

health and long-term care insurance costs of individuals not participating in employer-subsidized health plans; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 2380. A bill to add the heads of certain Federal intelligence agencies to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, to require enhanced notification to Congress and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. FRIST (for himself, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. TALENT, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KYL, Mr. ALLARD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. ENZI, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. BURR, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CHAFFEE, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. THUNE, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. VITTER, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. CRAPO, and Mr. THOMAS):

S. 2381. A bill to amend the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974 to provide line item rescission authority; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. REID, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DODD, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KOHL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Mr. LEAHY):

S. 2382. A bill to establish a national health program administered by the Office of Personnel Management to offer health benefits plans to individuals who are not Federal employees, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 2383. A bill to amend the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users to make a technical correction; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 65

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 65, a bill to amend the age restrictions for pilots.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 333, a bill to hold the current regime in Iran accountable for its threatening behavior and to support a transition to democracy in Iran.

S. 484

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 484, 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. 548

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 548, a bill to amend the Food

Security Act of 1985 to encourage owners and operators of privately-held farm, ranch, and forest land to voluntarily make their land available for access by the public under programs administered by States and tribal governments.

S. 558

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 558, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain additional retired members of the Armed Forces 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 and to eliminate the phase-in period under current law with respect to such concurrent receipt.

S. 641

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 641, a bill to award a congressional gold medal to Michael Ellis DeBakey, M.D.

S. 1112

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

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1112, supra.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1172, a bill to provide for programs to increase the awareness and knowledge of women and health care providers with respect to gynecologic cancers.

S. 1272

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1272, a bill to amend title 46, United States Code, and title II of the Social Security Act to provide benefits to certain individuals who served in the United States merchant marine (including the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service) during World War II.

S. 1513

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1513, a bill to reauthorize the HOPE VI program for revitalization of severely distressed public housing, and for other purposes.

S. 1791

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1791, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for qualified timber gains.

S. 1955

At the request of Mr. ENZI, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1955, a bill to amend title I of the Employee Retirement Security Act of 1974 and the Public Health Service Act to expand health care access and reduce costs through the creation of small business health plans and through modernization of the health insurance marketplace.

S. 1968

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1968, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to protect judges, prosecutors, witnesses, victims, and their family members, and for other purposes.

S. 1994

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1994, a bill to require that an increasing percentage of new automobiles be dual fueled automobiles, to revise the method for calculating corporate average fuel economy for such vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 1998

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1998, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to enhance protections relating to the reputation and meaning of the Medal of Honor and other military decorations and awards, and for other purposes.

S. 2052

At the request of Mr. ROBERTS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2052, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit to certain agriculture-related businesses for the cost of protecting certain chemicals.

S. 2154

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2154, a bill to provide for the issuance of a commemorative postage stamp in honor of Rosa Parks.

S. 2178

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2178, a bill to make the stealing and selling of telephone records a criminal offense.

S. 2201

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2201, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to modify the mediation and implementation requirements of section 40122 regarding

changes in the Federal Aviation Administration personnel management system, and for other purposes.

S. 2237

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2237, a bill to withhold United States assistance from the Palestinian Authority until certain conditions have been satisfied.

S. 2279

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2279, a bill to make amendments to the Iran and Syria Nonproliferation Act.

S. 2292

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2292, a bill to provide relief for the Federal judiciary from excessive rent charges.

S. 2308

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2308, a bill to amend the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 to improve mine safety, and for other purposes.

S. 2321

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the names of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2321, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Louis Braille.

S. 2362

At the request of Mr. BYRD, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2362, a bill to establish the National Commission on Surveillance Activities and the Rights of Americans.

S. 2370

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the names of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS) and the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) 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. 2371

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Montana

(Mr. BURNS) and the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) were added as cosponsors of S. 2371, a bill to permit the use of certain funds for recovery and mitigation activities in the upper basin of the Missouri River, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 76

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 76, a concurrent resolution condemning the Government of Iran for its flagrant violations of its obligations under the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, and calling for certain actions in response to such violations.

S. RES. 232

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 232, a resolution celebrating the 40th anniversary of the enactment of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and reaffirming the commitment of the Senate to ensuring the continued effectiveness of the Act in protecting the voting rights of all citizens of the United States.

S. RES. 359

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 359, a resolution concerning the Government of Romania's ban on intercountry adoptions and the welfare of orphaned or abandoned children in Romania.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BURR:

S. 2379. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for health and long-term care insurance costs of individual not participating in employer-subsidized health plans; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce legislation that would provide an above-the-line tax deduction for individuals who purchase their own health insurance and are not receiving it through their employer. An above-the-line tax deduction would allow a taxpayer to take the deduction even if they don't itemize their taxes. Current law allows those individuals who are self-employed and purchase health insurance to take an above-the-line tax deduction. My legislation would make the tax code fairer by allowing those people who are not self-employed to take the same deduction.

An estimated 17.4 million Americans in 2005 were covered by individually purchased health insurance policies. Some of these people are self-employed and can currently take this deduction. However, based upon these statistics, I estimate that up to 2 million families who have purchased health insurance do not have access to this deduction. My legislation seeks to correct that. Additionally, the legislation will make

it cheaper for uninsured people to purchase their own health insurance policies. Health care costs in general are expected to rise 7.2 percent per year for the next ten years, so it is important for Congress to pursue steps to attempt to rein in this inflation and also to try to make health care and health insurance more accessible and affordable. This legislation is a part of those efforts.

Another important aspect of the legislation is that it would also allow individuals to take an above-the-line deduction for the purchase of long-term-care insurance. Most employers do not offer any subsidized long-term-care insurance to their employees, so those who need this protection often have to purchase it in the individual market. It is very important for Americans to purchase this insurance, since many people assume that Medicare covers long-term-care costs when people turn age 65. However, this is not true. Often, seniors will find themselves on Medicaid, the low-income federal health care program, when they have long stays in nursing homes that they cannot pay for. Long-term-care insurance is a far better alternative to having seniors go onto Medicaid. It is important for Congress to incentivize people to purchase this insurance, and my legislation is a step in the right direction.

I want to urge my colleagues to look at this legislation. It is short and to the point, but helping people to have private health insurance and long-term-care insurance is an important part of improving our health care system.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 2380. A bill to add the heads of certain Federal intelligence agencies to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, to require enhanced notification to Congress and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today I have introduced a bill entitled the U.S. National Security Protection Act of 2006. This legislation would enact some critical reforms with respect to the Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States, CFIUS. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the coming days on this bill.

One thing is clear. The importance of reforming CFIUS has been brought into sharp focus by the proposed acquisition of P&O Steamship Navigation Company's U.S. port operations by Dubai Ports, DP, World, a company based in Dubai in the United Arab Emirates, UAE. The reason so many people are concerned about that particular deal is obvious: while security threats are dynamic, assets such as our ports are, and always will be, a national security concern.

CFIUS's role is to vet these deals for possible national security dangers. But the problem here is that the CFIUS process is broken. Indeed, the DP World deal was approved in less than 30