

S. 2355

At the request of Mr. BURNS, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2355, a bill to amend chapter 27 of title 18, United States Code, to prohibit the unauthorized construction, financing, or reckless permitting (on one's land) the construction or use of a tunnel or subterranean passageway between the United States and another country.

S. 2364

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2364, a bill to provide lasting protection for inventoried roadless areas within the National Forest System.

S. 2369

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2369, a bill to require a more reasonable period for delayed-notice search warrants, to provide enhanced judicial review of FISA orders and national security letters, to require an enhanced factual basis for a FISA order, and to create national security letter sunset provisions.

S. 2370

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) were added as cosponsors of S. 2370, a bill to promote the development of democratic institutions in areas under the administrative control of the Palestinian Authority, and for other purposes.

S. 2389

At the request of Mr. ALLEN, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2389, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to prohibit the unlawful acquisition and use of confidential customer proprietary network information, and for other purposes.

S. 2390

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2390, a bill to provide a national innovation initiative.

S. CON. RES. 46

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 46, a concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the Russian Federation should fully protect the freedoms of all religious communities without distinction, whether registered and unregistered, as stipulated by the Russian Constitution and international standards.

S. RES. 387

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the names of the Senator from Georgia

(Mr. ISAKSON) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. TALENT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 387, a resolution recognizing the need to replace the United Nations Human Rights Commission with a new Human Rights Council.

AMENDMENT NO. 2955

At the request of Mr. FRIST, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BURNS) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2955 intended to be proposed to S. 2349, an original bill to provide greater transparency in the legislative process.

AMENDMENT NO. 2959

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2959 proposed to S. 2349, an original bill to provide greater transparency in the legislative process.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. TALENT, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CARPER, Mr. BUNNING, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. BURNS):

S. 2393. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to advance medical research and treatments into pediatric cancers, ensure patients and families have access to the current treatments and information regarding pediatric cancers, establish a population-based national childhood cancer database, and promote public awareness of pediatric cancers; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of my legislation, the Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2006, 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. 2393

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 "Conquer Childhood Cancer Act of 2006".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

- (1) Cancer kills more children than any other disease.
- (2) Each year cancer kills more children between 1 and 20 years of age than asthma, diabetes, cystic fibrosis, and AIDS, combined.
- (3) Every year, over 12,500 young people are diagnosed with cancer.
- (4) Each year about 2,300 children and teenagers die from cancer.
- (5) One in every 330 Americans develops cancer before age 20.
- (6) Some forms of childhood cancer have proven to be so resistant that even in spite of the great research strides made, most of

those children die. Up to 75 percent of the children with cancer can now be cured.

(7) The causes of most childhood cancers are not yet known.

(8) Childhood cancers are mostly those of the white blood cells (leukemia's), brain, bone, the lymphatic system, and tumors of the muscles, kidneys, and nervous system. Each of these behaves differently, but all are characterized by an uncontrolled proliferation of abnormal cells.

(9) Eighty percent of the children who are diagnosed with cancer have disease which has already spread to distant sites in the body.

(10) Ninety percent of children with a form of pediatric cancer are treated at one of the more than 200 Children's Oncology Group member institutions throughout the United States

SEC. 3. PURPOSES.

It is the purpose of this Act to authorize appropriations to—

(1) encourage and expand the support for biomedical research programs of the existing National Cancer Institute-designated multicenter national infrastructure for pediatric cancer research;

(2) establish a population-based national childhood cancer database (the Children's Cancer Research Network) to evaluate incidence trends of childhood cancers and to enable the investigations of genetic epidemiology in order to identify causes to aid in development of prevention strategies;

(3) provide informational services to patients and families affected by childhood cancer;

(4) support the development, construction and operation of a comprehensive online public information system on childhood cancers and services available to families; and

(5) establish a fellowship program in pediatric cancer research to foster clinical and translational research career development in pediatric oncologists in the early stages of their career.

SEC. 4. PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH AND AWARENESS.

Subpart 1 of part C of title IV of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 285 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

"SEC. 417E. PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH AND AWARENESS.

"(a) PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH.—

"(1) SPECIAL PROGRAMS OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN PEDIATRIC CANCERS.—The Director of NIH, acting through the National Cancer Institute, shall establish special programs of research excellence in the area of pediatric cancers. Such programs shall demonstrate a balanced approach to research cause, prognosis, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of pediatric cancers that foster translation of basic research findings into innovative interventions applied to patients.

"(2) FELLOWSHIP OF EXCELLENCE IN PEDIATRIC CANCER RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall develop a grant mechanism for the establishment, in cooperation with the National Cancer Institute-supported pediatric cancer clinical trial groups, of Research Fellowships in Pediatric Cancer to support adequate numbers of pediatric focused clinical and translational investigators thereby facilitating continuous momentum of research excellence.

"(b) NATIONAL CHILDHOOD CANCER REGISTRY.—The Director of NIH shall award a grant for the operation of a population-based national childhood cancer database, the Childhood Cancer Research Network (CCRN), of the Children's Oncology Group, in cooperation with the National Cancer Institute.

“(c) PUBLIC AWARENESS OF PEDIATRIC CANCERS AND AVAILABLE TREATMENTS AND RESEARCH.—The Secretary shall award a grants to recognized childhood cancer professional and advocacy organizations for the expansion and widespread implementation of activities to raise public awareness of currently available information, treatment, and research with the intent to ensure access to best available therapies for pediatric cancers.

“(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, \$20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2007 through 2011. Funds appropriated under this section shall remain available until expended.”

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I join my colleague, Senator COLEMAN, in introducing the Conquer Childhood Cancer Act. I would also like to recognize Senators TALENT, ISAKSON, COCHRAN, BUNNING, MURKOWSKI, LIEBERMAN, CARPER, LANDRIEU, and LAUTENBERG who have all joined as original cosponsors of the bill.

This bipartisan legislation seeks to achieve several important goals in our battle against childhood cancer. Specifically, it will expand support for pediatric cancer research, foster the career development of more pediatric oncologists, and provide essential information and support to help families deal with this devastating disease. Childhood cancer impacts thousands of children and their families each year. While we have made great steps in treating cancer, we have made relatively little progress in advancing our understanding of the most common forms of pediatric cancer. This legislation will help to provide resources to hopefully one day find a cure.

Each year, more than 12,000 children are diagnosed with cancer, and more than 2,000 of them lose their courageous battle with the disease. Pediatric cancer not only takes a toll on the child, it affects the entire family—the parents, siblings, friends, and extended family all suffer when a child has cancer. I have had the honor of meeting one such family from Warwick, Rhode Island who has taken the pain and devastation of losing their young son to neuroblastoma, a very aggressive childhood cancer, and turned their tragedy into a message of hope. The Haight family is committed, in memory of their nine year old son Ben, to education, advocacy, and lending support to other families going through a similar struggle with pediatric cancer. I never had a chance to meet Ben Haight but his mother Nancy has told me of his tremendous strength and courage. Ben fought every day during his four and a half year battle with this disease and his tragic story highlights the importance of this legislation.

It is my hope that the bill we are introducing today will help to step up our efforts with regard to childhood cancer so that one day Ben's story, and thousands of other children like him, will be one of survival. In Rhode Island alone, a dozen children each year succumb to various forms of childhood cancer. Each of these children had

hopes, dreams, and desires that will never be fulfilled and one cannot quantify the impact each of these children could have had on their communities and on society as a whole. We need to be doing more to give these children a chance to grow up and reach their full potential.

The Conquer Childhood Cancer Act will enhance federal efforts in the fight against childhood cancer and will also complement the incredible work of private organizations dedicated to the prevention and cure of pediatric cancer. I would like to commend the CureSearch National Childhood Cancer Foundation for its work in this area. CureSearch brings together academic and research institutions, medical professionals with expertise in pediatric cancer, and children and families afflicted with the disease, to form a national network committed to research, treatment, and cures for childhood cancer.

Thank you, Mr. President. I look forward to working with my colleagues toward swift passage of this important legislation.

By Mr. GRASSLEY:

S. 2395. A bill to amend title 39, United States Code, to require that air carriers accept as mail shipments certain live animals; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President I rise to introduce legislation that would address the concerns related to the shipping of live birds through the United States Postal Service. I introduced a similar bill during the 107th Congress with bi-partisan support. It was included in Public Law 107-67.

This bill should close some loopholes that some of the airlines are using to avoid the timely shipping of day-old baby chicks.

Some members of the airline industry stated that they commonly and regularly refuse to transport shipments of some species of live animals for its regularly scheduled cargo service and, therefore, can refuse to carry any live animals by mail under existing law. My bill will make the law apply to “any air carrier that commonly and regularly carries any live animals as cargo,” thus making sure that if the air carrier does ship any live animals as cargo, it will be required to ship animals as mail.

There have been accusations that the shipping of day-old poultry could spread avian influenza. I have received information from Avian Health Veterinarians and they have informed me that avian influenza is not an egg transmitted disease. There are no reports of day-old poultry from infected breeders being infected with avian influenza when they hatch.

Poultry health specialists have been examining the vertical transmission, or parents-to-chicks via the egg of avian influenza, for more than 30 years. Studies looking at the avian influenza

have consistently failed to reveal evidence of avian influenza virus infections in newly hatched chicks from infected parent flocks.

This clearly shows that day-old poultry are not likely to be naturally infected. So the risk of transmitting avian influenza through shipment of day-old poultry is not an issue.

This bill would also address two other problems that have caused an adverse economic impact to bird shippers. First, the bill requires air carriers that take poultry as mail, to transfer such shipments so that the shipper is guaranteed that the shipment will reach its ultimate destination.

Second, it requires an air carrier to take shipments of poultry as air mail when the outside temperature is between 0 degrees Fahrenheit -17 degrees Celsius and 100 degrees Fahrenheit or 37.77 degrees Celsius from point of origin of the shipment through the point of destination. These temperature parameters are accepted by avian veterinarians as safe and humane.

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. 2395

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

SECTION 1. CONTRACTS FOR TRANSPORTATION OF MAIL BY AIR.

Section 5402(e)(2)(A) of title 39, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in the first sentence—
(A) by inserting “(i)” after “(2)(A)”; and
(B) in clause (i) (as designated by subparagraph (A)), by striking “may” and inserting “shall”; and

(2) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following:

“(ii) A shipment described in clause (i) shall include the transfer of any cargo described in that clause from the point of origin of the shipment to the point of destination.

“(iii) An air carrier shall accept and carry cargo described in clause (i) when the outside temperature is between 0 degrees Fahrenheit (-17.77 degrees Celsius) and 100 degrees Fahrenheit (37.77 degrees Celsius) from point of origin through the point of destination.

“(iv) The authority of the Postal Service under this subparagraph shall apply to any air carrier that commonly and regularly carries any live animals as cargo.”

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

S. 2397. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to establish long-term care trust accounts and allow a refundable tax credit for contributions to such accounts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Long-Term Care Trust Account Act of 2006. I am pleased to be joined by my colleague Senator BLANCHE LINCOLN.

In the past few years the notion of estate planning has taken on a negative connotation. I am here to introduce a bill that will focus on the positive side of planning for one's future.

As the Chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, I am committed to improving the financing and delivery of long-term care. The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services estimate that national spending for long-term care was almost \$160 billion in 2002, representing about 12 percent of all personal health care expenditures. While those numbers are already staggering we also know that the need for long-term care is expected to grow significantly in coming decades. Almost two-thirds of people receiving long-term care are over age 65, with this number expected to double by 2030.

For many individuals it will be necessary to find a way to either save for the care needed or purchase long-term care insurance. Long-term care insurance protects assets and income from the devastating financial consequences of long-term health care costs. Today's comprehensive long-term care insurance policies allow consumers to choose from a variety of benefits and offer a wide range of coverage choices. They allow individuals to receive care in a variety of settings including nursing homes, home care, assisted living facilities and adult day care. Some of the most recent policies also provide a cash benefit that a consumer can spend in the manner he or she chooses. Lastly, long-term care insurance allows individuals to take personal responsibility for their long-term health care needs and reduces the strain on state Medicaid budgets. Unfortunately, for many the struggle to pay the immediate costs of long-term care insurance sometimes outweighs the security these products provide.

With our national savings rate in steady decline I fear the American middle class is woefully unprepared to meet the coming challenges of their long-term care needs. As we move forward in our effort to help individuals stay financially stable in their later years, we must encourage them to purchase long-term care insurance and save for long-term care services. The Long-Term Care Trust Account Act of 2006 achieves both goals. My legislation will create a new type of savings vehicle for the purpose of preparing for the costs associated with long-term care services and purchasing long-term care insurance. An individual who establishes a long-term care trust account can contribute up to \$5,000 per year to their account and receive a refundable ten percent tax credit on that contribution. Interest accrued on these accounts will be tax free, and funds can be withdrawn for the purchase of long-term care insurance or to pay for long-term care services. The bill will also allow an individual to make contributions to another person's Long-Term Care Trust Account. This will help many relatives in our country that want to help their parents or a loved one prepare for their health care needs.

It is my hope that this legislation will help all Americans save for their long-term care needs. I urge my col-

leagues on both sides of the aisle to support this important bill.

Thank you, Mr. President.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 2398. A bill to establish an Advanced Research Projects Administration-Energy to initiate high risk, innovative energy research to improve the energy security of the United States, to extend certain energy tax incentives, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, in the years when I first began to serve in Congress, America faced severe problems with supplies of oil. For years, long gas lines, frustration, and questions about the security of our oil supply drove the public debate.

Thirty years have passed. And, frankly, things have not changed all that much. We still use gasoline and coal at staggering rates. And we are still concerned about the security of our oil supply. We do not have lines at gas stations. But last year, prices rose to levels unimaginable just a few years ago.

Prices for gasoline, heating oil, electricity, and natural gas have soared in recent years, hitting working families hard. In the past few weeks, we have seen a terrorist attack on Saudi Arabian oil facilities.

We have seen oil workers kidnapped in Nigeria. We have seen Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez threaten that he would cut off our supply of oil from his country. And we have seen some question whether Iran's role as an oil supplier keeps other countries from properly addressing Iran's threat to nuclear proliferation.

Energy provides one of America's greatest challenges for the 21st century. Our economy has been dependent on oil and coal for about 100 years. And since World War II, natural gas has become part of the equation. Will we continue this dependency for the next 100 years?

The cost of energy will profoundly affect the future competitiveness of the American economy. As the Chinese and Indian economies grow, so will their demand for energy. And that will add further upward pressure to energy prices.

To respond to the challenges of the new world economy, I am introducing legislation in seven key areas to build a foundation for a more competitive America. We must improve education, health care, trade law enforcement, the tax code, and savings. And we must bring a greater focus to energy research and development. Today, I introduce the Energy Competitiveness Act of 2006.

We are trapped in an energy box. It is a box characterized by high imports, ever-increasing prices for oil and natural gas, and environmental danger. We must experiment with ways to break out of that box. To break out, we need an energy research effort modeled after the Manhattan Project, or the Apollo mission to the moon.

America has a brilliant record of gathering the best minds. We meet challenges that may at first seem to be impossible. During World War II, the Manhattan Project brought together brilliant physicists and engineers to build an atomic bomb in 3 short years. And after President

Kennedy described his vision to a joint session of Congress in May of 1961, the Apollo space program put a man on the moon in just 8 years.

Looking back, these achievements were stunning. Both projects started out with no guarantee of success. Each could have ended in utter failure. Yet because of the talent, ingenuity, and focus of creative minds, they both succeeded.

Breaking out of the energy box poses a similar challenge. Success is not guaranteed. But we have got to give it our best shot.

Today I am introducing the Energy Competitiveness Act of 2006. My legislation would create a new energy research agency. It would extend key alternative energy tax relief. It would help our Nation face the challenges of a newly competitive global economy. It would help to move us into a new energy future.

We have the greatest research scientists on the planet. We have the most technically talented workforce in the world. But we do not have the vigor that we need in energy research. Energy research is a backwater, compared to other research efforts in biotechnology, medicine, computers, and defense-oriented projects.

With the Manhattan Project and the Apollo space program, America proved that we can gather the best talent for a focused mission and succeed. It is time that we begin a similar effort on energy.

We need to create a new agency to initiate cutting-edge, innovative energy research and development aimed at taking us to a new energy future. Doing so is essential to our effort to improve our economic competitiveness.

The new agency is modeled on DARPA—the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency—in the Department of Defense. Among the revolutionary technologies that DARPA has developed are the internet and stealth technology for aircraft. DARPA has been a tremendous success.

The National Academy of Sciences, the National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine joined to form the Committee on Prospering in the Global Economy of the 21st Century. Norm Augustine chaired the Committee. Based on DARPA's achievements, last fall, the Committee recommended the creation of an ARPA-E: Advanced Research Projects Agency—Energy.

This was one of a number of recommendations that the Committee made in its impressive report on the future competitive challenges that America faces. The Committee recommended that ARPA-E be designed to

conduct transformative, out-of-the-box energy research.

My bill proposes that ARPA-E be a small agency with a total of 250 people. A minimum of 180 of them would be technical staff.

A director of the agency and four deputies would lead ARPA-E. I propose that ARPA-E be funded at \$300 million in fiscal year 2007, \$600 million in 2008, \$1.1 billion in 2009, \$1.5 billion in 2010, and \$2.0 billion in 2011.

We would require that the staff have a technical background. The agency would use the Experimental Personnel Authority designed for DARPA. That authority authorizes higher salaries than for typical Federal employees, and faster hiring, so that the agency could get to work quickly.

To keep the intense, innovative focus that we want, technical staff would be limited to 3 to 4 years at the agency. Managers would be limited to 4 to 6 years. The director could give both groups extended terms of employment if the director so chose.

For contracts, the agency would use the DARPA procedure. That procedure allows more flexible contracting arrangements than are normally possible under the Federal Acquisition Regulations. To ensure that ARPA-E would conduct innovative research, 75 percent of research projects initiated by ARPA-E would not be peer reviewed.

The ARPA-E would be authorized to award cash prizes to encourage and accelerate energy research accomplishments.

Finally, the bill would require a report by the end of fiscal year 2007 on whether ARPA-E would need its own energy research lab.

The Energy Competitiveness Act would also increase our commitment to develop promising energy technologies. In the Energy Policy Act of 2005, last year's Energy bill, we established several important incentives to foster new forms of energy production and to encourage conservation.

America's investment in alternative energy and conservation lags well behind that of other developed countries. The 2005 Energy bill put us on the right track by expanding the tax credit for electricity from renewable resources. It created incentives for coal gasification technologies. It encouraged investment in refineries that can handle North American feedstocks. And it established tax credits for energy-efficient buildings and equipment.

Unfortunately, these provisions are either short-term or capped at insufficient levels. The Energy Competitiveness Act that I introduce today would bolster the first steps made in 2005. The bill that I introduce today would extend these important provisions and increase the amount of tax incentives available.

The bill would extend through 2010 the tax credit for electricity produced from wind, biomass, geothermal, and other renewable sources. It would also increase the volume caps on Clean Re-

newable Energy Bonds and coal gasification tax credits.

The bill would make permanent enhanced depreciation for new refining capacity that is capable of refining non-conventional feedstocks.

North America has abundant energy resources that could ease our demand for oil from the Mideast. But today, many of our refineries are incapable of processing heavier feedstocks, such as oil from shale or tar sands. Making this provision permanent would provide the needed certainty for long-term investments in capital intensive refining projects.

The Energy Competitiveness Act that I introduce today would encourage businesses to purchase alternative fuel and electric vehicles. And it would extend through 2010 many of the incentives from the 2005 bill that promote investment in energy-efficient buildings and equipment.

We are seeing exciting new efforts in America to strengthen our energy competitiveness.

We need to build on this foundation by creating an aggressive energy research agency that will push the limits of new technology and discover alternative energy sources.

America has massive coal reserves. So coal gasification is receiving greater attention. Gasification involves breaking down coal under heat and pressure to create synthetic natural gas. We must address the environmental issues. But if this technology can be improved, then America will be able to take a huge step toward energy independence.

There are exciting developments in wind energy. In Montana, the Judith Gap Wind Farm has been generating power at full capacity for several weeks. The farm includes 90 wind turbines. Each turbine can produce enough electricity for roughly 400 homes.

The entire farm can produce the electricity needed to supply 300,000 customers. Montana was one of nine States that put in place more than 100 megawatts of wind power generation in 2005. And my State ranks in the top 15 States in the Nation for wind power capacity.

Fusion is another possible area where aggressive research could lead to huge payoffs. Continuing research will help us to determine whether energy production through fusion is a practical option.

Ethanol is also gaining as an alternative energy option. In 2005, Americans invested more than \$850 million in ethanol plants. Ford Motor Company has plans for producing 250,000 vehicles in 2006 that will be able to use several different types of fuel, including ethanol.

Brazil, with the help of ethanol, expects to become energy independent this year. Ethanol accounts for 20 percent of Brazil's fuel transport market. Seven out of every 10 cars in Brazil can run on ethanol, gasoline, or a mixture of both.

In Iceland, all electricity generation is from renewable sources. Iceland is now taking the next step, and has started an initiative to replace the use of fossil fuels with hydrogen by 2050.

To achieve this, in 1999, Icelanders founded a public-private partnership called Icelandic New Energy. This partnership is the main driver in hydrogen energy research and implementation in Iceland. Public hydrogen-fueled buses began service in December of last year.

And experiments continue with hydrogen-driven consumer motorcycles, small cars, and fishing boats.

We live in a much larger and more complex nation than Iceland or Brazil. But we can share their vision of a future fueled by alternative energy and improved conservation.

There are also exciting developments in nanotechnology, solar power, energy-efficient materials, biomass, and green buildings.

All of these are examples of possible directions for our Nation's energy future. But we need a more aggressive and focused research and development effort to push these alternatives. And we need an effort to create scientific breakthroughs to supplement existing technologies.

We have got to give it our best shot. As President Franklin Roosevelt said, we must conduct "bold, persistent experimentation."

Our economic security is at stake. Our ability to compete in the new world economy is at stake.

ARPA-E will help us move forward on existing technologies. It will help us to find new technologies that are not even imaginable today. And the tax incentives will keep us on the right track until more dramatic breakthroughs occur.

I urge my colleagues to look closely at this legislation.

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. 2398

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Energy Competitiveness Act of 2006".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION-ENERGY
Sec. 101. Advanced Research Projects Administration-Energy.

TITLE II—ENERGY TAX INCENTIVES
Subtitle A—Energy Infrastructure Tax Incentives

Sec. 201. Extension of credit for electricity produced from certain renewable resources.

Sec. 202. Extension and expansion of credit to holders of clean renewable energy bonds.

Sec. 203. Extension and expansion of qualifying advanced coal project credit.

Sec. 204. Extension and expansion of qualifying gasification project credit.

Subtitle B—Domestic Fossil Fuel Security

Sec. 211. Extension of election to expense certain refineries.

Subtitle C—Conservation and Energy Efficiency Provisions

Sec. 221. Extension of energy efficient commercial buildings deduction.

Sec. 222. Extension of new energy efficient home credit.

Sec. 223. Extension of residential energy efficient property credit.

Sec. 224. Extension of credit for business installation of qualified fuel cells and stationary microturbine power plants.

Sec. 225. Extension of business solar investment tax credit.

Subtitle D—Alternative Fuels and Vehicles Incentives

Sec. 231. Extension of excise tax provisions and income tax credit for biodiesel and alternative fuels.

Sec. 232. Exception from depreciation limitation for certain alternative and electric passenger automobiles.

TITLE I—ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION-ENERGY

SEC. 101. ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS ADMINISTRATION-ENERGY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Advanced Research Projects Administration-Energy (referred to in this section as “ARPA-E”).

(b) GOALS.—The goals of ARPA-E are to reduce the quantity of energy the United States imports from foreign sources and to improve the competitiveness of the United States economy by—

(1) promoting revolutionary changes in the critical technologies that would promote energy competitiveness;

(2) turning cutting-edge science and engineering into technologies for energy and environmental application; and

(3) accelerating innovation in energy and the environment for both traditional and alternative energy sources and in energy efficiency mechanisms to—

(A) reduce energy use;

(B) decrease the reliance of the United States on foreign energy sources; and

(C) improve energy competitiveness.

(c) DIRECTOR.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—ARPA-E shall be headed by a Director (referred to in this section as the “Director”) appointed by the President.

(2) POSITIONS AT LEVEL V.—Section 5316 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“Director, Advanced Research Projects Administration-Energy.”.

(d) DUTIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this section, the Director shall award competitive grants, cooperative agreements, or contracts to institutions of higher education, companies, or consortia of such entities (which may include federally funded research and development centers) to achieve the goal described in subsection (b) through acceleration of—

(A) energy-related research;

(B) development of resultant techniques, processes, and technologies, and related testing and evaluation; and

(C) demonstration and commercial application of the most promising technologies and research applications.

(2) SMALL-BUSINESS CONCERNS.—The Director shall carry out programs established under this section, to the maximum extent practicable, in a manner that is similar to

the Small Business Innovation Research Program established under section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638) to ensure that small-business concerns are fully able to participate in the programs.

(e) PERSONNEL.—

(1) PROGRAM MANAGERS.—

(A) APPOINTMENT.—The Director shall appoint employees to serve as program managers for each of the programs that are established to carry out the duties of ARPA-E under this section.

(B) DUTIES.—Program managers shall be responsible for—

(i) establishing research and development goals for the program, as well as publicizing goals of the program to the public and private sectors;

(ii) soliciting applications for specific areas of particular promise, especially areas for which the private sector cannot or will not provide funding;

(iii) selecting research projects for support under the program from among applications submitted to ARPA-E, based on—

(I) the scientific and technical merit of the proposed projects;

(II) the demonstrated capabilities of the applicants to successfully carry out the proposed research project; and

(III) such other criteria as are established by the Director; and

(iv) monitoring the progress of projects supported under the program.

(2) OTHER PERSONNEL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Director shall appoint such employees as are necessary to carry out the duties of ARPA-E under this section.

(B) LIMITATIONS.—The Director shall appoint not more than 250 employees to carry out the duties of ARPA-E under this section, including not less than 180 technical staff, of which—

(i) not less than 20 staff shall be senior technical managers (including program managers designated under paragraph (1)); and

(ii) not less than 80 staff shall be technical program managers.

(3) EXPERIMENTAL PERSONNEL AUTHORITY.—In appointing personnel for ARPA-E, the Director shall have the hiring and management authorities described in section 1101 of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (Public Law 105-261; 5 U.S.C. 3104 note).

(4) MAXIMUM DURATION OF EMPLOYMENT.—

(A) PROGRAM MANAGERS AND SENIOR TECHNICAL MANAGERS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), a program manager and a senior technical manager appointed under this subsection shall serve for a term not to exceed 4 years after the date of appointment.

(ii) EXTENSIONS.—The Director may extend the term of employment of a program manager or a senior technical manager appointed under this subsection for not more than 4 years through 1 or more 2-year terms.

(B) TECHNICAL PROGRAM MANAGERS.—A technical program manager appointed under this subsection shall serve for a term not to exceed 6 years after the date of appointment.

(5) LOCATION.—The office of an officer or employee of ARPA-E shall not be located in the headquarters of the Department of Energy.

(f) TRANSACTIONS OTHER THAN CONTRACTS AND GRANTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To carry out projects through ARPA-E, the Director may enter into transactions (other than contracts, cooperative agreements, and grants) to carry out advanced research projects under this section under similar terms and conditions as the authority is exercised under section 646(g) of the Department of Energy Organization Act (42 U.S.C. 7256(g)).

(2) PEER REVIEW.—Peer review shall not be required for 75 percent of the research projects carried out by the Director under this section.

(g) PRIZES FOR ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY ACHIEVEMENTS.—The Director may carry out a program to award cash prizes in recognition of outstanding achievements in basic, advanced, and applied research, technology development, and prototype development that have the potential for application to the performance of the mission of ARPA-E under similar terms and conditions as the authority is exercised under section 1008 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16396).

(h) COORDINATION OF ACTIVITIES.—The Director—

(1) shall ensure that the activities of ARPA-E are coordinated with activities of Department of Energy offices and outside agencies; and

(2) may carry out projects jointly with other agencies.

(i) REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2007, the Director shall submit to Congress a report on the activities of ARPA-E under this section, including a recommendation on whether ARPA-E needs an energy research laboratory.

(j) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

(1) \$300,000,000 for fiscal year 2007;

(2) \$600,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

(3) \$1,100,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

(4) \$1,500,000,000 for fiscal year 2010; and

(5) \$2,000,000,000 for fiscal year 2011.

TITLE II—ENERGY TAX INCENTIVES

Subtitle A—Energy Infrastructure Tax Incentives

SEC. 201. EXTENSION OF CREDIT FOR ELECTRICITY PRODUCED FROM CERTAIN RENEWABLE RESOURCES.

Section 45(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to qualified facilities) is amended by striking “2008” each place it appears and inserting “2011”.

SEC. 202. EXTENSION AND EXPANSION OF CREDIT TO HOLDERS OF CLEAN RENEWABLE ENERGY BONDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 54(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to termination) is amended by striking “2007” and inserting “2010”.

(b) ANNUAL VOLUME CAP FOR BONDS ISSUED DURING EXTENSION PERIOD.—Paragraph (1) of section 54(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to limitation on amount of bonds designated) is amended to read as follows:

“(1) NATIONAL LIMITATION.—

“(A) INITIAL NATIONAL LIMITATION.—With respect to bonds issued after December 31, 2005, and before January 1, 2008, there is a national clean renewable energy bond limitation of \$800,000,000.

“(B) ANNUAL NATIONAL LIMITATION.—With respect to bonds issued after December 31, 2007, and before January 1, 2011, there is a national clean renewable energy bond limitation for each calendar year of \$800,000,000.”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to bonds issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 203. EXTENSION AND EXPANSION OF QUALIFYING ADVANCED COAL PROJECT CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 48A(d)(3)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to aggregate credits) is amended by striking “\$1,300,000,000” and inserting “\$1,800,000,000”.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL INTEGRATED GASIFICATION COMBINED CYCLE PROJECTS.—Subparagraph (B) of section 48A(d)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to aggregate credits) is amended to read as follows:

“(B) PARTICULAR PROJECTS.—Of the dollar amount in subparagraph (A), the Secretary is authorized to certify—

“(i) \$800,000,000 for integrated gasification combined cycle projects the application for which is submitted during the period described in paragraph (2)(A)(i),

“(ii) \$500,000,000 for projects which use other advanced coal-based generation technologies the application for which is submitted during the period described in paragraph (2)(A)(i), and

“(iii) \$500,000,000 for integrated gasification combined cycle projects the application for which is submitted during the period described in paragraph (2)(A)(ii).”

(c) APPLICATION PERIOD FOR ADDITIONAL PROJECTS.—Subparagraph (A) of section 48A(d)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to certification) is amended to read as follows:

“(A) APPLICATION PERIOD.—Each applicant for certification under this paragraph shall submit an application meeting the requirements of subparagraph (B). An applicant may only submit an application—

“(i) for an allocation from the dollar amount specified in clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (3)(A) during the 3-year period beginning on the date the Secretary establishes the program under paragraph (1), and

“(ii) for an allocation from the dollar amount specified in paragraph (3)(A)(iii) during the 3-year period beginning at the termination of the period described in clause (i).”

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 1307 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

SEC. 204. EXTENSION AND EXPANSION OF QUALIFYING GASIFICATION PROJECT CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 48B(d)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to qualifying gasification project program) is amended by striking “\$350,000,000” and inserting “\$850,000,000”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 1307 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Subtitle B—Domestic Fossil Fuel Security

SEC. 211. EXTENSION OF ELECTION TO EXPENSE CERTAIN REFINERIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 179C(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining qualified refinery property) is amended—

(1) by striking “and before January 1, 2012” in subparagraph (B) and inserting “and, in the case of any qualified refinery described in subsection (d)(1), before January 1, 2012”, and

(2) by inserting “if described in subsection (d)(1)” after “of which” in subparagraph (F)(i).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (d) of section 179C of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

“(d) QUALIFIED REFINERY.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified refinery’ means any refinery located in the United States which is designed to serve the primary purpose of processing liquid fuel from—

“(1) crude oil, or

“(2) qualified fuels (as defined in section 45K(c)).”

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the amendment made by section 1323(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

Subtitle C—Conservation and Energy Efficiency Provisions

SEC. 221. EXTENSION OF ENERGY EFFICIENT COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS DEDUCTION.

Section 179D(h) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to termination) is

amended by striking “2007” and inserting “2010”.

SEC. 222. EXTENSION OF NEW ENERGY EFFICIENT HOME CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (g) of section 45L of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to new energy efficient home credit) is amended to read as follows:

“(g) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to—

“(1) any qualified new energy efficient home meeting the energy saving requirements of subsection (c)(1) acquired after December 31, 2010, and

“(2) any qualified new energy efficient home meeting the energy saving requirements of paragraph (2) or (3) of subsection (c) acquired after December 31, 2007.”

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect as if included in the amendments made by section 1332 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005.

SEC. 223. EXTENSION OF RESIDENTIAL ENERGY EFFICIENT PROPERTY CREDIT.

Section 25D(g) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to termination) is amended by striking “2007” and inserting “2010”.

SEC. 224. EXTENSION OF CREDIT FOR BUSINESS INSTALLATION OF QUALIFIED FUEL CELLS AND STATIONARY MICROTURBINE POWER PLANTS.

Sections 48(c)(1)(E) and 48(c)(2)(E) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to termination) are each amended by striking “2007” and inserting “2010”.

SEC. 225. EXTENSION OF BUSINESS SOLAR INVESTMENT TAX CREDIT.

Sections 48(a)(2)(A)(i)(II) and 48(a)(3)(A)(ii) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to termination) are each amended by striking “2008” and inserting “2011”.

Subtitle D—Alternative Fuels and Vehicles Incentives

SEC. 231. EXTENSION OF EXCISE TAX PROVISIONS AND INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR BIODIESEL AND ALTERNATIVE FUELS.

(a) BIODIESEL.—Sections 40A(g), 6426(c)(6), and 6427(e)(5)(B) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 are each amended by striking “2008” and inserting “2010”.

(b) ALTERNATIVE FUEL.—

(1) FUELS.—Sections 6426(d)(4) and 6427(e)(5)(C) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 are each amended by striking “September 30, 2009” and inserting “December 31, 2010”.

(2) REFUELING PROPERTY.—Section 30C(g) of such Code is amended by striking “2009” and inserting “2010”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2007.

SEC. 232. EXCEPTION FROM DEPRECIATION LIMITATION FOR CERTAIN ALTERNATIVE AND ELECTRIC PASSENGER AUTOMOBILES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 280F(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to limitation) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(D) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN ALTERNATIVE MOTOR VEHICLES AND QUALIFIED ELECTRIC VEHICLES.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any motor vehicle for which a credit is allowable under section 30 or 30B.”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (C) of section 280F(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking clause (ii) and by redesignating clause (iii) as clause (ii).

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

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 394—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT ALL PEOPLE IN THE UNITED STATES SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN A MOMENT OF SILENCE TO REFLECT UPON THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES BOTH AT HOME AND ABROAD

Ms. STABENOW submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 394

Whereas it was through the brave and noble efforts of the forefathers of the United States that the United States first gained freedom and became a sovereign country;

Whereas there are more than 1,300,000 active component and more than 1,100,000 reserve component members of the Armed Forces serving the Nation in support and defense of the values and freedom that all people in the United States cherish;

Whereas the members of the Armed Forces deserve the utmost respect and admiration of the people of the United States for putting their lives in danger for the sake of the freedoms enjoyed by all people of the United States;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces are defending freedom and democracy around the globe and are playing a vital role in protecting the safety and security of all the people of the United States;

Whereas the United States officially celebrates and honors the accomplishments and sacrifices of veterans, patriots, and leaders who fought for freedom, but does not yet officially pay tribute to those who currently serve in the Armed Forces;

Whereas all people of the United States should participate in a moment of silence to support the troops; and

Whereas March 26th, 2006, is designated as “National Support the Troops Day”: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that all people in the United States should participate in a moment of silence to reflect upon the service and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces both at home and abroad.

SENATE RESOLUTION 395—ESTABLISHING THE AMERICAN COMPETITIVENESS THROUGH EDUCATION (ACE) RESOLUTION

Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. REID, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. MENENDEZ) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. RES. 395

Whereas the economy and future of the United States depend on maintaining a highly skilled and educated workforce with the ability to compete in an increasingly high-tech global economy;

Whereas millions of hard-working middle-class families now struggle to afford the rising cost of higher education, which averages \$12,127 per year at a public 4-year college and \$29,026 per year at a private 4-year college for the 2005–2006 school year;

Whereas between 2000 and 2005, the cost of tuition and fees increased 57 percent at public 4-year colleges and 32 percent at private 4-year colleges;