

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-144. A joint resolution adopted by the Legislature of the State of Nevada memorializing the State of Nevada's petition to the United States Congress calling for a convention of the States for the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2

Resolved by the Senate and Assembly of the State of Nevada, jointly, That this legislature respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States to call a convention for the purpose of proposing the following article as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

"ARTICLE "

"Section 1. No provision of this Constitution, or any amendment thereto, shall restrict or limit any state in the apportionment of representation in its legislature.

"Section 2. The judicial power of the United States shall not extend to any suit in law or equity, or to any controversy relating to apportionment of representation in a state legislature.

"Section 3. This article shall be inoperative unless it shall have been ratified as an amendment to the Constitution by the Legislatures of three-fourths of the several States within seven years from the date of its submission." Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That if Congress shall have proposed an amendment to the Constitution identical with that contained in this resolution prior to January 1, 1965, this application for a convention shall no longer be of any force or effect; and be it further,

Resolved, That a duly attested copy of this resolution be immediately transmitted to the Secretary of the Senate of the United States, the Clerk of the House of Representatives of the United States and to each member of the Congress from this State.

POM-145. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to citizenship and sovereignty; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

POM-146. A petition from a citizen of the State of Texas relative to the enacting of laws; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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 Mrs. CAPITO (for herself and Mrs. SHAHEEN):

S. 2786. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for payments for certain rural health clinic and Federally qualified health center services furnished to hospice patients under the Medicare program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Mr. KAINE, Mr. KING, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. TESTER):

S. 2787. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide the same level of Federal matching assistance for every State that chooses to expand Medicaid coverage to newly eligible individuals, regardless of when such expansion takes place; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. BAR-RASSO, Mr. COTTON, Mr. CRUZ, Mrs. ERNST, Mr. HATCH, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. MORAN, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. THUNE):

S. 2788. A bill to prohibit closure of United States Naval Station, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, to prohibit the transfer or release of detainees at that Naval Station to the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Ms. WARREN (for herself, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. UDALL, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MARKEY, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2789. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish a free on-line tax preparation and filing service and programs that allow taxpayers to access third-party provided tax return information; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEE (for Mr. CRUZ (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 2790. A bill to provide requirements for the appropriate Federal banking agencies when requesting or ordering a depository institution to terminate a specific customer account, to provide for additional requirements related to subpoenas issued under the Financial Institutions Reform, Recovery, and Enforcement Act of 1989, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. FRANKEN (for himself and Mr. TILLIS):

S. 2791. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the treatment of veterans who participated in the cleanup of Enewetak Atoll as radiation exposed veterans for purposes of the presumption of service-connection of certain disabilities by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself and Mr. VITTER):

S. 2792. A bill to reestablish and enhance the Defense Research and Development Rapid Innovation Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. VITTER, and Ms. AYOTTE):

S. 2793. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to reauthorize and improve the Small Business Innovation Research Program and the Small Business Technology Transfer Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. PORTMAN, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. BURR, Mr. CASEY, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. FLAKE, and Mr. COATS):

S. 2794. A bill to establish a process for the submission and consideration of petitions for temporary duty suspensions and reductions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 2795. A bill to modernize the regulation of nuclear energy; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. ROUNDS:

S. 2796. A bill to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 2797. A bill to establish the Refund to Rainy Day Savings Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. LANKFORD:

S. 2798. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to terminate the essential air

service program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MURPHY (for himself and Mr. PAUL):

S.J. Res. 32. A joint resolution to provide limitations on the transfer of certain United States munitions from the United States to Saudi Arabia; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. Res. 419. A resolution congratulating the University of North Dakota men's hockey team for winning the 2016 National Collegiate Athletic Association division I men's hockey championship; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 420. A resolution congratulating the 2016 national champion Augustana Vikings for their win in the 2016 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division II Men's Basketball Tournament; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. Res. 421. A resolution congratulating the University of Connecticut Women's Basketball Team for winning the 2016 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I title; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HATCH, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. SESSIONS, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN):

S. Res. 422. A resolution supporting the mission and goals of 2016 "National Crime Victims' Rights Week", which include increasing public awareness of the rights, needs, concerns of, and services available to assist victims and survivors of crime in the United States; considered and agreed to.

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

S. Res. 423. A resolution congratulating the University of Minnesota Women's Ice Hockey Team on winning the 2016 National Collegiate Athletic Association Women's Ice Hockey Championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BURR (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. Res. 424. A resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Take Our Daughters And Sons To Work Day; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 151

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 151, a bill to require the Secretary of Defense to establish a process to determine whether individuals claiming certain service in the Philippines during World War II are eligible for certain benefits despite not being on the Missouri List, and for other purposes.

S. 386

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 386, a bill to limit the authority of States to tax certain income of

employees for employment duties performed in other States.

S. 391

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 391, 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. 577

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 577, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to eliminate the corn ethanol mandate for renewable fuel.

S. 857

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 857, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the Medicare program of an initial comprehensive care plan for Medicare beneficiaries newly diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, and for other purposes.

S. 1112

At the request of Mr. FRANKEN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1112, a bill to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to expand coverage under the Act, to increase protections for whistleblowers, to increase penalties for high gravity violations, to adjust penalties for inflation, to provide rights for victims or their family members, and for other purposes.

S. 1444

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1444, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the rate of tax regarding the taxation of distilled spirits.

S. 1555

At the request of Ms. HIRONO, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1555, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the Filipino veterans of World War II, in recognition of the dedicated service of the veterans during World War II.

S. 1562

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1562, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform taxation of alcoholic beverages.

S. 1651

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1651, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 1697

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Colorado

(Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1697, a bill to provide an exception from certain group health plan requirements to allow small businesses to use pre-tax dollars to assist employees in the purchase of policies in the individual health insurance market, and for other purposes.

S. 2200

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2200, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to strengthen equal pay requirements.

S. 2217

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2217, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to improve and clarify certain disclosure requirements for restaurants and similar retail food establishments, and to amend the authority to bring proceedings under section 403A.

S. 2283

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2283, a bill to ensure that small business providers of broadband Internet access service can devote resources to broadband deployment rather than compliance with cumbersome regulatory requirements.

S. 2373

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2373, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for Medicare coverage of certain lymphedema compression treatment items as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 2385

At the request of Mr. COONS, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2385, a bill to strengthen protections for the remaining populations of wild elephants, rhinoceroses, and other imperiled species through country-specific anti-poaching efforts and anti-trafficking strategies, to promote the value of wildlife and natural resources, to curtail the demand for illegal wildlife products in consumer countries, and for other purposes.

S. 2497

At the request of Mr. BLUNT, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2497, a bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 to provide protections for retail customers, and for other purposes.

S. 2502

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2502, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to ensure that retirement invest-

tors receive advice in their best interests, and for other purposes.

S. 2505

At the request of Mr. KIRK, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2505, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that retirement investors receive advice in their best interests, and for other purposes.

S. 2577

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2577, a bill to protect crime victims' rights, to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA and other forensic evidence samples to improve and expand the forensic science testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of forensic evidence, to provide post-conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to support accreditation efforts of forensic science laboratories and medical examiner offices, to address training and equipment needs, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, and for other purposes.

S. 2707

At the request of Mr. SCOTT, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS), the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER), and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) were added as cosponsors of S. 2707, a bill to require the Secretary of Labor to nullify the proposed rule regarding defining and delimiting the exemptions for executive, administrative, professional, outside sales, and computer employees, to require the Secretary of Labor to conduct a full and complete economic analysis with improved economic data on small businesses, nonprofit employers, Medicare or Medicaid dependent health care providers, and small governmental jurisdictions, and all other employers, and minimize the impact on such employers, before promulgating any substantially similar rule, and to provide a rule of construction regarding the salary threshold exemption under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, and for other purposes.

S. 2736

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2736, a bill to improve access to durable medical equipment for Medicare beneficiaries under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 2770

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2770, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require providers of a covered service to provide call location information concerning the telecommunications device of a user of such service to an investigative or law enforcement officer in an emergency situation involving risk of death or serious physical injury or in order to respond to the user's call for emergency services.

AMENDMENT NO. 3286

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER), the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES), and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3286 intended to be proposed to S. 2012, an original bill to provide for the modernization of the energy policy of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3490

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3490 proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3548

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3548 intended to be proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3557

At the request of Mr. FLAKE, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3557 intended to be proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3563

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3563 intended to be proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3568

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3568 intended to be proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3591

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3591 intended to be proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3624

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3624 intended to be proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3654

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. RUBIO) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3654 intended to be proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3657

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3657 intended to be proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3683

At the request of Mr. BOOKER, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3683 intended to be proposed to H.R. 636, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend increased expensing limitations, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. ROUNDS:

S. 2796. A bill to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. ROUNDS. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce a bill to begin to address the list of historic wrongs against Native American citizens brought by the early U.S. Government.

The idea that these laws were ever considered is disturbing, but the fact that these laws remain on our books is, at best, an oversight. Currently, Native Americans who are U.S. citizens just like you and me are still legally subject to a series of obsolete, historically wrong statutes. These statutes are a sad reminder of the hostile aggression and overt racism that the Federal Government exhibited toward Native Americans as the government attempted to assimilate them into what was considered modern society.

In 2016, laws still exist that would allow for the forced removal of their children, who can be sent to boarding

schools, and they can be denied rations if they refuse. They can still be subject to forced labor on their reservations as a condition of their receipt of supplies. Moreover, they can be denied funding if found drunk on a reservation.

These statutes actually remain on the books of the land and, in many cases, are more than a century old and continue the stigma of subjugation and paternalism from that time period. It is without question that they should be stricken.

We cannot adequately repair history, but we can move forward. Because of this, today I am introducing the RESPECT Act or the Repealing Existing Substandard Provisions Encouraging Conciliation with Tribes Act.

I wish to list some of the 12 existing laws that the RESPECT Act will repeal. In Chapter 25 of the United States Code, section 302, entitled "Education of Indians, Indian Reform School; rules and regulations; consent of parents to placing youth in reform school," the Commissioner of Indian Affairs was directed to place Indian youth in Indian reform schools without the consent of their parents.

The issue of off-reservation Indian boarding schools, in particular, is a rightfully sensitive one for our Native Americans. Between 1879 and into the 20th century, at least 830,000 Indian children were taken to boarding schools to allegedly "civilize them." Many parents were threatened with surrendering their children or their food rations. This law, in fact, is also still on the books.

A requirement exists in section 283, entitled "Regulations for withholding rations for nonattendance at schools," that the Secretary of the Interior could "prevent the issuing of rations or the furnishing of subsistence to the head of any Indian family for or on account of any Indian child or children between the ages of eight and twenty-one years who shall not have attended school in the preceding year in accordance with such regulations."

Yet there still exist other outdated laws relating to wartime status between Indians and the United States, such as those found in section 72 of the Code, entitled "Abrogation of treaties." Here the President was authorized to declare all treaties with such tribes "abrogated if in his opinion any Indian tribe is in actual hostility to the United States."

In section 127, entitled "Moneys or annuities of hostile Indians," moneys or annuities stipulated by any treaty with an Indian tribe could be stopped if the tribe "has engaged in hostilities against the United States, or against its citizens peacefully or lawfully sojourning or traveling within its jurisdiction at the time of such hostilities."

Likewise, in section 128, entitled "Appropriations not paid to Indians at war with United States," none of the appropriations made for the Indian Service could "be paid to any band of Indians or any portion of any band