

suffered substantial economic harm from drought; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself and Mr. AKAKA):

S. Res. 203. A resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of the establishment of the Veterans' Administration and acknowledging the achievements of the Veterans' Administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. CHAFFEE, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. Res. 204. A resolution recognizing the 75th anniversary of the American Academy of Pediatrics and supporting the mission and goals of the organization; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 313

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 313, a bill to improve authorities to address urgent nonproliferation crises and United States nonproliferation operations.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 333, a bill to hold the current regime in Iran accountable for its threatening behavior and to support a transition to democracy in Iran.

S. 381

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 381, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage guaranteed lifetime income payments from annuities and similar payments of life insurance proceeds at dates later than death by excluding from income a portion of such payments.

S. 397

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 397, a bill to prohibit civil liability actions from being brought or continued against manufacturers, distributors, dealers, or importers of firearms or ammunition for damages, injunctive or other relief resulting from the misuse of their products by others.

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 397, *supra*.

S. 453

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 453, a bill to amend section 402 of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 to

provide for an extension of eligibility for supplemental security income through fiscal year 2008 for refugees, asylees, and certain other humanitarian immigrants.

S. 489

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 489, a bill to amend chapter 111 of title 28, United States Code, to limit the duration of Federal consent decrees to which State and local governments are a party, and for other purposes.

S. 528

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 528, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to provide grants to States to conduct demonstration projects that are designed to enable medicaid-eligible individuals to receive support for appropriate and necessary long-term services in the settings of their choice.

S. 543

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 543, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the availability of the cash method of accounting for small businesses, and for other purposes.

S. 544

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 544, a bill to amend title IX of the Public Health Service Act to provide for the improvement of patient safety and to reduce the incidence of events that adversely effect patient safety.

S. 548

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 548, a bill to amend the Food Security Act of 1985 to encourage owners and operators of privately-held farm, ranch, and forest land to voluntarily make their land available for access by the public under programs administered by States and tribal governments.

S. 557

At the request of Mr. COBURN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 557, a bill to provide that Executive Order 13166 shall have no force or effect, to prohibit the use of funds for certain purposes, and for other purposes.

S. 601

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 601, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include combat pay in determining an allowable contribution to an individual retirement plan.

S. 662

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 662, a bill to reform the postal laws of the United States.

S. 722

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 722, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the tax on beer to its pre-1991 level.

S. 737

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 737, a bill to amend the USA PATRIOT ACT to place reasonable limitations on the use of surveillance and the issuance of search warrants, and for other purposes.

S. 770

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 770, a bill to amend the Non-indigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to reauthorize and improve that Act.

S. 792

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 792, a bill to establish a National sex offender registration database, and for other purposes.

S. 859

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 859, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an income tax credit for the provision of homeownership and community development, and for other purposes.

S. 919

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 919, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to enhance competition among and between rail carriers in order to ensure efficient rail service and reasonable rail rates, and for other purposes.

S. 963

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 963, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a guaranteed adequate level of funding for veterans' health care, to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a pilot program to improve access to health care for rural veterans, and for other purposes.

S. 984

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 984, a bill to amend the Exchange Rates and International Economic Policy Coordination Act of 1988

to clarify the definition of manipulation with respect to currency, and for other purposes.

S. 1064

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1064, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve stroke prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation.

S. 1066

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1066, a bill to authorize the States (and subdivisions thereof), the District of Columbia, territories, and possessions of the United States to provide certain tax incentives to any person for economic development purposes.

S. 1112

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1112, a bill to make permanent the enhanced educational savings provisions for qualified tuition programs enacted as part of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001.

S. 1120

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1120, a bill to reduce hunger in the United States by half by 2010, and for other purposes.

S. 1142

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1142, a bill to provide pay protection for members of the Reserve and the National Guard, and for other purposes.

S. 1157

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1157, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat gold, silver, platinum, and palladium, in either coin or bar form, in the same manner as equities and mutual funds for purposes of maximum capital gains rate for individuals.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) and the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) were added as cosponsors of S. 1172, a bill to provide for programs to increase the awareness and knowledge of women and health care providers with respect to gynecologic cancers.

S. 1180

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1180, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to reauthorize various programs servicing the needs of homeless veterans for fiscal years 2007 through 2011, and for other purposes.

S. 1191

At the request of Mr. SALAZAR, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1191, a bill to establish a grant program to provide innovative transportation options to veterans in remote rural areas.

S. 1197

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1197, a bill to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act of 1994.

S. 1215

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1215, a bill to authorize the acquisition of interests in underdeveloped coastal areas in order better to ensure their protection from development.

S. 1249

At the request of Mr. CORZINE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1249, a bill to require the Secretary of Education to rebate the amount of Federal Pell Grant aid lost as a result of the update to the tables for State and other taxes used in the Federal student aid need analysis for award year 2005–2006.

S. 1281

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1281, a bill to authorize appropriations for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration for science, aeronautics, exploration, exploration capabilities, and the Inspector General, and for other purposes, for fiscal years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010.

S. 1289

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1289, a bill to provide for research and education with respect to uterine fibroids, and for other purposes.

S. 1300

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1300, a bill to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 to establish a voluntary program for the provision of country of origin information with respect to certain agricultural products, and for other purposes.

S. 1317

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1317, a bill to provide for the collection and maintenance of cord blood units for the treatment of patients and research, and to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Bone Marrow and Cord Blood Cell Transplantation Program to increase

the number of transplants for recipients suitable matched to donors of bone marrow and cord blood.

S. 1321

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1321, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to repeal the excise tax on telephone and other communications.

S. 1340

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1340, a bill to amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act to extend the date after which surplus funds in the wildlife restoration fund become available for apportionment.

S. 1352

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1352, a bill to provide grants to States for improved workplace and community transition training for incarcerated youth offenders.

S. 1356

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1356, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide incentives for the provision of high quality care under the medicare program.

S. 1360

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 1360, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the exclusion from gross income for employer-provided health coverage to designated plan beneficiaries of employees, and for other purposes.

S. 1367

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1367, a bill to provide for recruiting, selecting, training, and supporting a national teacher corps in underserved communities.

S. 1423

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1423, a bill to provide for a medal of appropriate design to be awarded by the President to the next of kin or other representatives of those individuals killed as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

S. 1424

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1424, a bill to remove the restrictions on commercial air service at Love Field, Texas.

S. RES. 182

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator

from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 182, a resolution supporting efforts to increase childhood cancer awareness, treatment, and research.

AMENDMENT NO. 1312

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1312 proposed to S. 1042, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1313

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1313 proposed to S. 1042, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 1314

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1314 proposed to S. 1042, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, his name and the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1314 proposed to S. 1042, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1314 proposed to S. 1042, *supra*.

At the request of Mr. BYRD, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1314 proposed to S. 1042, *supra*.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. THOMAS (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 1441. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to include wireless telecommunications equipment in the definition of qualified technological equipment for purposes of determining the depreciation treatment

of such equipment; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce a bill that would clarify the class life of cell site equipment used by wireless telecommunications companies.

Wireless telecommunications, like many other high-tech industries, uses computer-based technology to facilitate the digitization of voice, video and data services over its networks. The wireless industry was in its infancy in 1986 when the Internal Revenue Code's rules regarding depreciation were last revised, so the sophisticated equipment used today was not even contemplated. For the past 20 years, the Internal Revenue Service—and taxpayers—have had to try to shoehorn modern equipment into outdated wireline telephony definitions in order to determine the appropriate depreciation period. Even the Treasury Department, in its July 2000 "Report to the Congress on Depreciation Recovery Periods and Methods," admits that this is inappropriate.

The result of this methodology is that the IRS has taken the position that wireless cell site equipment should be depreciated similarly to wooden telephone poles and wires rather than other, computerized equipment that it more closely resembles. Consequently, this equipment is depreciated over 20 years rather than 5. In other words, the misclassification significantly increases the cost of capital investment in the Nation's wireless network.

Given the rapid technological change and advances in the wireless industry, this bill would classify wireless telecommunications equipment as "qualified technological equipment." This is the proper classification because the major components of wireless cell sites are, in fact, computers or peripheral equipment controlled by computers.

Consumer demand for wireless services grew almost 700 percent over the last decade, and rapid growth in this area continues. The industry also makes significant contributions to the economy directly employing 226,340 workers and making hundreds of billions of dollars in capital investments. Clarifying the depreciation treatment of cell site equipment means even greater wireless investment, increased wireless employment, and improved benefits to America's wireless consumers.

Wireless technology has brought tremendous advances to rural America, and this bill would ensure that rural consumers continue to have timely access to the latest technology available. I thank my colleague from Arkansas, Mrs. LINCOLN, for joining me in recognizing the problem and introducing this legislation.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1441

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

SECTION 1. WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (A) of section 168(i)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining qualified technological equipment) is amended by striking "and" at the end of clause (ii), by striking the period at the end of clause (iii) and inserting "; and", and by inserting after clause (iii) the following new clause:

"(iv) any wireless telecommunications equipment."

(b) WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.—Section 168(i)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:

"(D) WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'wireless telecommunications equipment' means all equipment used in the transmission, reception, coordination, or switching of wireless telecommunications service, other than cell towers, buildings, and T-1 lines or other cabling connecting cell sites to mobile switching centers. For this purpose, 'wireless telecommunications service' includes any commercial mobile radio service as defined in title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations."

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. CHAFFEE, and Mr. REID):

S. 1442. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a Coordinated Environmental Health Network, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce, with my colleagues Senators CHAFFEE and REID, the Coordinated Environmental Health Tracking Act of 2005.

There is a saying—"what you don't know can't hurt you." But when it comes to chronic disease, what we don't know can hurt all of us. The bill we are introducing today will help us solve the mysteries behind the high rates of chronic diseases such as cancer, autism, and Alzheimer's that afflict so many American communities.

Once we are able to track diseases, and detect links to environmental or other causes, we will be able to prevent public health crises before they occur.

The environmental links to the onset of diseases are not well understood. They are hidden health hazards that manifest themselves in chronic diseases. We are only beginning to understand what these hazards are and what is the scope of their effects on our health.

We need more specifics on these environmental factors. For example, we need to know what is the cumulative effect of extended exposure to a variety of environmental factors over time.

One way to get those specifics is to track the outbreak of chronic diseases, just like we track the outbreaks of infectious diseases.