State for their extensive efforts to repatriate United States citizens and legal permanent residents during the COVID–19 pandemic; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 636

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the names of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. COONS), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Ms. WARREN) were added as cosponsors of S. 636, a bill to designate Venezuela under section 244 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to permit nationals of Venezuela to be eligible for temporary protected status under such section.

S. 738

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 738, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to make the provision of Wi-Fi access on school buses eligible for E-rate support.

S. 1720

At the request of Mr. ROUNDS, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. DAINES) and the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CRAMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1720, a bill to amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act and the Poultry Products Inspection Act to allow the interstate sale of State-inspected meat and poultry, and for other purposes.

S. 2085

At the request of Ms. ROSEN, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2085, a bill to authorize the Secretary of Education to award grants to eligible entities to carry out educational programs about the Holocaust, and for other purposes.

S. 2438

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2438, a bill to prevent, treat, and cure tuberculosis globally.

S. 3419

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. THUNE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3419, a bill to amend the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, to provide for the establishment of a trust for the benefit of all unpaid cash sellers of livestock, and for other purposes.

S. 3486

At the request of Mr. UDALL, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. SINEMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3486, a bill to improve State, local, and tribal public health security.

S. 3563

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the names of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN), the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. SMITH), the Senator from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND), the Senator from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. BLUMENTHAL) were added as cosponsors of S. 3563, a bill to modify nutrition programs to address the Coronavirus Disease 2019, and for other purposes.

S. 3607

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Montana (Mr. TESTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3607, a bill to extend public safety officer death benefits to public safety officers whose death is caused by COVID–19, and for other purposes.

S. 3608

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Ms. MCSALLY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3608, a bill to amend the CARES Act to provide flexibility in use of funds by States, Indian Tribes, and municipalities.

S. 3610

At the request of Mr. PAUL, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mrs. LOEFFLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3610, a bill to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to allow health share pools to be deemed an employer under section 3(5) of such Act for purposes of offering a group health plan or group health insurance coverage, and for other purposes.

S.J. RES. 68

At the request of Mr. KAINE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 68, a joint resolution to direct the removal of United States Armed Forces from hostilities against the Islamic Republic of Iran that have not been authorized by Congress.

S. RES. 510

At the request of Mr. GARDNER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CRUZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 510, a resolution commending the people of Taiwan on holding free and fair democratic presidential and legislative elections, and congratulating Madame Tsai Ing-wen on her re-election to the presidency of Taiwan.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION

By Mr. REED:

S. 3671. A bill to amend title VI of the Social Security Act to provide additional funding for States, Tribal Governments, and local communities due to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID–19) public health emergency, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, in order to build on a key provision I authored in the CARES Act, which provided states with $150 billion in Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF), I am introducing the State and Local Emergency Stabilization Fund Act so that States and local governments can continue to be supported as they shoulder the costs of battling the corona virus.

The State and Local Emergency Stabilization Fund Act would cut needless red tape that was bureaucratically imposed by the Trump Administration, which is constraining States from spending the CRF money that Congress unanimously approved to save lives and help rescue our economy. My legislation makes it clear that lost revenue is a cost. It also extends the time horizon States have to spend the money in order to ensure they have the flexibility to equitably allocate and disburse the funding and help communities combat COVID–19 and recover.

Unfortunately, the costs of responding to the coronavirus and keeping our economy afloat have only increased as result of this Administration's inability to formulate and execute a public health strategy based on facts and science, or implement effectively the resources and programs Congress authorized to keep our economy afloat. To meet these increasing costs, this bill would provide State and local governments an additional $600 billion in funding. The bill includes a protective $5 billion small State minimum, treats the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of Puerto Kico as States, and reserves funds for territories and Tribes. In addition, $59 billion would be allocated to States based on their relative coronavirus infection rates, and $205 billion would be reserved elusively for local governments.

State and local governments are being pushed to the financial brink by skyrocketing costs and plunging revenue, and they need stability in order to have a chance at recovery. While some of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have tried to paint this issue as a 'red State vs. blue State' problem, all fifty States are suffering and need financial relief from the Federal government to prevent massive layoffs, cuts to needed services, and future tax hikes.

In addition, on May 6, 2020, CNBC reported ''[p]rivate payrolls hemorrhaged more than 20 million jobs in April as companies sliced workers amid a corona virus-induced shutdown that took most of the U.S. economy offline, according to a report Wednesday from ADP. In all, the decline totaled 20,236,000—easily the worst loss in the survey's history going back to 2002 but not as bad as the 22 million that economists surveyed by Dow Jones had been expecting. The previous record was 834,665 in February 2009 amid the financial crisis and accompanying Great Recession.''

Mr. President, the scale and pace of our public health emergency and the impact it has having on our economy requires each of us to swiftly set aside ideology and work urgently to address these generational challenges head on. Failure to respond in a timely manner will only result in more layoffs and a longer recession. It will mean States and local governments will be left unable to provide needed health, education, public safety, and sanitation services, just when those services are needed most. Any economic recovery needs reliable State and local governments that provide the business certainty that make our attractive to businesses and investors throughout the world.