strong leadership values and life skills.

SENATE RESOLUTION 313—CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON ON ITS SESQUICENTENNIAL AND RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AND THE UNITED STATES

Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 313

Whereas the University of Washington was founded on November 4, 1861, making it the oldest public university on the west coast of the United States;

Whereas the University of Washington has since grown into an internationally acclaimed research university, spanning 3 campuses in the greater Puget Sound area and enrolling nearly 50,000 students, including international students from 18 countries;

Whereas the faculty of the University of Washington has been repeatedly recognized for excellence, including through the awarding of 4 Nobel Prizes and 15 “Genius Grants” by the MacArthur Foundation, among other awards;

Whereas research at the University of Washington has played a critical role in supporting the advancement of knowledge and industry in the State of Washington and the rest of the country;

Whereas the University of Washington serves as a cultural hub for the Seattle community through world-class venues such as the Henry Art Gallery and Meany Hall for the Performing Arts;

Whereas the University of Washington is home to the Daniel J. Evans School of Public Affairs, the oldest institution dedicated to public policy at a public institution of higher education;

Whereas, for more than 100 years, the University of Washington’s Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies has been at the forefront of international education and research, with a particular educational emphasis on the relations of the United States to the Asia-Pacific Region;

Whereas the University of Washington Medical School and its associated hospitals have been recognized as some of the finest medical facilities in the world, home to the

inventors of the first long-term procedure for kidney dialysis and the world’s first multidisciplinary pain care center, as well as helping train physicians throughout the western United States through partnerships with medical schools in Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho; and

Whereas November 4, 2011, is the 150th anniversary of the founding of the University of Washington: Now therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) honors the University of Washington on its sesquicentennial;

(2) recognizes the contributions of the University of Washington to the State of Washington and the United States;

(3) salutes the University of Washington’s distinguished legacy of academic excellence, path-breaking research, and partnership with its community; and

(4) extends its congratulations to the students, faculty, staff, and alumni of the University of Washington.

SENATE RESOLUTION 314—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PROJECT CHERNOBYL AND PROJECT 9/11

Mrs. GILLIBRAND submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 314

Whereas Project Chernobyl is an important organization in the United States addressing the high risk of thyroid cancer among people living in the United States who are from countries affected by the Chernobyl nuclear accident;

Whereas Project Chernobyl has expanded services to offer thyroid screenings to the general population in regions with a high incidence of thyroid cancer;

Whereas Project Chernobyl is addressing the high medical costs of diagnosis and treatment of thyroid cancer by introducing and implementing innovative, minimally invasive techniques that allow for rapid, low cost treatment;

Whereas Project Chernobyl is initiating and funding research directed toward developing new diagnostic and treatment methodologies for thyroid cancer and other thyroid diseases;

Whereas Project Chernobyl has organized Project 9/11, a dedicated effort to identify and treat thyroid cancer among 9/11 first responders; and

Whereas Project Chernobyl and Project 9/11 are providing an extraordinary service to members of the 9/11 community and first responders who are suffering from thyroid cancer: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate commends Project 9/11 and its work to assist the 9/11 community in early treatment and detection of thyroid cancer.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 924. Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. ENZI, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 674, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the imposition of 3 percent withholding on certain payments made to vendors by government entities, to modify the calculation of modified adjusted gross income for purposes of determining eligibility for certain healthcare-related programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.