

heroin task force program with the resources they need to help more States, just like it is helping in Vermont.

I say this because we should know and the American public should know that our work in Congress on opioid abuse and addiction did not end when we passed CARA. In fact, I would say that it only began. If we are serious about combating drug addiction—and all of us will say we are against it, but if we are really serious—then we have to invest in our communities. Let us build on what we know is working. Let us give law enforcement agencies the tools they need to do their job effectively.

In my State of Vermont, I spend considerable time every month. I was there just a couple of days ago. We are a special State because you can talk with people. My wife Marcelle and I will talk with people coming out of church on Sunday or in the grocery store or just walking down the street to pick up our paper. Some of the stories we hear are so sad. We hear from people we have known for years—wonderful families, pillars of the community—who will tell us of their son or daughter suffering from opioid and other addictions. The saddest, though, are those people we have known who have lost a member of their family because of the powerful new drugs coming on the market.

I saw a lot of terrible things in this area when I was a prosecutor, but nothing like what we are seeing today. So let us look at the legislation that Senator GRASSLEY and I are introducing. Let us stop trying to fight this with slogans and goodwill. Let us fight it with real tools.

Again, I would add, let us not just rely—any of us—on saying we are against this. Let us do something. It is too bad the House stripped out much of what we had done well in our bill, but there is no reason why we cannot fight to put it back in. There is no reason why we cannot get the funding necessary. This will only work if we have the tools and the money.

I know that in our State it is not just law enforcement but the faith community, educators, parents, Boys & Girls Clubs, and medical professionals who are all working together. It is not just numbers. Every one of us—almost every one of us in our State—knows people who have suffered. I want to go back home and say that we are doing something to help them.

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

S. 3364. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to accept the donation of facilities and related improvements for use by the Department of Veterans Affairs; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Mrs. FISCHER. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the CHIP IN for Vets Act.

Lengthy delays and cost overruns have impeded construction of new

health care facilities for our veterans, raising roadblocks between them and the quality health care they have earned. These delays and overruns have not only negatively impacted our veterans' access to care, but also our nation's confidence in their health care system.

My legislation would create a 5-year pilot program that would allow communities to contribute real property toward on-time and on-budget construction projects. Partnerships between veterans, their local communities, and the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, will allow previously appropriated funds to be put to good use. Through five initial projects, community leaders and private sector experts can lead construction projects from start to finish and test a model that can be expanded into the future.

State or local authorities, and specified non-federal entities, will be eligible to partner with the VA. Entities would comply with the Department of Veterans Affairs' standards, except to the extent the Secretary determines otherwise, as permitted by law. Eligible projects would be limited to those for which funding has already been appropriated, or those on the VA's long-term planning list. The VA's financial obligation for these projects would be limited to the amount previously appropriated. The VA would select the project and community partner, but it would not influence, control, or be involved with either the management or construction of these projects. The Secretary would include information regarding real property and improvements donated under this legislation in the budget submitted to Congress. The Comptroller General would also submit to Congress a report on the donation agreements entered into under this legislation not less frequently than once every 2 years until its termination.

A significant amount of work went into revising this bill. I very much appreciate the support of Senator FEINSTEIN, who serves as lead cosponsor. Chairmen ISAKSON and ALEXANDER are supportive of this legislation. They, and the members of their staff, have been extraordinarily helpful through this process. The Department of Veterans Affairs staff has also been actively involved in the crafting of this legislation. They fully support it. The Congressional Budget Office has stated this bill would have an "insignificant impact on direct spending," or less than \$500,000 total.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to support this common sense, bipartisan legislation. Thank you.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 572—DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 5, 2016, AS NATIONAL BISON DAY

Mr. ENZI (for himself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. BENNET, Mr. INHOFE,

Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. HEINRICH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 572

Whereas on May 9, 2016, the North American bison was adopted as the national mammal of the United States;

Whereas bison are considered a historical symbol of the United States;

Whereas bison were integrally linked with the economic and spiritual lives of many Indian tribes through trade and sacred ceremonies;

Whereas there are more than 60 Indian tribes participating in the Intertribal Buffalo Council;

Whereas numerous members of Indian tribes are involved in bison restoration on tribal land;

Whereas members of Indian tribes have a combined herd on more than 1,000,000 acres of tribal land;

Whereas the Intertribal Buffalo Council is a tribal organization incorporated pursuant to section 17 of the Act of June 18, 1934 (commonly known as the "Indian Reorganization Act") (25 U.S.C. 477);

Whereas bison can play an important role in improving the types of grasses found in landscapes to the benefit of grasslands;

Whereas a bison has been depicted on the official seal of the Department of the Interior since 1912;

Whereas bison hold significant economic value for private producers and rural communities;

Whereas, as of 2012, the Department of Agriculture estimates that 162,110 head of bison were under the stewardship of private producers, creating jobs, and contributing to the food security of the United States by providing a sustainable and healthy meat source;

Whereas a bison is portrayed on 2 State flags;

Whereas the bison has been adopted by 3 States as the official mammal or animal of those States;

Whereas the buffalo nickel played an important role in modernizing the currency of the United States;

Whereas several sports teams have the bison as a mascot, which highlights the iconic significance of bison in the United States;

Whereas a small group of ranchers helped save bison from extinction in the late 1800s by gathering the remaining bison of the diminished herds;

Whereas on December 8, 1905, William Hornaday, Theodore Roosevelt, and others formed the American Bison Society in response to the near extinction of bison in the United States;

Whereas on October 11, 1907, the American Bison Society sent 15 captive-bred bison from the New York Zoological Park, now known as the "Bronx Zoo", to the first big game refuge in the United States, now known as the "Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge";

Whereas in 2005, the American Bison Society was reestablished, bringing together bison ranchers, managers from Indian tribes, Federal and State agencies, conservation organizations, and natural and social scientists from the United States, Canada, and Mexico to create a vision for the North American bison in the 21st century;

Whereas there are bison herds in National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, and National Forests;

Whereas there are bison in State-managed herds across 11 States;

Whereas there is a growing effort to celebrate and officially recognize the historical, cultural, and economic significance of the North American bison to the heritage of the United States; and

Whereas members of Indian tribes, bison producers, conservationists, sportsmen, educators, and other public and private partners have celebrated the annual National Bison Day since 2012 and are committed to continuing this tradition annually on the first Saturday of November: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates November 5, 2016, the first Saturday of November, as National Bison Day; and

(2) encourages the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 5079. Mr. SASSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5325, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5080. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5325, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 5081. Mr. DAINES (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3076, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish caskets and urns for burial in cemeteries of States and tribal organizations of veterans without next of kin or sufficient resources to provide for caskets or urns, and for other purposes.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 5079. Mr. SASSE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 5325, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

PROHIBITION ON CITIZENSHIP FOR ALIENS ORDERED DEPORTED AND DIGITIZATION OF FINGERPRINT RECORDS

SEC. _____. (a)(1) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or funds collected and deposited into the Immigration Examinations Fee Account may be used to carry out any activity to grant United States citizenship to any individual subject to a final order of deportation.

(2) This subsection shall be in effect until December 9, 2016.

(b) The Secretary of Homeland Security is authorized and directed—

(1) to set aside such sums as necessary from the Immigration Examinations Fee Account to complete the digitization of fingerprints of aliens who were fugitives, convicted criminals, subject to deportation orders, or had other derogatory information dating back to 1990 under the project known as the Historical Fingerprint Enrollment Program; and

(2) to store such digitized fingerprints along with relating biographical data in the Department of Homeland Security's IDENT database.

SA 5080. Mr. TOOMEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by

him to the bill H.R. 5325, making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2017, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. No funds may be made available under this title for foreign assistance to any country that was a significant exporter of illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, or fentanyl precursor chemicals during the calendar year preceding the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 5081. Mr. DAINES (for Mr. BLUMENTHAL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3076, to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish caskets and urns for burial in cemeteries of States and tribal organizations of veterans without next of kin or sufficient resources to provide for caskets or urns, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 2, line 9, insert “veterans” after “or in a”.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 20, 2016, at 9:30 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “An Examination of Wells Fargo’s Unauthorized Accounts and the Regulatory Response.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “Nominations.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 20, 2016, at 2:30 p.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the

Senate on September 20, 2016, at 2:45 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “South Sudan: Options in Crisis.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on September 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SD-430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “Laboratory Testing in the Era of Precision Medicine.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on September 20, 2016, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct a hearing entitled “Consolidation and Competition in the U.S. Seed and Agrochemical Industry.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 20, 2016, at 11:30 a.m., in room SH-219 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 20, 2016, 2:30 p.m., in room SH-219 of the Hart Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MARCELINO SERNA PORT OF ENTRY

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 5252 and the Senate proceed to its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will report the bill by title. The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 5252) to designate the United States Customs and Border Protection Port of Entry located at 1400 Lower Island Road in Tornillo, Texas, as the “Marcelino Serna Port of Entry.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. DAINES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read a third time and passed, and the