

small tokens, but they are powerful symbols of true heroism, sacrifice and dedication to service. This medal is presented on behalf of a grateful nation.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 2:28 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Mrs. Cole, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 1405. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include a notice of disagreement form in any notice of decision issued for the denial of a benefit sought, to improve the supervision of fiduciaries of veterans under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 1742. An act to exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2011. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a two-year extension of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education.

H.R. 2189. An act to improve the processing of disability claims by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2481. An act to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs relating to benefits, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3304. An act to authorize and request the President to award the Medal of Honor to Bennie G. Adkins and Donald P. Sloat of the United States Army for acts of valor during the Vietnam Conflict and to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to certain other veterans who were previously recommended for award of the Medal of Honor.

MEASURES REFERRED

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

H.R. 1405. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to include a notice of disagreement form in any notice of decision issued for the denial of a benefit sought, to improve the supervision of fiduciaries of veterans under the laws administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 1742. An act to exclude from consideration as income under the United States Housing Act of 1937 payments of pension made under section 1521 of title 38, United States Code, to veterans who are in need of regular aid and attendance, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

H.R. 2011. An act to amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for a two-year extension of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Education; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2189. An act to improve the processing of disability claims by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 2481. An act to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Sec-

retary of Veterans Affairs relating to benefits, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R. 3304. An act to authorize and request the President to award the Medal of Honor to Bennie G. Adkins and Donald P. Sloat of the United States Army for acts of valor during the Vietnam Conflict and to authorize the award of the Medal of Honor to certain other veterans who were previously recommended for award of the Medal of Honor; to the Committee on Armed Services.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bill was read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

S. 1592. A bill to provide for a delay of the individual mandate under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act until the American Health Benefit Exchanges are functioning properly.

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. CRUZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. 1594. A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 101 East Pecan Street in Sherman, Texas, as the Paul Brown United States Courthouse; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. UDALL of New Mexico (for himself, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. 1595. A bill to establish a renewable electricity standard, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. TOOMEY:

S. 1596. A bill to require State educational agencies that receive funding under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to have in effect policies and procedures on background checks for school employees; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

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

S. 1597. A bill to provide for the use of savings promotion raffle products by financial institutions to encourage savings, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1598. A bill to provide a process for ensuring the United States does not default on its obligations; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. LEE, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HELLER, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Ms. WARREN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. TESTER, Mr. SCHATZ, and Mr. MENENDEZ):

S. 1599. A bill to reform the authorities of the Federal Government to require the production of certain business records, conduct electronic surveillance, use pen registers and trap and trace devices, and use other forms of information gathering for foreign intelligence, counterterrorism, and criminal purposes, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr.

HELLER, Mr. ENZI, Mrs. HAGAN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. COONS, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COATS, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. RISCH, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. FRANKEN, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 1600. A bill to facilitate the reestablishment of domestic, critical mineral designation, assessment, production, manufacturing, recycling, analysis, forecasting, workforce, education, research, and international capabilities in the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. HOEVEN (for himself and Ms. HEITKAMP):

S. 1601. A bill to ensure that certain communities may be granted exceptions for floodproofed residential basements for purposes of determining risk premium rates for flood insurance; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. BLUMENTHAL:

S. 1602. A bill to establish in the Department of Veterans Affairs a national center for the diagnosis, treatment, and research of health conditions of the descendants of veterans exposed to toxic substances during service in the Armed Forces, to provide certain services to those descendants, to establish an advisory board on exposure to toxic substances, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

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

S. 1603. A bill to reaffirm that certain land has been taken into trust for the benefit of the Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatami Indians, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mr. SANDERS:

S. 1604. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand and enhance eligibility for health care and services through the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 1605. A bill for the relief of Michael G. Faber; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. UDALL of Colorado:

S. 1606. A bill to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be constructed at 3141 Centennial Boulevard, Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the "PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic"; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SCHATZ (for himself and Ms. HIRONO):

S. 1607. A bill to provide conformity in Native small business opportunities and promote job creation, manufacturing, and American economic recovery; to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

By Mr. SCHATZ:

S. 1608. A bill to authorize appropriations for the SelectUSA Initiative, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI (for herself and Mr. BEGICH):

S. 1609. A bill to amend title 14, United States Code, to authorize the Commandant of the United States Coast Guard to lease tidelands and submerged lands under control of the Coast Guard for periods longer than five years; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. ISAKSON, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. VITTER, Mr. HOEVEN, Ms. HEITKAMP, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. NELSON, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. FRANKEN):

S. 1610. A bill to delay the implementation of certain provisions of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MERKLEY (for himself, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BROWN, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. HEINRICH, Mr. BEGICH, Ms. WARREN, and Mr. CARDIN):

S. Res. 276. A resolution designating October 2013 as "National Work and Family Month"; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BLUNT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 29, a bill to amend title 31, United States Code, to provide for automatic continuing resolutions.

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. HELLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 80, a bill to amend the DNA Analysis Backlog Elimination Act of 2000 to provide for Debbie Smith grants for auditing sexual assault evidence backlogs and to establish a Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting System, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 203, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in recognition and celebration of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. PORTMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 209, a bill to require a full audit of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Federal reserve banks by the Comptroller General of the United States, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 264, a bill to expand access to community mental health centers and improve the quality of mental health care for all Americans.

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 288, a bill to increase the participation of historically underrepresented demographic groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education and industry.

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the names of the Senator from Minnesota

(Mr. FRANKEN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) were added as cosponsors of S. 289, a bill to extend the low-interest refinancing provisions under the Local Development Business Loan Program of the Small Business Administration.

At the request of Ms. WARREN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 372, a bill to provide for the reduction of unintended pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, including HIV, and the promotion of healthy relationships, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 395, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to provide further protection for puppies.

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 541, a bill to prevent human health threats posed by the consumption of equines raised in the United States.

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 554, a bill to provide for a biennial budget process and a biennial appropriations process and to enhance oversight and the performance of the Federal Government.

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. MERKLEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 635, a bill to amend the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act to provide an exception to the annual written privacy notice requirement.

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 641, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to increase the number of permanent faculty in palliative care at accredited allopathic and osteopathic medical schools, nursing schools, and other programs, to promote education in palliative care and hospice, and to support the development of faculty careers in academic palliative medicine.

At the request of Mr. KAINE, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 653, a bill to provide for the establishment of the Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia.

At the request of Mr. ISAKSON, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 669, a bill to make permanent the Internal Revenue Service Free File program.

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 699, a bill to reallocate Federal judgeships for the courts of appeals, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 700, a bill to ensure that the education and training provided members of the Armed Forces and veterans better assists members and veterans in obtaining civilian certifications and licenses, and for other purposes.

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 709, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, leading to better care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

At the request of Mr. MANCHIN, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 731, a bill to require the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency to conduct an empirical impact study on proposed rules relating to the International Basel III agreement on general risk-based capital requirements, as they apply to community banks.

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 820, a bill to provide for a uniform national standard for the housing and treatment of egg-laying hens, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 822, a bill to protect crime victims' rights, to eliminate the substantial backlog of DNA samples collected from crime scenes and convicted offenders, to improve and expand the DNA testing capacity of Federal, State, and local crime laboratories, to increase research and development of new DNA testing technologies, to develop new training programs regarding the collection and use of DNA evidence, to provide post conviction testing of DNA evidence to exonerate the innocent, to improve the performance of counsel in State capital cases, and for other purposes.