

S. 4580

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4580, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require a lactation space in each medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

S. 4605

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4605, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure stability in payments to home health agencies under the Medicare program.

S. 4693

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4693, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to include national discovery trails and designate the American Discovery Trail, and for other purposes.

S. 4741

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4741, a bill to encourage increased trade and investment between the United States and the countries in the Western Balkans, and for other purposes.

S. 4742

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. OSOFF) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4742, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to create a Department of Defense Military Housing Readiness Council to enhance oversight and accountability for deficiencies in military housing, and accountability for deficiencies in military housing, and for other purposes.

S. 4818

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. LEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4818, a bill to prohibit the use of Federal and local funds to impose or enforce a COVID-19 vaccine mandate in District of Columbia schools, and to repeal the Coronavirus Immunization of School Students and Early Childhood Workers Regulation Amendment Act of 2021 enacted by the District of Columbia Council.

S. 4851

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) were added as cosponsors of S. 4851, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a national project to prevent and cure Parkinson's, to be known as the National Parkinson's Project, and for other purposes.

S. 4856

At the request of Mr. CRUZ, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4856, a bill to require the denial of admission to the United States for indi-

viduals subject to sanctions pursuant to Executive Order 13876, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 60

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the names of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. TOOMEY) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 60, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Final Priorities, Requirements, Definitions, and Selection Criteria-Expanding Opportunity Through Quality Charter Schools Program (CSP)-Grants to State Entities (State Entity Grants); Grants to Charter Management Organizations for the Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools (CMO Grants); and Grants to Charter School Developers for the Opening of New Charter Schools and for the Replication and Expansion of High-Quality Charter Schools (Developer Grants)."

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA:

S. 4879. A bill to amend the Federal Credit Union Act to permit credit unions to serve certain underserved areas, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. PADILLA. Mr. President, I rise to speak in support of the Expanding Financial Access for Underserved Communities Act, which I introduced today.

Over the past decade, affordable banking services have become more difficult for many Americans to access due to the closure of physical bank branches. Addressing banking deserts is an important element to promoting equity across our entire economy.

I believe that credit unions can play a significant role in improving access to affordable banking services in underserved communities throughout our Nation.

That is why I am proud to introduce this legislation to allow all federally chartered credit unions to expand their field of membership to underserved areas. The bill would exempt business loans made to borrowers located in underserved areas from the credit union member business lending cap.

I am proud to join Chairwoman MAXINE WATERS in this effort. I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill to promote economic opportunity in low-income communities and communities of color.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4883. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior to partner and collaborate with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill, the Continued Rapid Ohia Death Response Act of 2022. This bill requires the Secretary of the Interior to continue partnering and collaborating with the Secretary of Agriculture and the State of Hawaii to address Rapid Ohia Death, ROD. ROD is a fungus, *Ceratocystis*, that was first found in Hawaii in 2014 and has since killed over a million native Ohia trees. Since then, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Forest Service has partnered with the State of Hawaii and the U.S. Department of the Interior in efforts to detect and respond to the spread of ROD. Sustained efforts, such as those supported by this bill, are necessary to protect Ohia trees, which comprise 80 percent of Hawaii's native forests.

Over the past 8 years, ROD has been detected on Hawaii Island, Kauai, Maui, and Oahu. Efforts are currently underway to educate the public to reduce the spread, research transmission vectors of ROD such as humans, beetles, ungulates, and weather events, and test ROD resistant varieties of Ohia. This bill directs the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the U.S. Geological Survey, to continue providing resources for the purposes of researching ROD vectors and transmission. It also requires the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to work with the State of Hawaii and other local stakeholders on ungulate management in control areas on Federal, State, and private land. Finally, the bill requires the Secretary of Agriculture, acting through the Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, to continue providing resources to prevent the spread of ROD and restore the native forests in Hawaii and to also continue to provide financial and staff resources to the Institute of Pacific Islands Forestry, IPIF, located in Hilo, to continue research on ROD.

The bill authorizes \$5 million in appropriations for each fiscal year from 2023 through 2033 for both the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to carry out these actions, which are necessary to protect and restore Hawaii's most abundant native tree—Ohia—for future generations.

By Ms. HIRONO:

S. 4884. A bill to require the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, to establish a joint natural infrastructure science program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a bill, the Natural Infrastructure Act of 2022. This bill requires the Secretary of the Interior, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture, to establish a Joint Natural Infrastructure Science Program. This program, which would be a joint effort by the U.S. Forest Service FS and the U.S. Geological Survey USGS, would

seek to further research on the use of natural solutions to address evolving infrastructure needs across the country. The bill also requires the Secretary of the Interior to assess the costs and effectiveness of select natural infrastructure projects on an annual basis.

The bill defines natural infrastructure as constructed landscape features and systems that employ nature-based solutions that promote, use, restore, or emulate natural ecological processes. These features, when compared to grey infrastructure solutions, are often more cost-effective, increase community resilience to climate change impacts, and attract community support. The American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that our country's need for infrastructure repairs through 2025 totals over \$4 trillion. In order to meet our country's short- and long-term infrastructure needs, research is needed to inform the decisions being made by the people charged with addressing these infrastructure needs—civil engineers, local governments, developers, and the construction industry. The Joint Natural Infrastructure Science Program established by this bill directs USGS and FS to work with colleges and universities to advance ongoing natural infrastructure research efforts to inform future infrastructure projects. The bill also establishes a stakeholder advisory group to inform the Secretary of the Interior on appropriate research topics to be assessed by the Joint Natural Infrastructure Science Program.

The bill authorizes \$4 million in appropriations for each fiscal year from 2023 through 2033 for both the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to implement the Joint Natural Infrastructure Program. Additionally, the bill requires the Secretary of the Interior to publish an annual report on no fewer than 30 natural infrastructure projects across the country to assess the cost and effectiveness of the projects as well as provide recommendations on ways to improve future natural infrastructure projects in terms of construction, costs, and effectiveness. The selected projects should be diverse in terms of both geographic location as well as project type. These reports, coupled with the research generated by the Joint Natural Infrastructure Science Program, will help inform future infrastructure projects as we seek out cost-effective solutions all across the country that maximize human and environmental benefits in the face of evolving challenges, including the increasing impacts of climate change.

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 771—SUPPORTING THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2022, AS “NATIONAL STILLBIRTH PREVENTION DAY”, RECOGNIZING TENS OF THOUSANDS OF AMERICAN FAMILIES THAT HAVE ENDURED A STILLBIRTH, AND SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY TO KEEP OTHER FAMILIES FROM EXPERIENCING THE SAME TRAGEDY

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. KING, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

## S. RES. 771

Whereas, 23,000 pregnancies in the United States end in stillbirth each year, and the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the crisis;

Whereas racial disparities persist in birth outcomes, with Black, Hispanic, and Indigenous families at the greatest risk of losing a baby to stillbirth;

Whereas, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the annual number of stillbirths far exceeds the number of deaths among children under 15 years of age due to sudden infant death syndrome, car accidents, drowning, guns, fire, poison, and flu combined;

Whereas, in the last 2 decades, the stillbirth rate in the United States declined by a negligible 0.4 percent, and in a report published by the World Health Organization comparing progress in improving stillbirth rates, the United States ranked 183 out of 195 countries;

Whereas stillbirths are devastating and have a profound and lifelong impact on the families who endure them;

Whereas stillbirth is linked to an increased risk of maternal mortality;

Whereas, with increased awareness and better data collection, the United States will be able to better understand why stillbirths in the United States are happening at an alarming rate and identify what can be done to combat this crisis;

Whereas proven stillbirth prevention efforts have the power to save a minimum of 7,500 babies every year from preventable stillbirth in the United States, and innovations in stillbirth prevention could save thousands of additional families in the United States from the heartache of losing a baby each year;

Whereas recognizing “National Stillbirth Prevention Day” is an opportunity to increase awareness, support evidence-based prevention efforts, promote research, encourage improved data collection and greater understanding, and provide community to those who have experienced stillbirth; and

Whereas “National Stillbirth Prevention Day” calls on the President and all other Federal officials to use their authorities to reduce stillbirths in the United States by at least 33 percent and ensure every expectant family is educated on how to reduce the risk of losing a baby to stillbirth: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of “National Stillbirth Prevention Day”;

(2) understands the importance of advancing evidence-based prevention efforts; and

(3) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the

United States to observe National Stillbirth Prevention Day with appropriate awareness programs and activities.

SENATE RESOLUTION 772—RECOGNIZING THE SERIOUSNESS OF MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY AND EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2022, AS “INTERNATIONAL MYOTONIC DYSTROPHY AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. KAINE (for himself, Ms. LUMMIS, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Ms. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

## S. RES. 772

Whereas myotonic dystrophy is a rare, multi-systemic, inherited disease that affects approximately 1 in 2,100 individuals and more than 150,000 individuals in the United States;

Whereas 1 in 8,000 individuals are living with myotonic dystrophy globally, yet thousands of individuals do not know they have the disease and are in need of care;

Whereas myotonic dystrophy is the most common form of adult-onset muscular dystrophy, and the symptoms of the disease become more severe with each generation;

Whereas the disease is caused by a mutation in the DMPK gene, resulting in myotonic dystrophy type 1, or the CNBP gene, resulting in myotonic dystrophy type 2;

Whereas those mutations prevent those genes from functioning properly, impacting multiple body systems;

Whereas those mutations are autosomal dominant mutations, in which one copy of the altered gene is sufficient to cause the disorder, and affected individuals have a 50 percent chance of passing on the mutated gene to their children;

Whereas, through this inherited genetic anomaly, individuals with myotonic dystrophy experience varied and complex symptoms, ranging from skeletal muscle problems, early cataracts, and excessive daytime sleepiness to heart, breathing, digestive, hormonal, speech, swallowing, diabetic, immune, vision, and cognitive difficulties;

Whereas myotonic dystrophy is a highly variable and complicated disorder, and the younger an individual is when symptoms first appear, the more severe symptoms are likely to be;

Whereas misdiagnoses have persisted for decades, and delays in diagnosing myotonic dystrophy are common;

Whereas there are currently no treatments approved by the Food and Drug Administration for myotonic dystrophy;

Whereas the Myotonic Dystrophy Foundation was founded in 2007 with a mission to enhance the quality of life of individuals living with myotonic dystrophy and accelerate research focused on finding treatments and a cure;

Whereas, in 2014, Congress enacted the Paul D. Wellstone Muscular Dystrophy Community Assistance, Research and Education Amendments of 2014 (Public Law 113-166; 128 Stat. 1879), which advanced muscular dystrophy research and public health surveillance activities, including for myotonic dystrophy;

Whereas, in September 2017, recognizing the seriousness of the disease and the especially disabling impact of myotonic dystrophy on individuals with congenital