

COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2107, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Under Secretary of Health to report major adverse personnel actions involving certain health care employees to the National Practitioner Data Bank and to applicable State licensing boards, and for other purposes.

S. 2135

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. LANKFORD) were added as cosponsors of S. 2135, a bill to enforce current law regarding the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

S. 2143

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 2143, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to strengthen protections for employees wishing to advocate for improved wages, hours, or other terms or conditions of employment, to expand coverage under such Act, to provide a process for achieving initial collective bargaining agreements, and to provide for stronger remedies for interference with these rights, and for other purposes.

S. 2144

At the request of Mr. VAN HOLLEN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2144, a bill to provide a process for granting lawful permanent resident status to aliens from certain countries who meet specified eligibility requirements.

S. 2159

At the request of Mrs. GILLIBRAND, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. KAINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2159, a bill to require covered harassment and covered discrimination awareness and prevention training for Members, officers, employees, interns, fellows, and detailees of Congress within 30 days of employment and annually thereafter, to require a biennial climate survey of Congress, to amend the enforcement process under the Office of Congressional Workplace Rights for covered harassment and covered discrimination complaints, and for other purposes.

S. 2202

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2202, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the National Transportation Safety Board, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 150

At the request of Mr. RUBIO, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 150, a resolution recognizing threats to freedom of the press and expression around the world and re-

affirming freedom of the press as a priority in efforts of the United States Government to promote democracy and good governance.

S. RES. 250

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 250, a resolution condemning horrific acts of violence against Burma's Rohingya population and calling on Aung San Suu Kyi to play an active role in ending this humanitarian tragedy.

S. RES. 285

At the request of Ms. WARREN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 285, a resolution honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Samuel DuBois Cook.

S. RES. 346

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 346, a resolution recognizing the importance and effectiveness of trauma-informed care.

S. RES. 350

At the request of Mr. COONS, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 350, a resolution recognizing the 69th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the celebration of "Human Rights Day".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. DAINES (for himself, Mr. BOOKER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, and Ms. WARREN):

S. 2222. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow for distributions from 529 accounts for expenses associated with registered apprenticeship programs; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DAINES. 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. 2222

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DISTRIBUTIONS FROM 529S FOR REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 529(e)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(C) CERTAIN EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMS.—The term ‘qualified higher education expenses’ shall include books, supplies, and equipment required for the enrollment or attendance of a designated beneficiary in an apprenticeship program registered and certified with the Secretary of Labor under section 1 of the National Apprenticeship Act (29 U.S.C. 50).”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made and distributions paid after December 31, 2017.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 357—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION AND EXCHANGE PROGRAMS FURTHER UNITED STATES NATIONAL SECURITY AND FOREIGN POLICY PRIORITIES, ENHANCE UNITED STATES ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS, AND PROMOTE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION AMONG NATIONS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. RUBIO, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PETERS, Mr. COONS, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. WICKER, Mrs. CAPITO, Ms. WARREN, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. WARNER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KING, Mr. CARPER, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BROWN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. FRANKEN, and Ms. STABENOW) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 357

Whereas hundreds of thousands of United States secondary and post-secondary students, from congressional districts in all 50 States, study overseas each year;

Whereas, according to the Department of State, more than 1,000,000 international students and other international education and exchange participants annually help create mutual understanding by living, studying, and working in local communities throughout the United States;

Whereas international education and exchange programs serve an effective and proven diplomatic function with countries key to United States foreign policy and national security priorities, encouraging goodwill towards the United States;

Whereas promoting the United States as a destination for international students and professionals, while encouraging United States students and professionals to gain international experience abroad, are wise investments in our Nation's economic competitiveness;

Whereas it is imperative that United States students understand how to interact with their peers from around the world and operate in multicultural environments;

Whereas it is important to diversify the pool of United States citizens participating in international study and exchange experiences, including groups that have been historically underrepresented in these programs;

Whereas students and other young people are the world's future leaders and innovators;

Whereas there are multitudes of private, not-for-profit organized and funded exchange programs and many that are funded by the United States Government;

Whereas international education and exchange programs exist at multiple levels of the educational spectrum, including high school, undergraduate, graduate, educator, citizen, cultural, and sports programs;

Whereas according to an economic analysis of international student enrollment data and tuition data by NAFSA: Association of International Educators—

(1) international students consistently have a positive impact on the United States economy and job creation in every State and Congressional district;

(2) international students studying at United States colleges and universities contributed \$32,800,000,000 to the United States economy and supported more than 400,000 jobs during the 2015-16 academic year, which represents a 7.2 percent increase in job support and creation and a 7 percent increase in money contributed to the economy compared to the previous academic year;

Whereas exchange experiences enable international visitors to become informal ambassadors for their home countries while they are in the United States and for the United States when they return to their home countries by sharing an appreciation for common values, counteracting stereotypes, and enhancing mutual respect for cultural differences;

Whereas research indicates that the United States needs to encourage more students to graduate with expertise in foreign languages, cultures, and politics to fill the demands of business, government, and universities;

Whereas international education and exchange programs are a particularly effective way for American students to develop foreign language capability and cultural awareness, which are skills that United States employers seek to remain globally competitive; and

Whereas international education and exchange programs shape the views and opinions of participants, many of whom are or will become leaders in their communities, both in the United States and abroad:

Now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that international education and exchange programs—

(A) enhance national security;
(B) further United States foreign policy goals and economic competitiveness; and
(C) promote mutual understanding and cooperation among nations;

(2) encourages international education and exchange programs to ensure that the United States maintains a broad international knowledge base;

(3) supports international education and exchange programs as a means of strengthening foreign language skills and fostering a better understanding of the world by United States citizens, especially youth;

(4) commends the American and international education and exchange participants, volunteers, educators, program alumni, host families, high schools, colleges, universities, and host communities for their involvement in such programs; and

(5) celebrates the integral role international education and exchange programs play for the United States and its people.

SENATE RESOLUTION 358—DESIGNATING DECEMBER 3, 2017, AS “NATIONAL PHENYLKETONURIA AWARENESS DAY”

Mr. ISAKSON (for himself and Ms. BALDWIN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 358

Whereas phenylketonuria (in this preamble referred to as “PKU”) is a rare, inherited metabolic disorder that is characterized by the inability of the body to process the essential amino acid phenylalanine and which causes intellectual disability and other neurological problems, such as memory loss and mood disorders, when treatment is not started within the first few weeks of life;

Whereas PKU is also referred to as Phenylalanine Hydroxylase Deficiency;

Whereas newborn screening for PKU was initiated in the United States in 1963 and was

recommended for inclusion in State newborn screening programs under the Newborn Screening Saves Lives Act of 2007 (Public Law 110-204);

Whereas approximately 1 out of every 15,000 infants in the United States is born with PKU;

Whereas PKU is treated with medical food; Whereas the 2012 Phenylketonuria Scientific Review Conference affirmed the recommendation of lifelong dietary treatment for PKU made by the National Institutes of Health Consensus Development Conference Statement 2000;

Whereas, in 2014, the American College of Medical Genetics and Genomics and Genetic Metabolic Dieticians International published medical and dietary guidelines on the optimal treatment of PKU;

Whereas medical foods are medically necessary for children and adults living with PKU;

Whereas adults with PKU who discontinue treatment are at risk for serious medical issues, such as depression, impulse control disorder, phobias, tremors, and pareses;

Whereas women with PKU must maintain strict metabolic control before and during pregnancy to prevent fetal damage;

Whereas children born from untreated mothers with PKU may have a condition known as “maternal phenylketonuria syndrome”, which can cause small brains, intellectual disabilities, birth defects of the heart, and low birth weights;

Whereas, although there is no cure for PKU, treatment involving medical foods, medications, and restriction of phenylalanine intake can prevent progressive, irreversible brain damage;

Whereas access to health insurance coverage for medical food varies across the United States and the long-term costs associated with caring for untreated children and adults with PKU far exceed the cost of providing medical food treatment;

Whereas gaps in medical foods coverage has a detrimental impact on individuals with PKU, their families, and society;

Whereas scientists and researchers are hopeful that breakthroughs in PKU research will be forthcoming;

Whereas researchers across the United States are conducting important research projects involving PKU; and

Whereas the Senate is an institution that can raise awareness of PKU among the general public and the medical community: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates December 3, 2017, as “National Phenylketonuria Awareness Day”;

(2) encourages all people in the United States to become more informed about phenylketonuria and the role of medical foods in treating phenylketonuria; and

(3) respectfully requests that the Secretary of the Senate transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the National PKU Alliance, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of individuals with phenylketonuria.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I have 9 request for committees to meet during today’s session of the Senate. They have the approval of the Majority and Minority leaders.

Pursuant to Rule XXVI, paragraph 5(a), of the Standing Rules of the Senate, the following committees are authorized to meet during today’s session of the Senate:

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 10 a.m. in room SD-366 to consider the following nominations: Linda Capuano, of Texas, to be Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy, and Timothy R. Petty, of Indiana, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

The Committee on Energy and Natural Resources is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 10 a.m. in room SD-366 to conduct a hearing.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

The Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 10 a.m. in room SD-430 to conduct a hearing entitled “The Cost of Prescription Drugs: An Examination of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine Report “Making Medicines Affordable: A National Imperative”.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

The Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “Oversight of the Ensuring Patient Access and Effective Drug Enforcement Act”.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

The Select Committee on Intelligence is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 2:30 p.m. in room SH-219 to conduct a closed hearing.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATION, TECHNOLOGY, INNOVATION, AND THE INTERNET

The Subcommittee on Communication, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 10 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “Digital Decision-Making: the Building Blocks of the Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence”

SUBCOMMITTEE OCEAN, ATMOSPHERE, FISHERIES, AND COAST GUARD

The Subcommittee Ocean, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard of the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12, 2017, at 2:30 p.m. in room SR-253 to conduct a hearing entitled “National Ocean Policy: Stakeholder Perspectives”.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE AND REGIONAL SECURITY COOPERATION

The Subcommittee on Europe and Regional Security Cooperation of the Committee on Foreign Relations is authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, December 12,