

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. LIEBERMAN, from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, without amendment and with a preamble:

S. Res. 87. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that public servants should be commended for their dedication and continued service to the Nation during Public Service Recognition Week, May 4 through 10, 2009.

EXECUTIVE REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The following executive report of a nomination was submitted:

By Mr. AKAKA for the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

*Ladda Tammy Duckworth, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Public and Intergovernmental Affairs).

*Nomination was reported with recommendation that it be confirmed subject to the nominee's commitment to respond to requests to appear and testify before any duly constituted committee of the Senate.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

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

S. 829. A bill to provide a Federal income tax credit for Patriot employers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. WHITEHOUSE:

S. 830. A bill to modify the definition of children's hospital for purposes of making payments to children's hospitals that operate graduate medical education programs; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 831. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to include service after September 11, 2001, as service qualifying for the determination of a reduced eligibility age for receipt of non-regular service retired pay; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. NELSON of Florida (for himself, Mr. AKAKA, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORKER, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DODD, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. JOHANNIS):

S. 832. A bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Military Officers Association of America, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. STABENOW, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BINGAMAN, and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 833. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to permit States the option to provide Medicaid coverage for low-income individuals infected with HIV; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SESSIONS:

S. 834. A bill to require that funding for Federal departments and agencies and programs that remain available at the end of a fiscal year shall be used to pay down the Federal debt; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. THUNE, and Ms. KLOBUCHAR):

S. 835. A bill to require automobile manufacturers to ensure that not less than 80 percent of the automobiles manufactured or sold in the United States by each such manufacturer to operate on fuel mixtures containing 85 percent ethanol, 85 percent methanol, or biodiesel; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. WYDEN):

S. 836. A bill to provide enhanced authority to the Congressional Oversight Panel established pursuant to the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. INHOFE, and Mr. COBURN):

S. 837. A bill to require that North Korea be listed as a state sponsor of terrorism, to ensure that human rights is a prominent issue in negotiations between the United States and North Korea, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. ALEXANDER, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. BAYH, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. Res. 104. A resolution designating the third week of April 2009 as "National Shaken Baby Syndrome Awareness Week"; considered and agreed to.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BURR, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. DODD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. HATCH, Mr. GREGG, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. HAGAN):

S. Res. 105. A resolution designating April 24 through 26, 2009, as "Global Youth Service Days"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 21

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 21, a bill to reduce unintended pregnancy, reduce abortions, and improve access to women's health care.

S. 46

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi

(Mr. WICKER) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 46, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 167

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 167, a bill to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, and for other purposes.

S. 244

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 244, a bill to expand programs of early childhood home visitation that increase school readiness, child abuse and neglect prevention, and early identification of developmental and health delays, including potential mental health concerns, and for other purposes.

S. 245

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) 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. 251

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 251, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to permit targeted interference with mobile radio services within prison facilities.

S. 307

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 307, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide flexibility in the manner in which beds are counted for purposes of determining whether a hospital may be designated as a critical access hospital under the Medicare program and to exempt from the critical access hospital inpatient bed limitation the number of beds provided for certain veterans.

S. 386

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mrs. SHAHEEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 386, a bill to improve enforcement of mortgage fraud, securities fraud, financial institution fraud, and other frauds related to federal assistance and relief

programs, for the recovery of funds lost to these frauds, and for other purposes.

S. 423

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. CORKER), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 423, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize advance appropriations for certain medical care accounts of the Department of Veterans Affairs by providing two-fiscal year budget authority, and for other purposes.

S. 427

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 427, a bill to amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to clarify that the value of certain funeral and burial arrangements are not to be considered available resources under the supplemental security income program.

S. 435

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN) was added as a cosponsor 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, health, gang-free, and law-abiding lives.

S. 450

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 450, a bill to understand and comprehensively address the oral health problems associated with methamphetamine use.

S. 451

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. KAUFMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 451, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

S. 454

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 454, a bill to improve the organization and procedures of the Department of Defense for the acquisition of major weapon systems, and for other purposes.

S. 455

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 455, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition of 5 United States Army Five-Star Generals, George Marshall, Douglas MacArthur, Dwight Eisenhower, Henry

“Hap” Arnold, and Omar Bradley, alumni of the United States Army Command and General Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, to coincide with the celebration of the 132nd Anniversary of the founding of the United States Army Command and General Staff College.

S. 456

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors 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. 471

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 471, a bill to amend the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002 to require the Statistics Commissioner to collect information from coeducational secondary schools on such schools’ athletic programs, and for other purposes.

S. 475

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) were added as cosponsors of S. 475, a bill to amend the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act to guarantee the equity of spouses of military personnel with regard to matters of residency, and for other purposes.

S. 482

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 482, a bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

S. 484

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) were added as cosponsors of S. 484, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to repeal the Government pension offset and windfall elimination provisions.

S. 491

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors 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. 511

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) 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. 535

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 535, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to repeal requirement for reduction of survivor annuities under the Survivor Benefit Plan by veterans’ dependency and indemnity compensation, and for other purposes.

S. 536

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 536, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to modify the definition of the term “renewable biomass”.

S. 541

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 541, a bill to increase the borrowing authority of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and for other purposes.

S. 543

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) were added as cosponsors 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. 546

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 546, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation.

S. 548

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 548, a bill to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to establish a Federal energy efficiency resource standard for retail electricity

and natural gas distributors, and for other purposes.

S. 599

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 608

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 608, a bill to amend the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008 to exclude secondary sales, repair services, and certain vehicles from the ban on lead in children's products, and for other purposes.

S. 614

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 614, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Women Airforce Service Pilots ("WASP").

S. 624

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 624, a bill to provide 100,000,000 people with first-time access to safe drinking water and sanitation on a sustainable basis by 2015 by improving the capacity of the United States Government to fully implement the Senator Paul Simon Water for the Poor Act of 2005.

S. 636

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. WICKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to amend the Clean Air Act to conform the definition of renewable biomass to the definition given the term in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002.

S. 638

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. BURRIS) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. 638, a bill to provide grants to promote financial and economic literacy.

S. 645

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 645, a bill to amend title 32, United States Code, to modify the Department of Defense share of expenses under the National Guard Youth Challenge Program.

S. 654

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 654, a bill to amend title XIX

of the Social Security Act to cover physician services delivered by podiatric physicians to ensure access by Medicaid beneficiaries to appropriate quality foot and ankle care.

S. 658

At the request of Mr. TESTER, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) and the Senator from Alaska (Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 658, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve health care for veterans who live in rural areas, and for other purposes.

S. 671

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 671, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the coverage of marriage and family therapist services and mental health counselor services under part B of the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 682

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) were added as cosponsors of S. 682, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve mental and behavioral health services on college campuses.

S. 686

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) were added as cosponsors of S. 686, a bill to establish the Social Work Reinvestment Commission to advise Congress and the Secretary of Health and Human Services on policy issues associated with the profession of social work, to authorize the Secretary to make grants to support recruitment for, and retention, research, and reinvestment in, the profession, and for other purposes.

S. 687

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 687, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to permit direct payment under the Medicare program for clinical social worker services provided to residents of skilled nursing facilities.

S. 700

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors 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. 714

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr.

HATCH) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. UDALL) were added as cosponsors of S. 714, a bill to establish the National Criminal Justice Commission.

S. 715

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 715, a bill to establish a pilot program to provide for the preservation and rehabilitation of historic lighthouses.

S. 717

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors 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. 718

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 718, a bill to amend the Legal Services Corporation Act to meet special needs of eligible clients, provide for technology grants, improve corporate practices of the Legal Services Corporation, and for other purposes.

S. 723

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) 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.

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 723, supra.

S. 733

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 733, a bill to ensure the continued and future availability of life saving trauma health care in the United States and to prevent further trauma center closures and downgrades by assisting trauma centers with uncompensated care costs, core mission services, and emergency needs.

S. 739

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 739, a bill to require the Consumer Product Safety Commission to study drywall imported from China in 2004 through 2007, and for other purposes.

S. 781

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 781, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for collegiate housing and infrastructure grants.

S. 801

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Alaska

(Mr. BEGICH) were added as cosponsors of S. 801, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to waive charges for humanitarian care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to family members accompanying veterans severely injured after September 11, 2001, as they receive medical care from the Department and to provide assistance to family caregivers, and for other purposes.

S. 812

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 812, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the special rule for contributions of qualified conservation contributions.

S. 819

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND) were added as cosponsors of S. 819, a bill to provide for enhanced treatment, support, services, and research for individuals with autism spectrum disorders and their families.

S. CON. RES. 11

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor 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. 71

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 71, a resolution condemning the Government of Iran for its state-sponsored persecution of the Baha'i minority in Iran and its continued violation of the International Covenants on Human Rights.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

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

S. 829. A bill to provide a Federal income tax credit for Patriot employers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, when companies make headlines today it is often for all the wrong reasons: outrageous bonuses, tax avoidance, fraud, profiteering, etc. Yet many of the companies that provide jobs are conscientious corporate citizens that try to treat workers fairly and at the same time create good products that consumers want and maximize profits for their shareholders. I believe that we should reward such companies for providing good jobs to American workers and create incentives to encourage more companies to do the same. The Patriot Employers Act does just that.

This legislation, which I am introducing today along with Senator

BROWN, would provide a tax credit to reward the companies that treat American workers best. Companies that provide American jobs, pay decent wages, provide good benefits, and support their employees when they are called to active duty should enjoy more favorable tax treatment than companies that are unwilling to make the same commitment to American workers. The Patriot Employers tax credit would put the tax code on the side of those deserving companies by acknowledging their commitments.

The Patriot Employers legislation would provide a tax credit equal to 1 percent of taxable income to employers that meet the following criteria.

First, invest in American jobs. Maintain or increase the number of full-time workers in America relative to the number of full-time workers outside of America, maintain corporate headquarters in America if the company has ever been headquartered in America, and maintain neutrality in union organizing drives.

Second, pay decent wages. Pay each worker an hourly wage that would ensure that a full-time worker would earn enough to keep a family of three out of poverty, at least \$8.50 per hour.

Third, prepare workers for retirement. Either provide a defined benefit plan or provide a defined contribution plan that fully matches at least 5 percent of worker contributions for every employee.

Fourth, provide health insurance. Pay at least 60 percent of each worker's health care premiums.

Fifth, support our troops. Pay the difference between the regular salary and the military salary of all National Guard and Reserve employees who are called for active duty, and continue their health insurance coverage.

In recognition of the different business circumstances that small employers face, companies with fewer than 50 employees could achieve Patriot Employer status by fulfilling a smaller number of these criteria.

There is more to the story of corporate American than the widely-publicized wrongdoing. Patriot Employers should be publicly recognized for doing right by their workers even while they do well for their customers and shareholders. I urge my colleagues to join Senator BROWN and me in supporting this effort. Our best companies, and our American workers, deserve nothing less.

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

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

S. 829

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 "Patriot Employers Act".

SEC. 2. REDUCED TAXES FOR PATRIOT EMPLOYERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart D of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 45R. REDUCTION IN TAX OF PATRIOT EMPLOYERS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year with respect to which a taxpayer is certified by the Secretary as a Patriot employer, the Patriot employer credit determined under this section for purposes of section 38 shall be equal to 1 percent of the taxable income of the taxpayer which is properly allocable to all trades or businesses with respect to which the taxpayer is certified as a Patriot employer for the taxable year.

"(b) PATRIOT EMPLOYER.—For purposes of subsection (a), the term 'Patriot employer' means, with respect to any taxable year, any taxpayer which—

"(1) maintains its headquarters in the United States if the taxpayer has ever been headquartered in the United States,

"(2) pays at least 60 percent of each employee's health care premiums,

"(3) has in effect, and operates in accordance with, a policy requiring neutrality in employee organizing drives,

"(4) if such taxpayer employs at least 50 employees on average during the taxable year—

"(A) maintains or increases the number of full-time workers in the United States relative to the number of full-time workers outside of the United States,

"(B) compensates each employee of the taxpayer at an hourly rate (or equivalent thereof) not less than an amount equal to the Federal poverty level for a family of three for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins divided by 2,080,

"(C) provides either—

"(i) a defined contribution plan which for any plan year—

"(I) requires the employer to make non-elective contributions of at least 5 percent of compensation for each employee who is not a highly compensated employee, or

"(II) requires the employer to make matching contributions of 100 percent of the elective contributions of each employee who is not a highly compensated employee to the extent such contributions do not exceed the percentage specified by the plan (not less than 5 percent) of the employee's compensation, or

"(ii) a defined benefit plan which for any plan year requires the employer to make contributions on behalf of each employee who is not a highly compensated employee in an amount which will provide an accrued benefit under the plan for the plan year which is not less than 5 percent of the employee's compensation, and

"(D) provides full differential salary and insurance benefits for all National Guard and Reserve employees who are called for active duty, and

"(5) if such taxpayer employs less than 50 employees on average during the taxable year, either—

"(A) compensates each employee of the taxpayer at an hourly rate (or equivalent thereof) not less than an amount equal to the Federal poverty level for a family of 3 for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins divided by 2,080, or

"(B) provides either—

"(i) a defined contribution plan which for any plan year—

"(I) requires the employer to make non-elective contributions of at least 5 percent of compensation for each employee who is not a highly compensated employee, or

"(II) requires the employer to make matching contributions of 100 percent of the