

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1018

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the availability of the refundable tax credit for health insurance costs of eligible individuals and to extend the steel import licensing and monitoring program.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 7, 2003

Mr. BAYH (for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mr. SARBANES) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to expand the availability of the refundable tax credit for health insurance costs of eligible individuals and to extend the steel import licensing and monitoring program.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Health Care Tax Cred-
5 it Enhancement for Workers and Steel Security Act of
6 2003”.

1 **SEC. 2. HEALTH CARE TAX CREDIT ENHANCEMENT.**

2 (a) DECREASE IN AGE ELIGIBILITY REQUIRE-
 3 MENT.—Subparagraph (A) of section 35(c)(4) of the In-
 4 ternal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining eligible PBGC pen-
 5 sion recipient) is amended by striking “age 55” and in-
 6 serting “age 50”.

7 (b) REPEAL OF 3-MONTH REQUIREMENT OF EXIST-
 8 ING COVERAGE.—Clause (i) of section 35(e)(2)(B) of such
 9 Code (defining qualifying individual) is amended by strik-
 10 ing “9801(c)” and inserting “9801(c) (prior to the em-
 11 ployment separation necessary to attain the status of an
 12 eligible individual)”.

13 (c) ELIGIBILITY OF SPOUSE OF CERTAIN INDIVID-
 14 UALS ENTITLED TO MEDICARE.—Subsection (b) of sec-
 15 tion 35 of such Code (defining eligible coverage month)
 16 is amended by adding at the end the following:

17 “(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR SPOUSE OF INDIV-
 18 VIDUAL ENTITLED TO MEDICARE.—Any month
 19 which would be an eligible coverage month with re-
 20 spect to a taxpayer (determined without regard to
 21 subsection (f)(2)(A)) shall be an eligible coverage
 22 month for any spouse of such taxpayer.”.

23 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
 24 this section shall apply as if included in the amendments
 25 made by section 201 of the Trade Adjustment Assistance
 26 Reform Act of 2002.

1 **SEC. 3. MAINTENANCE OF STEEL IMPORT LICENSING AND**
2 **MONITORING PROGRAM.**

3 (a) MAINTENANCE OF PROGRAM.—The steel import
4 licensing and monitoring program established by the Sec-
5 retary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Commerce
6 pursuant to the Memorandum signed by the President on
7 March 5, 2002 (67 Fed. Reg. 10593 through 10597) (pur-
8 suant to the authority of the President under section
9 203(g) of the Trade Act of 1974), shall, notwithstanding
10 any other action taken by the President under section 203
11 of the Trade Act of 1974 concerning the steel products
12 described in the Memorandum, remain in effect until not
13 later than March 6, 2010. In carrying out the program
14 in accordance with the preceding sentence, the Secretary
15 of the Treasury and the Secretary of Commerce shall ex-
16 pand the program to include all iron and steel, and all
17 articles of iron or steel, described in chapters 72 and 73
18 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States.

19 (b) ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of the
20 Treasury and the Secretary of Commerce are hereby au-
21 thorized and directed to take such actions as are necessary
22 to maintain or expand as necessary and appropriate the
23 operation of the program described in subsection (a).

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