

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 370. A bill to designate the headquarters building of the Department of Education in Washington, DC, as the Lyndon Baines Johnson Federal Building; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. LEVIN):

S. Res. 37. A resolution designating March 26, 2007 as "National Support the Troops Day" and encouraging the people of the United States to participate in a moment of silence to reflect upon the service and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces both at home and abroad; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 2

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) were added as cosponsors of S. 2, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

S. 21

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 21, a bill to expand access to preventative health care services that help reduce unintended pregnancy, reduce abortions, and improve access to women's health care.

S. 43

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 43, a bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to preserve and protect Social Security benefits of American workers and to help ensure greater congressional oversight of the Social Security system by requiring that both Houses of Congress approve a totalization agreement before the agreement, giving foreign workers Social Security benefits, can go into effect.

S. 65

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 65, a bill to modify the age-60 standard for certain pilots and for other purposes.

S. 138

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 138, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to apply the joint return limitation for capital gains exclusion to certain post-marriage sales of principal residences by surviving spouses.

S. 223

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Connecticut

(Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form.

S. 261

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. 261, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen prohibitions against animal fighting, and for other purposes.

S. 320

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 320, a bill to provide for the protection of paleontological resources on Federal lands, and for other purposes.

S. 343

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 343, a bill to extend the District of Columbia College Access Act of 1999.

S. 347

At the request of Mr. VOINOVICH, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was withdrawn as a cosponsor of S. 347, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage, and for other purposes.

S. 356

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 356, a bill to ensure that women seeking an abortion are fully informed regarding the pain experienced by their unborn child.

AMENDMENT NO. 102

At the request of Mr. DODD, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 102 proposed to H.R. 2, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 102 proposed to H.R. 2, *supra*.

AMENDMENT NO. 103

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) were added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 103 proposed to H.R. 2, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide for an increase in the Federal minimum wage.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mr. SMITH):

S. 360. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand expenses which qualify for the Hope Scholarship Credit and to make the Hope Scholarship Credit and the Lifetime Learning Credit refundable; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today with Senator Smith to introduce

the Greater Access To Education, or GATE Act, of 2007. This legislation would amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 in order to make college more affordable, and thus provide greater access to postsecondary education for lower income students and working families. Simply put, this bill would expand expenses which qualify for the Hope Scholarship Credit, prevent aid for needy students from reducing the credit, and make the Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning Credits refundable.

The cost of attending college in the U.S. has grown by 44 percent since 2000, far outpacing the median growth in income. We've seen a 35 percent jump in inflation-adjusted average tuition and fees for in-state students at public colleges and universities since 2001-02. The cost of going to college is 6.3 percent higher than just last year, averaging \$12,796 including room and board.

Unfortunately, year after year, Congress has failed to raise Pell Grant Scholarships for needy students. This critical student aid has been frozen at just over \$4000 for four years. Ten years ago, the maximum Pell Grant covered more than 50 percent of the cost of tuition, fees, room and board at a public four-year college. Last year, it covered only 35 percent of those costs.

At the same time, we're seeing increasing competition among colleges and universities for the highest scoring students. And these students command higher tuition discounts, particularly in the form of merit scholarships. As a result, there's a smaller proportion of the financial aid budget available for low income students at colleges with rising tuitions.

A recent report by Education Trust found that many of the flagship and research-extensive public universities have reallocated financial aid resources away from the low income students who need help to go to college—mostly to compete for high income students who would enroll in college regardless of the amount of aid they receive. Between 1995 and 2003, flagship and other research-extensive public universities actually decreased grant aid by 13 percent for students from families with an annual income of \$20,000 or less while they increased aid to students from families who make more than \$100,000 by 406 percent. In 2003, these institutions spent a combined \$257 million to subsidize the tuition of students from families with annual incomes over \$100,000—a staggering increase from the \$50 million they spent in 1995.

In addition, many colleges and universities are now using "enrollment and revenue management" firms to help manage admissions and financial aid. I am concerned that too many schools are trying to leverage their financial aid to entice wealthier and high scoring students to attend their schools, at the expense of aid to lower