

S. 2945

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2945, a bill to include sexual assault and aggravated sexual violence in the definition of aggravated felonies under the Immigration and Nationality Act in order to expedite the removal of aliens convicted of such crimes.

S. 3039

At the request of Mr. YOUNG, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3039, a bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to establish an interagency council on social determinants of health, and for other purposes.

S. 3051

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3051, a bill to assist Tribal governments in the management of buffalo and buffalo habitat and the reestablishment of buffalo on Indian land.

S. 3063

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3063, a bill to prohibit the use of funds for a United States Embassy, Consulate General, Legation, Consular Office, or any other diplomatic facility in Jerusalem other than the United States Embassy to the State of Israel, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3881

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the names of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA), the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 3881 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3887

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3887 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3909

At the request of Mr. WARNOCK, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3909 intended to be proposed to H.R. 4350, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2022 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction,

and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 3101. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the retirement earnings test, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. SCOTT of Florida. Mr. President, older American workers are a vital source of economic strength. Before the pandemic, there were more seniors in the workforce than there were 20 years ago, and men and women age 55 and older lifted the overall labor force participation rate by a substantial margin. During the pandemic, more than 3 million seniors retired early, and millions more are considering early retirement. These losses harm seniors' retirement security by reducing their income and benefits.

That is why today, with my good friend Senator RUBIO, I am introducing the Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act, which would repeal the Social Security retirement earnings test. The earnings test is a confusing work disincentive. It says that you lose half your Social Security benefits if you earn more than \$18,960. Then it gives your benefits back at full retirement age. The problem is that many seniors know their benefits will be cut if they make too much money, but not that they will be replaced later. They treat the earnings test like a 50-percent tax and work less to avoid it.

When I have spoken to small business owners in South Carolina they have made clear to me that the earnings test is in fact a disincentive for many older workers, and it harms their businesses. Older Americans want to earn just enough that they fall right under the threshold so their benefits don't get cut, which makes it harder for small businesses to hire them even on a part-time basis. It is not surprising that research shows the earnings test reduces labor force participation by more than 3 percent.

The earnings test also deepens inequality. It punishes lower-income seniors who need Social Security benefits and earned income to get by. And if you need Social Security benefits and earned income to meet caregiving responsibilities or pressing financial obligations or because you have a lower life expectancy, the earnings test says no, you have to wait until you reach full retirement age, whether that is 65 or 67.

Many seniors just can't wait that long, and the economy can't either. The Senior Citizens' Freedom to Work Act will give these older Americans the freedom and flexibility they need, promote work, and help employers and workers find arrangements that work best for them.

Thank you.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CORNYN, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 3103. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate the statute of limitations for the filing of a civil claim for any person who, while a minor, was a victim of a violation of section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c), 2242, 2243, 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260, 2421, 2422, or 2423 of such title; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. DURBIN. 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. 3103

*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 "Eliminating Limits to Justice for Child Sex Abuse Victims Act of 2021".

#### SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.

Section 2255 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

"(b) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—There shall be no time limit for the filing of any action commenced under this section."

#### SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE; APPLICABILITY.

This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall—

(1) take effect on date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) apply to—

(A) any claim or action that, as of the date described in paragraph (1), would not have been barred under section 2255(b) of title 18, United States Code, as it read the day before the date of enactment of this Act; and

(B) any claim or action arising after the date of enactment of this Act.

By Mr. CARPER:

S. 3104. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 to allow the District of Columbia to receive Federal funding under such Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Mr. CARPER. Mr. President, today I am introducing legislation to allow the District of Columbia to receive funding and other benefits under the Coastal Zone Management Act. I am pleased to offer this companion legislation to a bill introduced by the Congresswoman from the District of Columbia, ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON.

Few of us realize that 70 percent of the District is located within the coastal plain. Similar to my State of Delaware, sea level rise, upstream sources of water, and degraded infrastructure mean that the District could experience serious future cleanup and repair costs due to flooding, including damage to Federal property, which makes up almost 30 percent of the District. Since 1950, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, NOAA, reports there has been a 343-percent increase in nuisance flooding in

the District. Since 2006, D.C. has experienced two 100-year flooding events. Scientists predict that tides on the Atlantic coast could rise 2 to 4 feet by the year 2100, causing as much as \$7 billion worth of property damage in the District, which would regularly be under threat by floodwaters. This fact was highlighted by a study released by the nonprofit Climate Central last week. Needless to say, these events will become more and more common due to climate change and sea level rise.

The District of Columbia would use funding from the Coastal Zone Management Program for flood risk planning and environmental restoration to prevent and mitigate future flood damage. At the same time, this work would help to restore and conserve the District's coastal resources such as habitat, fisheries, and endangered species.

If included in the Coastal Zone Management Program, the District of Columbia would be eligible for \$1 million or more of Federal funding annually to assist in coastal flood-control projects, to combat non-point source water pollution, and to develop special area management plans in areas experiencing environmental justice and/or flooding issues.

The National Coastal Zone Management Program, housed in NOAA, was established through the passage of the Federal Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. At the time, Congress recognized the need to manage the effects of increased growth in the Nation's coastal zone, which includes jurisdictions bordering the oceans and the Great Lakes.

There are currently 34 jurisdictional coastal zone management programs, including both States and territories. In order for the District of Columbia to participate in the program, Congress must pass this amendment to the Coastal Zone Management Act that would include the District under the definition of a "coastal State."

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill I am introducing today be printed in the RECORD following my statement.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3104

*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 "Flood Prevention Act of 2021".

#### SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FOR FEDERAL FUNDING UNDER THE COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT OF 1972.

Section 304(4) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1453(4)) is amended by inserting "the District of Columbia," after "the term also includes".

By Ms. HIRONO (for herself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HICKENLOOPER,

Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Ms. SMITH, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 3108. A bill to provide counsel for unaccompanied children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Ms. HIRONO, Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Fair Day in Court for Kids Act of 2021. This important legislation would provide all unaccompanied children with legal representation as they go through immigration proceedings. This will protect the legal rights of vulnerable children running from violence, abuse, and gangs, but it will also make our immigration system more efficient.

Five years ago, I traveled to Baltimore, MD, to observe immigration court hearings on the children's docket. I watched children, who had suffered violence and trauma in their home countries, trying to navigate our complex legal system without any support. Leaving young people, children as young as 3, to combat an adversarial government lawyer and explain why they qualify for a legal immigration status is unacceptable and unconscionable.

I have also had the opportunity to speak to children who were able to secure an immigration status with legal support. These children are grateful to have escaped the dangers that drove them to leave home. They also express with certainty that they would not have been able to succeed in their cases if they did not have lawyers representing them.

In immigration court, people seeking relief through our immigration system do not have a right to counsel and often cannot afford counsel who understand our Byzantine immigration system and can explain the lifelong ramifications that result from certain decisions. This unfairness is most acute when it comes to unaccompanied children who are trying to escape brutal violence and crushing poverty. Most do not speak English, nor do they have any understanding of our legal system. Yet we expect them to argue their case before immigration court and against trained and skilled ICE attorneys.

The Fair Day in Court for Kids Act would remedy this injustice by providing all unaccompanied children with legal counsel. Attorneys would review the case, advise the child of their legal options, and remain with them throughout their immigration proceedings. Legal counsel would ensure these children have the legal rights and opportunities they are afforded, helping our immigration system protect the people it was meant to support.

In addition to protecting the rights of unaccompanied children, legal counsel will ensure their cases move quicker and more smoothly. Cases with unrepresented children are subject to

delays and a slower pace as the judge must repeatedly help the child understand what is going on and help them respond. Children with legal counsel also have a 98 percent appearance rate in court. These efficiencies can only help our overwhelmed immigration court system, which currently has a 1.4 million case backlog.

I call on my Senate colleagues to help protect unaccompanied children and quickly pass this bill.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 431—SUPPORTING THE RIGHT OF PARENTS TO BE THE LEADING VOICE IN THE EDUCATION OF THEIR CHILDREN

Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. BURR, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. LEE, Mr. COTTON, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. ERNST, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Mr. BARASSO, Mr. WICKER, Mr. LANKFORD, and Mr. CORNYN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 431

Whereas parents are the first teachers of their children and have the inherent and fundamental right to make decisions regarding the upbringing, education, and care of their children;

Whereas parental involvement in the educational system contributes to a collaborative environment with school administrators and teachers, which enhances the educational outcomes of all students;

Whereas school board officials, school administrators, and teachers are public servants, and parents are entitled to demand accountability from such public servants for policies and actions that affect their children;

Whereas the public meetings of the school board in Loudoun County, Virginia, have become emblematic of the increased engagement by concerned parents across the United States with respect to school policies and educational curricula impacting their children;

Whereas labor organizations representing teachers and school boards have begun advocating that administrators and teachers should not listen to parents who express concerns regarding such policies and curricula;

Whereas school administrators and school board officials have alarmingly implemented policies designed—

(1) to restrict parental involvement at public meetings;

(2) to prohibit parental visitation with children during school hours; and

(3) to limit parental input on policies and race-based curricula taught in the classroom;

Whereas, in a September 2021 letter to President Joseph R. Biden, Jr., the National School Boards Association—

(1) compared grassroots demonstrations and protests by concerned parents against