

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. CASEY, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. SANDERS, and Mr. WHITEHOUSE):

S. Res. 825. A resolution recognizing the significance of equal pay and the pay disparity between disabled women and both disabled and nondisabled men; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. MURPHY:

S. Res. 826. A resolution supporting the designation of the week of September 16 through September 20, 2024, as “Malnutrition Awareness Week”; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BOOZMAN (for himself and Mr. KELLY):

S. Res. 827. A resolution designating the week of September 15 through September 21, 2024, as “National Truck Driver Appreciation Week”; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. ROSEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. BUTLER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. CORTEZ MASTO, Ms. DUCKWORTH, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FETTERMAN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Ms. HASSAN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. HELMY, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. KING, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. PADILLA, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. SCHATZ, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. SMITH, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. WARNOCK, Ms. WARREN, Mr. WELCH, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KANE, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. PETERS):

S. Res. 828. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that every person has the basic right to emergency health care, including abortion care; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. MURPHY, and Mr. COONS):

S. Res. 829. A resolution designating October 8, 2024, as “National Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Day”; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 91

At the request of Mr. HAGERTY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 91, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to 60 diplomats, in recognition of their bravery and heroism during the Holocaust.

S. 592

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 592, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the mileage rate offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs through their Beneficiary Travel program for health related travel, and for other purposes.

S. 633

At the request of Mr. PADILLA, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. MARSHALL) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 633, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to Everett Alvarez, Jr., in recognition of his service to the United States.

S. 652

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island

(Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 652, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require a group health plan or health insurance coverage offered in connection with such a plan to provide an exceptions process for any medication step therapy protocol, and for other purposes.

S. 677

At the request of Mr. CASSIDY, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 677, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the deductibility of charitable contributions to certain organizations for members of the Armed Forces.

S. 711

At the request of Mr. BUDD, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 711, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the invaluable service that working dogs provide to society.

S. 740

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 740, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reinstate criminal penalties for persons charging veterans unauthorized fees relating to claims for benefits under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

S. 1047

At the request of Mr. COTTON, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1047, a bill to provide that the Federal Communications Commission may not prevent a State or Federal correctional facility from utilizing jamming equipment, and for other purposes.

S. 1350

At the request of Mr. MERKLEY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1350, a bill to require the Federal Trade Commission to issue regulations requiring certain products to have “Do Not Flush” labeling, and for other purposes.

S. 1588

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1588, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to direct the forgiveness or offset of an overpayment of retired pay paid to a joint account for a period after the death of the retired member of the Armed Forces.

S. 1957

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1957, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to allow schools that participate in the school lunch program to serve whole milk, and for other purposes.

S. 2695

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2695, a bill to amend the Indian Law Enforcement Reform Act to provide for advancements in public safety services to Indian communities, and for other purposes.

S. 2757

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Ms. HIRONO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2757, a bill to limit the Secretary of Veterans Affairs from modifying the rate of payment or reimbursement for transportation of veterans or other individuals via special modes of transportation under the laws administered by the Secretary, and for other purposes.

S. 3197

At the request of Ms. ERNST, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) were added as cosponsors of S. 3197, a bill to establish and authorize funding for an Iranian Sanctions Enforcement Fund to enforce United States sanctions with respect to Iran and its proxies and pay off the United States public debt and to codify the Export Enforcement Coordination Center.

S. 3981

At the request of Mr. MORAN, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. MULLIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3981, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to carry out a program of research, training, and investigation related to Down syndrome, and for other purposes.

S. 4243

At the request of Ms. BUTLER, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. LUJÁN), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. SCHATZ), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. HICKENLOOPER), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. MURPHY), the Senator from Nevada (Ms. ROSEN) and the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) were added as cosponsors of S. 4243, a bill to award posthumously the Congressional Gold Medal to Shirley Chisholm.

S. 4292

At the request of Mr. LEE, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. HOEVEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4292, a bill to amend the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 to require proof of United States citizenship to register an individual to vote in elections for Federal office, and for other purposes.

S. 4528

At the request of Mr. BRAUN, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. ROMNEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4528, a bill to award posthumously a

Congressional Gold Medal to Marshall Walter "Major" Taylor in recognition of his significance to the nation as an athlete, trailblazer, role model, and equal rights advocate.

S. 4532

At the request of Mr. MARSHALL, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Illinois (Ms. DUCKWORTH) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 4532, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish requirements with respect to the use of prior authorization under Medicare Advantage plans.

S. 4901

At the request of Mr. SCHATZ, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4901, a bill to require the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere to maintain the National Mesonet Program, and for other purposes.

S. 4935

At the request of Mr. BOOZMAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. WARNOCK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4935, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to update the budget neutrality threshold under the Medicare physician fee schedule.

S. 4974

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4974, a bill to amend the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act to reauthorize the National Volcano Early Warning and Monitoring System, and for other purposes.

S. 4988

At the request of Mr. HEINRICH, the name of the Senator from California (Ms. BUTLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 4988, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal, collectively, to the individuals who fought for or with the United States against the armed forces of Imperial Japan in the Pacific theater and the impacted Sashinax people on Attu, whose lives, culture, and community were irrevocably changed from December 8, 1941, to August 15, 1945.

S. 4997

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. HEINRICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 4997, a bill making supplemental appropriations for the Department of Veterans Affairs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes.

S. 5067

At the request of Mr. PETERS, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. WELCH) were added as cosponsors of S. 5067, a bill to improve individual assistance provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 5081. A bill to amend the Arctic Research Policy Act of 1984 to improve the Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

Ms. MURKOWSKI. Madam President, I wanted to take just a couple of minutes here at the close of the evening to speak to an anniversary. Today is the 40th anniversary of the Arctic Research and Policy Act. It is known as ARPA. We use the acronym "ARPA" around here quite frequently. We talk about ARPA-E and ARPA-H.

But the original ARPA was the Arctic Research and Policy Act. It was legislation that was actually drafted by the previous Senator MURKOWSKI from Alaska. It was one of the first pieces of legislation that Frank Murkowski introduced and got passed into law. It was signed by President Reagan. It was cosponsored by the likes of Ted Stevens and Scoop Jackson, Warren Magnuson; on the House side, Congressman Young.

It was significant in that it laid a foundation for the policies that we are seeing put in place today and over these past 40 years. It has been laying out much of the knowledge and the understanding and the policy for Alaska.

I talk a lot about the Arctic, coming from the State that makes us an Arctic nation, but I think it is important to recognize that many of our allies around the world—many of those who are not our friends around the world—are also talking about and taking a keen interest in the Arctic.

There is a lot of focus on this week because we are seeing levels of engagement from the Russians up in the Alaska ADIZ and the area in the high north. We have seen joint exercises with the Russians and the Chinese, both in the air and on the waters in our northern waters. There is a level of focus and intensity about what may be heating up in a cool place—not something that we like.

But it is important to recognize that when we speak about the Arctic, it is not just its geostrategic location on the globe that makes it such a key place for defense and strategic defense. It is the role that the Arctic plays when it comes to just the health of our planet. Some describe it as kind of the big thermostat up north. And we see down here on the east coast and parts of the country where, when you have Arctic weather coming down, pushing things in different directions, everything kind of goes out of whack. And we are all starting to pay attention to what is going on with the weather and where it is coming from.

Well, the science that comes to us in better understanding what is happening in the Arctic, much of this came about through the development of the Arctic Research and Policy Act.

So leading in these areas has been important for all the right reasons,

whether it has been environmental; whether, again, it has been just from a geostrategic perspective; whether it has been a focus on the health and the well-being of indigenous peoples; whether it is understanding the extraordinary science that is unique to the area, understanding the impacts of a thawing permafrost and what that may mean, understanding the impacts within our ocean.

But it is also better understanding that geography. With the mapping that we have seen that has been spurred from both NOAA and USGS, we have been able to identify an area north of the shore of Alaska—an area, well, two times bigger than the State of California—that we identify as part of our Outer Continental Shelf, allowing us to submit claim to that territory.

The real-world advances that we are seeing in understanding more about the Arctic come about because of good legislation that began so many years ago.

There is a reception probably going on right now with many of those who have been involved with the U.S. Arctic Research Commission over the years and their partner Agencies. There are some 18 partner Agencies that participate. Several of the commissioners who have served currently and who have served in the past are present and are speaking about the contributions.

Two of the former commissioners, heads of the U.S. Arctic Research Commission—actually, both former Lieutenant Governors for the State of Alaska, Fran Ulmer and Mead Treadwell—came together and penned a joint op-ed that ran in the Anchorage Daily News last month. And I want to read just one paragraph from that op-ed because I think it really is a sum of what we have seen as a result of the framework from this law. It states:

Our nation's long-running Arctic research programs in . . . NOAA and the . . . USGS provided the essential data to enable America to recently claim new rights to an offshore land area larger than two Californias. The law has added momentum to efforts to build new, powerful icebreakers and to increase our Arctic presence as Russia and China increase theirs. It laid the groundwork for safe shipping and resource development in the Arctic by identifying methods to reduce risk. It helped evolve our understanding of continental drift, and the plate tectonic evolution of the Arctic Ocean basin. Arctic health research is informing policy to improve health outcomes and to reduce disparities. Forty years of purposeful, coordinated U.S. Arctic effort, involving national resources, partners across the Arctic region, and Alaskans is something to celebrate and take pride in.

So I just wanted to include just, again, a few short moments in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD today about this anniversary, with a recognition that it is important to recognize the accomplishments of what we have built and the foundation that guides our science and informs our policy, which we use to benefit our people and our Nation.

But it also needs to be a push for us, an impetus to keep our foot on the gas,