

By Mr. WICKER (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MORAN, and Mr. BRAUN):

S. 1455. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for new markets tax credit investments in the Rural Jobs Zone; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. RISCH, Mr. LEE, Mr. DAINES, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. HYDE-SMITH, and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 1456. A bill to provide for certain energy development, permitting reforms, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. RISCH, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Mr. ROMNEY):

S. 1457. A bill to authorize negotiation and conclusion and to provide for congressional consideration of a tax agreement between the American Institute in Taiwan (AIT) and the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO); to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. CORTEZ MASTO (for herself and Mr. RISCH):

S. 1458. A bill to require the Administrator of the Small Business Administration to establish a program to assist small business concerns with purchasing cybersecurity products and services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Ms. DUCKWORTH (for herself and Mr. THUNE):

S. 1459. A bill to require the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to issue regulations concerning accommodations for powered wheelchairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BOOKER (for himself, Ms. WARREN, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. REED, and Mr. MERKLEY):

S. 1460. A bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Act to remove the exclusion of pistols, revolvers, and other firearms from the definition of consumer product in order to permit the issuance of safety standards for such articles by the Consumer Product Safety Commission; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. SCOTT of Florida (for himself, Mr. COTTON, and Mr. RUBIO):

S. 1461. A bill to establish vetting standards for the placement of unaccompanied alien children with sponsors, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. SCOTT of Florida):

S. 1462. A bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act of 2004 and provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mrs. BLACKBURN):

S. 1463. A bill to establish a defense industrial base advanced capabilities pilot program; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. HAWLEY):

S. 1464. A bill to restrict the flow of illicit drugs into the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KING, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 1465. A bill to establish the Baltic Security Initiative for the purpose of strengthening

the defensive capabilities of the Baltic countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. PADILLA (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself and Mr. PADILLA)):

S. 1466. A bill to adjust the boundary of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area to include the Rim of the Valley Corridor, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. WYDEN, and Mr. YOUNG):

S. 1467. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a refundable tax credit against income tax for the purchase of qualified access technology for the blind; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KENNEDY (for himself and Mr. MURPHY):

S. 1468. A bill to ensure that Federal work-study funding is available for students enrolled in residency programs for teachers, principals, or school leaders, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. MORAN):

S. 1469. A bill to require certification of small business concerns as small business concerns owned and controlled by service-disabled veterans in order to be counted toward goals for contract awards, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mrs. CAPITO):

S. 1470. A bill to amend the Small Business Act relating to small business concerns owned and controlled by women, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. RISCH (for himself and Mr. HAGERTY):

S. 1471. A bill to bolster the AUKUS partnership, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. BLACKBURN:

S. 1472. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to designate September 11 Day of Remembrance as a legal public holiday; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. MANCHIN, and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1473. A bill to authorize the immediate expulsion of inadmissible aliens attempting to enter the United States by fraud or without a necessary entry document, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. MARSHALL):

S. 1474. A bill to amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to establish a dairy nutrition incentive program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

charter schools across the United States for making ongoing contributions to education, and supporting the ideals and goals of the 24th annual National Charter Schools Week, to be held May 7 through May 13, 2023; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 196. A resolution recognizing the cultural and historical significance of the Cinco de Mayo holiday; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. MULLIN:

S. Res. 197. A resolution designating the week of May 1, 2023, through May 7, 2023, as "Tardive Dyskinesia Awareness Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. WARNOCK):

S. Res. 198. A resolution designating the week of April 23 through April 29, 2023, as "National Water Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SULLIVAN (for himself and Mr. VAN HOLLEN):

S. Res. 199. A resolution designating May 5, 2023, as "United States Foreign Service Day" in recognition of the men and women who have served, or are presently serving, in the Foreign Service of the United States, and honoring the members of the Foreign Service who have given their lives in the line of duty; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Ms. ERNST, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. CORNYN, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. LANKFORD, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. RISCH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. COONS, Ms. LUMMIS, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. MARSHALL, Ms. ROSEN, Mr. DAINES, Ms. WARREN, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. PETERS, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SMITH, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. KING, Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SULLIVAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. ROUNDS, Mr. LUJAN, Mrs. FISCHER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. HAWLEY, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. PAUL, and Mr. WICKER):

S. Res. 200. A resolution expressing support for the designation of the week of April 30, 2023, through May 6, 2023, as "National Small Business Week" to celebrate the contributions of small businesses and entrepreneurs in every community in the United States; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 127

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Ms. ERNST) was added as a cosponsor of S. 127, a bill to prevent unfair and deceptive acts or practices and the dissemination of false information related to pharmacy benefit management services for prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 133

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 133, a bill to extend the National Alzheimer's Project.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CARPER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. BOOKER):

S. Res. 195. A resolution congratulating the students, parents, teachers, and leaders of

S. 134

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 134, a bill to require an annual budget estimate for the initiatives of the National Institutes of Health pursuant to reports and recommendations made under the National Alzheimer's Project Act.

S. 184

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. SCHMITT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 184, a bill to amend chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, to provide that major rules of the executive branch shall have no force or effect unless a joint resolution of approval is enacted into law.

S. 305

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the names of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 305, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support programs at the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

S. 429

At the request of Mr. LUJÁN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 429, a bill to amend the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act to require the Secretary of Energy to establish an abandoned wells research, development, and demonstration program, and for other purposes.

S. 547

At the request of Mr. WHITEHOUSE, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 547, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the First Rhode Island Regiment, in recognition of their dedicated service during the Revolutionary War.

S. 673

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 673, a bill to allow nonprofit child care providers to participate in certain loan programs of the Small Business Administration, and for other purposes.

S. 789

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) were added as cosponsors of S. 789, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a coin in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the United States Foreign Service and its contribution to United States diplomacy.

S. 993

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. ROUNDS) and the Senator

from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 993, a bill to prohibit certain uses of xylazine, and for other purposes.

S. 1020

At the request of Ms. SMITH, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1020, a bill to require the Administrator of the Economic Research Service to conduct research on consolidation and concentration in the livestock industry, and for other purposes.

S. 1025

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1025, a bill to enhance the consideration of human rights in arms exports.

S. 1086

At the request of Mr. MARKEY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. FETTERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1086, a bill to amend title 28, United States Code, to prohibit the exclusion of individuals from service on a Federal jury on account of a disability.

S. 1146

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1146, a bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to identify obstacles to identifying and responding to reports of children missing from foster care and other vulnerable foster youth, to provide technical assistance relating to the removal of such obstacles, and for other purposes.

S. 1154

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1154, a bill to establish the Women in Aviation Advisory Committee.

S. 1189

At the request of Mrs. CAPITO, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN), the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) and the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) were added as cosponsors of S. 1189, a bill to establish a pilot grant program to improve recycling accessibility, and for other purposes.

S. 1227

At the request of Mr. SULLIVAN, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM) were added as cosponsors of S. 1227, a bill to combat illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing at its sources globally.

S. 1252

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr.

MARSHALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1252, a bill to support the human rights of Uyghurs and members of other ethnic groups residing primarily in the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region and safeguard their distinct civilization and identity, and for other purposes.

S. 1312

At the request of Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1312, a bill to reprogram \$15,000,000,000 to improve border security and enforcement, and for other purposes.

S. 1314

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1314, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to modify the definition of spouse and surviving spouse to include all individuals lawfully married, and for other purposes.

S. 1349

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the names of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. HAWLEY) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KELLY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1349, a bill to establish a postsecondary student data system.

S. 1375

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1375, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act to apply additional payments, discounts, and other financial assistance towards the cost-sharing requirements of health insurance plans, and for other purposes.

S. 1384

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mrs. HYDE-SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1384, a bill to promote and protect from discrimination living organ donors.

S. CON. RES. 2

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 2, a concurrent resolution commending the bravery, courage, and resolve of the women and men of Iran demonstrating in more than 133 cities and risking their safety to speak out against the Iranian regime's human rights abuses.

S. RES. 188

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 188, a resolution celebrating the 75th anniversary of the founding of the State of Israel, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 191

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 191, a resolution recognizing widening threats to freedom of the press

and free expression around the world, reaffirming the vital role that a free and independent press plays in combating the growing threats of authoritarianism, misinformation, and disinformation, and reaffirming freedom of the press as a priority of the United States Government in promoting democracy, human rights, and good governance in commemoration of World Press Freedom Day on May 3, 2023.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. THUNE (for himself and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 1454. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to disallow a deduction for charitable contributions for certain purposes relating to college athletics; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. THUNE. Madam 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. 1454

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 “Athlete Opportunity and Taxpayer Integrity Act”.

SEC. 2. DISALLOWANCE OF DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES RELATING TO COLLEGE ATHLETICS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (p) of section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(p) CONTRIBUTIONS FOR CERTAIN PURPOSES RELATING TO COLLEGE ATHLETICS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—No deduction shall be allowed for any contribution any portion of which is used by the donee to compensate 1 or more secondary or post-secondary school athletes for the use of their name, image, or likeness by reason of their status as athletes.

“(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any contribution made directly to an organization which is an eligible educational institution (as defined in section 25A(f)(2)).”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 63(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting “and” at the end of paragraph (2), by striking “, and” at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting a period, and by striking paragraph (4).

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions made in taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. KING, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. CASEY, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, and Ms. ROSEN):

S. 1465. A bill to establish the Baltic Security Initiative for the purpose of strengthening the defensive capabilities of the Baltic countries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam 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. 1465

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 “Baltic Security Initiative Act”.

SEC. 2. BALTIC SECURITY INITIATIVE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish and carry out an initiative, to be known as the “Baltic Security Initiative” (in this section referred to as the “Initiative”) for the purpose of deepening security cooperation with the Baltic countries.

(b) RELATIONSHIP TO EXISTING AUTHORITIES.—The Initiative required by subsection (a) shall be carried out pursuant to the authorities provided in title 10, United States Code.

(c) OBJECTIVES.—The objectives of the Initiative shall be—

(1) to achieve United States national security objectives by—

(A) deterring aggression by the Russian Federation; and

(B) implementing the North Atlantic Treaty Organization’s new Strategic Concept, which seeks to strengthen the alliance’s deterrence and defense posture by denying potential adversaries any possible opportunities for aggression;

(2) to enhance regional planning and cooperation among the Baltic countries, particularly with respect to long-term regional capability projects, including—

(A) long-range precision fire systems and capabilities;

(B) integrated air and missile defense;

(C) maritime domain awareness;

(D) land forces development, including stockpiling large caliber ammunition;

(E) command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance;

(F) special operations forces development;

(G) coordination with and security enhancements for Poland, which is a neighboring North Atlantic Treaty Organization ally; and

(H) other military capabilities, as determined by the Secretary of Defense; and

(3) to improve the Baltic countries’ cyber defenses and resilience to hybrid threats.

(d) STRATEGY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to Congress a report setting forth a strategy for the Department of Defense to achieve the objectives described in subsection (b).

(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—The strategy required by this subsection shall include a consideration of—

(A) security assistance programs for the Baltic countries authorized as of the date on which the strategy is submitted;

(B) the ongoing security threats to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization’s eastern flank posed by Russian aggression, including as a result of the Russian Federation’s 2022 invasion of Ukraine with support from Belarus; and

(C) the ongoing security threats to the Baltic countries posed by the presence, coercive economic policies, and other malign activities of the People’s Republic of China.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Defense \$350,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2024, 2025, and 2026 to carry out the Initiative.

(2) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Defense should seek to require matching funds from each of the Baltic countries that participate in the Initiative in amounts commensurate with amounts provided by the Department of Defense for the Initiative.

(f) BALTIC COUNTRIES DEFINED.—In this section, the term “Baltic countries” means—

(1) Estonia;

(2) Latvia; and

(3) Lithuania.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 195—CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS, PARENTS, TEACHERS, AND LEADERS OF CHARTER SCHOOLS ACROSS THE UNITED STATES FOR MAKING ONGOING CONTRIBUTIONS TO EDUCATION, AND SUPPORTING THE IDEALS AND GOALS OF THE 24TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOLS WEEK, TO BE HELD MAY 7 THROUGH MAY 13, 2023

Mr. SCOTT of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. BENNET, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. CARPER, Mr. RISCH, Mr. CORNYN, Mrs. BRITT, Mr. CASSIDY, Mr. HAGERTY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. SCOTT of Florida, Mr. CRUZ, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. TUBERVILLE, Mr. TILLIS, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BRAUN, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. YOUNG, Mr. HICKENLOOPER, and Mr. BOOKER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 195

Whereas charter schools are public schools that do not charge tuition and enroll any student who wants to attend, often through a random lottery when the demand for enrollment is outmatched by the supply of available charter school seats;

Whereas high-performing public charter schools deliver a high-quality public education and challenge all students to reach their potential for academic success;

Whereas high-quality public charter schools promote innovation and excellence in public education;

Whereas public charter schools throughout the United States can provide millions of families with diverse and innovative educational options for the children of those families;

Whereas high-performing public charter schools and charter management organizations are increasing student achievement and attendance rates at institutions of higher education;

Whereas public charter schools are authorized by a designated entity and—

(1) respond to the needs of communities, families, and students in the United States; and

(2) promote the principles of quality, accountability, choice, high-performance, and innovation;

Whereas, in exchange for flexibility and autonomy, public charter schools are held accountable by the authorizers of the charter schools for improving student achievement and for sound and transparent financial and operational management;

Whereas public charter schools are required to meet the student achievement accountability requirements under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of