

*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 Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 3914. A bill to establish an Advisory Committee on Gestational Diabetes, to provide grants to better understand and reduce gestational diabetes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. DODD, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 3915. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to encourage States to provide pregnant women enrolled in the Medical program with access to comprehensive tobacco cessation services; to the Committee on Finance.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

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

S. Res. 575. A resolution supporting the efforts of the Independent National Electoral Commission of the Government of Nigeria, political parties, civil society, and religious organizations to facilitate the first democratic transition of Nigeria from 1 civilian government to another in the general elections to be held in April 2007; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. TALENT, Mr. FRIST, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. VITTER, and Mr. BURNS):

S. Res. 576. A resolution supporting the goals of Red Ribbon Week; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. BAUCUS (for himself, Mr. BURNS, and Mr. BYRD):

S. Res. 577. A resolution designating September 24, 2006, as "National Good Neighbor Day"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 246

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 246, a bill to repeal the sunset of the Economic Growth and Tax Relief Reconciliation Act of 2001 with respect to the expansion of the adoption credit and adoption assistance programs.

S. 709

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) was added as a cosponsor of

S. 709, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a grant program to provide supportive services in permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals, and for other purposes.

S. 828

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 828, a bill to enhance and further research into paralysis and to improve rehabilitation and the quality of life for persons living with paralysis and other physical disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 930

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 930, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to drug safety, and for other purposes.

S. 965

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 965, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the recognition period for built-in gains for subchapter S corporations.

S. 1172

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) 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. 1376

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1376, a bill to improve and expand geographic literacy among kindergarten through grade 12 students in the United States by improving professional development programs for kindergarten through grade 12 teachers offered through institutions of higher education.

S. 1687

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1687, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide waivers relating to grants for preventive health measures with respect to breast and cervical cancers.

S. 1915

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1915, a bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other

equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes.

S. 1948

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1948, a bill to direct the Secretary of Transportation to issue regulations to reduce the incidence of child injury and death occurring inside or outside of passenger motor vehicles, and for other purposes.

S. 2250

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) and the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2250, a bill to award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug.

S. 2354

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Florida, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2354, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to reduce the coverage gap in prescription drug coverage under part D of such title based on savings to the Medicare program resulting from the negotiation of prescription drug prices.

S. 2491

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. THOMAS), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2491, a bill to award a Congressional gold medal to Byron Nelson in recognition of his significant contributions to the game of golf as a player, a teacher, and a commentator.

S. 2616

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SHELBY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2616, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 and the Mineral Leasing Act to improve surface mining control and reclamation, and for other purposes.

S. 3500

At the request of Mr. THOMAS, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3500, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect and preserve access of Medicare beneficiaries in rural areas to health care providers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 3707

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) were added as cosponsors of S. 3707, a bill to improve consumer access to passenger vehicle loss data held by insurers.

S. 3771

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. CARPER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3771, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations

for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act.

S. 3882

At the request of Mr. KYL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3882, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to support the war on terrorism, and for other purposes.

S. 3887

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3887, a bill to prohibit the Internal Revenue Service from using private debt collection companies, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 116

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. TALENT) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 116, a concurrent resolution supporting "Lights On Afterschool!", a national celebration of after school programs.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Ms. COLLINS, and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 3914. A bill to establish an Advisory Committee on Gestational Diabetes, to provide grants to better understand and reduce gestational diabetes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I am pleased to introduce the Gestational Diabetes Act of 2006 to bring attention to an important health issue facing women and children.

I don't need to tell anyone that we have an obesity epidemic in the United States. Too many in our country don't know that eating poorly and not taking care of themselves can have significant health impacts. For women, these health issues can become especially significant during pregnancy.

Women who are overweight or obese are more likely to have a C-section and are at an increased risk for serious complications with their pregnancy. And more women than ever are entering their pregnancies overweight which can also trigger gestational diabetes.

In New York, gestational diabetes has risen by nearly 50 percent in about 10 years. In New York City alone, gestational diabetes affects 1 in 25 women, about 400 women per month. Gestational diabetes affects between 4 and 8 percent of pregnant women in the United States. Infants of women who have gestational diabetes are at increased risk for obesity and developing Type 2 diabetes as adolescents or adults.

As women we need to pay attention to our health. We are always worrying about the health of our children, our husbands, and our parents. But we often forget to take care of ourselves.

Prevention is critical and I applaud new initiatives from the New York

City Department of Health to increase efforts to inform women about gestational diabetes and behaviors that can prevent Type 2 Diabetes.

Today, I am introducing the Gestational Diabetes Act, also known as the GEDI Act. This legislation will increase our understanding by determining the factors that contribute to this condition and help mothers who had gestational diabetes reduce their risk of developing Type 2 diabetes.

This Act will provide funding for projects to assist health care providers and communities find ways to reach out to women so that they understand how their health during pregnancy will impact not only their child's health, but also their own.

The GEDI Act would expand research to determine and develop interventions that will lower the incidence of gestational diabetes. We need to alert women to the risk before this condition becomes an epidemic.

We should be doing everything we can to address the growing prevalence of gestational diabetes and obesity during pregnancy. The GEDI Act is an important step in assuring that women understand this critical issue.

The GEDI Act is supported by: American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy, American Association of Diabetes Educators, American Diabetes Association, American Dietetic Association, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, Association of Asian Pacific Community Health Organizations, Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, Breastfeeding Coalition of Washington, Breastfeeding Task Force of Greater Los Angeles, Global Alliance for Women's Health, International Community Health Services, National Association of Chronic Disease Directors, National Research Center for Women & Families, Society for Women's Health Research, WithinReach, and Women's Health Council of the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors.

I ask unanimous consent letters of support be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the letters were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF COLLEGES OF PHARMACY,
Alexandria, VA, August 9, 2006.

Hon. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,
Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR CLINTON: On behalf of America's 92 accredited colleges and schools of pharmacy let me personally thank you for your concern for the nearly 21 million children and adults with diabetes. The American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP) supports your introduction of legislation focused on an important cohort of individuals at risk for contracting diabetes—pregnant women.

The Gestational Diabetes Act will bring greater attention to a public health problem that left unchecked will overwhelm our society. Coupled with the growing incidence of obesity, gestational onset diabetes requires new, unique approaches and interventions that your legislation can help stimulate.

We know that pharmacists are effective in helping diabetic patients improve their health outcomes through self-management programs. These community-based providers have been effective in working with the greater public health community to increase the awareness of pregnant women of the need to increase their intake of folic acid to reduce the incidence of neural tube defects in newborns. Colleges and schools of pharmacy are actively engaged in working with communities to reduce the incidence of public health threats and creating novel health promotion and wellness programs. We encourage you to utilize this significant resource as your legislation continues its way through the Congress and on to final passage.

Thank you for your attention to an important public health threat. We look forward to working with you to improve the health of pregnant women by reducing their risk for gestational diabetes.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM G. LANG IV, MPH,
VP Policy and Advocacy.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF DIABETES EDUCATORS,
August 8, 2006.

Senator HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,
Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR CLINTON: On behalf of the American Association of Diabetes Educators, I would like to thank you for the introduction of the Gestational Diabetes Act.

The American Association of Diabetes Educators (AADE) is a multi-disciplinary professional membership organization dedicated to advancing the practice of diabetes self-management training and care as integral components of health care for persons with diabetes, and lifestyle management for prevention of diabetes. Our members include nurses, dietitians, pharmacists, physicians, social workers, exercise physiologists and other members of the diabetes teaching team.

Given the growing prevalence of diabetes in all populations, steps taken now will not only address the need to lower the incidence of gestational diabetes but prevent women with this condition and their children from developing Type 2 diabetes.

As an organization dedicated to improving the health and lives of people with diabetes, AADE appreciates your leadership on this important legislation and its intent to better understand and reduce the incidence of gestational diabetes.

Sincerely,

MALINDA PEEPLES, RN, MS, CDE,
President.

AMERICAN DIABETES ASSOCIATION,
Alexandria, VA, August 3, 2006.

Hon. HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON,
Russell Senate Office Building,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR CLINTON: Today, almost 21 million children and adults in America have diabetes—including 9.7 million women—and almost one third of them do not know it. On behalf of all Americans living with diabetes in our country, I would like to thank you for the introduction of the Gestational Diabetes Act. The American Diabetes Association enthusiastically supports this important legislation and its intent to better understand and reduce the incidence of gestational diabetes.

Gestational diabetes develops in 4-8% of all pregnancies, with the prevalence increasing up to 10% in some populations. Women who have had gestational diabetes or have given birth to a baby weighing more than 9 pounds are at a dramatically increased risk for developing type 2 diabetes later in life. The