

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 897

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide more help to
Alzheimer's disease caregivers.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 15, 2007

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BOND, Mrs. CLINTON, and Ms. COLLINS) 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 provide
more help to Alzheimer's disease caregivers.

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 "Alzheimer's Family
5 Assistance Act of 2007".

6 **SEC. 2. CREDIT FOR TAXPAYERS WITH LONG-TERM CARE
7 NEEDS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part IV of sub-
9 chapter A of chapter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of
10 1986 (relating to nonrefundable personal credits) is

1 amended by inserting after section 25D the following new
 2 section:

3 **SEC. 25E. CREDIT FOR TAXPAYERS WITH LONG-TERM
 4 CARE NEEDS.**

5 **“(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—**

6 **“(1) IN GENERAL.—**There shall be allowed as a
 7 credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for
 8 the taxable year an amount equal to the applicable
 9 credit amount multiplied by the number of applica-
 10 ble individuals with respect to whom the taxpayer is
 11 an eligible caregiver for the taxable year.

12 **“(2) APPLICABLE CREDIT AMOUNT.—**For pur-
 13 poses of paragraph (1), the applicable credit amount
 14 shall be determined in accordance with the following
 15 table:

For taxable years beginning in calendar year—	The applicable credit amount is—
2007	\$1,000
2008	1,500
2009	2,000
2010	2,500
2011 or thereafter	3,000.

16 **“(b) LIMITATION BASED ON ADJUSTED GROSS IN-
 17 COME.—**

18 **“(1) IN GENERAL.—**The amount of the credit
 19 allowable under subsection (a) shall be reduced (but
 20 not below zero) by \$100 for each \$1,000 (or fraction
 21 thereof) by which the taxpayer's modified adjusted
 22 gross income exceeds the threshold amount. For

1 purposes of the preceding sentence, the term ‘modified
2 adjusted gross income’ means adjusted gross in-
3 come increased by any amount excluded from gross
4 income under section 911, 931, or 933.

5 “(2) THRESHOLD AMOUNT.—For purposes of
6 paragraph (1), the term ‘threshold amount’ means—

7 “(A) \$150,000 in the case of a joint re-
8 turn, and

9 “(B) \$75,000 in any other case.

10 “(3) INDEXING.—In the case of any taxable
11 year beginning in a calendar year after 2007, each
12 dollar amount contained in paragraph (2) shall be
13 increased by an amount equal to the product of—

14 “(A) such dollar amount, and

15 “(B) the medical care cost adjustment de-
16 termined under section 213(d)(10)(B)(ii) for
17 the calendar year in which the taxable year be-
18 gins, determined by substituting ‘2006’ for
19 ‘1996’ in subclause (II) thereof.

20 If any increase determined under the preceding sen-
21 tence is not a multiple of \$50, such increase shall
22 be rounded to the next lowest multiple of \$50.

23 “(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

24 “(1) APPLICABLE INDIVIDUAL.—

1 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘applicable
2 individual’ means, with respect to any taxable
3 year, any individual who has been certified, be-
4 fore the due date for filing the return of tax for
5 the taxable year (without extensions), by a phy-
6 sician (as defined in section 1861(r)(1) of the
7 Social Security Act) as being an individual with
8 long-term care needs described in subparagraph
9 (B) for a period—

10 “(i) which is at least 180 consecutive
11 days, and

12 “(ii) a portion of which occurs within
13 the taxable year.

14 Such term shall not include any individual oth-
15 erwise meeting the requirements of the pre-
16 ceding sentence unless within the 39½ month
17 period ending on such due date (or such other
18 period as the Secretary prescribes) a physician
19 (as so defined) has certified that such indi-
20 vidual meets such requirements.

21 “(B) INDIVIDUALS WITH LONG-TERM CARE
22 NEEDS.—An individual is described in this sub-
23 paragraph if the individual meets any of the fol-
24 lowing requirements:

1 “(i) The individual is at least 18 years
2 of age and—

3 “(I) is unable to perform (with-
4 out substantial assistance from an-
5 other individual) at least 3 activities
6 of daily living (as defined in section
7 7702B(c)(2)(B)) due to a loss of
8 functional capacity, or

9 “(II) requires substantial super-
10 vision to protect such individual from
11 threats to health and safety due to se-
12 vere cognitive impairment and is un-
13 able to perform at least 1 activity of
14 daily living (as so defined) or to the
15 extent provided in regulations pre-
16 scribed by the Secretary (in consulta-
17 tion with the Secretary of Health and
18 Human Services), is unable to engage
19 in age appropriate activities.

20 “(ii) The individual is at least 6 but
21 not 18 years of age and—

22 “(I) is unable to perform (with-
23 out substantial assistance from an-
24 other individual) at least 3 activities
25 of daily living (as defined in section

1 7702B(c)(2)(B)) due to a loss of
2 functional capacity,

19 “(IV) has a complex medical con-
20 dition (as defined by the Secretary)
21 that requires medical management
22 and coordination of care.

1 “(I) is unable due to a loss of
2 functional capacity to perform (with-
3 out substantial assistance from an-
4 other individual) at least 2 of the fol-
5 lowing activities: eating, transferring,
6 or mobility,

7 “(II) has a level of disability
8 similar to the level of disability de-
9 scribed in subclause (I) (as deter-
10 mined under regulations promulgated
11 by the Secretary), or

12 “(III) has a complex medical con-
13 dition (as defined by the Secretary)
14 that requires medical management
15 and coordination of care.

16 “(iv) The individual is under 2 years
17 of age and—

18 “(I) requires specific durable
19 medical equipment by reason of a se-
20 vere health condition or requires a
21 skilled practitioner trained to address
22 the individual’s condition to be avail-
23 able if the individual’s parents or
24 guardians are absent,

1 “(II) has a level of disability
2 similar to the level of disability de-
3 scribed in subclause (I) (as deter-
4 mined under regulations promulgated
5 by the Secretary), or

6 “(III) has a complex medical con-
7 dition (as defined by the Secretary)
8 that requires medical management
9 and coordination of care.

10 “(v) The individual has 5 or more
11 chronic conditions (as defined in subpara-
12 graph (C)) and is unable to perform (with-
13 out substantial assistance from another in-
14 dividual) at least 1 activity of daily living
15 (as so defined) due to a loss of functional
16 capacity.

17 “(C) CHRONIC CONDITION.—For purposes
18 of this paragraph, the term ‘chronic condition’
19 means a condition that lasts for at least 6 con-
20 secutive months and requires ongoing medical
21 care.

22 “(2) ELIGIBLE CAREGIVER.—

23 “(A) IN GENERAL.—A taxpayer shall be
24 treated as an eligible caregiver for any taxable
25 year with respect to the following individuals:

1 “(i) The taxpayer.

2 “(ii) The taxpayer’s spouse.

3 “(iii) An individual who is a qual-
4 fying child (as defined in section 152(c))
5 or a qualifying relative (as defined in sec-
6 tion 152(d)) with respect to whom the tax-
7 payer is allowed a deduction under section
8 151(c) for the taxable year.

9 “(iv) An individual who would be a
10 qualifying relative described in clause (iii)
11 for the taxable year if section 152(d)(1)(B)
12 were applied by substituting for the exemp-
13 tion amount an amount equal to the sum
14 of the exemption amount, the standard de-
15 duction under section 63(c)(2)(C), and any
16 additional standard deduction under sec-
17 tion 63(c)(3) which would be applicable to
18 the individual if clause (iii) applied.

19 “(v) An individual who would be a
20 qualifying relative described in clause (iii)
21 for the taxable year if—

22 “(I) the requirements of clause
23 (iv) are met with respect to the indi-
24 vidual, and

1 “(II) the requirements of sub-
2 paragraph (B) are met with respect to
3 the individual in lieu of the support
4 test of section 152(d)(1)(C).

5 “(B) RESIDENCY TEST.—The require-
6 ments of this subparagraph are met if an indi-
7 vidual has as his principal place of abode the
8 home of the taxpayer and—

9 “(i) in the case of an individual who
10 is an ancestor or descendant of the tax-
11 payer or the taxpayer’s spouse, is a mem-
12 ber of the taxpayer’s household for over
13 half the taxable year, or

14 “(ii) in the case of any other indi-
15 vidual, is a member of the taxpayer’s
16 household for the entire taxable year.

17 “(C) SPECIAL RULES WHERE MORE THAN
18 1 ELIGIBLE CAREGIVER.—

19 “(i) IN GENERAL.—If more than 1 in-
20 dividual is an eligible caregiver with re-
21 spect to the same applicable individual for
22 taxable years ending with or within the
23 same calendar year, a taxpayer shall be
24 treated as the eligible caregiver if each
25 such individual (other than the taxpayer)

1 files a written declaration (in such form
2 and manner as the Secretary may pre-
3 scribe) that such individual will not claim
4 such applicable individual for the credit
5 under this section.

6 “(ii) NO AGREEMENT.—If each indi-
7 vidual required under clause (i) to file a
8 written declaration under clause (i) does
9 not do so, the individual with the highest
10 modified adjusted gross income (as defined
11 in section 32(c)(5)) shall be treated as the
12 eligible caregiver.

13 “(iii) MARRIED INDIVIDUALS FILING
14 SEPARATELY.—In the case of married indi-
15 viduals filing separately, the determination
16 under this subparagraph as to whether the
17 husband or wife is the eligible caregiver
18 shall be made under the rules of clause (ii)
19 (whether or not one of them has filed a
20 written declaration under clause (i)).

21 “(d) IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENT.—No credit
22 shall be allowed under this section to a taxpayer with re-
23 spect to any applicable individual unless the taxpayer in-
24 cludes the name and taxpayer identification number of
25 such individual, and the identification number of the phy-

1 sician certifying such individual, on the return of tax for
2 the taxable year.

3 “(e) TAXABLE YEAR MUST BE FULL TAXABLE
4 YEAR.—Except in the case of a taxable year closed by rea-
5 son of the death of the taxpayer, no credit shall be allow-
6 able under this section in the case of a taxable year cov-
7 ering a period of less than 12 months.”.

8 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

9 (1) Section 6213(g)(2) of the Internal Revenue
10 Code of 1986 is amended by striking “and” at the
11 end of subparagraph (L)(ii), by striking the period
12 at the end of subparagraph (M) and inserting “,
13 and”, and by inserting after subparagraph (M) the
14 following new subparagraph:

15 “(N) an omission of a correct TIN or phy-
16 sician identification required under section
17 25E(d) (relating to credit for taxpayers with
18 long-term care needs) to be included on a re-
19 turn.”.

20 (2) The table of sections for subpart A of part
21 IV of subchapter A of chapter 1 of such Code is
22 amended by inserting after the item relating to sec-
23 tion 25D the following new item:

“Sec. 25E. Credit for taxpayers with long-term care needs.”.

1 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
2 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
3 December 31, 2006.

4 SEC. 3. TREATMENT OF PREMIUMS ON QUALIFIED LONG-
5 TERM CARE INSURANCE CONTRACTS.

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Part VII of subchapter B of chap-
7 ter 1 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to
8 additional itemized deductions) is amended by redesign-
9 nating section 224 as section 225 and by inserting after
10 section 223 the following new section:

11 "SEC. 224. PREMIUMS ON QUALIFIED LONG-TERM CARE IN-
12 SURANCE CONTRACTS.

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—In the case of an individual,
14 there shall be allowed as a deduction an amount equal to
15 the applicable percentage of the amount of eligible long-
16 term care premiums (as defined in section 213(d)(10))
17 paid during the taxable year for coverage for the taxpayer
18 and the taxpayer’s spouse and dependents under a qual-
19 fied long-term care insurance contract (as defined in sec-
20 tion 7702B(b)).

21 "(b) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE.—For purposes of
22 subsection (a)—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise pro-
24 vided in this subsection, the applicable percentage
25 shall be determined in accordance with the following

1 table based on the number of years of continuous
 2 coverage (as of the close of the taxable year) of the
 3 individual under any qualified long-term care insur-
 4 ance contracts (as defined in section 7702B(b)):

“If the number of years of continuous coverage is—	The applicable percentage is—
Less than 1	60
At least 1 but less than 2	70
At least 2 but less than 3	80
At least 3 but less than 4	90
At least 4	100.

5 “(2) SPECIAL RULES FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO
 6 HAVE ATTAINED AGE 55.—In the case of an indi-
 7 vidual who has attained age 55 as of the close of the
 8 taxable year, the following table shall be substituted
 9 for the table in paragraph (1):

“If the number of years of continuous coverage is—	The applicable percentage is—
Less than 1	70
At least 1 but less than 2	85
At least 2	100.

10 “(3) ONLY COVERAGE AFTER 2004 TAKEN INTO
 11 ACCOUNT.—Only coverage for periods after Decem-
 12 ber 31, 2006, shall be taken into account under this
 13 subsection.

14 “(4) CONTINUOUS COVERAGE.—An individual
 15 shall not fail to be treated as having continuous cov-
 16 erage if the aggregate breaks in coverage during any
 17 1-year period are less than 60 days.

18 “(c) COORDINATION WITH OTHER DEDUCTIONS.—
 19 Any amount paid by a taxpayer for any qualified long-

1 term care insurance contract to which subsection (a) ap-
2 plies shall not be taken into account in computing the
3 amount allowable to the taxpayer as a deduction under
4 section 162(l) or 213(a).”.

5 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

6 (1) Section 62(a) of the Internal Revenue Code
7 of 1986 is amended by inserting after paragraph
8 (20) the following new paragraph:

9 “(21) PREMIUMS ON QUALIFIED LONG-TERM
10 CARE INSURANCE CONTRACTS.—The deduction al-
11 lowed by section 224.”.

12 (2) The table of sections for part VII of sub-
13 chapter B of chapter 1 of such Code is amended by
14 striking the last item and inserting the following
15 new items:

“Sec. 224. Premiums on qualified long-term care insurance con-
tracts.

“Sec. 225. Cross reference.”.

16 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
17 this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after
18 December 31, 2006.

19 **SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTIONS FOR LONG-**
20 **TERM CARE INSURANCE.**

21 (a) ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS APPLICABLE TO
22 LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE.—Subparagraphs (A) and
23 (B) of section 7702B(g)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code

1 of 1986 (relating to requirements of model regulation and
2 Act) are amended to read as follows:

3 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of
4 this paragraph are met with respect to any con-
5 tract if such contract meets—

6 “(i) MODEL REGULATION.—The fol-
7 lowing requirements of the model regula-
8 tion:

9 “(I) Section 6A (relating to guar-
10 anteed renewal or noncancellability),
11 and the requirements of section 6B of
12 the model Act relating to such section
13 6A.

14 “(II) Section 6B (relating to pro-
15 hibitions on limitations and exclu-
16 sions).

17 “(III) Section 6C (relating to ex-
18 tension of benefits).

19 “(IV) Section 6D (relating to
20 continuation or conversion of cov-
21 erage).

22 “(V) Section 6E (relating to dis-
23 continuance and replacement of poli-
24 cies).

1 “(VI) Section 7 (relating to unin-
2 tentional lapse).

3 “(VII) Section 8 (relating to dis-
4 closure), other than section 8F there-
5 of.

6 “(VIII) Section 11 (relating to
7 prohibitions against post-claims un-
8 derwriting).

9 “(IX) Section 12 (relating to
10 minimum standards).

11 “(X) Section 13 (relating to re-
12 quirement to offer inflation protec-
13 tion), except that any requirement for
14 a signature on a rejection of inflation
15 protection shall permit the signature
16 to be on an application or on a sepa-
17 rate form.

18 “(XI) Section 25 (relating to pro-
19 hibition against preexisting conditions
20 and probationary periods in replace-
21 ment policies or certificates).

22 “(XII) The provisions of section
23 26 relating to contingent nonforfeiture
24 benefits, if the policyholder declines

1 the offer of a nonforfeiture provision
2 described in paragraph (4).

14 “(B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this
15 paragraph—

11 (b) EXCISE TAX.—Paragraph (1) of section
12 4980C(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating
13 to requirements of model provisions) is amended to read
14 as follows:

15 “(1) REQUIREMENTS OF MODEL PROVISIONS.—

16 “(A) MODEL REGULATION.—The following
17 requirements of the model regulation must be
18 met:

1 claims denied during the reporting period
2 for each class of business (expressed as a
3 percentage of claims denied), other than
4 claims denied for failure to meet the wait-
5 ing period or because of any applicable
6 preexisting condition.

7 “(iv) Section 22 (relating to filing re-
8 quirements for marketing).

9 “(v) Section 23 (relating to standards
10 for marketing), including inaccurate com-
11 pletion of medical histories, other than
12 paragraphs (1), (6), and (9) of section
13 23C, except that—

14 “(I) in addition to such require-
15 ments, no person shall, in selling or
16 offering to sell a qualified long-term
17 care insurance contract, misrepresent
18 a material fact; and

19 “(II) no such requirements shall
20 include a requirement to inquire or
21 identify whether a prospective appli-
22 cant or enrollee for long-term care in-
23 surance has accident and sickness in-
24 surance.

1 “(vi) Section 24 (relating to suit-
2 ability).

3 “(vii) Section 29 (relating to standard
4 format outline of coverage).

5 “(viii) Section 30 (relating to require-
6 ment to deliver shopper’s guide).

7 The requirements referred to in clause (vi) shall
8 not include those portions of the personal work-
9 sheet described in Appendix B relating to con-
10 sumer protection requirements not imposed by
11 section 4980C or 7702B.

12 “(B) MODEL ACT.—The following require-
13 ments of the model Act must be met:

14 “(i) Section 6F (relating to right to
15 return), except that such section shall also
16 apply to denials of applications and any re-
17 fund shall be made within 30 days of the
18 return or denial.

19 “(ii) Section 6G (relating to outline of
20 coverage).

21 “(iii) Section 6H (relating to require-
22 ments for certificates under group plans).

23 “(iv) Section 6I (relating to policy
24 summary).

1 “(v) Section 6J (relating to monthly
2 reports on accelerated death benefits).

3 “(vi) Section 7 (relating to incontest-
4 ability period).

5 “(C) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this
6 paragraph, the terms ‘model regulation’ and
7 ‘model Act’ have the meanings given such terms
8 by section 7702B(g)(2)(B).”.

9 (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
10 this section shall apply to policies issued more than 1 year
11 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

○