

S. RES. 272

Whereas the University of Kansas was founded in 1865 as the State university for the State of Kansas, embodying the values and ideals of the people who fought and died to ensure that Kansas would enter the Union as a free State, as symbolized by the mascot of the university, the Jayhawk;

Whereas, 150 years after its founding, the University of Kansas is home to 28,000 students and 2,800 faculty;

Whereas the university graduates more than 6,700 individuals each year who join the ranks of the 338,240 Jayhawk alumni living throughout Kansas, the United States, and the world;

Whereas the University of Kansas has been a member of the prestigious Association of American Universities since 1909;

Whereas the University of Kansas has been open to all genders and races since its founding;

Whereas the first valedictorian of the university was Flora Richardson in 1873;

Whereas the University of Kansas has 13 schools, offers more than 600 degree programs, and has students come from all 50 States and 105 countries to study at the university;

Whereas the University of Kansas recognizes that the understanding of world cultures is essential for the progress of the United States;

Whereas the university offers more than 40 separate language courses;

Whereas continuing education programs at the University of Kansas include fire and law enforcement training centers that annually train over 5,000 public safety officers across Kansas;

Whereas basketball was first played at the University of Kansas in 1898, coached by James Naismith, the inventor of the game, and the university has one of the most successful programs in the country, winning 5 national championships and more than 2,150 games;

Whereas Allen Fieldhouse has hosted the University of Kansas basketball games since 1955 and the building remains one of the most historically significant and prestigious buildings in college athletics;

Whereas President Theodore Roosevelt pronounced the chant of the university, Rock Chalk Jayhawk, the "greatest college cheer ever devised";

Whereas the University of Kansas has a long history of working with the United States Armed Forces, is one of only 53 schools to host all 3 Reserve Officers' Training Corps programs, and works with the United States Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth to produce military and civilian faculty with the advanced degrees necessary to teach at the highest level;

Whereas, in 1917, the first United States officer killed in World War I combat was a University of Kansas Medical Center student;

Whereas research at the University of Kansas provides numerous economic and societal contributions;

Whereas helium was first isolated in Bailey Hall, located on the main campus of the University of Kansas, and the first time-release capsule was developed by a university professor;

Whereas the Spencer Museum of Art houses an internationally known and diverse collection with approximately 38,000 artworks and artifacts in all media;

Whereas the Kenneth Spencer Research Library is home to some of the rarest and most precious volumes and materials in the world, including cuneiform tablets written 4 millennia ago;

Whereas astronauts, artists, authors, business leaders, Pulitzer Prize winners, a Nobel

laureate, and Governors and Senators have launched careers at the University of Kansas, including former Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole; and

Whereas the Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics offers opportunities for all citizens to discover how to best serve their communities: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes that the diverse elements of the University of Kansas are united by the mission to educate leaders, build healthy communities, and make discoveries that benefit and improve society; and

(2) congratulates the University of Kansas for 150 years of outstanding service to the State of Kansas, the United States, and the world.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2704. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1493, to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2015, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2705. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. ISAKSON) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2617, to amend the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 to reduce a scheduled increase in the minimum wage applicable to American Samoa.

SA 2706. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. ISAKSON) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2617, *supra*.

#### TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2704. Mr. BLUMENTHAL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1493, to provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2015, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 3, strikes lines 8 through 14 and inserts the following:

(C) RATE OF INCREASE.—Each dollar amount described in subsection (b) shall be increased by 0.9 percent.

SA 2705. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. ISAKSON) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2617, to amend the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 to reduce a scheduled increase in the minimum wage applicable to American Samoa; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. MINIMUM WAGE FOR AMERICAN SAMOA.

(a) MINIMUM WAGE.—Paragraph (2) of section 8103(b) of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 (29 U.S.C. 206 note) is amended to read as follows:

“(2) the minimum wage applicable to American Samoa under section 6(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)) shall be—

“(A) the applicable wage rate in effect for each industry and classification as of September 29, 2015; and

“(B) increased by \$0.40 an hour (or such lesser amount as may be necessary to equal the minimum wage under section 6(a)(1) of such Act), beginning on September 30, 2015, and on September 30 of every third year thereafter, until the minimum wage applicable to American Samoa under this paragraph is equal to the minimum wage set forth in such section.”.

(b) GAO REPORTS.—Section 8104 of the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 (29 U.S.C. 206 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “September 1, 2011” and inserting “April 1, 2017”; and

(B) by striking the second sentence and inserting the following: “The Government Accountability Office shall submit a subsequent report not later than April 1, 2020.”;

(2) in subsection (b), by striking “the study under subsection (a)” and inserting “any report under subsection (a)”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(c) REPORT ON ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF INCREASING THE MINIMUM WAGE IN AMERICAN SAMOA.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of ‘An Act to amend the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 to reduce a scheduled increase in the minimum wage applicable to American Samoa’, the Government Accountability Office shall transmit to Congress a report on alternative ways of increasing the minimum wage in American Samoa to keep pace with the cost of living in American Samoa and to eventually equal the minimum wage set forth in section 6(a)(1) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 206(a)(1)).”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act, and the amendments made by this Act, shall take effect as of September 29, 2015.

SA 2706. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. ISAKSON) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2617, to amend the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 to reduce a scheduled increase in the minimum wage applicable to American Samoa; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to amend the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007 to reduce a scheduled increase in the minimum wage applicable to American Samoa.”.

#### NOTICE OF INTENT TO OBJECT TO PROCEEDING

I, Senator CHARLES E. GRASSLEY, intend to object to proceeding to the nomination of Brian James Egan, to be Legal Advisor of the Department of State, dated September 30, 2015.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on September 30, 2015, at 2 p.m., to conduct a hearing entitled “The Economic Crisis on Ukraine.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

##### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet