

involvement in abortion, and for other purposes.

S. 2932

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2932, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act with respect to the provision of emergency medical services.

S. 2934

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2934, a bill to ensure that all individuals who should be prohibited from buying a firearm are listed in the national instant criminal background check system and require a background check for every firearm sale.

S. 2993

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2993, a bill to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to change the spill prevention, control, and countermeasure rule with respect to certain farms.

S. 3039

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3039, a bill to support programs for mosquito-borne and other vector-borne disease surveillance and control.

S. 3065

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3065, a bill to amend parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act to invest in funding prevention and family services to help keep children safe and supported at home, to ensure that children in foster care are placed in the least restrictive, most family-like, and appropriate settings, and for other purposes.

S. 3153

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3153, a bill to require the Federal financial institutions regulatory agencies to take risk profiles and business models of institutions into account when taking regulatory actions, and for other purposes.

S. 3155

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3155, a bill to amend chapter 97 of title 28, United States Code, to clarify the exception to foreign sovereign immunity set forth in section 1605(a)(3) of such title.

S. 3164

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3164, a bill to provide protection for survivors of domestic violence or sexual assault under the Fair Housing Act.

S. 3179

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3179, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to improve and extend the credit for carbon dioxide sequestration.

S. 3195

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3195, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to preserve Medicare beneficiary access to ventilators, and for other purposes.

S. 3230

At the request of Mr. KING, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3230, a bill to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to establish an initiative, carried out by the Assistant Secretary for Aging, to coordinate Federal efforts and programs for home modifications enabling older individuals to live independently and safely in a home environment, and for other purposes.

S. 3251

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3251, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exemption to the individual mandate to maintain health coverage for certain individuals whose premium has increased by more than 10 percent, and for other purposes.

S. 3256

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3256, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance for developing countries to promote quality basic education and to establish the goal of all children in school and learning as an objective of the United States foreign assistance policy, and for other purposes.

S. 3276

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. MCCONNELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3276, a bill to make habitual drunk drivers inadmissible and removable and to require the detention of any alien who is unlawfully present in the United States and has been charged with driving under the influence or driving while intoxicated.

S. 3281

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 3281, a bill to extend the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996.

S. 3285

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. SASSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3285, a bill to prohibit the Presi-

dent from using funds appropriated under section 1304 of title 31, United States Code, to make payments to Iran, to impose sanctions with respect to Iranian persons that hold or detain United States citizens, and for other purposes.

S. 3296

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. GARDNER), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. TILLIS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. PERDUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 3296, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an exemption to the individual mandate to maintain health coverage for individuals residing in counties with fewer than 2 health insurance issuers offering plans on an Exchange.

S. CON. RES. 49

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 49, a concurrent resolution supporting efforts to stop the theft, illegal possession or sale, transfer, and export of tribal cultural items of Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians in the United States and internationally.

AMENDMENT NO. 4981

At the request of Mr. REID, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4981 proposed to S. 2848, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4983

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4983 intended to be proposed to S. 2848, a bill to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. RUBIO:

S. 3301. A bill to amend the Small Business Act to ensure small businesses affected by the onset of transmissible diseases are eligible for disaster relief; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Mr. RUBIO. Mr. President, I come to the floor again—I believe for the 10th time since March—to discuss the Zika virus.

The first time I talked about this was back in January. There was a report out that said Zika, the disease, was being transmitted by mosquitoes and

there was an outbreak in Brazil. Immediately for me alarm bells went off because being from Miami, FL, my hometown, if you go to the airport and look at the board, the number of flights coming from Brazil to South Florida, the numbers are high. There are dozens of flights a week back and forth. My immediate thought at that time was that this is going to be an issue for Florida and ultimately for America, given the amount of travel back and forth.

I also saw the outbreak in the territory of Puerto Rico, a place I have taken a tremendous interest in since my time here. As everyone knows, Puerto Rico is not officially represented in this Chamber, but I, along with my colleagues Senator MENENDEZ of New Jersey and Senator NELSON of Florida, have always looked out for the interests of the island and its people who are U.S. citizens. So knowing the link between Florida and Puerto Rico and the link between Zika and Puerto Rico, I knew as early as January that this was going to be an issue. I immediately talked to our Border Patrol folks and our Customs people at our airports and seaports about ensuring we are doing everything we can.

In March, when the President came out in February and March and talked about the need for \$1.9 billion to fight Zika, I believe I was the first Republican—certainly in this Chamber—to come out in favor of that request because my argument at the time was, we don't know fully what we are dealing with here, but let's get ahead of it. Let's jump in front of it and let's deal with it. Otherwise it will only get worse. Unfortunately, that didn't happen.

In much of April and March, there was not much attention paid to this. So cases started coming up domestically, mostly travel-related. The Senate did move, and I am proud of the fact that after some back and forth, this place worked. We worked across the aisle, and I worked with Senator NELSON on his proposal and other proposals. In fact, I believe I am the only Member of Congress who voted in favor of every single Zika proposal because in my mind I wanted the money to flow so local governments and States could deal with it and researchers could develop a vaccine. We passed a law for \$1.1 billion. It was a product of compromise. It was less than what the President asked for, but it began to move. Unfortunately, the House had a different idea and this is where we are today.

When we left in July, there had not been a reported case of a transmission of Zika by a mosquito, but as I warned through April, May, June, and July, it was only a matter of time. If you spent any amount of time in Florida, you know it is hot, it is humid, that it rains, and there are a lot of mosquitoes. You have a State which is a key entry point between key areas and the continental United States and you

have mosquitoes. It didn't take a scientist or an expert in Zika to know the combination of those two things were going to lead to locally based transmission. Sadly, that is what is happening.

There is a neighborhood in Miami, FL, called Wynwood. This was an area that is economically depressed and it has come alive. It is a center of art. They have these murals where graffiti artists were allowed to come in and put in these extraordinary murals. It is not graffiti. It is art. It is a place where the art community is centered and has come alive with some of the best restaurants in South Florida. This is the Wynwood community.

It is a magnet for tourists. There are people who fly to Florida, and South Florida in particular, and go straight to Wynwood because they want to be in that area. It was the first area impacted, and the CDC came out with a warning telling people to avoid a neighborhood. This is usually the kind of advisory that goes out about avoiding other countries, telling Americans and travelers, specifically, to avoid a certain part of a certain neighborhood.

Can you imagine the impact it had on the businesses in that community? We talked about the human toll of Zika, of the infection, and of what it does to unborn children, but there is also the economic impact of having a lead health care agency in charge of public health in America issue a warning to Americans to avoid a neighborhood in an American city. I promise you that was not good for those businesses. Some of these businesses had to close for weeks on end and days on end.

Then a few weeks later we had reports of the disease being transmitted on Miami Beach. I don't need to tell you about Miami Beach. Everyone knows about Miami Beach. It is the cornerstone of tourism in South Florida. People come to Miami Beach from all over the world to enjoy world-class beaches, nightlife, entertainment, and restaurants. I want you to put yourself in a position of a small business owner—not just a large hotel chain, which is relevant here, but a small business owner.

Imagine if you are a family who runs a restaurant on Collins Avenue in Miami Beach. You are depending your whole year, your budget and your payroll is built on a predictable pattern of travelers coming in the summer and coming in the fall and especially in the winter. You are estimating the number of travelers who will come in. They will leave money at these restaurants and they are going to go home. Now you have a report of these transmissions and similar warnings as well. What you learn from this is that this Zika issue is not just a health care issue—and that is by far the primary focus of what our attention should be—but it is also an economic issue and it is hurting small businesses. It is hurting the municipalities. Miami Beach as a city is going to see tax revenues go

down. It is going to hurt the State of Florida because of failed tax revenue and so forth. It is going to hurt one of the engines of our tourism sector—the reports of this transmission. You know what is hurting it even worse? When people turn on the news, people are hearing there are people being infected with Zika in Florida and Congress is still haggling and fighting over it and can't get anything done. That does not inspire confidence.

So today I have filed a bill, an additional bill, in addition to calling on us to move on Zika. Let me touch on this first. It is inexcusable. How did we get to this point? How did a public health crisis become a political tool to be played with back and forth? Yet that is what Washington has become, a place that has become expert at literally turning any issue into a political issue, and it has done so again with this issue. That is why people are grossed out and disgusted with American politics. When they watch the news and see this fighting, they don't get it. They understand there is this problem with Zika, and it is spreading and hurting people. We just had a case of a child born in Miami Dade County, at the Jackson Memorial Hospital—not with microcephaly but with Zika—a child, a baby, starting out life infected with Zika. They are asking: How can you guys turn this thing into a political issue? That is what Washington has done. Both parties are to blame. It took too long for some in my party to come to the realization this was important. On the Democratic side, they have come up with excuses to be against the proposal, but I will say this: The Senate did it. The Senate funded it. I think at this point, that is probably the fastest and best way forward, if we are serious about funding this, is to go back to what the Senate did. I continue to work with our colleagues to make sure that is a part of whatever vehicle we use to fund the government and keep it open through most of the rest of this year.

But today I filed a bill to help people being economically impacted by it. It is a bill that deals with the Small Business Administration. What it does is it basically gives the Small Business Administration the authority to give out small business loans to communities negatively impacted by health-related travel advisories issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. As you know, as I said earlier, the CDC has already issued those travel advisories to Wynwood and for the South Beach areas of Miami-Dade County, but that does not mean a week from now there will not be another area added to that, including another area in your State, my colleagues. You don't know when that is coming. So if they were hit by a storm, they would qualify for this. If they were hit by any other disaster, they would qualify for this. They have been hit by a storm. It happens to be a health care storm. It is hurting them economically. We need to

make sure they have the flexibility and the ability to provide this short-term, low-interest loans to small businesses to be able to weather this health care Zika storm.

I don't know for the life of me why anybody would be against this. I don't know what possible way you could try to politicize it. I am not sure why anybody would object to it. My hope is, we can move quickly on this. It is important.

I know there is a lot of jurisdictional pride around here and committees will say: Well, you have to come through us first because we are the chairmen and this is our committee. I hope you can make an exception on this issue because these businesses are hurting. They are hurting badly because of what has happened, and it is only going to get worse for them as these reports come out.

I hope we can get that passed. Here is another thing people don't know. Our service men and women are deployed all over the world. Unlike people who travel, they don't have a choice. When the U.S. military tells you and your dependents you must now go to Honduras, you are now going to be stationed at a base in Guantanamo Bay or you are going to be stateside, but you are going to be in Puerto Rico—when they deploy you, you can't say: Well, I am not going because there is Zika there. You have to go. We need to make sure we are protecting our men and women.

According to the Pentagon, as of today, there are 81 servicemembers and 19 dependents who have tested positive for the Zika virus. Three of them, by the way, are pregnant. So I have filed a second bill to protect our servicemembers from Zika. It is called the Servicemembers' Zika Protection Act. It provides U.S. troops with additional protections from the Zika virus by authorizing the Secretary of Defense to transfer funds within the existing Department of Defense medical and health research accounts in order to combat the Zika virus.

I am hopeful we can unite behind that as well. With over 100 members of our military and their families already infected with Zika, we need to take specific precautions to help them and to help our foreign partners who host Americans on military bases in regions that are affected by Zika. So I am also hopeful Congress will ultimately arrive at an agreement this month to fund our Nation's response to Zika, but also that we ensure that those being deployed on our behalf receive every protection we can provide.

So these, in addition to the broader argument about Zika, these are two commonsense approaches giving the Department of Defense flexibility to move existing money around, to provide additional protections for our service men and women and their dependents who are being deployed and impacted by Zika. This is not a theory. We have over 100 people now, including

81 in uniform, who have been impacted by it, and 19 of their dependents, 3 of them who are pregnant.

Second, the small business relief. Please put yourself in the position of a family-owned business on South Beach or in Wynwood. They are being hurt. Instead of having 50 people coming in a day, they have 5 or 10. They need help. If they had lost power or been hit by a hurricane or a tornado, this would not be an issue, but they have been hit by a tornado of a different kind, one they did not cause and they could not predict and they could not insure against; that is, Zika.

Let's make sure the SBA has the flexibility to provide them their loans. So in addition to funding this—we have to get the Zika thing done, it cannot continue to languish—we have to get the SBA flexibility built into our law so these small businesses can be provided the resources they need to stay open and not close down as a result of a travel advisory because of a disease being spread by mosquitoes.

I think we would all agree we have to make sure we are doing everything we can to protect our men and women in uniform who are not going by choice. They are being deployed to these places where Zika is prevalent. They are being infected. There is no excuse for us to not help them as well. So these are the three things I hope we will do before Congress adjourns at the end of this month: Fund Zika fully, give flexibility for our small businesses that have been impacted by Zika to get SBA loans, and do everything we can by passing a law that gives the Department of Defense the flexibility they need to use existing money to protect our men and women in uniform and their families from being infected by Zika when deployed.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 3302. A bill establishing the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Emergency Response Fund for the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to provide assistance for a public health emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I have introduced legislation that will ensure that when there is a public health emergency or the threat of a public health emergency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention can respond immediately to prevent it from becoming a national or global crisis.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 549—EX-PRESSING A COMMITMENT BY THE SENATE TO NEVER FORGET THE SERVICE OF AVIATION'S FIRST RESPONDERS

Mr. MARKEY (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and

Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 549

Whereas the events of September 11, 2001, forever changed the United States as the people of the United States faced unspeakable destruction and grief that touched millions of lives;

Whereas 4 commercial aircraft were turned into weapons of mass destruction, killing nearly 3,000 innocent people at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania;

Whereas the crewmembers of United Flight 175, American Flight 11, American Flight 77, and United Flight 93 acted as first responders, providing the first information about the unfolding attacks and selflessly protecting the United States and the lives of countless others;

Whereas ever since 9/11, pilots and flight attendants in the United States report to work with heightened responsibilities as first responders and as the last line of defense in aviation security; and

Whereas the bravery of the crewmembers 15 years ago and our crewmember heroes are prominent in the hearts and minds of the people of the United States; Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) forever memorializes the service of aviation's first responders on that fateful day; and

(2) will always seek to honor the sacrifice of aviation's first responders, who continue to keep the United States safe today.

SENATE RESOLUTION 550—DESIGNATING THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 5 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 9, 2016, AS "RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOMEN AT THE UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY WEEK"

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. BALDWIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. McCASKILL, Ms. WARREN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mrs. ERNST, Ms. HIRONO, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. PETERS, and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 550

Whereas, in 1975, Congress authorized women to attend military service academies;

Whereas, on July 6, 1976, 81 women midshipmen were inducted into the United States Naval Academy;

Whereas, in 1976, an African-American woman became the first African-American woman to attend the United States Naval Academy, and graduated in 1980;

Whereas, in 1980, 55 women became the first women to graduate from the United States Naval Academy, 47 percent of whom later became career officers;

Whereas, in 1980, a woman became the first woman to be a distinguished graduate and Trident Scholar of the United States Naval Academy;

Whereas, on May 24, 1984, a woman became the first woman to graduate first in class from the United States Naval Academy;

Whereas, in 1988, an African-American woman became the first African-American woman to be commissioned as a Naval Flight Officer from the United States Naval Academy;

Whereas, in 1991, a woman midshipman became the first woman Brigade Commander at the United States Naval Academy;