

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 Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 272. A bill to designate certain National Forest System land in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. GRAHAM, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. VITTER, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BIDEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. SCHUMER, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. DODD, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. BOND, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 273. A bill to amend the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 to extend and improve national dairy market loss payments; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. DEMINT:

S. 274. A bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to include additional information in Social Security account statements; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. CANTWELL:

S. 275. A bill to require the establishment of a Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers to compute cost-of-living increases for Social Security benefits under title II of the Social Security Act; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself and Mr. THUNE):

S. 276. A bill to revise the boundary of the Wind Cave National Park in the State of South Dakota; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. JOHNSON (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 277. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for direct access to audiologists for Medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS:

S. 278. A bill to revise certain requirements for H-2B employers and require submission of information regarding H-2B non-immigrants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

S. 279. A bill to amend the Act of June 7, 1924, to provide for the exercise of criminal jurisdiction; to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON:

S. 280. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the amortization of delay rental payments and geological and geophysical expenditures; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. AKAKA:

S. 281. A bill for the relief of Vichai Sae Tung (also known as Chai Chaowasaree); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER, and Mr. CORZINE):

S. 282. A bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to expand the

scope of the Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. DOLE (for herself, Mr. BURR, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. DODD, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mrs. LINCOLN):

S. 283. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for the transportation of food for charitable purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. ENZI, Mr. KYL, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. LUGAR, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 284. A bill to distribute universal service support equitability throughout rural America, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DEWINE, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 285. A bill to reauthorize the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education Program; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DODD (for himself, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. SARBANES, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. INOUE, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. AKAKA):

S. 286. A bill to amend section 401(b)(2) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 regarding the Federal Pell Grant maximum amount; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. KYL, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 287. A bill to require the Congressional Budget Office and the Joint Committee on Taxation to use dynamic economic modeling in the preparation of budgetary estimates of proposed changes in Federal revenue law; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. COCHRAN):

S. 288. A bill to extend Federal funding for operation of State high risk health insurance pools; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. DeWINE (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. DOMENICI):

S. 289. A bill to authorize an annual appropriation of \$10,000,000 for mental health courts through fiscal year 2011; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BOND (for himself, Mr. TALENT, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. VITTER, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. NELSON of Florida, and Mr. CONRAD):

S. 290. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude from gross income certain hazard mitigation assistance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. ENSIGN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. KYL, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. CRAPO):

S. 291. A bill to require the withholding of United States contributions to the United Nations until the President certifies that the United Nations is cooperating in the investigation of the United Nations Oil-for-Food Program; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. VITTER:

S. 292. A bill to establish a procedure to safeguard the Social Security Trust Funds; to the Committee on the Budget.

By Ms. MURKOWSKI:

S. 293. A bill to provide for the continuation of higher education through the conveyance of certain public lands in the State of Alaska to the University of Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

By Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. THUNE, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. BAUCUS):

S. 294. A bill to strengthen the restrictions of the importation from BSE minimal-risk regions of meat, meat byproducts, and meat food products from bovines; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. REID, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. DOLE, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. DODD, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. DEWINE):

S. 295. A bill to authorize appropriate action in the negotiations with the People's Republic of China regarding China's undervalued currency are not successful; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KOHL (for himself and Ms. SNOWE):

S. 296. A bill to authorize appropriations for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND
SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. SPECTER:

S. Res. 36. An original resolution authorizing expenditures by the Committee on the Judiciary; from the Committee on the Judiciary; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. DODD, and Mr. FEINGOLD):

S. Res. 37. A resolution designating the week of February 7 through February 11, 2005, as "National School Counseling Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 5

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5, a bill to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, and for other purposes.

S. 16

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 16, a bill to reduce to the cost of quality health care coverage and improve the availability of health care coverage for all Americans.

S. 37

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi

(Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. TALENT) were added as cosponsors of S. 37, a bill to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years.

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. HATCH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 37, *supra*.

S. 43

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 43, a bill to provide certain enhancements to the Montgomery GI Bill Program for certain individuals who serve as members of the Armed Forces after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, and for other purposes.

S. 44

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 44, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to increase the amount of the military death gratuity from \$12,000 to \$100,000.

S. 45

At the request of Mr. LEVIN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 45, a bill to amend the Controlled Substances Act to lift the patient limitation on prescribing drug addiction treatments by medical practitioners in group practices, and for other purposes.

S. 98

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 98, a bill to amend the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956 and the Revised Statutes of the United States to prohibit financial holding companies and national banks from engaging, directly or indirectly, in real estate brokerage or real estate management activities, and for other purposes.

S. 119

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK) were added as cosponsors of S. 119, a bill to provide for the protection of unaccompanied alien children, and for other purposes.

S. 157

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 157, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit interest on Federally guaranteed water, wastewater, and essential community facilities loans to be tax exempt.

S. 184

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of

S. 184, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to protect the public health from the unsafe importation of prescription drugs and from counterfeit prescription drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 217

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 217, a bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to preserve the essential air service program.

S. 236

At the request of Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 236, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to clarify the treatment of payment under the medicare program for clinical laboratory tests furnished by critical access hospitals.

S. 241

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the names of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) were added as cosponsors of S. 241, a bill to amend section 254 of the Communications Act of 1934 to provide that funds received as universal service contributions and the universal service support programs established pursuant to that section are not subject to certain provisions of title 31, United States Code, commonly known as the Antideficiency Act.

S. 256

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 256, a bill to amend title 11 of the United States Code, and for other purposes.

S. 269

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) and the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 269, a bill to provide emergency relief to small business concerns affected by a significant increase in the price of heating oil, natural gas, propane, or kerosene, and for other purposes.

S. RES. 28

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 28, a resolution designating the year 2005 as the "Year of Foreign Language Study".

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself and Mr. SCHUMER):

S. 272. A bill to designate certain National Forest System land in the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico as components of the National Wilderness Preservation System; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, I rise to introduce the Caribbean National Forest Act of 2005 along with Senator SCHUMER.

The Caribbean National Forest Act designates approximately 10,000 acres of the Caribbean National Forest, CNF, as the El Toro Wilderness. The El Toro Wilderness would be the only tropical forest wilderness in the U.S. National Forest system.

The CNF has long been recognized as a special area, worthy of protection. The Spanish Crown proclaimed much of the current CNF as a forest reserve in 1824. Just over 100 years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt reasserted the protection of the CNF by designating the area as a forest reserve.

Located 25 miles east of San Juan, the CNF is a biologically diverse area. Although it is the smallest forest in the national forest system, the CNF ranks number one in the number of species of native trees with 240. In addition, the CNF has 50 varieties of orchids and over 150 species of ferns. The area is also rich in wildlife with over 100 species of vertebrates, including the endangered Puerto Rican parrot. The only native parrot in Puerto Rico, they numbered nearly one million at the time that Columbus set sail for the New World. Today there are fewer than 100 of these parrots. The Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Puerto Rico's Department of Natural Resources and the Environment have initiated a recovery program for the Puerto Rican Parrot. Wilderness designation will ensure that the forest home to the parrot will remain protected and the ongoing recovery efforts, consistent with the Wilderness Act, will continue.

The CNF also provides valuable water to the people of Puerto Rico. The CNF receives over 10 feet of rain each year. As a result, the major watersheds in the CNF are able to provide water to over 800,000 residents. In addition, the CNF provides a variety of recreational opportunities to almost one million Puerto Ricans and tourists each year. Families, friends and school groups come to the forest to hike, bird watch, picnic, swim and enjoy the scenic vistas.

Wilderness designation of the El Toro will protect approximately one third of the forest. During a House hearing on this measure in 2003 the U.S. Forest Service stated its support for the designation of the El Toro Wilderness Area. Those views were reconfirmed last July, when Mark Rey, the Department of Agriculture's Under Secretary for Natural Resources and Environment, supported my legislation during