

S. 751. A bill to establish a revenue source for fair elections financing of Senate campaigns by providing an excise tax on amounts paid pursuant to contracts with the United States Government; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself and Mr. SPECTER):

S. 752. A bill to reform the financing of Senate elections, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. 753. A bill to prohibit the manufacture, sale, or distribution in commerce of children's food and beverage containers composed of bisphenol A, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. CORKER, and Mr. KENNEDY):

S. 754. A bill to provide for increased Federal oversight of methadone treatment; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 755. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Director of the National Cancer Institute to make grants for the discovery and validation of biomarkers for use in risk stratification for, and the early detection and screening of, ovarian cancer; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. BOXER:

S. 756. A bill to provide for prostate cancer imaging research and education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado (for himself, Mr. BENNET, and Mr. UDALL of New Mexico):

S. 757. A bill to amend the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program Act of 2000 to expand the category of individuals eligible for compensation, to improve the procedures for providing compensation, and to improve transparency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. REID, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, and Mr. BENNET):

S. Res. 92. A resolution honoring the accomplishments and legacy of Cesar Estrada Chavez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. Res. 93. A bill supporting the mission and goals of 2009 National Crime Victim's Rights Week, to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime in the United States, and to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the enactment of the Victims of Crime Act of 1984; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. CORKER, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. INOUE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. COCHRAN, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. Res. 94. A resolution designating April 2009 as "Financial Literacy Month"; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. Res. 95. A resolution congratulating the University of Iowa men's wrestling team for winning the 2009 National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Wrestling Championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Mr. GRASSLEY):

S. Res. 96. A resolution congratulating the Morningside College women's basketball team for winning the 2009 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) Division II championship; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. PRYOR:

S. Con. Res. 15. A concurrent resolution commending the 39th Infantry Brigade Combat Team of the Arkansas National Guard upon its completion of a second deployment in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom; to the Committee on Armed Services.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 245

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 245, a bill to expand, train, and support all sectors of the health care workforce to care for the growing population of older individuals in the United States.

S. 372

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to amend chapter 23 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the disclosures of information protected from prohibited personnel practices, require a statement in nondisclosure policies, forms, and agreements that such policies, forms, and agreements conform with certain disclosure protections, provide certain authority for the Special Counsel, and for other purposes.

S. 405

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 405, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that a deduction equal to fair market value shall be allowed for charitable contributions of literary, musical, artistic, or scholarly compositions created by the donor.

S. 435

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 435, a bill to provide for evidence-based and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention to help build individual, family, and community strength and resiliency to ensure that youth lead productive, safe, healthy, gang-free, and law-abiding lives.

S. 456

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. GREGG) was added as a cosponsor

of S. 456, a bill to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Secretary of Education, to develop guidelines to be used on a voluntary basis to develop plans to manage the risk of food allergy and anaphylaxis in schools and early childhood education programs, to establish school-based food allergy management grants, and for other purposes.

S. 468

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 468, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access to emergency medical services and the quality and efficiency of care furnished in emergency departments of hospitals and critical access hospitals by establishing a bipartisan commission to examine factors that affect the effective delivery of such services, by providing for additional payments for certain physician services furnished in such emergency departments, and by establishing a Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services Working Group, and for other purposes.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 491, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow Federal civilian and military retirees to pay health insurance premiums on a pretax basis and to allow a deduction for TRICARE supplemental premiums.

S. 496

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 496, a bill to provide duty-free treatment for certain goods from designated Reconstruction Opportunity Zones in Afghanistan and Pakistan, and for other purposes.

S. 511

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 511, a bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an exemption of pharmacies and pharmacists from certain Medicare accreditation requirements in the same manner as such exemption applies to certain professionals.

S. 540

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 540, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to liability under State and local requirements respecting devices.

S. 543

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 543, a bill to require a pilot program on training, certification, and support for family caregivers of seriously disabled veterans and members of the Armed Forces to provide caregiver services to

such veterans and members, and for other purposes.

S. 574

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 574, a bill to enhance citizen access to Government information and services by establishing that Government documents issued to the public must be written clearly, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 574, *supra*.

S. 599

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 599, a bill to amend chapter 81 of title 5, United States Code, to create a presumption that a disability or death of a Federal employee in fire protection activities caused by any certain diseases is the result of the performance of such employee's duty.

S. 602

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 602, a bill to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to conduct a survey to determine the level of compliance with national voluntary consensus standards and any barriers to achieving compliance with such standards, and for other purposes.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that the payment of the manufacturers' excise tax on recreational equipment be paid quarterly.

S. 635

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate a segment of Illabot Creek in Skagit County, Washington, as a component of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

S. 639

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 639, a bill to amend the definition of commercial motor vehicle in section 31101 of title 49, United States Code, to exclude certain farm vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 677

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) was added as a cosponsor of S. 677, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require wealthy beneficiaries to pay a greater share of their premiums under the Medicare prescription drug program.

S. 683

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) were added as cosponsors of S. 683, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide individuals with disabilities and older Americans with equal access to community-based attendant services and supports, and for other purposes.

S. 700

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. 700, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to phase out the 24-month waiting period for disabled individuals to become eligible for Medicare benefits, to eliminate the waiting period for individuals with life-threatening conditions, and for other purposes.

S. 701

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 701, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve access of Medicare beneficiaries to intravenous immune globulins (IVIG).

S. 705

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 705, a bill to reauthorize the programs of the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, and for other purposes.

S. 717

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 717, a bill to modernize cancer research, increase access to preventative cancer services, provide cancer treatment and survivorship initiatives, and for other purposes.

S. 723

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 723, a bill to prohibit the introduction or delivery for introduction into interstate commerce of novelty lighters, and for other purposes.

S. 729

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 729, a bill to amend the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 to permit States to determine State residency for higher education purposes and to authorize the cancellation of removal and adjustment of status of certain alien students who are long-term United States residents and who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes.

S. 738

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S.

738, a bill to amend the Consumer Credit Protection Act to assure meaningful disclosures of the terms of rental-purchase agreements, including disclosures of all costs to consumers under such agreements, to provide certain substantive rights to consumers under such agreements, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 11

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. BENNET), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 11, a concurrent resolution condemning all forms of anti-Semitism and reaffirming the support of Congress for the mandate of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 9

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) and the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 9, a resolution commemorating 90 years of U.S.-Polish diplomatic relations, during which Poland has proven to be an exceptionally strong partner to the United States in advancing freedom around the world.

S. RES. 20

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 20, a resolution celebrating the 60th anniversary of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 20, *supra*.

S. RES. 56

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 56, a resolution urging the Government of Moldova to ensure a fair and democratic election process for the parliamentary elections on April 5, 2009.

AMENDMENT NO. 730

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 730 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 732

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from

Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 732 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 733

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 733 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 734

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 734 intended to be proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

AMENDMENT NO. 735

At the request of Mr. JOHANNIS, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 735 proposed to S. Con. Res. 13, an original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2010, revising the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2009, and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2011 through 2014.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS ON MARCH 30, 2009

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of S. 740 and S. 741 be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bills were ordered to be placed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 740

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

SECTION 1. EXPANSION OF THE HOMEBUYER TAX CREDIT.

(a) ELIMINATION OF FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 36 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking “who is a first-time homebuyer of a principal residence” and inserting “who purchases a principal residence”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subsection (c) of section 36 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking paragraph (1) and by redesignating paragraphs (2), (3), (4), and (5) as paragraphs (1), (2), (3), and (4), respectively.

(B) Section 36 of such Code is amended by striking “first-time homebuyer credit” in the heading and inserting “home purchase credit”.

(C) The table of sections for subpart C of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by striking the item relating to section 36 and inserting the following new item:

“Sec. 36. Home purchase credit.”.

(D) Subparagraph (W) of section 26(b)(2) of such Code is amended by striking “homebuyer credit” and inserting “home purchase credit”.

(b) MODIFICATION OF CREDIT AMOUNT.—Paragraph (1) of section 36(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Tax Act of 2009, is amended—

(1) by striking “\$8,000” each place it appears and inserting “\$15,000”, and

(2) by striking “\$4,000” in subparagraph (B) and inserting “\$7,500”.

(c) ELIMINATION OF INCOME LIMITATION.—Subsection (b) of section 36 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by this section, is amended—

(1) by striking paragraph (2),

(2) by striking “LIMITATIONS” in the heading and inserting “DOLLAR LIMITATION”,

(3) by redesignating subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1) as paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), respectively, and

(4) by striking “(1) DOLLAR LIMITATION.—”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to residences purchased after the date of the enactment of this Act.

S. 741

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; AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Flat Tax Act of 2009”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents; amendment of 1986 Code.

Sec. 2. Flat tax on individual taxable earned income and business taxable income.

Sec. 3. Repeal of estate and gift taxes.

Sec. 4. Additional rates.

Sec. 5. Effective dates.

(c) AMENDMENT OF 1986 CODE.—Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to, or repeal of, a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

SEC. 2. FLAT TAX ON INDIVIDUAL TAXABLE EARNED INCOME AND BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 1 of subtitle A is amended to read as follows:

“Subchapter A—Determination of Tax Liability

“PART I. TAX ON INDIVIDUALS.

“PART II. TAX ON BUSINESS ACTIVITIES.

“PART I—TAX ON INDIVIDUALS

“Sec. 1. Tax imposed.

“Sec. 2. Standard deduction.

“Sec. 3. Deduction for cash charitable contributions.

“Sec. 4. Deduction for home acquisition indebtedness.

“Sec. 5. Definitions and special rules.

“Sec. 6. Dependent defined.

“Sec. 7. Inflation adjustment.

“SEC. 1. TAX IMPOSED.

“(a) IMPOSITION OF TAX.—There is hereby imposed on every individual a tax equal to 20 percent of the taxable earned income of such individual.

“(b) TAXABLE EARNED INCOME.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘taxable earned income’ means the excess (if any) of—

“(1) the earned income received or accrued during the taxable year, over

“(2) the sum of—

“(A) the standard deduction,

“(B) the deduction for cash charitable contributions, and

“(C) the deduction for home acquisition indebtedness, for such taxable year.

“(c) EARNED INCOME.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘earned income’ means wages, salaries, or professional fees, and other amounts received from sources within the United States as compensation for personal services actually rendered, but does not include that part of compensation derived by the taxpayer for personal services rendered by the taxpayer to a corporation which represents a distribution of earnings or profits rather than a reasonable allowance as compensation for the personal services actually rendered.

“(2) TAXPAYER ENGAGED IN TRADE OR BUSINESS.—In the case of a taxpayer engaged in a trade or business in which both personal services and capital are material income-producing factors, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, a reasonable allowance as compensation for the personal services rendered by the taxpayer, not in excess of 30 percent of the taxpayer’s share of the net profits of such trade or business, shall be considered as earned income.

“SEC. 2. STANDARD DEDUCTION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this subtitle, the term ‘standard deduction’ means the sum of—

“(1) the basic standard deduction, plus

“(2) the additional standard deduction.

“(b) BASIC STANDARD DEDUCTION.—For purposes of subsection (a), the basic standard deduction is—

“(1) 200 percent of the dollar amount in effect under paragraph (3) of the taxable year in the case of—

“(A) a joint return, or

“(B) a surviving spouse (as defined in section 5(a)),

“(2) \$18,750 in the case of a head of household (as defined in section 5(b)), or

“(3) \$12,500 in any other case.

“(c) ADDITIONAL STANDARD DEDUCTION.—For purposes of subsection (a), the additional standard deduction is \$6,250 for each dependent (as defined in section 6)—

“(1) whose earned income for the calendar year in which the taxable year of the taxpayer begins is less than the basic standard deduction specified in subsection (b)(3), or