

SULLIVAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 373, *supra*.

S. 394

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. RISCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 394, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend the 15-year recovery period for qualified leasehold improvement property, qualified restaurant property, and qualified retail improvement property.

S. 399

At the request of Mrs. FISCHER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 399, a bill to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to increase transparency in Federal budgeting, and for other purposes.

S. 403

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 403, a bill to revise the authorized route of the North Country National Scenic Trail in northeastern Minnesota and to extend the trail into Vermont to connect with the Appalachian National Scenic Trail, and for other purposes.

S. 409

At the request of Mr. BURR, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) and the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 409, a bill to amend the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act to require the Secretary of Defense to inform the Attorney General of persons required to register as sex offenders.

S. 421

At the request of Mr. HELLER, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 421, a bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to provide for greater transparency and efficiency in the procedures followed by the Federal Communications Commission, and for other purposes.

S. 431

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 431, a bill to permanently extend the Internet Tax Freedom Act.

S. 437

At the request of Ms. MURKOWSKI, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 437, a bill to provide for congressional approval of national monuments and restrictions on the use of national monuments, to establish requirements for the declaration of marine national monuments, and for other purposes.

S. 474

At the request of Mr. TOOMEY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 474, 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.

S. 489

At the request of Mr. THUNE, the names of the Senator from Maine (Mr. KING) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 489, a bill to amend the Tariff Act of 1930 to increase the maximum value of articles that may be imported duty-free by one person on one day.

S. 498

At the request of Mr. CORNYN, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 498, a bill to allow reciprocity for the carrying of certain concealed firearms.

S. 505

At the request of Mr. PORTMAN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 505, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the Health Coverage Tax Credit.

S. 517

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 517, a bill to extend the secure rural schools and community self-determination program, to restore mandatory funding status to the payment in lieu of taxes program, and for other purposes.

S. 527

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 527, a bill to award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Foot Soldiers who participated in Bloody Sunday, Turn-around Tuesday, or in the final Selma to Montgomery Voting Rights March in March of 1965, which served as a catalyst for the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

S. 532

At the request of Mr. BLUMENTHAL, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 532, a bill to improve highway-rail grade crossing safety, and for other purposes.

S. 539

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. KIRK) was added as a cosponsor of S. 539, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 546

At the request of Ms. HEITKAMP, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. BOOKER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 546, a bill to establish the Railroad Emergency Services Preparedness, Operational Needs, and Safety Evaluation (RESPONSE) Subcommittee under the Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Advisory Council to provide recommendations on emergency responder

training and resources relating to hazardous materials incidents involving railroads, and for other purposes.

S. 553

At the request of Mr. CORKER, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 553, a bill to marshal resources to undertake a concerted, transformative effort that seeks to bring an end to modern slavery, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 4

At the request of Mr. BARRASSO, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. COTTON) were added as cosponsors of S. Con. Res. 4, a concurrent resolution supporting the Local Radio Freedom Act.

#### STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 569. A bill to reauthorize the farm to school program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, 5 years ago, the President signed into law the Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act. This law has made improvements to our school lunch program by making healthy food choices a reality for students nationwide. One of the best ways to help students make healthy choices is to teach them about their food and how it is grown. That is why I championed the inclusion of funding for a farm-to-school grant program, which was included in the Healthy and Hunger-Free Kids Act. The program has had tremendous success and interest nationwide, and has awarded grants in 42 States—showing the reach and diversity of farm-to-school. In order to improve upon this successful program and expand its reach, I am glad to be joined today by Senator COCHRAN, and Representatives FUDGE and FORTENBERRY in the House, to introduce the Farm to School Act of 2015.

We all know that hungry children cannot learn. Studies have shown that healthy nutrition in a young person's diet is crucial to cognitive ability and better health in the long run. With food insecurity on the rise, more than 30 percent of all children in the United States struggle with obesity, resulting in poor health, and learning and behavioral difficulties at school. The school meal program has made tremendous strides in recent years to ensure not only that children have access to meals throughout the school day, but that those meals are nutritious. The Farm to School program has given children and schools across the country the tools to craft farm-fresh, healthy, and delicious meals that students enjoy.

The Farm to School grant program offers support to farmers and local economies, while teaching kids about nutritious foods and where they come

from. The program has helped schools across the country meet the new nutrition standards by offering children local, fresh produce that tastes great. Just as importantly, the program has a strong educational component, making our school cafeterias an extension of the classroom, giving students an opportunity to learn about nutrition, well-balanced meals, and even how to grow the food themselves.

In Vermont, I have seen first-hand how farm to school efforts have better connected children with the food in their cafeteria. Students participate in school gardens, sustainability projects, and taste tests for new school menu items. The Burlington School Food Project created a half-acre Healthy City Youth Farm, connecting schools to the farm by engaging individuals in local agricultural production. Organizations in Vermont such as Vermont Food Education Every Day, now the Northeast regional leader of the National Farm to School Network; Shelburne Farms; and the Northeast Organic Farming Association have been able to expand their programs to link more farms to the classroom throughout Vermont.

Farm to school is equally crucial to farmers and ranchers, who currently receive only 16 cents out of every dollar spent on food. The program opens another market to them to sell their locally grown and locally harvested goods. By incorporating farm fresh products in school meals, children learn the importance of where their food comes from. The program links the classroom with the farm to engage students in the importance of farming and contributing to the local economy.

The Farm to School Act of 2015 would build upon these successes and expand the program's scope by increasing the funding for the program to \$15 million per year. The bill also recognizes the importance of growing the program to include preschools, summer food service program sites, and after school programs.

Improving childhood nutrition is a goal we all share. Small changes in eating habits by children will result in lifelong health benefits for generations to come. The Farm to School program empowers children and their families to make healthy choices now and in the future. As the Senate begins considering reauthorizing the child nutrition bill this year, I look forward to including these improvements in the Farm to School program.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 569

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Farm to School Act of 2015".

#### SEC. 2. ACCESS TO LOCAL FOODS: FARM TO SCHOOL PROGRAM.

Section 18(g) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769(g)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking the paragraph designation and heading and all that follows through "In this subsection, the" and inserting the following:

"(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

"(A) AGRICULTURAL PRODUCER.—The term 'agricultural producer' means a farmer, rancher, or fisher (including of farm-raised fish).

"(B) ELIGIBLE SCHOOL.—The"; and

(B) in subparagraph (B) (as so redesignated), by inserting ", including the summer food service program for children under section 13 and the early care and afterschool portions of the child and adult care food program under section 17," after "under this Act";

(2) in paragraph (2), by striking "and nonprofit entities through grants and technical assistance" and inserting "land-grant colleges and universities, and nonprofit entities through grants, technical assistance, and research";

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) in clause (i), by inserting "and technical assistance" after "training";

(ii) by redesignating clauses (vi) and (vii) as clauses (vii) and (viii), respectively; and

(iii) by inserting after clause (v) the following:

"(vi) implementing agricultural literacy and nutrition education."; and

(B) by striking subparagraph (C) and inserting the following:

"(C) IMPROVED PROCUREMENT AND DISTRIBUTION.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—In awarding grants under this subsection, the Secretary shall seek to improve local food procurement and distribution options for agricultural producers and eligible schools.

"(ii) AGGREGATION, PROCESSING, TRANSPORTATION, AND DISTRIBUTION.—In advancing local food procurement options and other farm to school objectives, the Secretary may provide funding for projects that include innovative approaches to aggregation, processing, transportation, and distribution.

"(D) AWARDS.—

"(i) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The total amount provided to a grant recipient under this subsection shall not exceed \$200,000.

"(ii) TERM.—The term of an award shall not exceed 3 years.

"(iii) PURPOSE AND SCOPE.—In making awards under this subsection, the Secretary shall seek to make awards of diverse amounts and duration in order to best match the award to the purpose and scope of the project to be funded.

"(E) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not award a grant under this subsection if the grant funds would be used solely for the purpose of carrying out a conference.";

(4) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (G) as clauses (i) through (vii), respectively, and indenting the clauses appropriately;

(B) in clause (ii) (as so redesignated), by striking "lunches" and inserting "meals";

(C) in the matter preceding clause (i) (as so redesignated), by striking "To the maximum extent practicable" and inserting the following:

"(A) IN GENERAL.—To the maximum extent practicable";

(D) in clause (vi) (as so redesignated), by striking "and" at the end;

(E) by redesignating clause (vii) (as so redesignated) as clause (viii);

(F) by inserting after clause (vi) (as so redesignated) the following:

"(vii) expand the selection of local commodities for eligible schools; and"; and

(G) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) TRIBAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS.—In the case of projects serving tribal communities, the Secretary shall, to the maximum extent practicable, give highest priority to projects that best use products from tribal agricultural producers, as determined by the Secretary.";

(5) in paragraph (7)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (C) as clauses (i) through (iii), respectively, and indenting appropriately;

(B) by striking the paragraph designation and heading and all that follows through "nonprofit entities—" and inserting the following:

"(7) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND RESEARCH.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance, research, and information to assist eligible schools, State and local agencies, Indian tribal organizations, agricultural producers or agricultural producer groups, and nonprofit entities—";

(C) in subparagraph (A) (as so designated)—

(i) in clause (ii) (as so redesignated), by striking "and" at the end;

(ii) in clause (iii) (as so redesignated), by striking the period at the end and inserting "and"; and

(iii) by adding at the end the following:

"(iv) to increase awareness of, and participation in, farm to school programs among agricultural and aquaculture producers or agricultural producer groups, including beginning, veteran, and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.";

(D) by adding at the end the following:

"(B) REVIEW.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Farm to School Act of 2015 and every 3 years thereafter, the Secretary shall review and submit to the Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Education and the Workforce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that describes the progress that has been made in identifying and eliminating regulatory and other barriers related to developing farm to school programs.

"(ii) REQUIREMENTS.—In preparing the report, the Secretary shall examine—

"(I) the direct and indirect regulatory compliance costs affecting the production and marketing of locally or regionally produced agricultural food products to school food programs; and

"(II) barriers to local and regional market access for small-scale production.";

(6) in paragraph (8)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "\$5,000,000" and inserting "\$15,000,000"; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

"(C) ADMINISTRATION.—Of the funds provided to the Secretary under subparagraph (A), not more than 5 percent may be used to pay administrative costs incurred by the Secretary in carrying out this subsection.";

(7) in paragraph (9), by striking "2011 through 2015" and inserting "2016 through 2021".

## SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

S. RES. 86

## SENATE RESOLUTION 85—HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF GEORGIA JONES-AYERS

Mr. RUBIO (for himself and Mr. NELSON) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 85

Whereas Georgia Jones-Ayers was a lifelong resident and prominent community leader in South Florida;

Whereas effective relationships between communities and the police departments that serve those communities promote more effective policing and further the interests of justice;

Whereas Georgia Jones-Ayers worked tirelessly to promote dialogue and foster trust between the police and the community;

Whereas career criminals prey on their communities, destroy lives, and waste their God-given potential;

Whereas the prevention of recidivism, especially by first-time offenders, is an important goal of the criminal justice system, civil society, and faith communities;

Whereas Georgia Jones-Ayers founded and served as Executive Director of Alternative Programs, Inc., a nonprofit agency committed to preventing first-time offenders from reoffending;

Whereas Alternative Programs, Inc. has helped hundreds of first-time offenders become productive members of society;

Whereas Georgia Jones-Ayers retired in October 2013, after nearly 4 decades leading Alternative Programs;

Whereas Georgia Jones-Ayers engaged in many other efforts for the betterment of the community, including cofounding the Daily Bread Food Bank;

Whereas Georgia Jones-Ayers was honored by numerous organizations in Florida, including the Miami Police Department and the Florida Commission on Human Relations;

Whereas Georgia Jones-Ayers was the loving mother of 6 children, grandmother of 9 grandchildren, and great-grandmother of 20 great-grandchildren; and

Whereas Georgia Jones-Ayers passed away on February 17, 2015, at the age of 86: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes and honors the life of Georgia Jones-Ayers;

(2) recognizes—

(A) the lifelong commitment of Georgia Jones-Ayers to bettering the lives of the people of South Florida; and

(B) the landmark work of Georgia Jones-Ayers in steering troubled young people away from a life of crime;

(3) offers heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and loved ones of Georgia Jones-Ayers; and

(4) in memory of Georgia Jones-Ayers, calls on the people of the United States to redouble their commitment to their neighbors and their communities.

## SENATE RESOLUTION 86—RECOGNIZING MARCH 3, 2015, AS THE CENTENNIAL OF THE NAVY RESERVE

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. KIRK, Mr. KING, and Mr. PETERS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas the roots of patriotic Americans serving in maritime service trace back to even before the existence of the Continental Navy, when residents from seaside towns engaged in combat with British warships in defense of their homes;

Whereas the tradition of maritime service to the country continued through the robust United States merchant marine, and later the formation of State naval militias in the late 19th century to meet the need for additional naval support;

Whereas during the Spanish-American War, the Navy augmented its force with 4,000 sailors from the State naval militias;

Whereas the emergence of the United States as a world power in the early 20th century required a more robust and multi-layered naval force;

Whereas the Act of March 3, 1915 (38 Stat. 928, chapter 83), established the Naval Reserve, which became the “Navy Reserve” in 2006;

Whereas by the end of World War I, there were 290,000 members of the Naval Reserve, more than half of the total manpower of the Navy, who fought valiantly during the war;

Whereas 84 percent of the sailors serving in World War II were members of the Naval Reserve, a group that included 100,000 women;

Whereas the more than 2,600,000 enlisted personnel and 269,000 officers in the Naval Reserve in 1945 served in every theater of World War II and on every type of vessel and aircraft;

Whereas 5 Presidents, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard M. Nixon, Gerald R. Ford, and George H. W. Bush, served honorably in the Naval Reserve;

Whereas in United States conflicts and national emergencies, including the Berlin Crisis, the Korean War, the Cuban Missile Crisis, the Vietnam War, Operation Desert Storm, and hurricanes and other natural disasters, the Navy Reserve has responded to calls promptly and effectively;

Whereas following the attack on the Navy destroyer, USS Cole, on October 12, 2000, the Naval Reserve immediately responded with coastal warfare security;

Whereas since the attacks on our homeland of September 11, 2001, the Navy Reserve has mobilized more than 72,000 members of the Navy Reserve worldwide to counter threats to national security;

Whereas the Navy benefits from the military experience, civilian skills, and diverse backgrounds of the members of the Navy Reserve;

Whereas as the Senate recognizes the distinguished service of the members of the Navy Reserve, who are proud individuals of the United States, there are more than 2,000 members of the Navy Reserve deployed around the world; and

Whereas March 3, 2015, marks 100 years since the Act of March 3, 1915 (38 Stat. 928, chapter 83), establishing the Naval Reserve: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes March 3, 2015, as the centennial of the Navy Reserve;

(2) recognizes the indispensable and valuable contributions and sacrifices that individual members of the Navy Reserve have made throughout the history of the United States and continue to make in 2015;

(3) celebrates the commitment and service of members of the Navy Reserve, their families, and their employers; and

(4) encourages communities to seize the opportunity to honor and support these patriots in 2015, the centennial of the Navy Reserve.

SENATE RESOLUTION 87—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING THE RISE OF ANTI-SEMITISM IN EUROPE AND TO ENCOURAGE GREATER CO-OPERATION WITH THE EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS, THE EUROPEAN UNION, AND THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE IN PREVENTING AND RESPONDING TO ANTI-SEMITISM;

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mr. REID, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. ROUNDS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. COONS, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BLUMENTHAL, Mr. COATS, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KAINE, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. KING, Mr. HELLER, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. GARDNER, Ms. WARREN, Mr. COTTON, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. MARKEY, Mr. CRUZ, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MORAN, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. HATCH, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. FRANKEN, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOOKER, Mr. PETERS, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. SCHATZ, Mr. BROWN, Mr. NELSON, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BENNET, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. CASEY, Mr. MURPHY, Mr. PORTMAN, and Mr. SCOTT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 87

Whereas an alarming increase in anti-Semitic attacks and incidents targeting Jewish institutions, places of worship, and individuals continue to take place in Europe and remain a challenge to stability and security;

Whereas on January 9, 2015, 4 members of France's Jewish community were murdered in an attack on a kosher supermarket following the deadly terrorist attack on the Paris offices of newspaper Charlie Hebdo;

Whereas, in a 2014 Anti-Defamation League survey of attitudes towards Jews in more than 100 countries around the world—

(1) 24 percent of those surveyed in Western Europe expressed anti-Semitic views;

(2) 34 percent of those surveyed in Eastern Europe expressed anti-Semitic views; and

(3) a majority of those surveyed worldwide either—

(A) had not heard of the Holocaust; or

(B) do not believe that the factual accounts and recorded history of the Holocaust are accurate;

Whereas the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights issued a report in 2013 on anti-Semitism in the 8 countries in which 90 percent of Europe's Jews reside, namely France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Belgium, Sweden, and the United Kingdom, in which 76 percent of respondents believed that anti-Semitism had worsened where they lived during the previous 5-year period;

Whereas France, which is home to Europe's largest Jewish population, reported that—

(1) twice as many French Jews immigrated to Israel during 2014 than had immigrated during 2013; and

(2) for the first time ever, more Jews moved to Israel from France than from any other country in the world;

Whereas anti-Semitic acts committed and recorded in European countries in 2014 included—

(1) murders and death threats against Jews; and

(2) arson, graffiti, and property desecration at Jewish sites, including Jewish cemeteries,