#### 111TH CONGRESS 1ST SESSION

# H. R. 1723

To provide for a paid family and medical leave insurance program, and for other purposes.

#### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 25, 2009

Mr. Stark (for himself, Mr. George Miller of California, Ms. Woolsey, and Mrs. Maloney) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

## A BILL

To provide for a paid family and medical leave insurance program, and for other purposes.

- 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 "Family Leave Insur-
- 5 ance Act of 2009".
- 6 SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.
- 7 Congress finds the following:

- (1) Since its passage, the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (referred to in this section as the "FMLA") has assisted millions of employees in balancing the demands of their jobs with their family responsibilities. However, many eligible employees are not able to utilize the benefits of the FMLA because FMLA leave is unpaid. According to a 2000 survey on the FMLA by the Department of Labor, among those employees who need FMLA leave and don't take it, 78 percent don't take it because they can't afford it.
  - (2) An analysis of national data from the 2000 FMLA survey by the Center for Women and Work at Rutgers University suggests that employees suffer severe financial hardship in order to be responsible family members and provide minor children and aging parents with the care they need. For example, among employees who needed to care for a seriously ill child—
    - (A) 42 percent took time off even though they received no pay while doing so;
    - (B) 46 percent received full or partial pay during at least part of the time off (including receiving pay for reasons such as use of vacation time); and

- 1 (C) 12 percent could not take time off to 2 care for the child due to lack of pay.
  - (3) Americans who provide direct care for their family members prevent the worsening of illnesses and promote strong recovery. For example, the length of a child's stay in the hospital decreases by 31 percent when parents are able to be present.
    - (4) Forty-three percent of private sector employees do not have access to paid sick leave, as reported in the Bureau of Labor Statistics National Compensation Survey in March 2006. Of those employees who do have paid sick leave, many are not able to use their own sick leave to receive payment while caring for family members who are ill.
    - (5) Family and medical leave benefits strengthen and support the business sector through health care savings and increased employee retention and productivity.
    - (6) A 2008 Harvard Law study on foreclosure trends found that 49 percent of all respondents' foreclosures were caused, at least in part, by a medical crisis—including loss of work due to illness or injury, unmanageable medical bills, or caring for an ill family member. The State of California, where workers have access to paid family medical leave

- benefits, had a lower rate of foreclosure caused by
  caring for a sick household member.
- 3 (7) Demographic changes over the past few dec-4 ades have altered the face and needs of the work-5 force. It is now common for both parents to be in 6 the workforce and for men and women to also serve 7 as the primary caregivers for elderly spouses or parents.
- 9 (8) According to the Bureau of the Census and 10 the Bureau of Labor Statistics, 56 percent of women 11 with children under age 1 are in the labor force, 12 while 71 percent of all women with dependent chil-13 dren under age 18 are in the labor force.
- 14 (9) Nearly ½3 of Americans under the age of 60 15 expect to be responsible for the care of an elderly 16 relative in the next 10 years.

#### 17 SEC. 3. GENERAL DEFINITIONS.

- 18 (a) In General.—The definitions provided by sec-
- 19 tion 101 of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993
- 20 (29 U.S.C. 2611), other than the definitions of the terms
- 21 "son or daughter", shall apply for purposes of this Act.
- 22 (b) Additional Definitions.—In this Act, the fol-
- 23 lowing additional definitions shall apply:

1	(1) Board of Trustees.—The term "Board
2	of Trustees" means the Board of Trustees of the In-
3	surance Fund.
4	(2) COVERED AGENCY.—The term "covered
5	agency", when used with respect to a State, means
6	the State agency referred to in paragraph (1) of sec-
7	tion 102(b), or the Commissioner of Social Security
8	if the Commissioner is carrying out the State Family
9	and Medical Insurance Program in the State under
10	paragraph (2) of such section.
11	(3) Domestic Partner.—The term "domestic
12	partner" means—
13	(A) the person recognized as the domestic
14	partner of the employee under any domestic
15	partner registry or civil union laws of the State
16	or political subdivision of a State where the em-
17	ployee resides;
18	(B) a same-sex spouse as determined
19	under the applicable law of the State or polit-
20	ical subdivision of a State where the employee
21	resides; or
22	(C) in the case of an unmarried employee
23	who lives in a State where a person cannot
24	marry a person of the same sex under the laws

of the State, a single, unmarried adult person

1	of the same sex as the employee who is in a
2	committed, intimate relationship with the em-
3	ployee, is not a domestic partner to any other
4	person, and who is designated to the employer
5	by such employee as that employee's domestic
6	partner.
7	(4) Insurance fund.—The term "Insurance
8	Fund" means the Family and Medical Leave Insur-
9	ance Fund established under section 301.
10	(5) Managing trustee.—The term "Man-
11	aging Trustee" means the Managing Trustee of the
12	Board of Trustees of the Insurance Fund.
13	(6) Son or daughter.—The term "son or
14	daughter" means a biological, adopted, or foster
15	child, a stepchild, a legal ward, a child of a person's
16	domestic partner, or a child of a person standing in
17	loco parentis, who is—
18	(A) under 18 years of age; or
19	(B) 18 years of age or older and incapable
20	of self-care because of a mental or physical dis-
21	ability.
22	TITLE I—FAMILY AND MEDICAL
23	LEAVE INSURANCE PROGRAM
24	SEC. 101. PROGRAM DEFINITIONS.

25 In this title:

1	(1) Eligible employee.—The term "eligible
2	employee" means any of the following:
3	(A) An employee who—
4	(i) earned wages with a covered em-
5	ployer for a minimum of 6 months prior to
6	filing an application for leave benefits
7	under this title; and
8	(ii) has been employed by the em-
9	ployer with respect to whom paid leave is
10	requested for at least 625 hours of service
11	during the previous 6 months.
12	(B) An employee—
13	(i) of a small employer that has elect-
14	ed to participate in the Program under
15	this title in accordance with such regula-
16	tions as the Secretary shall prescribe; and
17	(ii) who meets the requirements of
18	subparagraph (A), but is not an employee
19	of the Federal Government.
20	(C) A self-employed individual who has—
21	(i) elected to participate in the Pro-
22	gram under this title in accordance with
23	such regulations as the Secretary shall pre-
24	scribe;

1	(ii) self-employment income while a
2	covered employer for 6 of the last 12
3	months prior to filing an application for
4	leave benefits under this title; and
5	(iii) paid premiums under section
6	1401(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of
7	1986 with respect to such self-employment
8	income.
9	(2) Employer-related definitions.—
10	(A) COVERED EMPLOYER.—The term
11	"covered employer" means a person—
12	(i) that is—
13	(I) an employer;
14	(II) a small employer that has
15	elected to participate in the Program
16	under this title in accordance with
17	such regulations as the Secretary shall
18	prescribe; or
19	(III) a self-employed individual
20	who has elected to so participate; and
21	(ii) that is not a voluntary plan em-
22	ployer.
23	(B) Employer.—The term "employer"
24	shall have the meaning given that term in sec-
25	tion 101(4) of the Family and Medical Leave

1	Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2611(4)), except that
2	such term shall include any person who employs
3	2 or more employees for each working day dur-
4	ing each of 20 or more calendar workweeks in
5	the current or preceding calendar year.
6	(C) Small employer.—The term "small
7	employer"—
8	(i) means any person engaged in com-
9	merce or in any industry or activity affect-
10	ing commerce who employs not less than 2
11	and not more than 19 employees for each
12	working day during each of 20 or more
13	calendar workweeks in the current or pre-
14	ceding calendar year; and
15	(ii) includes—
16	(I) any person who acts, directly
17	or indirectly, in the interest of an em-
18	ployer described in clause (i) to any of
19	the employees of such employer;
20	(II) any successor in interest of
21	an employer described in clause (i);
22	and
23	(III) any public agency, as de-
24	fined in section 3(x) of the Fair Labor
25	Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C.

1	203(x)) that is an employer described
2	in clause (i) but is not an entity of the
3	Federal Government.
4	(D) VOLUNTARY PLAN EMPLOYER.—The
5	term "voluntary plan employer" means an em-
6	ployer for which the Secretary has approved a
7	voluntary plan under section 104 for the period
8	involved.
9	(3) Leave benefit.—The term "leave benefit"
10	means a family and medical leave insurance benefit
11	described in section 103.
12	(4) VOLUNTARY PAID BENEFIT.—The term
13	"voluntary paid benefit" means a family and medical
14	leave insurance benefit provided under a voluntary
15	plan approved under section 104 for the period in-
16	volved.
17	SEC. 102. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.
18	(a) Federal Program.—The Secretary of Labor
19	shall establish a Family and Medical Insurance Program.
20	(b) State Programs.—In carrying out the Federal
21	Program established under subsection (a), the Secretary
22	may—
23	(1) enter into a contract with a State under
24	which—

1	(A) the State agrees to establish, or ex-
2	pand a State program in effect at the date of
3	the enactment of this Act to include, a State
4	Family and Medical Insurance Program that
5	provides the benefits described in this title; and
6	(B) the Secretary agrees to instruct the
7	Managing Trustee of the Family and Medical
8	Leave Insurance Fund, established under sec-
9	tion 301, to provide the State funds for such
10	benefits from the Insurance Fund; or
11	(2) at the request of the Governor of a State,
12	enter into an interagency agreement with the Com-
13	missioner of Social Security under which—
14	(A) the Commissioner of Social Security
15	agrees to establish a State Family and Medical
16	Insurance Program in such State to provide the
17	benefits described in this title in such State;
18	and
19	(B) the Secretary agrees to instruct the
20	Managing Trustee of the Insurance Fund to
21	provide the Commissioner of Social Security
22	funds for such benefits from the Insurance
23	Fund.
24	(c) State Application.—To be eligible to receive
25	a contract under subsection (b)(1), a State shall submit

- 1 an application to the Secretary at such time, in such man-
- 2 ner, and containing such information as the Secretary may
- 3 require. At a minimum, the application shall include infor-
- 4 mation identifying the State agency to carry out the State
- 5 Family and Medical Insurance Program under subsection
- 6 (b)(1).

#### 7 SEC. 103. PROGRAM BENEFITS.

- 8 (a) Entitlement.—Subject to subsections (b), (d),
- 9 and (e), an eligible employee of a covered employer shall
- 10 be entitled to a family and medical leave insurance benefit
- 11 for a total of 12 workweeks of leave during any 12-month
- 12 period for 1 or more of the following reasons:
- 13 (1) Because of the birth of a son or daughter
- of the employee and in order to care for such son
- or daughter.
- 16 (2) Because of the placement of a son or
- daughter with the employee for adoption or foster
- 18 care.
- 19 (3) In order to care for a child, parent, spouse,
- domestic partner, grandchild, grandparent, or sibling
- of the employee and who has a serious health condi-
- tion.
- 23 (4) Because of a serious health condition that
- 24 makes the employee unable to perform the functions
- of the position of such employee.

- Secretary of Labor shall, by regulation, determine)
  arising out of the fact that the spouse, or a son,
  daughter, or parent of the employee is on active
  duty (or has been notified of an impending call or
  order to active duty) in the Armed Forces of the
  United States in support of a contingency operation.
- 8 (6) In order to care for a child, parent, spouse, 9 domestic partner, grandchild, grandparent, sibling, 10 or next of kin of the employee who is a covered serv-11 icemember as such term is defined in section 12 101(16) of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 13 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2611(16)).
- 14 (b) Waiting Period.—During each 12-month pe15 riod described in subsection (a), each eligible employee
  16 shall be subject to a waiting period of 5 workdays of leave
  17 described in subsection (a) (but not more than 7 calendar
  18 days), during which a leave benefit shall not be paid to
  19 the employee. The waiting period shall not reduce the 12
  20 workweeks of leave benefits available under subsection (a).

#### 21 (c) Benefit Amount.—

22 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), an 23 eligible employee's leave benefit for any workday on 24 which the employee takes leave as described in sub-25 section (a) shall be calculated as—

1	(A) in the case of an employee with an an-
2	nual income of not more than \$20,000, an
3	amount equal to 100 percent of that employee's
4	daily earnings;
5	(B) in the case of an employee with an an-
6	nual income of more than \$20,000 and not
7	more than \$30,000, an amount equal to the
8	greater of—
9	(i) 75 percent of that employee's daily
10	earnings; or
11	(ii) 100 percent of the daily earnings
12	of an employee with an annual income of
13	\$20,000;
14	(C) in the case of an employee with an an-
15	nual income of more than \$30,000 and not
16	more than \$60,000, an amount equal to the
17	greater of—
18	(i) 55 percent of that employee's daily
19	earnings; or
20	(ii) 75 percent of the daily earnings of
21	an employee with an annual income of
22	\$30,000;
23	(D) in the case of an employee with an an-
24	nual income of more than \$60,000 and not

1	more than \$97,000, an amount equal to the
2	greater of—
3	(i) 40 percent of that employee's daily
4	earnings; or
5	(ii) 55 percent of the daily earnings of
6	an employee with an annual income of
7	\$60,000; and
8	(E) in the case of an employee with an an-
9	nual income of more than \$97,000, an amount
10	equal to 40 percent of the daily earnings of an
11	employee with an annual income of \$97,000.
12	(2) Indexing of annual income cat-
13	EGORIES.—
14	(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall
15	index the annual income amounts specified in
16	paragraph (1) for each calendar year, using the
17	national average wage index, as determined
18	under section 209(k) of the Social Security Act
19	(42 U.S.C. 409(k)).
20	(B) Publication.—Not later than the
21	November 1 preceding each calendar year, the
22	Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register
23	the indexed amount determined under subpara-
24	graph (A) for that calendar year.
25	(d) Application.—

- 1 (1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a
  2 family and medical insurance benefit under this title
  3 in a State, an eligible employee shall submit an ap4 plication to the covered agency for the State at such
  5 time, in such manner, and containing the informa6 tion specified in paragraph (3) and such additional
  7 information as the agency may require.
  - (2) IRREVOCABILITY FOR SELF-EMPLOYED IN-DIVIDUALS.—An election by a self-employed individual to participate in the Program shall be irrevocable.
  - (3) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—The covered agency shall require each of the following, as part of the application for benefits under this section in connection with any leave:
    - (A) A certification, submitted in a timely manner, issued by the health care provider of the eligible employee or of the child, spouse, parent, domestic partner, grandchild, grandparent or sibling of the employee, as appropriate, and similar to the certification described section 103(b) of the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2613(b)) in connection with such leave.

(B) In any case in which the covered agency has reason to doubt the validity of the certification provided under subparagraph (A), the Secretary may require, at the expense of the covered agency, that the eligible employee obtain the opinion of a second health care provider designated or approved by the agency concerning any information certified under subparagraph (A).

(C) In any case in which the second opinion described in subparagraph (B) differs from the opinion in the original certification provided under subparagraph (A), the covered agency may require, at the expense of the agency, that the employee obtain the opinion of a third health care provider designated or approved jointly by the agency and the employee concerning the information certified under subparagraph (A). The opinion of the third health care provider concerning such information shall be considered to be final and shall be binding on the agency and the employee.

## (e) PAYMENT OF BENEFITS.—

(1) Payment from insurance fund.—Payments of benefits required to be made under this

- section shall be made only from the Insurance Fund established under section 301.
  - (2) CERTIFICATION AND PAYMENT.—On the final decision of a covered agency or on the final judgment of any court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to paragraph (3) that any person is entitled to any payment under this section—
    - (A) the covered agency shall certify to the Managing Trustee of the Board of Trustees of the Insurance Fund the name and address of the person entitled to receive such payment, the amount of such payment, and the time at which such payment shall be made;
    - (B) the Managing Trustee shall pay the certified amount from the Insurance Fund to the covered agency; and
    - (C) the covered agency shall make the payment to the person.
  - (3) Review.—Any eligible employee dissatisfied with any initial determination under this section shall be entitled to reconsideration of the determination, and a hearing on the determination, by the Secretary to the same extent as is provided in section 205(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.22 405(b)) and to judicial review of the final decision

- after such hearing as is provided in section 205(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 405(g)).
  - (4) WITHHOLDING OF CERTIFICATION.—In any case in which a review of the covered agency's decision is or may be sought under paragraph (3), the covered agency may withhold certification of payment pending such review.
    - (5) OTHER COMPENSATION.—Except as provided in section 105, no employee shall be eligible to receive paid leave benefits under this title for any period during which—
      - (A) the employee is receiving worker's compensation or compensation through unemployment insurance in connection with the event for which the employee is taking the leave; or
      - (B) the employee is receiving paid leave benefits from an employer under a voluntary employer plan approved under section 104.
- 19 (f) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall issue regula-20 tions to carry out this section, including the determination 21 of benefits for leave taken intermittently or on a reduced 22 leave schedule, or for leave taken by a part-time, seasonal, 23 or intermittent employee.

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#### 1 SEC. 104. VOLUNTARY EMPLOYER PLAN.

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2	(a) In General.—Any employer may submit an ap-
3	plication to the Secretary for approval of a voluntary plan.
4	The Secretary may require the employer to resubmit the
5	plan for approval on a annual basis. During a period for
6	which the Secretary has approved a plan, the applicant
7	shall provide a voluntary paid benefit under the plan rath-
8	er than participating in the Program.
9	(b) APPROVAL.—The Secretary shall approve the vol-
10	untary plan of the applicant if the Secretary finds each
11	of the following with respect to the applicant:
12	(1) The rights afforded to the employees cov-
13	ered under the plan are equal to or greater than the
14	rights afforded through the Program.
15	(2) The plan has been made available to all of
16	the employees of the applicant employed in the
17	United States or to all employees at any 1 distinct,
18	separate establishment maintained by the applicant
19	in the United States.
20	(3) A majority of the employees of the employer
21	employed in the United States or a majority of the
22	employees employed at any one distinct, separate es-
23	tablishment maintained by the employer in the
24	United States have consented to the plan.
25	(4) The plan provides for insurance to be issued

by an admitted disability insurer approved by the

1	Secretary or equivalent insurance (which may be
2	self-insurance).
3	(5) The applicant has consented to the plan and
4	has agreed to make the premium contributions re-
5	quired, if any, and transmit the proceeds to the dis-
6	ability insurer, if any.
7	(6) The plan provides for the inclusion of future
8	employees.
9	(7)(A) The plan will be in effect for a period of
10	not less than 1 year and, thereafter, continuously
11	unless the Secretary finds that the applicant has
12	given notice of intent to terminate the plan, as de-
13	scribed in subparagraph (B), and that the fee de-
14	scribed in subparagraph (C) has been paid.
15	(B) The notice shall be filed in writing with the
16	Secretary and shall be effective—
17	(i) on the anniversary of the effective date
18	of the plan next following the date of the filing
19	of the notice; or
20	(ii) if such anniversary would occur less
21	than 30 days after the date of the filing of the
22	notice, on the next anniversary of that effective
23	date.
24	(C) The applicant shall pay a fee to the Sec-
25	retary in such amount as the Secretary determines

- to be adequate to provide leave benefits under this title to all eligible employees of the applicant for a period of at least 4 months, plus an amount to pay administrative costs related to processing and paying such benefits.
- 6 (D) Amounts received by the Secretary under 7 this paragraph shall be deposited in the Insurance 8 Fund.
- 9 (8) The amount of deductions from the wages 10 of an employee that is in effect for the plan shall not 11 be increased on any date other than on the date of 12 an anniversary of the effective date of the plan.
- 13 (c) Orders and Withdrawal of Approval.—If the Secretary finds that a voluntary plan employer is not 14 15 paying voluntary paid benefits required under the voluntary plan to the employees under the plan, the Secretary 16 17 may order the employer to make the payments. If the Secretary finds that a voluntary plan employer is not com-18 19 plying with the provisions of the plan, including by not paying voluntary paid benefits required under the plan, 21 the Secretary may revoke the Secretary's approval for the plan, and require the employer to participate in the Pro-
- 24 SEC. 105. ADDITIONAL BENEFITS.
- 25 (a) Additional Employer Benefits.—

gram.

- (1) Covered employers.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to discourage a covered employer from providing an additional benefit in conjunction with leave described in section 103(a) to an eligible employee, in addition to the leave benefit provided to that employee. The additional employer benefit shall not reduce the amount of the leave benefit that an eligible employee receives under this title.
  - (2) Voluntary plan employers.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to discourage a voluntary plan employer from providing an additional benefit in conjunction with leave described in section 103(a) to an employee, in addition to the voluntary paid benefit provided to that employee. The additional employer benefit shall not reduce the amount of the voluntary paid benefit that an employee receives under a voluntary plan described in section 104.

### (b) Collective Bargaining.—

(1) More protective.—Nothing in this title shall be construed to diminish the obligation of a covered employer or voluntary plan employer to comply with any collective bargaining agreement or any employment benefit program or plan that provides

- greater paid leave rights to employees than the rights established under this title (including rights
- 3 established under a plan described in section 104).
- 4 (2) Less protective.—The rights established 5 for employees under this title (including rights es-6 tablished under a plan described in section 104) 7 shall not be diminished by any collective bargaining
- 8 agreement or any employment benefit program or
- 9 plan.

#### 10 SEC. 106. PROHIBITED ACTS BY EMPLOYER.

- 11 (a) Interference With Rights.—It shall be un-
- 12 lawful for any covered employer to interfere with, restrain,
- 13 or deny the exercise of or the attempt to exercise, any
- 14 right provided under this title.
- 15 (b) DISCRIMINATION.—It shall be unlawful for any
- 16 covered employer to discharge or in any other manner dis-
- 17 criminate against any individual for opposing any practice
- 18 made unlawful by this title.
- 19 (c) Interference With Proceedings or Inquir-
- 20 IES.—It shall be unlawful for any person to discharge or
- 21 in any other manner discriminate against any individual
- 22 because such individual—
- 23 (1) has filed any charge, or has instituted or
- caused to be instituted any proceeding, under or re-
- 25 lated to this title;

1	(2) has given, or is about to give, any informa-
2	tion in connection with any inquiry or proceeding re-
3	lating to any right provided under this title; or
4	(3) has testified, or is about to testify, in any
5	inquiry or proceeding relating to any right provided
6	under this title.
7	SEC. 107. ENFORCEMENT.
8	(a) CIVIL ACTION BY EMPLOYEES.—
9	(1) Liability.—Any covered employer who vio-
10	lates section 106 shall be liable to any eligible em-
11	ployee affected—
12	(A) for damages equal to—
13	(i) the amount of—
14	(I) any wages, salary, employ-
15	ment benefits, or other compensation
16	denied or lost to such employee by
17	reason of the violation; or
18	(II) in a case in which wages,
19	salary, employment benefits, or other
20	compensation have not been denied or
21	lost to the employee, any actual mone-
22	tary losses sustained by the employee
23	as a direct result of the violation, such
24	as the cost of providing care, up to a

1	sum equal to 8 weeks of wages or sal-
2	ary for the employee;
3	(ii) the interest on the amount de-
4	scribed in clause (i) calculated at the pre-
5	vailing rate; and
6	(iii) an additional amount as liq-
7	uidated damages equal to the sum of the
8	amount described in clause (i) and the in-
9	terest described in clause (ii), except that
10	if a covered employer who has violated sec-
11	tion 106 proves to the satisfaction of the
12	court that the act or omission which vio-
13	lated section 106 was in good faith and
14	that the employer had reasonable grounds
15	for believing that the act or omission was
16	not a violation of section 106, such court
17	may, in the discretion of the court, reduce
18	the amount of the liability to the amount
19	and interest determined under clauses (i)
20	and (ii), respectively; and
21	(B) for such equitable relief as may be ap-
22	propriate, including employment, reinstatement,
23	and promotion.
24	(2) Right of action.—

1	(A) In general.—Except as provided in
2	subparagraph (B), an action to recover the
3	damages or equitable relief prescribed in para-
4	graph (1) may be maintained against any cov-
5	ered employer (including a public agency) in
6	any Federal or State court of competent juris-
7	diction by any 1 or more employees for and on
8	behalf of—
9	(i) the employees; or
10	(ii) the employees and other employ-
11	ees similarly situated.
12	(B) LIMITATION.—The right provided by
13	subparagraph (A) to bring an action by or on
14	behalf of any employee shall terminate—
15	(i) on the filing of a complaint by the
16	Secretary in an action under subsection
17	(b)(3) in which restraint is sought of any
18	further delay in the payment of the
19	amount described in paragraph (1)(A) to
20	such employee by an employer responsible
21	under paragraph (1) for the payment; or
22	(ii) on the filing of a complaint by the
23	Secretary in an action under paragraph (1)
24	or (2) of subsection (b) in which a recovery
25	is sought of the damages described in

1	paragraph (1)(A) owing to an eligible em-
2	ployee by an employer liable under para-
3	graph (1),
4	unless the action described in clause (i) or (ii)
5	is dismissed without prejudice on motion of the
6	Secretary.
7	(3) Fees and costs.—The court in an action
8	brought under this subsection shall, in addition to
9	any judgment awarded to the plaintiff, allow a rea-
10	sonable attorneys' fee, reasonable expert witness
11	fees, and other costs of the action to be paid by the
12	defendant.
13	(b) ACTIONS BY THE SECRETARY.—
14	(1) Administrative action.—The Secretary
15	shall receive, investigate, and attempt to resolve
16	complaints of violations of section 106 in the same
17	manner that the Secretary receives, investigates, and
18	attempts to resolve complaints of violations of sec-
19	tions 6 and 7 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of
20	1938 (29 U.S.C. 206 and 207).
21	(2) CIVIL ACTION.—
22	(A) RIGHT OF ACTION.—The Secretary
23	may bring an action in any court of competent
24	jurisdiction to recover the damages described in

subsection (a)(1)(A).

1	(B) Sums recovered.—Any sums recov-
2	ered by the Secretary pursuant to this para-
3	graph shall be held in a special deposit account
4	and shall be paid, on order of the Secretary, di-
5	rectly to each employee affected. Any such sums
6	not paid to an employee because of inability to
7	do so within a period of 3 years shall be depos-
8	ited into the Treasury of the United States as
9	miscellaneous receipts.
10	(3) ACTION FOR INJUNCTION BY THE SEC-
11	RETARY.—The district courts of the United States
12	shall have jurisdiction, for cause shown, in an action
13	brought by the Secretary—
14	(A) to restrain violations of section 106
15	including the restraint of any withholding of
16	payment of wages, salary, employment benefits
17	or other compensation, plus interest, found by
18	the court to be due to eligible employees; or
19	(B) to award such other equitable relief as
20	may be appropriate, including employment, re-
21	instatement, and promotion.
22	(4) Solicitor of Labor.—The Solicitor of
23	Labor may appear for and represent the Secretary

on any litigation brought under this subsection.

(c) Limitation.—

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- (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), an action may be brought under subsections (a) or (b) not later than 2 years after the date of the last event constituting the alleged violation for which the action is brought.
  - (2) WILLFUL VIOLATION.—In the case of such action brought for a willful violation of section 106, such action may be brought within 3 years of the date of the last event constituting the alleged violation for which such action is brought.
  - (3) COMMENCEMENT.—In determining when an action is commenced by the Secretary for the purposes of this subsection, it shall be considered to be commenced on the date when the complaint is filed.

## (d) Investigative Authority.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—To ensure compliance with the provisions of this title, or any regulation or order issued under this title, the Secretary shall have, subject to paragraph (3), the investigative authority provided under section 11(a) of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 211(a)).
- (2) Obligation to keep and preserve records pertaining to compliance with this title in accordance with section 11(c) of the Fair

- 1 Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 211(c))
- and in accordance with regulations issued by the
- 3 Secretary. The Secretary shall have access to the
- 4 records for purposes of conducting audits.
- (3) Required submissions generally lim-6 ITED TO AN ANNUAL BASIS.—The Secretary shall 7 not under the authority of this subsection require 8 any covered employer or any plan, fund, or program 9 to submit to the Secretary any books or records 10 more than once during any 12-month period, unless 11 the Secretary has reasonable cause to believe there 12 may exist a violation of this title or any regulation 13 or order issued pursuant to this title, or is inves-

tigating a charge pursuant to subsection (b).

(4) Subpoena power.—For the purposes of any investigation provided for in this section, the Secretary shall have the subpoena authority provided for under section 9 of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 209).

#### 20 SEC. 108. PENALTIES.

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- 21 (a) Penalties for Submission of False Certifi-
- 22 CATIONS.—If the Secretary finds that any individual sub-
- 23 mits a false certification of the health condition of any
- 24 person in order to obtain leave benefits under this title
- 25 with the intent to defraud, the Secretary shall assess a

- 1 penalty against the individual in an amount up to 100 per-
- 2 cent of the benefits paid as a result of the false certifi-
- 3 cation. Penalties collected under this subsection shall be
- 4 deposited in the Insurance Fund, notwithstanding the pro-
- 5 visions of title 31, United States Code and used to reim-
- 6 burse the covered employers involved for the amount of
- 7 the leave benefits.
- 8 (b) Criminal Penalties for False Statements
- 9 AND SOLICITATIONS.—Whoever—
- 10 (1) makes or causes to be made any false state-11 ment in support of an application for leave benefits
- under this title;
- 13 (2) knowingly presents or causes to be pre-
- sented any false written or oral material statement
- in support of any claim for leave benefits under this
- title;
- 17 (3) knowingly solicits, receives, offers, pays, or
- accepts any rebate, refund, commission, preference,
- patronage, dividend, discount, or other consider-
- ation, whether in the form of money or otherwise, as
- 21 compensation or inducement for soliciting a claimant
- 22 to apply for leave benefits under this title, except to
- 23 the extent authorized by a law of the United States;
- 24 or

- 1 (4) knowingly assists, abets, solicits, or con-
- 2 spires with any person to engage in an act that is
- 3 prohibited under paragraph (1), (2), or (3),
- 4 shall be guilty of a felony and upon conviction shall be
- 5 fined under title 18, United States Code, or imprisoned
- 6 for not more than 5 years, or both.

#### 7 SEC. 109. EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

- 8 (a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary shall develop and
- 9 maintain a program of education concerning the rights
- 10 and leave benefits under this title.
- 11 (b) Notice to Employers.—The Secretary shall
- 12 provide to each covered employer a notice informing em-
- 13 ployees of the rights and leave benefits available under this
- 14 title. The notice shall be given by every covered employer
- 15 to each employee hired, and to each employee taking leave
- 16 as described in section 103(a).

#### 17 SEC. 110. REGULATIONS.

- 18 The Secretary shall issue regulations to carry out this
- 19 title.
- 20 SEC. 111. EFFECTIVE DATE.
- This title shall take effect on January 1, 2011, and
- 22 apply to periods of leave that commence on or after Janu-
- 23 ary 1, 2012.

## TITLE II—CIVIL SERVICE FAM-

## 2 ILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE IN-

## 3 SURANCE PROGRAM

4	SEC	201	PROGRA	M	DEFINITIONS.
-	DEC.	401.	FINANTINA	IVI	

- 5 In this title:
- 6 (1) AGENCY.—The term "agency" means an
- 7 agency covered under subchapter V of chapter 63 of
- 8 title 5, United States Code.
- 9 (2) AGENCY EMPLOYEE.—The term "agency
- 10 employee" means an employee who—
- 11 (A) meets the requirements of paragraph
- 12 (1) of section 6381 of title 5, United States
- Code; and
- 14 (B) has earned wages with an agency for
- 15 12 of the last 18 months, prior to filing an ap-
- plication for leave benefits under this title.

#### 17 SEC. 202. ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.

- 18 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Office of Per-
- 19 sonnel Management shall establish a Civil Service Family
- 20 and Medical Leave Insurance Program, and shall issue
- 21 regulations providing for the implementation of the pro-
- 22 gram. In issuing the regulations, the Director shall require
- 23 that the Director shall provide, or that the agencies shall
- 24 provide, family and medical leave insurance benefits de-
- 25 scribed in section 103 to agency employees. The regula-

- 1 tions issued under this subsection shall include provisions
- 2 that are the same as regulations issued by the Secretary
- 3 to implement the statutory provisions of sections 103,
- 4 105, 109, and 110, except insofar as the Director may
- 5 determine, for good cause shown and stated together with
- 6 the regulations, that a modification of the regulations
- 7 would be more effective for the implementation of the
- 8 rights and protections under those sections. The regula-
- 9 tions shall provide for appropriate remedies and proce-
- 10 dures for violations of this title.
- 11 (b) Payment.—At the direction of the Director or
- 12 the head of an agency, as specified in the regulations, the
- 13 Managing Trustee shall pay funds from the Insurance
- 14 Fund for the leave benefits.

## 15 TITLE III—FAMILY AND MED-

## 16 ICAL LEAVE INSURANCE

## 17 **FUND**

- 18 SEC. 301. ESTABLISHMENT.
- 19 (a) In General.—There is created in the Treasury
- 20 of the United States a trust fund to be known as the Fam-
- 21 ily and Medical Leave Insurance Fund. The Insurance
- 22 Fund shall consist of such amounts as may be deposited
- 23 in, or appropriated to, such fund as provided in this sec-
- 24 tion.
- 25 (b) Appropriations to Insurance Fund.—

- (1) Amounts appropriated.—There is appropriated to the Insurance Fund for fiscal year 2011 and each fiscal year thereafter, out of any moneys in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, amounts equivalent to 100 percent of—
  - (A) the family and medical leave premiums imposed by sections 3101(c) and 3111(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 with respect to wages (as defined in section 3121 of such Code) reported to the Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary's delegate under subtitle F of such Code after December 31, 2009, as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury by applying the applicable rates of premium payment under such sections to such wages, which wages shall be certified by the Commissioner of Social Security;
  - (B) on the basis of the records of wages established and maintained by the Commissioner of the Social Security Administration in accordance with such reports;
  - (C) the family and medical leave premiums imposed by section 1401(c) of such Code with respect to self-employment income (as defined in section 1402 of such Code) reported to the

Secretary of the Treasury or the Secretary's delegate on tax returns under subtitle F of such Code after December 31, 2009, as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury by applying the applicable rate of premium payment under such section 1401(c) to such self-employment income, which self-employment income shall be certified by the Commissioner of Social Security; and

- (D) on the basis of the records of self-employment income established and maintained by the Commissioner of Social Security in accordance with such returns.
- (2) Transferred from time to time from the general fund of the Treasury to the Insurance Fund. Such amounts shall be determined on the basis of estimates by the Secretary of the Treasury of the premiums, specified in paragraph (1), paid to or deposited into the Treasury, and proper adjustments shall be made in amounts subsequently transferred to the extent prior estimates were in excess of or were less than such premiums.
- (3) INVESTMENTS.—All amounts transferred to the Insurance Fund under paragraph (2) shall be in-

- 1 vested by the Managing Trustee referred to in sec-
- 2 tion 302(c) in the same manner and to the same ex-
- tent as the other assets of the Insurance Fund.

## 4 SEC. 302. BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

- 5 (a) Establishment and Membership.—With re-
- 6 spect to the Insurance Fund, there is established a body
- 7 to be known as the Board of Trustees of the Insurance
- 8 Fund which shall be composed of the Secretary of the
- 9 Treasury, the Secretary of Labor, the Commissioner of
- 10 Social Security, and the Secretary of Health and Human
- 11 Services, all ex officio, and of two members of the public
- 12 (both of whom may not be from the same political party),
- 13 who shall be nominated by the President, by and with the
- 14 advice and consent of the Senate.
- 15 (b) Terms and Vacancies.—Members of the Board
- 16 of Trustees shall serve for a period of 4 years. A member
- 17 of the Board of Trustees nominated and confirmed as a
- 18 member of the public to fill a vacancy occurring during
- 19 a term shall be nominated and confirmed only for the re-
- 20 mainder of such term. An individual nominated and con-
- 21 firmed as a member of the public may serve in such posi-
- 22 tion after the expiration of such member's term until the
- 23 earlier of the date on which the member's successor takes
- 24 office or the date on which a report of the Board is first

1	issued under paragraph (2) after the expiration of the
2	member's term.
3	(c) Managing Trustee and Secretary.—The
4	Secretary of the Treasury shall be the Managing Trustee
5	of the Board of Trustees. The Secretary of Labor shall
6	serve as the Secretary of the Board of Trustees.
7	(d) Basic Duties of the Board of Trustees.—
8	The Board of Trustees shall meet not less frequently than
9	once each calendar year. It shall be the duty of the Board
10	of Trustees to—
11	(1) hold the Insurance Fund;
12	(2) report to Congress not later than April 1 of
13	each year—
14	(A) on the operation and status of the In-
15	surance Fund during the fiscal year preceding
16	the fiscal year in which the report is made; and
17	(B) on the expected operation and status
18	of the Insurance Fund during the fiscal year in
19	which the report is made and the next 2 fiscal
20	years;
21	(3) report immediately to Congress whenever
22	the Board is of the opinion that the amount in the
23	Insurance Fund is unduly small; and
24	(4) review the general policies followed in man-
25	aging the Insurance Fund, and recommend changes

- 1 in such policies, including necessary changes in the
- 2 provisions of law that govern the way in which the
- 3 Insurance Fund is to be managed.
- 4 (e) REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ANNUAL RE-
- 5 PORT.—The report provided for in subsection (d)(2) shall
- 6 include a statement of the assets of, and the disburse-
- 7 ments made from, the Insurance Fund during the fiscal
- 8 year preceding the fiscal year in which the report is made,
- 9 an estimate of the expected income to, and disbursements
- 10 to be made from, the Insurance Fund during the fiscal
- 11 year in which the report is made and each of the next
- 12 two fiscal years, and a statement of the actuarial status
- 13 of the Insurance Fund. Such report shall also include an
- 14 actuarial opinion by an appropriate employee of the De-
- 15 partment of Labor certifying that the techniques and
- 16 methodologies used for the report are generally accepted
- 17 within the actuarial profession and that the assumptions
- 18 and cost estimates used for the report are reasonable.
- 19 (f) Liability.—A person serving as a member of the
- 20 Board of Trustees shall not be considered to be a fiduciary
- 21 and shall not be personally liable for actions taken in such
- 22 capacity with respect to the Insurance Fund.

1	SEC. 303. INVESTMENT OF THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL
2	LEAVE INSURANCE FUND.
3	(a) Obligations.—It shall be the duty of the Man-
4	aging Trustee to invest such portion of the Insurance
5	Fund as is not, in the trustee's judgment, required to meet
6	current withdrawals. Such investments may be made only
7	in interest-bearing obligations of the United States or in
8	obligations guaranteed as to both principal and interest
9	by the United States.
10	(b) Acquisition.—The obligations referred to in
11	subsection (a) may be acquired—
12	(1) on original issue at the issue price; or
13	(2) by purchase of outstanding obligations at
14	the market price.
15	(c) Obligations Issued for Purchase by
16	FUND.—The purposes for which obligations of the United
17	States may be issued under chapter 31 of title 31, United
18	States Code, are extended to authorize the issuance at par
19	of public debt obligations for purchase by the Insurance
20	Fund. Such obligations issued for purchase by the Insur-
21	ance Fund shall have dates of maturity fixed with due re-
22	gard for the needs of the Insurance Fund. Such obliga-
23	tions shall bear interest at a rate equal to—
24	(1) except as provided in paragraph (2), the av-
25	erage market yield (computed by the Managing
26	Trustee on the basis of market quotations as of the

- 1 end of the calendar month preceding the date of
- 2 such issue) on all marketable interest-bearing obliga-
- 3 tions of the United States forming a part of the
- 4 public debt that are not due or callable until after
- 5 the expiration of four years from the end of such
- 6 calendar month; or
- 7 (2) in a case in which such average market
- 8 yield is not a multiple of 0.1 percent, the multiple
- 9 of 0.1 percent nearest such market yield.
- 10 (d) Other Obligations.—The Managing Trustee
- 11 may purchase interest-bearing obligations of the United
- 12 States that are not described in subsection (c) or obliga-
- 13 tions guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the
- 14 United States, on original issue or at the market price,
- 15 only in cases in which the trustee determines that the pur-
- 16 chase of obligations described in this paragraph is in the
- 17 public interest.
- 18 (e) Disposition and Redemption of Obliga-
- 19 Tions.—Any obligations acquired by the Insurance Fund
- 20 (except public debt obligations issued exclusively to the In-
- 21 surance Fund) may be sold by the Managing Trustee at
- 22 the market price, and such public debt obligations may
- 23 be redeemed at par plus accrued interest.
- 24 (f) Crediting of Interest and Proceeds.—The
- 25 interest on, and the proceeds from the sale or redemption

- 1 of, any obligations held in the Insurance Fund shall be
- 2 credited to and form a part of the Insurance Fund.
- 3 SEC. 304. PAYMENTS FROM FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE
- 4 INSURANCE FUND.
- 5 The Managing Trustee shall pay from time to time
- 6 from the Insurance Fund such amounts as the Secretary
- 7 of Labor certifies are necessary to make the payments pro-
- 8 vided for by section 103, and payments with respect to
- 9 administrative expenses under section 305.
- 10 SEC. 305. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.
- 11 (a) AVAILABILITY OF INSURANCE FUND.—Under
- 12 regulations that shall be prescribed by the Secretary of
- 13 Labor, funds shall be made available from the Insurance
- 14 Fund in connection with the administration of this Act
- 15 and the administration of related provisions of the Inter-
- 16 nal Revenue Code of 1986 in the same manner and extent
- 17 as funds are made available from the trust funds referred
- 18 to in section 201(g) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C.
- 19 401(g)) in connection with the administration of the rel-
- 20 evant provisions referred to in such section.
- 21 (b) Authorization of Appropriations.—There
- 22 are authorized to be made available for expenditure such
- 23 amounts as Congress may determine to be appropriate to
- 24 pay the costs of the part of the administration of this Act
- 25 (including start-up costs, technical assistance, and costs

- 1 for small employers electing to participate in the Family
- 2 and Medical Leave Insurance Program) for which the Sec-
- 3 retary of Labor is responsible.
- 4 (c) Gifts and Bequests.—The Managing Trustee
- 5 may accept on behalf of the United States money gifts
- 6 and bequests made unconditionally to the Insurance Fund
- 7 for the benefit of the Insurance Fund or any activity fi-
- 8 nanced through the Insurance Fund and such gifts and
- 9 bequests shall be deposited into the Insurance Fund.
- 10 (d) Processing of Tax Data.—Section 232 of the
- 11 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 432) shall apply with re-
- 12 spect to this Act, in the same manner and to the same
- 13 extent as such section applies with respect to title II of
- 14 the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.).
- 15 SEC. 306. AMENDMENTS TO THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE
- 16 **OF 1986.**
- 17 (a) Employee Premiums.—Section 3101 of the In-
- 18 ternal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to tax on employ-
- 19 ees) is amended—
- 20 (1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
- 21 section (d); and
- 22 (2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
- lowing new subsection:
- 24 "(c) Family and Medical Leave Premiums.—

1	"(1) IN GENERAL.—In addition to the taxes im-
2	posed by subsections (a) and (b), there is imposed
3	on the income of every individual a family and med-
4	ical leave premium equal to the applicable percent-
5	age of the wages (as defined in section 3121(a)) re-
6	ceived by the individual with respect to employment
7	(as defined in section 3121(b)).
8	"(2) Applicable percentage.—For purposes
9	of paragraph (1), the applicable percentage is—
10	"(A) 0.1 percent with respect to periods of
11	employment by a small employer (as defined in
12	section 3(b) of the Family Leave Insurance Act
13	of 2009) electing to participate in the Family
14	and Medical Leave Insurance Program (estab-
15	lished under section 102 of such Act); and
16	"(B) 0.2 percent with respect to all other
17	periods of employment.
18	"(3) Exception for certain employ-
19	MENT.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply with respect
20	to a period of employment—
21	"(A) by an employer during which the Sec-
22	retary of Labor determines the employer has in
23	effect a plan which is equivalent to or better
24	than the Family and Medical Leave Insurance

1	Program (established under section 102 of the
2	Family Leave Insurance Act of 2009); or
3	"(B) by a small employer (as so defined)
4	who has not elected to participate in such Pro-
5	gram.
6	For purposes of the preceding sentence, the Sec-
7	retary of Labor shall prescribe such regulations as
8	may be appropriate or necessary, including regula-
9	tions requiring documentation of employer pro-
10	grams.".
11	(b) Employer Premiums.—Section 3111 of the In-
12	ternal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to tax on employ-
13	ers) is amended—
14	(1) by redesignating subsection (c) as sub-
15	section (d); and
16	(2) by inserting after subsection (c) the fol-
17	lowing new subsection:
18	"(c) Family and Medical Leave Premiums.—
19	"(1) In general.—In addition to the excise
20	taxes imposed by subsections (a) and (b), there is
21	imposed on every employer a family and medical
22	leave premium, with respect to having individuals in
23	such employer's employ, equal to the applicable per-

1	paid by such employer with respect to employment
2	(as defined in section 3121(b)).
3	"(2) Applicable percentage.—For purposes
4	of paragraph (1), the applicable percentage is—
5	"(A) 0.1 percent with respect to small em-
6	ployers (as defined in section 3(b) of the Fam-
7	ily Leave Insurance Act of 2009) electing to
8	participate in the Family and Medical Leave In-
9	surance Program (established under section
10	102 of such Act); and
11	"(B) 0.2 percent with respect to all other
12	employers.
13	"(3) Exception for certain employers.—
14	Paragraph (1) shall not apply for any period with
15	respect to an employer to whom paragraph (1) of
16	section 3101(c) does not apply by reason of para-
17	graph (3) thereof.".
18	(c) Self-Employed Premiums.—Section 1401 of
19	the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended—
20	(1) by redesignating subsection (e) as sub-
21	section (d); and
22	(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the fol-
23	lowing new subsection:
24	"(c) Family and Medical Leave Premiums.—

1 "(1) In general.—In addition to the taxes im-2 posed by subsections (a) and (b), there is imposed 3 for each taxable year, on the self-employment income 4 of every individual, a family and medical leave pre-5 mium equal to 0.4 percent of the amount of the self-6 employment income for such taxable year. 7 "(2) Exception for certain employers.— 8 Paragraph (1) shall not apply for any period with 9 respect to an employer who has not elected to par-10 ticipate in the Family and Medical Leave Insurance 11 Program (established under section 102 of the Fam-12 ily Leave Insurance Act of 2009).". 13 (d) Conforming Amendments to Social Secu-RITY ACT.—Section 201 of the Social Security Act (42) 14 15 U.S.C. 401) is amended— 16 (1) by striking "sections 3101(b) and 3111(b)" 17 both places it appears in subsection (a)(3) and in-18 serting "sections 3101(b), 3101(c), 3111(b), and 3111(c)", and 19 20 (2) by striking "section 1401(b)" both places it appears in subsection (a)(4) and inserting "sections 21 22 1401(b) and 1401(c)".

(e) Effective Date.—

23

1	(1) Employment premiums.—The amend-
2	ments made by subsections (a), (b), and (d)(1) shall
3	apply to wages paid after December 31, 2010.
4	(2) Self-employment premiums.—The
5	amendments made by subsections (c) and (d)(2)
5	shall apply to taxable years beginning after Decem-

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ber 31, 2010.