

S. 2975

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2975, a bill to provide additional funds for affordable housing for low-income seniors, disabled persons, and others who lost their homes as a result of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

S. 2980

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2980, a bill to amend the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990 to improve access to high quality early learning and child care for low income children and working families, and for other purposes.

S. 3010

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3010, a bill to reauthorize the Route 66 Corridor Preservation Program.

S. 3070

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) were added as cosponsors of S. 3070, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the Boy Scouts of America, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 33

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 33, a concurrent resolution recognizing the benefits and importance of school-based music education.

S. RES. 576

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 576, a resolution designating August 2008 as "Digital Television Transition Awareness Month".

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 580—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE ON PREVENTING IRAN FROM ACQUIRING A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY

Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. SMITH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

S. RES. 580

Whereas Iran is a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at Washington, London, and Moscow July 1, 1968, and entered into force March 5, 1970 (commonly referred to as the "Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty") and, by ratifying the Treaty, has foresworn the acquisition of nuclear weapons;

Whereas Iran is legally bound to declare all its nuclear activity to the International Atomic Energy Agency and to place such activity under the constant monitoring of the Agency;

Whereas for nearly 20 years Iran had a covert nuclear program, until the program was revealed by an opposition group in Iran in 2002;

Whereas the International Atomic Energy Agency has confirmed that the Government of Iran has engaged in such covert nuclear activities as the illicit importation of uranium hexafluoride, the construction of a uranium enrichment facility, experimentation with plutonium, the importation of centrifuge technology and the construction of centrifuges, and the importation of the design to convert highly enriched uranium gas into a metal and to shape it into the core of a nuclear weapon, as well as significant additional covert nuclear activities;

Whereas the Government of Iran continues to expand the number of centrifuges at its enrichment facility and to enrich uranium in defiance of 3 binding United Nations Security Council resolutions demanding that Iran suspend its uranium enrichment activities;

Whereas the Government of Iran has announced its intention to begin the installation of 6,000 advanced centrifuges, which, when operational, will dramatically reduce the time it will take Iran to enrich uranium;

Whereas the 2007 National Intelligence Estimate reports that the Government of Iran was secretly working on the design and manufacture of a nuclear warhead until at least 2003 and that Iran could have enough highly enriched uranium for a nuclear weapon as early as late 2009;

Whereas allowing the Government of Iran to obtain a nuclear weapons capability would pose a grave threat to international peace and security;

Whereas allowing the Government of Iran to obtain a nuclear weapons capability would fundamentally alter and destabilize the strategic balance of power in the Middle East;

Whereas, if it were allowed to obtain a nuclear weapons capability, the Government of Iran could share its nuclear technology, raising the frightening prospect that terrorist groups and rogue regimes might possess nuclear weapons capabilities;

Whereas allowing the Government of Iran to obtain a nuclear weapons capability would severely undermine the global nuclear non-proliferation regime that, for more than 4 decades, has contained the spread of nuclear weapons;

Whereas it is likely that one or more Arab states would respond to Iran obtaining a nuclear weapons capability by following Iran's example, and several Arab states have already announced their intentions to pursue "peaceful nuclear" programs;

Whereas the spread of nuclear weapons capabilities throughout the Middle East would make the proliferation of nuclear weapons elsewhere around the globe much more likely;

Whereas allowing the Government of Iran to obtain a nuclear weapons capability would directly threaten Europe and ultimately the United States because Iran already has missiles that can reach parts of Europe and is seeking to develop intercontinental ballistic missiles;

Whereas the Government of Iran has repeatedly called for the elimination of our ally, Israel;

Whereas the Government of Iran has advocated that the United States withdraw its presence from the Middle East;

Whereas the United Nations Security Council has passed 3 binding resolutions under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter that impose sanctions on Iran for its failure to comply with the mandatory demand of the Security Council to suspend all uranium enrichment activity;

Whereas the United States, the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China,

France, the United Kingdom, and Germany have offered to negotiate a significant package of economic, diplomatic, and security incentives if Iran complies with the Security Council's demands to suspend uranium enrichment;

Whereas the Government of Iran has consistently refused such offers;

Whereas, as a result of the failure of the Government of Iran to comply with the Security Council resolutions, the international community began taking steps in 2006 that have begun to have an impact on the economy of Iran, but the rapid development of nuclear weapons capabilities by the Government of Iran is outpacing the slowly increasing economic and diplomatic sanctions on Iran;

Whereas the Government of Iran has used its banking system, including the Central Bank of Iran, to support its proliferation efforts and to assist terrorist groups;

Whereas, as a result of that use of Iran's banking system, the Secretary of the Treasury has designated 4 large Iranian banks as proliferators and supporters of terrorism and restricted the ability of those banks to conduct international financial transactions in United States dollars; and

Whereas Iran must import around 40 percent of its daily requirements for refined petroleum products: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) declares that preventing the Government of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability, through all appropriate economic, political, and diplomatic means, is a matter of the highest importance to the national security of the United States and must be dealt with urgently;

(2) urges the President, in the strongest of terms, to immediately use the President's existing authority to impose sanctions on—

(A) the Central Bank of Iran and any other Iranian bank engaged in proliferation activities or support of terrorist groups;

(B) international banks that continue to conduct financial transactions with sanctioned Iranian banks;

(C) energy companies that have invested \$20,000,000 or more in the petroleum or national gas sector of the economy of Iran in any given year since the date of the enactment of the Iran Sanctions Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-172; 50 U.S.C. 1701 note); and

(D) companies that continue to do business with the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps of Iran;

(3) demands that the President lead an international effort to immediately and dramatically increase the pressure on the Government of Iran to verifiably suspend its nuclear enrichment activities by, among other measures, banning the importation of refined petroleum products to Iran; and

(4) asserts that nothing in this resolution shall be construed to authorize the use of force against Iran.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4821. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 3036, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4821. Mr. WYDEN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to him to the bill S. 3036, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program

to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 194, line 17, strike “not more than 5” and insert “a quantity of emission allowances equal to 5”.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Thursday, June 5, at 9:30 a.m., in Room 562 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to conduct an oversight hearing on Predatory Lending in Indian Country.

Those wishing additional information may contact the Indian Affairs Committee at 224-2251.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator LIEBERMAN, I ask unanimous consent that Alexander Barron, Ellen Cohen, and Sherry Gillespie, congressional fellows in his office, be granted the privileges of the floor for the duration of the debate on S. 3036. I also ask unanimous consent, on behalf of Senator PRYOR, that Suzanne McGuire, a fellow in his office, be granted the privileges of the floor for the duration of debate on S. 3036. Further, I ask unanimous consent that Rachel Radell, a fellow in the office of Senator FEINSTEIN, be granted the privileges of the floor for the duration of debate on this bill.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. INHOFE. I ask unanimous consent that T. J. Kim, a fellow with my committee office, be granted the privileges of the floor for the remainder of debate.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator NELSON of Florida, I ask unanimous consent that Maria Honeycutt be granted floor privileges for the duration of the Senate's consideration of this legislation.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator CARPER, I ask unanimous consent that Khesha Jennings, a legislative fellow in his office, be allowed privileges of the floor during the climate change debate.

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

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Javier Gamba, an intern with the EPW Committee, be allowed privileges of the floor for the duration of the debate on S. 3036.

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

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SELF-DETERMINATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

On Thursday, May 22, 2008, the Senate passed S. 2062, as amended, as follows:

S. 2062

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 “Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act of 2007”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Congressional findings.

Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—BLOCK GRANTS AND GRANT REQUIREMENTS

Sec. 101. Block grants.

Sec. 102. Indian housing plans.

Sec. 103. Review of plans.

Sec. 104. Treatment of program income and labor standards.

Sec. 105. Regulations.

TITLE II—AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACTIVITIES

Sec. 201. National objectives and eligible families.

Sec. 202. Eligible affordable housing activities.

Sec. 203. Program requirements.

Sec. 204. Low-income requirement and income targeting.

Sec. 205. Availability of records.

Sec. 206. Self-determined housing activities for tribal communities program.

TITLE III—ALLOCATION OF GRANT AMOUNTS

Sec. 301. Allocation formula.

TITLE IV—COMPLIANCE, AUDITS, AND REPORTS

Sec. 401. Remedies for noncompliance.

Sec. 402. Monitoring of compliance.

Sec. 403. Performance reports.

TITLE V—TERMINATION OF ASSISTANCE FOR INDIAN TRIBES UNDER INCORPORATED PROGRAMS

Sec. 501. Effect on Home Investment Partnerships Act.

TITLE VI—GUARANTEED LOANS TO FINANCE TRIBAL COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

Sec. 601. Demonstration program for guaranteed loans to finance tribal community and economic development activities.

TITLE VII—FUNDING

Sec. 701. Authorization of appropriations.

SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.

Section 2 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4101) is amended in paragraphs (6) and (7) by striking “should” each place it appears and inserting “shall”.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

Section 4 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4103) is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (22);

(2) by redesignating paragraphs (8) through (21) as paragraphs (9) through (22), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (7) the following:

“(8) HOUSING RELATED COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘housing related community development’ means any facility, community building, business, activity, or infrastructure that—

“(i) is owned by an Indian tribe or a tribally designated housing entity;

“(ii) is necessary to the provision of housing in an Indian area; and

“(iii)(I) would help an Indian tribe or tribally designated housing entity to reduce the cost of construction of Indian housing;

“(II) would make housing more affordable, accessible, or practicable in an Indian area; or

“(III) would otherwise advance the purposes of this Act.

“(B) EXCLUSION.—The term ‘housing and community development’ does not include any activity conducted by any Indian tribe under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act (25 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.).”

TITLE I—BLOCK GRANTS AND GRANT REQUIREMENTS

SEC. 101. BLOCK GRANTS.

Section 101 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) in the first sentence—

(i) by striking “For each” and inserting the following:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—For each”;

(ii) by striking “tribes to carry out affordable housing activities.” and inserting the following: “tribes—

“(A) to carry out affordable housing activities under subtitle A of title II; and”;

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

“(B) to carry out self-determined housing activities for tribal communities programs under subtitle B of that title.”; and

(B) in the second sentence, by striking “Under” and inserting the following:

“(2) PROVISION OF AMOUNTS.—Under”;

(2) in subsection (g), by inserting “of this section and subtitle B of title II” after “subsection (h)”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(j) FEDERAL SUPPLY SOURCES.—For purposes of section 501 of title 40, United States Code, on election by the applicable Indian tribe—

“(1) each Indian tribe or tribally designated housing entity shall be considered to be an Executive agency in carrying out any program, service, or other activity under this Act; and

“(2) each Indian tribe or tribally designated housing entity and each employee of the Indian tribe or tribally designated housing entity shall have access to sources of supply on the same basis as employees of an Executive agency.

“(k) TRIBAL PREFERENCE IN EMPLOYMENT AND CONTRACTING.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, with respect to any grant (or portion of a grant) made on behalf of an Indian tribe under this Act that is intended to benefit 1 Indian tribe, the tribal employment and contract preference laws (including regulations and tribal ordinances) adopted by the Indian tribe that receives the benefit shall apply with respect to the administration of the grant (or portion of a grant).”

SEC. 102. INDIAN HOUSING PLANS.

Section 102 of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4112) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1)—

(A) by striking “(1)(A) for” and all that follows through the end of subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(1)(A) for an Indian tribe to submit to the Secretary, by not later than 75 days before the beginning of each tribal program year, a 1-year housing plan for the Indian tribe; or”;

and