

design, build, and operate the Space Transportation System, in order to promote science, exploration, and international cooperation;

(3) remembers the 14 crewmembers lost during the space shuttle Challenger accident, which occurred on January 28, 1986, and the space shuttle Columbia accident, which occurred on February 1, 2003;

(4) notes the diligence in applying the lessons learned through the Challenger and Columbia tragedies to honor the 14 crewmembers we lost and enhance the safety of the crewmembers that followed;

(5) recognizes that the Space Shuttle Program has inspired generations of children to become engineers, scientists, and explorers, which has led to maintaining the precedent of leadership in human space exploration set by the United States during the Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo missions; and

(6) acknowledges that the Space Shuttle Program has, through its technological advancements and scientific research, driven innovation in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics to benefit the people of the United States and all of humankind.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 550. Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 535 submitted by Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. MERKLEY) and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1323, to express the sense of the Senate on shared sacrifice in resolving the budget deficit; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 551. Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2055, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 552. Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2055, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

**SA 550.** Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 535 submitted by Mr. WHITEHOUSE (for himself, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BROWN of Ohio, and Mr. MERKLEY) and intended to be proposed to the bill S. 1323, to express the sense of the Senate on shared sacrifice in resolving the budget deficit; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end, add the following:

##### SEC. . SENSE OF THE SENATE ON PROTECTING MEDICAID.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) 68,000,000 low-income children, parents, pregnant women, seniors and people with disabilities are served by the Medicaid program.

(2) After almost 50 years, Medicaid is still a life-saving part of what we do as a government—by providing health care to more than 20 percent of all Americans, including 40 per-

cent of the births, 50 percent of long-term care, and, along with the Children's Health Insurance Program, 34 percent of the children in our country.

(3) Medicaid provides essential health coverage, furnishing a usual source of care, lowering infant mortality rates, improving the health of adults and children with chronic illnesses and special health care needs, and providing critical preventive care.

(4) Medicaid provides essential coverage for seniors and people with disabilities. It covers 62 percent of all long-term care services and supports. It also covers premiums and copayments on behalf of low-income Medicare beneficiaries

(5) The 9,000,000 beneficiaries who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare are among the most medically complex beneficiaries and account for nearly 40 percent of Medicaid spending, although they account for only 15 percent of Medicaid enrollment. Significant Medicaid cuts would undermine efforts to improve care and lower costs for this group of beneficiaries.

(6) Medicaid is a very efficient program. On average, after adjusting for differences in health, Medicaid costs 27 percent less per child than private insurance and 20 percent less for adults. Between 2000 and 2009, per beneficiary spending grew at 4.6 percent compared to 7.7 percent growth in premiums for employer sponsored insurance.

(7) Medicaid is an economic engine supporting millions of home-grown jobs at hospitals, nursing homes, community health centers, and doctor's offices.

(8) Medicaid is the health care program that helps States during times of crises – including after the September 11th attacks, hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and the recent floods and tornados in the South and Midwest. It automatically expands during an economic downturn to assist families who lose their jobs and health insurance.

(9) Medicaid is the largest source of Federal revenues for States. According to the National Governors Association, "federal spending reductions for Medicaid will result in a direct cost shift to States, which will result in reduced Medicaid expenditures, increased State taxes or reductions in K-12 education, transportation, and public safety funding."

(10) Cuts to federal Medicaid funding will force already cash-strapped States to cut eligibility, benefits, and provider payment rates, inevitably resulting in reduced access to care for children, parents, pregnant women, seniors and people with disabilities who have nowhere else to turn for affordable, comprehensive coverage.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that any agreement to reduce the budget deficit should not include arbitrary cuts to Medicaid that shift health care costs to States and local governments and jeopardize health care coverage for millions of Americans.

**SA 551.** Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2055, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 84, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

SEC. 127. (a) Using funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this title under the heading "DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE ACCOUNT 2005", and notwith-

standing the deadline specified in section 2904(a)(5) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (part A of title XXIX of Public Law 101-510; 10 U.S.C. 2687 note), the Umatilla Chemical Depot, Oregon, shall be closed as part of the 2005 round of defense base closure and realignment after the completion of chemical demilitarization activities required under the Chemical Weapons Convention, as provided under Recommendation #160 of the final report of the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

(b) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be obligated or expended to close Umatilla Army Chemical Depot outside of the process provided for under the 2005 round of defense base closure and realignment.

**SA 552.** Mr. WYDEN (for himself and Mr. MERKLEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2055, making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 84, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

SEC. 127. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this or any other Act may be obligated or expended to close Umatilla Army Chemical Depot outside of the process provided for under the 2005 round of defense base closure and realignment pursuant to Recommendation #160 of the final report of the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks. The hearing will be held on Thursday, July 28, 2011, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the following bills:

S. 264, A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the State of Mississippi 2 parcels of surplus land within the boundary of the Natchez Trace Parkway, and for other purposes;

S. 265, A bill to authorize the acquisition of core battlefield land at Champion Hill, Port Gibson, and Raymond for addition to Vicksburg National Military Park;

S. 324, A bill to amend the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal Development Act to extend to the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park Commission;

S. 764, A bill to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to make technical corrections to the segment designations for the Chetco River, Oregon;

S. 864, A bill to designate a Distinguished Flying Cross National Memorial at the March Field Air Museum in Riverside, California;

S. 883, A bill to authorize National Mall Liberty Fund D.C. to establish a