

CORTEZ MASTO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 24, a bill to protect the personal health data of all Americans.

S. 35

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 35, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Officer Eugene Goodman.

S. 85

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 85, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the limitation on the deduction for certain taxes, including State and local property and income taxes.

S. 93

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) were added as cosponsors of S. 93, a bill to amend the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act to modify the foreign persons subject to sanctions and to remove the sunset for the imposition of sanctions, and for other purposes.

S. 124

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 124, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that amounts paid for an abortion are not taken into account for purposes of the deduction for medical expenses.

S. 125

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 125, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to prohibit treatment of certain distributions and reimbursements for certain abortions as qualified medical expenses.

S. 145

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. VAN HOLLEN) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 145, a bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to repeal the requirement that the United States Postal Service prepay future retirement benefits, and for other purposes.

S. 158

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 158, a bill to promote international efforts in combating corruption, kleptocracy, and illicit finance by foreign officials and other foreign persons, including through a new anti-corruption action fund, and for other purposes.

S. 171

At the request of Mr. DAINES, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 171, a bill to authorize the Keystone XL Pipeline.

S. 206

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 206, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to require hospitals and certain other participating providers under Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program to disclose the provider's policy on parental consent for the provision, withdrawal, or denial of life-sustaining treatment for minors, and for other purposes.

S. 207

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 207, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to require hospitals and certain other participating providers under Medicaid or the Children's Health Insurance Program to disclose the provider's policy on parental access to the medical records of minors, and for other purposes.

S. 239

At the request of Mr. RISCH, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 239, a bill to permanently enact certain appropriations Act restrictions on the use of funds for abortions and involuntary sterilizations, and for other purposes.

S. 247

At the request of Mr. LEE, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) were added as cosponsors of S. 247, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector.

S. 255

At the request of Mr. WICKER, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 255, a bill to establish a \$120,000,000,000 Restaurant Revitalization Fund to provide structured relief to food service or drinking establishments, and for other purposes.

S. 259

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 259, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for the personal importation of safe and affordable drugs from approved pharmacies in Canada.

S. 262

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 262, a bill to allow tax credits to State and local governments for paid sick leave and paid family and medical leave.

S. 263

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. PETERS) were added as cosponsors of S. 263, a bill to preserve health benefits for workers.

S. RES. 35

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 35, a resolution condemning the military coup that took place on February 1, 2021, in Burma and the Burmese military's detention of civilian leaders, calling for an immediate and unconditional release of all those detained and for those elected to serve in parliament to resume their duties without impediment, and for other purposes.

## STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

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

S. 273. A bill to improve the management of driftnet fishing; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce the "Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act." I thank Senator CAPITO for her cosponsorship as well as continued partnership on this important legislation.

This bipartisan bill passed the Senate last Congress by unanimous consent and then passed the House of Representatives in December 2020. Unfortunately, then President Trump chose to veto the bill based on misguided policy and inaccurate data.

I urge my colleagues to once again support this bill, which solely affects California fishery management, but has far-reaching beneficial impacts for a wide range of marine animals, including endangered species. This legislation modernizes a commercial fishery to promote sustainable fishery management and creates a win-win for conservation goals and commercial fishing profitability.

### THE ISSUE

Large mesh drift gillnets, as defined in this legislation, have a mesh hole size of 14 inches or greater and are used to target swordfish and thresher shark off the California coast. However, alarmingly, these nets utilized by this one fishery in Federal waters, according to NOAA, are responsible for 90% of porpoise and dolphin deaths in all west coast fisheries combined.

These substantially sized nets are between 1 and 1.5 miles long and extend more than 100 feet below the ocean's surface. This creates a "net wall" that ensnares approximately 60 non-target species, known as bycatch, leading to severe harm or drowning of endangered marine turtles, whales, dolphin, and numerous fish species.

In addition to being banned everywhere else in the United States and in

some international waters, these specific nets were also banned in California's state waters in 2018. This bill would bring much needed parity to state and federal laws on the west coast.

After the State ban, a large majority of the remaining commercial fishery using drift gillnet gear voluntarily turned in their permits to the State and received compensation to transition to alternative, sustainable gear, such as deep set buoy gear.

This bill is critically needed to complete the transition of the fishery and provide Federal partnership to the successful State program. The Federal waters off the California coast are the last place in the United States where these dangerous nets are still used.

#### HOW OUR BILL WOULD HELP

This bill is identical to the legislation that passed in the 116th Congress. It provides a common-sense solution by phasing out drift gillnets over a five-year period from enactment in favor of more sustainable alternatives, such as deep-set buoy gear. This sustainable gear has already been proven to yield higher market prices for fishermen and considerably reduces the amount of bycatch.

In fact, 2020 landings data from the PacFIN database for swordfish shows that drift gillnet gear caught only 19.8 metric tons of swordfish at an average of \$3.62 per pound yielding a total of \$157,728. In the same fishing season, deep set buoy gear caught 79.4 metric tons of swordfish at an average of \$5.88 per pound for a total value of \$1,028,932. Important to note, deep set buoy gear also had an extremely low bycatch rate—less than 2 percent—illustrating how this fishery can be both more sustainable and profitable.

The transition program includes a grant authorization for Federal funding to match State funds for local fishermen to exchange their current permits and purchase new, sustainable gear.

This bill has broad support at the State and Federal level, as well as national groups such as American Sportfishing Association and Oceana.

In addition, this bill includes a provision important to the Pacific halibut fishery in Alaska that I have worked with Senator SULLIVAN and the Commerce Committee to include.

The provision would enable the Secretary of Commerce to approve certain charter vessel operators who guide recreational anglers and harvest Pacific halibut in certain federal waters to collect fees that would fund the Recreational Quota Entity Program for the purposes of halibut conservation and research.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to once again pass the "Driftnet Modernization and Bycatch Reduction Act", and I urge them to support the swift passage of this bipartisan bill.

Thank you once again to Senator CAPITO and to Commerce Committee

leadership, Senator CANTWELL and Senator WICKER for their assistance on this important legislation.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the Floor.

By Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. BURR, Ms. SMITH, and Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina):

S. 288. A bill to reauthorize the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act of 2005, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I am pleased to introduce the Timely Reauthorization of Necessary Stem Cell Programs Lends Access to Needed Therapies (TRANSPLANT) Act of 2021 with Senators RICHARD BURR, TINA SMITH, and TIM SCOTT. This bill offers promise to the tens of thousands of individuals diagnosed with leukemia and lymphomas, sickle cell anemia, and rare genetic blood disorders.

Our bipartisan legislation renews the C. W. Bill Young Cell Transplantation Program and the National Cord Blood Inventory (NCBI), the only programs in the Country that maintain donor registries for individuals in need of a bone marrow and umbilical cord blood transplantation. Over twenty-two million Americans are registered bone marrow donors resulting in nearly 6,500 transplants just last year. In the years since NCBI was established, more than 300,000 cord blood units have been collected, facilitating more than 100,000 blood stem cell transplants. The TRANSPLANT Act would reaffirm the commitment to these life-saving programs, which have been helping to connect individuals in need of bone marrow or umbilical cord blood transplants with donors for more than two decades.

The public registries, made up of donors from all over the country, have been a true lifeline for the Americans who have found an unrelated match. By strengthening and enhancing the important programs operating these registries, many more Americans will be afforded the opportunity to find a match if they are ever in need. I look forward to swift consideration of this legislation in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee and working toward passage in the full Senate.

By Mr. WARNER (for himself, Ms. HIRONO, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mr. KAINE):

S. 299. A bill to amend section 230 of the Communications Act of 1934 to reaffirm civil rights, victims' rights, and consumer protections; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Safeguarding Against Fraud, Exploitation, Threats, Extremism and Consumer Harms Act, also known as the SAFE TECH Act. I thank my colleagues, Senator WARNER and Senator KLOBUCHAR, for working with me on this important piece of leg-

islation, which fulfills the promise of Section 230 of the Communications Decency Act by forcing internet companies to finally address the serious harms their platforms cause—harms like civil rights and human rights violations, stalking and harassment, and wrongful death.

Section 230—often called the law that created the internet—was passed in 1996. For some context, in 1996, Google was two years from being founded. Mark Zuckerberg was in middle school. And, the internet effectively shut down for nineteen hours when a technical glitch took American Online offline.

The law was passed with a noble goal in mind: to encourage operators of then-nascent internet message boards to act as "Good Samaritans" and voluntarily police illegal and harmful content posted by third parties. Section 230 accomplished this goal by declaring that "[n]o provider or user of an interactive computer service shall be treated as the publisher or speaker of any information provided by another information content provider." These twenty-six words have effectively shielded internet platforms from liability for any harm caused by content posted by third parties for the past twenty-five years.

Unfortunately, whatever incentive Section 230 was meant to provide to encourage internet platforms to police content has proven to be no incentive at all. The statute's broad immunity applies whether a platform carefully reviews each piece of content posted by a user or performs no content moderation whatsoever. It immunizes platforms that have actual knowledge illegal content has been posted. It even applies if the platform itself encouraged the user to post the content. The result has been internet platforms large and small turning a blind eye to the real-world harms they cause.

Let me tell you about a few of those real-world harms.

Over the course of five months in late 2016 and early 2017, Matthew Herrick was harassed and physically assaulted by men directed to his home and office by the gay dating app Grindr. These men—over 1,100 in total—were responding to a fake profile created by Mr. Herrick's ex-boyfriend. Grindr was on notice of both the fake profile and its harmful effects. Mr. Herrick and his friends filed approximately fifty reports with the company reporting the problem and seeking help. But the company did nothing while Mr. Herrick suffered.

On October 21, 2012, Radcliffe Haughton walked into a Wisconsin spa and shot and killed three women, including his estranged wife, and wounded four others before turning the gun on himself. He had purchased the gun the prior day from a private seller he found on the online gun marketplace Armslist.com. He was able to purchase the gun even though his wife had recently obtained a domestic abuse restraining order that specifically prohibited Mr. Haughton from purchasing

a gun. For all intents and purposes, Armslist was designed to facilitate such illegal sales. It precluded users from flagging illegal sales; it allowed people to anonymously purchase guns without a background check; and it enabled prohibited purchasers to search only for sellers that did not check criminal backgrounds or keep records. Mr. Haughton took advantage of these features and, as a result, three people are dead.

On August 25, 2020, 17-year-old Kyle Rittenhouse shot and killed two people and injured a third on the streets of Kenosha, Wisconsin during a protest of the police shooting of Jacob Blake. Mr. Rittenhouse was one of many armed, right-wing counter-protesters encouraged to travel to Kenosha by a Facebook page run by a group called “Kenosha Guard” that asked if any followers would be willing to “take up arms and defend [the city] from the evil thugs.” Despite being flagged to Facebook at least 455 times as a call to violence, the company left the page up.

In none of these cases did Grindr, Armslist, and Facebook act like “Good Samaritans.” They did not voluntarily police the content on their platforms. Instead, they either actively encouraged or turned a blind eye to dangerous and illegal content knowing full well Section 230 immunized them for any harm their platforms caused. Any attempt by victims to hold the platforms accountable for their roles would be blocked by Section 230.

Under the SAFE TECH Act, this would no longer be the case. This bill would ensure that internet companies either address the serious problems they are causing or face potential liability. It does so by creating targeted exceptions to Section 230’s broad immunity, including exceptions for advertisements and other paid content; claims for injunctive relief; civil rights, stalking, and harassment laws; wrongful death actions; and suits under the Alien Tort Claims Act.

Introducing these exceptions to Section 230 does not guarantee that platforms will be held liable in all—or even most—cases where they cause real-world harm. But it will give victims the opportunity to make their case. By doing so, the SAFE TECH Act will punish those bad actors who are actively encouraging or turning a blind eye to dangerous and illegal content, while allowing true “Good Samaritans” to flourish online. That was the promise of Section 230. After twenty-five years, it’s about time we realize that promise.

I therefore encourage my colleagues to support the SAFE TECH Act.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

### SENATE RESOLUTION 36—RE-AFFIRMING THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND MONGOLIA AND RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF DEMOCRACY IN MONGOLIA

Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 36

Whereas the United States and Mongolia established diplomatic relations in January 1987, and since that time the relationship has grown stronger based on shared strategic interests, security cooperation, democratic values, good governance, and respect for human rights;

Whereas, since its peaceful democratic revolution in 1989, through a series of initiatives, Mongolia has charted a successful path to multiparty democracy and a free market economy;

Whereas, in 1990, the Government of Mongolia declared an end to a one-party and authoritarian political system and adopted democratic and free market reforms;

Whereas, in 1992, Mongolia adopted a constitution establishing a democracy, becoming the first country in Asia to transition from communism to democracy;

Whereas Mongolia has shown its commitment to a “third neighbor” relationship with the United States by sending troops to support United States operations in Iraq from 2003 through 2008 and Afghanistan since 2009, and Mongolia has a strong record of troop contributions to international peacekeeping missions;

Whereas successive Mongolian governments have taken notable steps to strengthen civil society, battle corruption, and spur economic development;

Whereas the Parliament of Mongolia, the State Great Khural, has engaged with Congress, including through the House Democracy Partnership, thereby promoting responsive and effective governance through peer-to-peer cooperation;

Whereas Mongolia began as a partner to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) in 2004, graduated to become a participating state in 2012, and participates actively in the work of the OSCE for stability, peace, and democracy;

Whereas Mongolia has regularly invited the OSCE and other organizations to send monitoring teams for its presidential and parliamentary elections;

Whereas Mongolia has also been an active member of the Community of Democracies (CoD), a global coalition of states that support adherence to common democratic values and standards, and Mongolia has not only remained active since the founding of the CoD in 2000, but successfully chaired the CoD from 2011 through 2013;

Whereas, in addition to supporting the OSCE and the CoD, Mongolia supports democratic initiatives while participating in a wide range of other global institutions;

Whereas, most recently, on June 24, 2020, Mongolia successfully organized parliamentary elections, strengthening its commitment to democracy and the rule of law;

Whereas the success of Mongolia as a democracy and its strategic location, sovereignty, territorial integrity, and ability to pursue an independent foreign policy are important to the national security of the United States;

Whereas the United States has provided support to Mongolia through the Millennium Challenge Corporation through an initial compact signed in 2007 designed to increase economic growth and reduce poverty and a second compact signed in 2018 involving investments in water infrastructure, including supply and wastewater recycling, as well as water sector sustainability;

Whereas, on September 20, 2018, the United States and Mongolia released a joint statement and the “Roadmap for Expanded Economic Partnership between the United States and Mongolia,” outlining the intent to deepen the bilateral commercial relationship, including through full implementation of the obligations under the Agreement on Transparency in Matters Related to International Trade and Investment between the United States of America and Mongolia, signed at New York September 24, 2013 (in this preamble referred to as the “United States-Mongolia Transparency Agreement”), and collaboration in supporting Mongolian small- and medium-sized enterprises through various programs and projects;

Whereas, according to the Bureau of the Census, trade between the United States and Mongolia is modest but growing, with total trade in 2019 between the two countries of approximately \$217,400,000, including \$192,800,000 in United States exports to Mongolia and \$24,600,000 in United States imports from Mongolia;

Whereas Mongolia is a beneficiary country under the Generalized System of Preferences program, but its use of the program remains low, as, in 2018, only \$3,200,000 of exports from Mongolia to the United States were under the program; and

Whereas, on July 31, 2019, the United States and Mongolia declared the bilateral relationship a Strategic Partnership and noted the shared desire—

(1) to intensify cooperation as strong democracies based on the rule of law through safeguarding and promoting democratic values and human rights, including the freedoms of religion or belief, expression, including internet and media freedom, assembly, and association, anticorruption and fiscal transparency, and youth and emerging leader development;

(2) to cooperate in promoting national security and stability across the Indo-Pacific region so that all countries, secure in their sovereignty, are able to pursue economic growth consistent with international law and principles of fair competition;

(3) to deepen national security and law-enforcement ties through collaboration on bilateral and multilateral security, judicial, and law-enforcement efforts in the region;

(4) to strengthen cooperation in multilateral engagements such as peacekeeping, humanitarian assistance, and disaster preparedness and relief operations;

(5) to expand trade and investment relations on a fair and reciprocal basis, support private sector-led growth, fully implement the United States-Mongolia Transparency Agreement, promote women’s entrepreneurship, and continue to explore support for infrastructure under the new United States International Development Finance Corporation with the new tools provided under the BUILD Act of 2018 (22 U.S.C. 9601 et seq.);

(6) to strengthen border security, prevent illegal transshipment and trafficking, expand cooperation on civil aviation safety and oversight, and efficiently facilitate legitimate travel between Mongolia and the United States;

(7) to increase cooperation in addressing transnational threats such as terrorism, human trafficking, drug trafficking, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, cyberattacks, transnational organized crime,