

S. 2817

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2817, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit employers from paying employees in the garment industry by piece rate, to require manufacturers and contractors in the garment industry to register with the Department of Labor, and for other purposes.

S. 2993

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2993, a bill to amend the Social Security Act and the Public Health Service Act to permanently authorize certified community behavioral health clinics, and for other purposes.

S. 3047

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Ms. HASSAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3047, a bill to award payments to employees of Air America who provided support to the United States from 1950 to 1976, and for other purposes.

S. 3264

At the request of Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3264, a bill to establish a manufactured housing community improvement grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 3362

At the request of Mr. TILLIS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. CASSIDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3362, a bill to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965 to require additional information in disclosures of foreign gifts and contracts from foreign sources, restrict contracts with certain foreign entities and foreign countries of concern, require certain staff and faculty to report foreign gifts and contracts, and require disclosure of certain foreign investments within endowments.

S. 3369

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3369, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to restrict the possession of certain firearms, and for other purposes.

S. 3374

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BRAUN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3374, a bill to waive General Schedule qualification standards related to work experience for nurses at military medical treatment facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 3443

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. SCOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3443, a bill to prohibit institu-

tions of higher education, elementary schools, and secondary schools from receiving Federal funds if those schools or institutions have covered relationships with covered persons, and for other purposes.

S. 3494

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3494, a bill to amend the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 to provide for disclosure regarding foreign jurisdictions that hinder inspections, and for other purposes.

S. 3517

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3517, a bill to amend the Help America Vote Act of 2002 to ensure that voters in elections for Federal office do not wait in long lines in order to vote, and for other purposes.

S. 3548

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3548, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for hospital and insurer price transparency.

S.J. RES. 45

At the request of Mrs. SHAHEEN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 45, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. LANKFORD, Mr. KELLY, and Mr. CRAMER):

S. 3564. A bill to amend title 40, United States Code, to include Indian Tribes among entities that may receive Federal surplus real property for certain purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mr. PADILLA, Madam President, I rise to introduce the bipartisan GSA Disposal Process Tribal Parity Act to correct a longstanding and unjust oversight that prevents Tribal governments from having the same opportunities as State and local governments to acquire excess Federal property for public and recreational purposes.

Current law allows the General Services Administration to make excess Federal real estate properties that are no longer needed by the Federal government available to State and local governments for public use. The GSA can transfer these surplus properties to public agencies and institutions at discounts up to 100 percent of fair market value for listed public uses like public health or educational uses, public parks and recreational areas, community centers, municipal buildings, homeless assistance, law enforcement and emergency response, and more.

However, the law does not currently allow the GSA to make available these surplus properties to Tribal governments like GSA can for State and local governments. Our bill would allow Tribal governments to participate in the Federal property disposal process in the same way that State and local governments do. Doing so would help ensure Tribal Nations enjoy the same opportunities for land acquisition as State and local governments.

The exclusion of Indian tribes from qualifying for acquisition of these properties is not based on any clear policy rationale. The omission in statute leaves Tribes without the same opportunities as other governments to acquire surplus property for these beneficial purposes. The disadvantage is clear, as the sale or lease of these properties is often at a 100 percent discount compared to fair market value. This issue is part of the greater need to correct longstanding barriers that undermine the sovereignty of Tribal governments and our efforts to right historic wrongs.

As our Nation works to strengthen Tribal sovereignty and self-determination, it is important that we ensure our laws treat Tribal governments on an equal basis with State and local governments and ensure they have the opportunity for positive and productive land use activity.

I thank Senators LANKFORD, KELLY, and CRAMER for introducing this legislation with me in the Senate. I look forward to working with my colleagues to enact this commonsense bill as quickly as possible.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have one request for committee to meet during today's session of the Senate. It has the approval of the Majority and Minority Leaders.

Pursuant to rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committee is authorized to meet during today's session of the Senate:

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at 2:30 p.m., to conduct a closed briefing.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2024

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, finally, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 10; that following the prayer and pledge, the morning hour be deemed expired, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day, and morning business be closed; and

that upon the conclusion of morning business, the Senate proceed to executive session to resume consideration of the Mehalchick nomination.

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

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 10 A.M.
TOMORROW

Mr. SCHUMER. Mr. President, if there is no objection to further business coming before the Senate, I ask that it stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 6 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, January 10, 2024, at 10 a.m.

CONFIRMATION

Executive nomination confirmed by the Senate January 9, 2024:

THE JUDICIARY

JOHN A. KAZEN, OF TEXAS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS.