

Military retirees and their families become very comfortable with the military health care system during their many years of service. In many cases, these veterans first experience with health care as adults came at the hands of an Army, Navy, or Air Force physician. Their children were born in military hospitals, untold numbers of colds, bouts of flu, broken bones, and other medical maladies have been treated within the military health care system.

Once these retired personnel reach age 65 and become eligible for Medicare, their status in the military system changes dramatically. Suddenly, through no fault of their own, they are no longer welcome except on a space-available basis. When these veterans of 20 or more years of dedicated, selfless service to the Nation discover that they are not welcome in the military health care system, it is a terrible shock. When servicemembers are recruited, they are told that one of the benefits of their service is health care for life. Throughout their career, when they reenlist, this benefit is reinforced by the career counselors. Whether or not these statements are true or even authorized by the military departments, they are made. Clearly, military personnel believe that health care for life is a benefit of their service.

As Members of Congress, we are accustomed to reading the details of the statutes. We know that there is no statutory basis for a promise of health care for life if someone serves a full career in the military. We also know that when every American reaches age 65, Medicare becomes the primary health care provider. All of these laws notwithstanding, recruiters, career counselors, commanders, first sergeants, and the military support associations continue to lead servicemembers to believe that they can receive medical care within the military system forever. We have a commitment to live up to the promises made by representatives of the Nation. This amendment goes a long way toward accomplishing that goal.

Mr. President, I want to acknowledge the leadership, vision, and energy that Senator Dole brought to the issue of Medicare subvention. Senator Dole clearly took the lead within the Senate to make Medicare subvention a reality. If he were here today, this would be his amendment. He would be the champion leading the effort not only in the Senate but in discussions with our colleagues in the House of Representatives. I wish he could be here to share his passion for our veterans and to see the amendment move forward. I am sure he is following the issue where ever he is. I am proud to have worked with him to achieve the progress we have. I promise him and our veterans to continue the effort to get Medicare subvention fully implemented.

Mr. President, let me be clear. This amendment is not the end game. I had hoped that we could pass legislation

which would have directed implementation of a Medicare subvention demonstration within 90 days of enactment. Unfortunately, the details could not be worked out to the satisfaction of all parties who must agree. We will get there and this amendment moves the effort forward. I congratulate Senator GRAMM again for his persistence in pushing his amendment. I thank Senator ROTH, chairman of the Finance Committee, for his cooperation and commitment to work with us to achieve Medicare subvention. I am confident that, together, we will pass Medicare subvention that will permit the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to fully implement this important program. Only then will we have fulfilled our commitment to our retired military personnel and their families. I urge my colleagues to support this important amendment.

Mr. President, I thank the Chair and yield the floor.

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I rise in support of this amendment which addresses Medicare subvention, a key issue to the military health care program and Medicare-eligible military retirees and their families.

To understand why Medicare subvention is so vital to the military health care system, it is necessary to understand how Medicare-eligible retirees are treated under the current system. Under Medicare everyone over the age of 65 receives medical coverage through Medicare. Therefore, when military retirees reach the age of 65 they lose their eligibility for CHAMPUS and may only use military medical facilities on a limited space-available basis. This care is delivered on a nonreimbursable basis, which means that Medicare does not pay for the health care which the Department of Defense provides to Medicare-eligible beneficiaries. The Department of Defense estimates that this cost exceeds \$1 billion annually.

As defense downsizing progresses, and TRICARE, the managed care support initiative of the military health system moves toward full implementation, there will be less and less space available in military treatment facilities to provide care to retirees. This means that Medicare-eligibles will be forced out of a system which they understand and have come to rely on.

Medicare subvention would ensure Medicare-eligible military retirees health care by allowing them to enroll in TRICARE. Our military retirees have made great sacrifices for the defense of this Nation and have dedicated many years to military service. Medicare subvention would prevent military retirees and their families from being locked out of a system which they trust, which they understand, and which has been promised to them.

The amendment before us today does not provide authorization for Medicare subvention. It does, however display a commitment to this important initia-

tive. While I am encouraged by the progress that has been made in this area, I also believe that it is necessary to incorporate Medicare subvention into an overall Medicare reform package.

I urge your support of this support amendment.

Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, we have cleared the Gramm amendment now on both sides, and we are ready to vote on it. I call for a vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there further debate on the Gramm amendment No. 4083?

Mr. THURMOND. I suggest we have a voice vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. If not there is no further debate, the question is on agreeing to the amendment.

The amendment (No. 4083) was agreed to.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a staff member of Senator Kyl, Kim Wold, be granted the privilege of the floor this afternoon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF ALAN GREENSPAN, OF NEW YORK, TO BE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now return to executive session to consider executive calendar No. 517, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Alan Greenspan, of New York, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The Senate continued with the consideration of the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Alan Greenspan, of New York, to be Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System?

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on the nomination.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS] is necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. BUMPERS] is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Ms. SNOWE). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 91, nays 7, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 165 Ex.]

YEAS—91

Abraham	Frahm	McCain
Akaka	Frist	McConnell
Ashcroft	Glenn	Mikulski
Baucus	Gorton	Moseley-Braun
Bennett	Graham	Moynihan
Biden	Gramm	Murkowski
Bingaman	Grassley	Murray
Bond	Gregg	Nickles
Boxer	Hatch	Nunn
Bradley	Hatfield	Pell
Breaux	Heflin	Pressler
Brown	Helms	Pryor
Bryan	Hollings	Robb
Burns	Hutchison	Rockefeller
Byrd	Inhofe	Roth
Campbell	Inouye	Santorum
Chafee	Jeffords	Sarbanes
Coats	Johnston	Shelby
Cochran	Kassebaum	Simon
Cohen	Kempthorne	Simpson
Coverdell	Kennedy	Smith
Craig	Kerry	Snowe
D'Amato	Kohl	Specter
Daschle	Kyl	Stevens
DeWine	Lautenberg	Thomas
Dodd	Leahy	Thompson
Domenici	Levin	Thurmond
Exon	Lieberman	Warner
Faircloth	Lott	Wyden
Feinstein	Lugar	
Ford	Mack	

NAYS—7

Conrad	Harkin	Wellstone
Dorgan	Kerrey	
Feingold	Reid	

NOT VOTING—2

Bumpers	Grams
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The nomination was confirmed.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote and to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

NOMINATION OF LAURENCE MEYER, OF MISSOURI, TO BE A MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the nomination of Laurence Meyer, of Missouri, to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Laurence Meyer, of Missouri, to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve.

The Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. D'AMATO. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Laurence Meyer, of Missouri, to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve. The yeas and nays have been and the clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS] is necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. BUMPERS] is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 98, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 166 Ex.]

YEAS—98

Abraham	Ford	Mack
Akaka	Frahm	McCain
Ashcroft	Frist	McConnell
Baucus	Glenn	Mikulski
Bennett	Gorton	Moseley-Braun
Biden	Graham	Moynihan
Bingaman	Gramm	Murkowski
Bond	Grassley	Murray
Boxer	Gregg	Nickles
Bradley	Harkin	Nunn
Breaux	Hatch	Pell
Brown	Hatfield	Pressler
Bryan	Heflin	Pryor
Burns	Helms	Reid
Byrd	Hollings	Robb
Campbell	Hutchison	Rockefeller
Chafee	Inhofe	Roth
Coats	Inouye	Santorum
Cochran	Jeffords	Sarbanes
Cohen	Johnston	Shelby
Conrad	Kassebaum	Simon
Coverdell	Kempthorne	Simpson
Craig	Kennedy	Smith
D'Amato	Kerrey	Snowe
Daschle	Kerry	Specter
DeWine	Kohl	Stevens
Dodd	Kyl	Thomas
Domenici	Lautenberg	Thompson
Dorgan	Leahy	Thurmond
Exon	Levin	Warner
Faircloth	Lieberman	Wellstone
Feingold	Lott	Wyden
Feinstein	Lugar	

NOT VOTING—2

Bumpers	Grams
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The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote.

Mr. ABRAHAM. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

NOMINATION OF ALICE M. RIVLIN, OF PENNSYLVANIA, TO BE A MEMBER AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now occurs on agreeing to the nomination of Alice M. Rivlin to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and the Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of the Alice M. Rivlin, of Penn-

sylvania, to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and to be a Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

The Senate proceeded to consider the nomination.

Mr. D'AMATO. Madam President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second? It appears to be sufficiently seconded.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Alice M. Rivlin to be a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System and to be a Vice Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System? The yeas and nays have been ordered and the clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. I announce that the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. GRAMS] is necessarily absent.

Mr. FORD. I announce that the Senator from Arkansas [Mr. BUMPERS] is necessarily absent.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. KEMPTHORNE). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber who desire to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 57, nays 41, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 167 Ex.]

YEAS—57

Akaka	Frist	Lugar
Baucus	Glenn	Mikulski
Biden	Graham	Moseley-Braun
Bingaman	Harkin	Moynihan
Boxer	Hatfield	Murray
Bradley	Heflin	Nunn
Breaux	Hollings	Pell
Bryan	Inouye	Pryor
Byrd	Jeffords	Reid
Chafee	Johnston	Robb
Cochran	Kassebaum	Rockefeller
Daschle	Kennedy	Roth
Dodd	Kerrey	Sarbanes
Domenici	Kerry	Simon
Dorgan	Kohl	Simpson
Exon	Lautenberg	Snowe
Feingold	Leahy	Specter
Feinstein	Levin	Wellstone
Ford	Lieberman	Wyden

NAYS—41

Abraham	Faircloth	McCain
Ashcroft	Frahm	McConnell
Bennett	Gorton	Murkowski
Bond	Gramm	Nickles
Brown	Grassley	Pressler
Burns	Gregg	Santorum
Campbell	Hatch	Shelby
Coats	Helms	Smith
Cochran	Hutchison	Stevens
Cohen	Inhofe	Thomas
Coverdell	Kempthorne	Thompson
Craig	Kyl	Thurmond
D'Amato	Lott	Warner
DeWine	Mack	

NOT VOTING—2

Bumpers	Grams
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The nomination was confirmed.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the nomination was confirmed.

Mr. LOTT. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the President shall