

Mr. Speaker, that will go a long way to making sure that our Medicare system will become solvent and will in fact be secure and strengthened for many years to come.

But the other alternatives, which are also important to discuss tonight, Mr. Speaker, offer not only the fee for services, as has been traditional under Medicare, but also offer to beneficiaries the choice of a managed care option or medical savings accounts.

Under the managed care option there could be additional services, such as pharmaceuticals available, hearing aids, dentures, and the like. Under medical savings accounts, we now have an investment of \$4,800 per subscriber in Medicare, which under the proposal now before the House could go to \$6,700 by the year 2002.

And this increase for medical savings accounts, for the subscriber that does not use all the funds for 1 year, they could either keep the savings, Mr. Speaker, or have it roll over to the next year's medical health care provided.

In addition to providing the option of fee for service, managed care, and also for the medical savings accounts, it would allow providers to establish provider-sponsored organizations that can offer the Medicare Plus option. That would be for doctors or hospitals to provide, as well as the managed care companies, such options for our senior constituents.

It would establish under the legislation a commission to recommend long-term structural changes to preserve, protect, and strengthen Medicare. It would strengthen the Federal efforts, I may have made it very clear, to have the fraud addressed. I said that previously. But it would also create a new trust fund funded from both Medicare and the Federal Treasury to finance teaching hospitals and graduate medical education programs.

I believe, Mr. Speaker, that while the time is running short, I did want to say that to do nothing with Medicare would have us go bankrupt. So, it is important that we Republicans and Democrats work together this week, the House and the Senate together with the executive branch, to make sure that we not only keep a strong Medicare for this generation's seniors, but for seniors that follow so that we have a strong medical system for many years to come.

Thank you Mr. Speaker. I yield back the balance of my time.

DEBATE OMITTED FROM THE RECORD OF THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1995, ON THE OMNIBUS CIVILIAN SCIENCE AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1995

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. WAMP. I yield to the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. CRAMER. Mr. Chairman, I want to quickly point out that, as the gen-

tleman and I both know, our areas have been designated by the National Research Council as likely among the most vulnerable gap areas in the country with the modernization plan and the recommended placement of NEXRADs. The gentleman and I have been so budget-conscious that we have talked about sharing a NEXRAD, if in fact we get that opportunity, as we hope we will, placing it somewhere between our respective districts, so we can in fact protect our citizens, but at the same time save as much money as possible. I wanted the Members to know that is how well we worked together.

Mr. WAMP. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chairman, it can be in the State of Alabama, as long as it covers Chattanooga and southeast Tennessee adequately. I appreciate that, and commend the gentleman.

Mr. SOUDER. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I commend the gentleman from Alabama. I am a cosponsor of his amendment, and I want to thank the chairman of the committee for his willingness to hold hearings. We appreciate his willingness to work through problems in northeast Indiana, as well as northwest Ohio, and the tri-state region I represent. I also understand we are moving to new radar systems, and I think those changes in science are very important, and will provide more protection.

However, we have gaps in that system. While we are going through those gaps, if we close our local weather service, we are unprotected over the next few years. If we do not have a whole country covered in the radar systems, it becomes more problematic about the weather stations. Our constituents rely greatly on the National Weather Service to provide advanced warnings of tornadoes and other severe storms. Current law prohibits the National Weather Service from closing weather stations unless it can certify that the closing will cause no degradation in the warning service the stations provide to local residents. Without this amendment, that protection would be struck. A few years ago, the city of Kendalville in my district was hit without warning by a tornado that injured 28 people, destroyed 29 buildings, and damaged over 150 businesses and residences. I happen to be very familiar with that, because I was just south of where the tornado was going, heard the warning on the radio, and turned south so I did not get caught in the path.

All of northeast Indiana, as well as at least 30 other areas of this country, now face the prospect of losing their weather service warnings, even though independent experts at the National Research Council recently acknowledged that they face a potential for a degraded service. We in our area, in the current proposals for the new radar system, are covered by four different

systems, and it leaves us very vulnerable in the middle of that.

I was also at a fair last summer where a tornado went from western Ohio and came back west, rather than going west to east, and had there not been a weather service in Fort Wayne, they would have had to relay that to Cincinnati, back to Indianapolis, back to Fort Wayne, and this way in minutes they were able to get us to a shelter.

I know in a very personal way 125,000 people in my districts have sent postcards to NOAA with concerns for this. It is very important. There are a couple of concerns. This bill saves \$15 million, this amendment, but \$35 million additional, I understand, could be saved. I have been working to cut the budget on appropriations bills and will continue to do that, but we also in this bill, I have supported the space program, I supported the space station, I think the chairman of this committee and the subcommittees have done well in battling for science, but if we can have \$100 million for space and Russia, we can afford to protect our own citizens in this country.

It is not just a matter of children's lives being lost and the homes being lost and lives; in my case, it is my wife, my children, myself, people who I grew up with and who are friends, and this is far too important to lose in a transition where, overall, the program is very effective, but some lives could be lost by this degradation of service.

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the requisite number of words.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong support of the Cramer amendment. Mr. Chairman, the modernization of the National Weather Service's purpose is to consolidate weather service offices nationwide without jeopardizing the quality of weather service to any region. While I strongly support this goal, weather service users, the public, and elected officials have repeatedly expressed deep concern that the modernization plan might actually degrade services in some regions of the country.

In response to these concerns, Congress enacted Public Law 102-567, which stipulates that the weather service will not close any of its stations without first certifying that doing so will not degrade weather service to the affected region. Mr. Chairman, I have grave concerns about the provisions of this bill that repeal this mandate. No one in this Chamber is more committed to streamlining Government than I am. However, we should not do so at the expense of the safety of the people in northern California and elsewhere in the country. Yet, that is precisely what will happen if we do not adopt the amendment offered by the gentleman from Alabama.

Mr. Chairman, let me illustrate by describing several situations in my own district of northern California.

Presently, the National Weather Service plans to close its office in the city of Redding, the largest population center in California north of Sacramento. This decision has been made despite mountains of credible scientific evidence, including findings by the weather service meteorologists in California, that doing so could have a potentially devastating impact on Redding and the communities further north. The mountains to the north of Redding, including the Interstate 5 corridor, which provides the primary transportation route between Oregon and California, are subject to severe storms that have been the source of some of the worst flooding in California history. Last spring, for example, floods ravaged the 10 counties in my district, leaving each a Federal disaster area. During this tragedy, the weather service in Redding provided critical, up-to-the-minute information to local officials, enabling them to react almost instantaneously to individual emergencies.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GIBBONS, for 5 minutes, today.
Ms. DELAURO, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. LEVIN, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.
Mrs. CLAYTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DURBIN, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. BROWN of Ohio, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HAYWORTH) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. JONES, for 5 minutes, today.
Mr. CUNNINGHAM, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. KINGSTON, for 5 minutes, today.
(The following Member (at his own request) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. DORNAN, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. PALLONE) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. LANTOS.
Mrs. MALONEY in five instances.
Mr. HALL of Ohio.
Mr. GIBBONS.
Mr. RANGEL.
Mr. TOWNS.
Mrs. SCHROEDER.
Mr. PALLONE.
Mr. HASTINGS.
Mrs. THURMAN.
Mr. FILNER.
Mr. STOKES.
Mr. HAMILTON.
Mr. SCHUMER.
Ms. WOOLSEY.
Mrs. MEEK of Florida.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HAYWORTH) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mrs. MORELLA in two instances.

Mr. GINGRICH.
Mr. SHADEGG.
Mrs. VUCANOVICH.
Mr. GALLEGLY.
Mr. KING.
Mr. GREENWOOD.
Mr. CLINGER.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. FORBES.
Mr. GILLMOR in two instances.
Mr. DOOLEY.
Mr. OWENS.
Mr. SOLOMON.
Mr. OBERSTAR.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 1267. An act to amend the Congressional Award Act to revise and extend authorities for the Congressional Award Board; to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 22 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, October 18, 1995, at 10 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized by a committee of the U.S. House of Representatives during the second quarter of 1995, as well as an amendment to the consolidated Speaker's report for the 2nd quarter of 1995 in connection with official foreign travel, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

AMENDED REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, CONSOLIDATED SPEAKER'S REPORT, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, MR. DOUGLAS J. LAMUDE, EXPENDED BETWEEN MAY 28 AND JUNE 2, 1995

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem ¹		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency ²
Douglas J. Lamude	5/28	6/2	Nigeria	227.01	339.00	60.98	3990.15	1.83	35.00	289.82	4364.15
Committee total					566.01		4051.13		36.83		4653.97

¹ Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

² If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

DOUGLAS J. LAMUDE, Oct. 2, 1995.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN APRIL 1 AND JUNE 30, 1995.

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency
Hon. Sonny Callahan	4/22	4/25	Belgium		981.00		(3)				981.00
	4/25	4/28	Italy		870.00		(3)				870.00
Hon. Norm Dicks	4/28	4/30	England		592.00		(3)				592.00
Commercial airfare	6/8	6/12	France		1,332.00		(3)				1,332.00
							657.35				657.35
Hon. Steny Hoyer		4/19	Italy		235.00		(3)				235.00
Hon. Joe Knollenberg	4/22	4/25	Belgium		981.00		(3)				981.00
	4/25	4/28	Italy		870.00		(3)				870.00
	4/28	4/30	England		592.00		(3)				592.00
Hon. Jim Lightfoot	4/22	4/25	Belgium		981.00		(3)				981.00
	4/25	4/28	Italy		870.00		(3)				870.00
	4/28	4/30	England		592.00		(3)				592.00
Hon. John Myers	4/22	4/25	Belgium		981.00		(3)				981.00