

living, and much greater educational opportunities. There is a greater openness, and tremendous economic development. There is also a gradual lowering of tariffs and opening of borders.

Our relationship with China is not without its strains. Taiwan, for example remains the number one issue of sensitivity for China. The Chinese view it as a fundamental issue of sovereignty. I think the Administration understands this, and is firmly committed to the One China policy.

But otherwise, all issues remain negotiable and subject to the enterprise of diplomacy conducted at the highest levels. In this regard, the summit was definitely a step forward. For that reason, my colleagues and I submit this resolution to recognize the achievements of the summit, and to express our support for President Clinton's intention to make a return visit to China next year.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE RECIPROCAL TRADE AGREEMENT ACT OF 1997

REED AMENDMENT NO. 1613

Mr. REED proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1269) to establish objectives for negotiating and procedures for implementing certain trade agreements; as follows:

Amend section 2(b) after section 2(b)(15) to add the following new paragraph:

(16) The principal negotiating objective of the United States regarding the environment is to promote adherence to internationally recognized environmental standards.

Amend section 10 at the end, to add the following new definition:

(7) Internationally Recognized Environmental Standards—The term “internationally recognized environmental standards” includes—

(A) mitigation of global climate change;
(B) reduction in the consumption and production of ozone-depleting substances;

(C) reduction in ship pollution of the oceans from such sources as oil, noxious bulk liquids, hazardous freight, sewage, and garbage;

(D) a ban on international ocean dumping of high-level radioactive waste, chemical warfare agents, and hazardous substances;

(E) government control of the transboundary movement of hazardous waste materials and their disposal for the purpose of reducing global pollution on account of such materials;

(F) preservation of endangered species;
(G) conservation of biological diversity;
(H) promotion of biodiversity; and
(I) preparation of oil-spill contingency plans.

THE ADOPTION PROMOTION ACT OF 1997

CRAIG AMENDMENT NO. 1614

Mr. CRAIG proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 867) to promote the adoption of children in foster care; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Promotion of Adoption, Safety, and Support for Abused and Neglected Children (PASS) Act”.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—REASONABLE EFFORTS AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION PLACEMENTS

Sec. 101. Clarification of the reasonable efforts requirement.

Sec. 102. Including safety in case plan and case review system requirements.

Sec. 103. Multidisciplinary/multiagency child death review teams.

Sec. 104. States required to initiate or join proceedings to terminate parental rights for certain children in foster care.

Sec. 105. Notice of reviews and hearings; opportunity to be heard.

Sec. 106. Use of the Federal Parent Locator Service for child welfare services.

Sec. 107. Criminal records checks for prospective foster and adoptive parents and group care staff.

Sec. 108. Documentation of efforts for adoption or location of a permanent home.

TITLE II—INCENTIVES FOR PROVIDING PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

Sec. 201. Adoption incentive payments.

Sec. 202. Adoptions across State and county jurisdictions.

Sec. 203. State performance in protecting children.

TITLE III—ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS AND REFORMS

Sec. 301. Expansion of child welfare demonstration projects.

Sec. 302. Permanency planning hearings.

Sec. 303. Kinship care.

Sec. 304. Clarification of eligible population for independent living services.

Sec. 305. Reauthorization and expansion of family preservation and support services.

Sec. 306. Health insurance coverage for children with special needs.

Sec. 307. Continuation of eligibility for adoption assistance payments on behalf of children with special needs whose initial adoption has been disrupted.

Sec. 308. State standards to ensure quality services for children in foster care.

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

Sec. 401. Preservation of reasonable parenting.

Sec. 402. Reporting requirements.

Sec. 403. Sense of Congress regarding standby guardianship.

Sec. 404. National Voluntary Mutual Reunion Registry.

Sec. 405. Reduction in medicaid matching rate for skilled professional medical personnel.

TITLE V—EFFECTIVE DATE

Sec. 501. Effective date.

TITLE I—REASONABLE EFFORTS AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION PLACEMENTS

SEC. 101. CLARIFICATION OF THE REASONABLE EFFORTS REQUIREMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 471(a)(15) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a)(15)) is amended to read as follows:

“(15) provides that—

“(A) in determining reasonable efforts, as described in this section, the child’s health and safety shall be the paramount concern;

“(B) reasonable efforts shall be made to preserve and reunify families—

“(i) prior to the placement of a child in foster care, to prevent or eliminate the need for removing the child from the child’s home when the child can be cared for at home without endangering the child’s health or safety; or

“(ii) to make it possible for the child to safely return to the child’s home;

“(C) reasonable efforts shall not be required on behalf of any parent—

“(i) if a court of competent jurisdiction has made a determination that the parent has—

“(I) committed murder (which would have been an offense under section 1111(a) of title 18, United States Code, if the offense had occurred in the special maritime or territorial jurisdiction of the United States) of another child of the parent;

“(II) committed voluntary manslaughter (which would have been an offense under section 1112(a) of title 18, United States Code, if the offense had occurred in the special maritime or territorial jurisdiction of the United States) of another child of the parent;

“(III) aided or abetted, attempted, conspired, or solicited to commit such murder or voluntary manslaughter; or

“(IV) committed a felony assault that results in serious bodily injury to the child or another child of the parent;

“(ii) if a court of competent jurisdiction determines that returning the child to the home of the parent would pose a serious risk to the child’s health or safety (including but not limited to cases of abandonment, torture, chronic physical abuse, sexual abuse, or a previous involuntary termination of parental rights with respect to a sibling of the child); or

“(iii) if the State, through legislation, has specified cases in which the State is not required to make reasonable efforts because of serious circumstances that endanger a child’s health or safety;

“(D) if reasonable efforts of the type described in subparagraph (B) are not made as a result of a determination made by a court of competent jurisdiction in accordance with subparagraph (C)—

“(i) a permanency planning hearing (as described in section 475(5)(C)) shall be held for the child within 30 days of such determination; and

“(ii) reasonable efforts shall be made to place the child in a timely manner in accordance with the permanency plan, and to complete whatever steps are necessary to finalize the permanent placement of the child; and

“(E) reasonable efforts to place a child for adoption or with a legal guardian or custodian may be made concurrently with reasonable efforts of the type described in subparagraph (B);”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 472(a)(1) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 672(a)(1)) is amended by inserting “for a child” before “have been made”.

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in part E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.), as amended by this Act, shall be construed as precluding State courts from exercising their discretion to protect the health and safety of children in individual cases, when such cases do not include aggravated circumstances, as defined by State law.

SEC. 102. INCLUDING SAFETY IN CASE PLAN AND CASE REVIEW SYSTEM REQUIREMENTS.

Title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 422(b)(10)(B) (as redesignated by section 5592(a)(1)(A)(iii) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-33; 111 Stat. 644))—

(A) in clause (iii)(I), by inserting “safe and” after “where”; and

(B) in clause (iv), by inserting “safely” after “remain”; and

(2) in section 475—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting “safety and” after “discussion of the”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting “safe and” after “child receives”; and

(II) by inserting “safe” after “return of the child to his own”; and

(B) in paragraph (5)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), in the matter preceding clause (i), by inserting “a safe setting that is” after “placement in”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B)—

(I) by inserting “the safety of the child,” after “determine”; and

(II) by inserting “and safely maintained in” after “returned to”.

SEC. 103. MULTIDISCIPLINARY/MULTIAGENCY CHILD DEATH REVIEW TEAMS.

(a) STATE CHILD DEATH REVIEW TEAMS.—Section 471 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c)(1) In order to investigate and prevent child death from fatal abuse and neglect, not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this subsection, a State, in order to be eligible for payments under this part, shall submit to the Secretary a certification that the State has established and is maintaining, in accordance with applicable confidentiality laws, a State child death review team, and if necessary in order to cover all counties in the State, child death review teams on the regional or local level, that shall review child deaths, including deaths in which—

“(A) there is a record of a prior report of child abuse or neglect or there is reason to suspect that the child death was caused by, or related to, child abuse or neglect; or

“(B) the child who died was a ward of the State or was otherwise known to the State or local child welfare service agency.

“(2) A citizen review panel established in accordance with section 106(c) of the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (42 U.S.C. 5106a(c)) or a foster care review board may be a State, regional, or local child death review team for purposes of satisfying the requirements of paragraph (1).”

(b) FEDERAL CHILD DEATH REVIEW TEAM.—Section 471 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671), as amended by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(d)(1) The Secretary shall establish a Federal child death review team that shall consist of at least the following:

“(A) Representatives of the following Federal agencies who have expertise in the prevention or treatment of child abuse and neglect:

“(i) Department of Health and Human Services.

“(ii) Department of Justice.

“(iii) Bureau of Indian Affairs.

“(iv) Department of Defense.

“(v) Bureau of the Census.

“(B) Representatives of national child-serving organizations who have expertise in the prevention or treatment of child abuse and neglect and that, at a minimum, represent the health, child welfare, social services, and law enforcement fields.

“(2) The Federal child death review team established under this subsection shall—

“(A) review reports of child deaths on military installations and other Federal lands, and coordinate with Indian tribal organiza-

tions in the review of child deaths on Indian reservations;

“(B) upon request, provide guidance and technical assistance to States and localities seeking to initiate or improve child death review teams and to prevent child fatalities; and

“(C) develop recommendations on related policy and procedural issues for Congress, relevant Federal agencies, and States and localities for the purpose of preventing child fatalities.”

SEC. 104. STATES REQUIRED TO INITIATE OR JOIN PROCEEDINGS TO TERMINATE PARENTAL RIGHTS FOR CERTAIN CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR PROCEEDINGS.—Section 475(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675(5)) is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (C);

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(E) in the case of a child who has been in foster care under the responsibility of the State for 12 of the most recent 18 months, or, if a court of competent jurisdiction has determined an infant to have been abandoned (as defined under State law), or made a determination that the parent has committed murder of another child of such parent, committed voluntary manslaughter of another child of such parent, aided or abetted, attempted, conspired, or solicited to commit such murder or voluntary manslaughter, or committed a felony assault that results in serious bodily injury to the surviving child or to another child of such parent, the State shall file a petition to terminate the parental rights of the child’s parents (or, if such a petition has been filed by another party, seek to be joined as a party to the petition), and, concurrently, to identify, recruit, process, and approve a qualified family for an adoption, unless—

“(i) at the option of the State, the child is being cared for by a relative;

“(ii) a State agency has documented to a State court a compelling reason for determining that filing such a petition would not be in the best interests of the child; or

“(iii) the State has not provided to the family of the child such services as the State deems necessary for the safe return of the child to the child’s home.”

(b) DETERMINATION OF BEGINNING OF FOSTER CARE.—Section 475(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675(5)), as amended by subsection (a), is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (D);

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (E) and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(F) a child shall be considered to have entered foster care on the earlier of—

“(i) the date of the first judicial hearing on removal of the child from the home; or

“(ii) that date that is 30 days after the date on which the child is removed from the home.”

(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in part E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.), as amended by this Act, shall be construed as precluding State courts or State agencies from initiating the termination of parental rights for reasons other than, or for timelines earlier than, those specified in part E of title IV of such Act, when such actions are determined to be in the best interests of the child, including cases where the child has experienced multiple foster care placements of varying durations.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), the amendments made

by this section shall apply to children entering foster care under the responsibility of the State after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) TRANSITION RULE FOR CURRENT AND FORMER FOSTER CARE CHILDREN.—Subject to paragraph (3), the amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply to children in foster care under the responsibility of the State on or before the date of enactment of this Act as though those children first entered foster care on the date of enactment of this Act.

(3) DELAY PERMITTED IF STATE LEGISLATION REQUIRED.—The provisions of section 501(b) shall apply to the effective date of the amendments made by this section.

SEC. 105. NOTICE OF REVIEWS AND HEARINGS; OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD.

Section 475(5) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675(5)), as amended by section 104(b), is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of subparagraph (E);

(2) by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (F) and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(G) the foster parents (if any) of a child and any preadoptive parent, relative providing care for the child, or any other individual who has provided substitute care for the child are provided with notice of, and an opportunity to be heard in, any review or hearing to be held with respect to the child, except that this subparagraph shall not be construed to require that any foster parent, preadoptive parent, relative providing care for the child, or other individual who has provided substitute care for the child be made a party to such a review or hearing solely on the basis of such notice and opportunity to be heard.”

SEC. 106. USE OF THE FEDERAL PARENT LOCATOR SERVICE FOR CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

Section 453 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 653), as amended by section 5534(a) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “or making or enforcing child custody or visitation orders,” after “obligations,”; and

(B) in subparagraph (A)—

(i) by striking “or” at the end of clause (ii);

(ii) by striking the comma at the end of clause (iii) and inserting “; or”; and

(iii) by inserting after clause (iii) the following:

“(iv) who has or may have parental rights with respect to a child;”; and

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting “; and”; and

(B) by adding at the end the following:

“(4) a State agency that is administering a program operated under a State plan under subpart 1 of part B, or a State plan approved under subpart 2 of part B or under part E.”

SEC. 107. CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECKS FOR PROSPECTIVE FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENTS AND GROUP CARE STAFF.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECKS.—Section 471(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a)), as amended by section 5591(b) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (18);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (19) and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(20) provides procedures for Federal and State criminal records checks for any prospective foster or adoptive parent and any other adults residing in the household of

such parent, and any employee of a residential child-care institution before the foster parent or adoptive parent, or the residential child-care institution may be finally approved for placement of a child on whose behalf foster care maintenance payments or adoption assistance payments are to be made under the State plan under this part, including procedures requiring that in any case in which a record check reveals a criminal conviction of child abuse or neglect, or of spousal abuse, a criminal conviction for crimes against children (including child pornography), or a criminal conviction for a crime involving violence, including rape, sexual or other physical assault, battery, or homicide, approval shall not be granted, and that, with respect to drug-related offenses, if a State finds that a court of competent jurisdiction has determined that such an offense has been committed within the past 5 years, approval shall not be granted.”

(b) **CONTINUED APPLICABILITY OF STATE LAWS.**—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall not be construed to supersede any provision of State law that establishes, implements, or continues in effect any standard or requirement relating to criminal records checks and other background checks for prospective foster and adoptive parents, and for employees of a residential child-care institution, except to the extent that such standard or requirement prevents the application of the requirements added by such amendment.

SEC. 108. DOCUMENTATION OF EFFORTS FOR ADOPTION OR LOCATION OF A PERMANENT HOME.

Section 475 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675) is amended—

- (1) in paragraph (1)—
 - (A) in the last sentence—
 - (i) by striking “the case plan must also include”; and
 - (ii) by redesignating such sentence as subparagraph (D) and indenting appropriately; and
 - (B) by adding at the end, the following:

“(E) In the case of a child with respect to whom the State’s plan is adoption or placement in another permanent home, documentation of the steps the agency is taking to find an adoptive family or other permanent living arrangement for the child, to place the child with an adoptive family, a fit and willing relative, a legal guardian, or in another planned permanent living arrangement, and to finalize the adoption or legal guardianship. At a minimum, such documentation shall include child specific recruitment efforts such as the use of State, regional, and national adoption exchanges including electronic exchange systems.”; and

- (2) in paragraph (5)(B), by inserting “(including the requirement specified in paragraph (1)(E))” after “case plan”.

TITLE II—INCENTIVES FOR PROVIDING PERMANENT FAMILIES FOR CHILDREN

SEC. 201. ADOPTION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Part E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670–679) is amended by inserting after section 473 the following:

“SEC. 473A. ADOPTION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.

“(a) **GRANT AUTHORITY.**—Subject to the availability of such amounts as may be provided in advance in appropriations Acts for this purpose, the Secretary may make a grant to each State that is an incentive-eligible State for a fiscal year in an amount equal to the adoption incentive payment payable to the State for the fiscal year under this section, which shall be payable in the immediately succeeding fiscal year.

“(b) **INCENTIVE-ELIGIBLE STATE.**—A State is an incentive-eligible State for a fiscal year if—

- “(1) the State has a plan approved under this part for the fiscal year;

“(2) the number of foster child adoptions in the State during the fiscal year exceeds the base number of foster child adoptions for the State for the fiscal year;

“(3) the State is in compliance with subsection (c) for the fiscal year;

“(4) the State provides health insurance coverage to any child with special needs for whom there is in effect an adoption assistance agreement between a State and an adoptive parent or parents; and

“(5) the fiscal year is any of fiscal years 1998 through 2002.

“(c) **DATA REQUIREMENTS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—A State is in compliance with this subsection for a fiscal year if the State has provided to the Secretary the data described in paragraph (2) for fiscal year 1997 (or, if later, the fiscal year that precedes the 1st fiscal year for which the State seeks a grant under this section) and for each succeeding fiscal year.

“(2) **DETERMINATION OF NUMBERS OF ADOPTIONS.**—

“(A) **DETERMINATIONS BASED ON AFCARS DATA.**—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall determine the numbers of foster child adoptions and of special needs adoptions in a State during each of fiscal years 1997 through 2002, for purposes of this section, on the basis of data meeting the requirements of the system established pursuant to section 479, as reported by the State in May of the fiscal year and in November of the succeeding fiscal year, and approved by the Secretary by April 1 of the succeeding fiscal year.

“(B) **ALTERNATIVE DATA SOURCES PERMITTED FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997.**—For purposes of the determination described in subparagraph (A) for fiscal year 1997, the Secretary may use data from a source or sources other than that specified in subparagraph (A) that the Secretary finds to be of equivalent completeness and reliability, as reported by a State by November 30, 1997, and approved by the Secretary by March 1, 1998.

“(3) **NO WAIVER OF AFCARS REQUIREMENTS.**—This section shall not be construed to alter or affect any requirement of section 479 or any regulation prescribed under such section with respect to reporting of data by States, or to waive any penalty for failure to comply with the requirements.

“(d) **ADOPTION INCENTIVE PAYMENT.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the adoption incentive payment payable to a State for a fiscal year under this section shall be equal to the sum of—

“(A) \$3,000, multiplied by amount (if any) by which the number of foster child adoptions in the State during the fiscal year exceeds the base number of foster child adoptions for the State for the fiscal year; and

“(B) \$3,000, multiplied by the amount (if any) by which the number of special needs adoptions in the State during the fiscal year exceeds the base number of special needs adoptions for the State for the fiscal year.

“(2) **PRO RATA ADJUSTMENT IF INSUFFICIENT FUNDS AVAILABLE.**—For any fiscal year, if the total amount of adoption incentive payments otherwise payable under this section for a fiscal year exceeds the amount appropriated for that fiscal year, the amount of the adoption incentive payment payable to each State under this section for the fiscal year shall be—

“(A) the amount of the adoption incentive payment that would otherwise be payable to the State under this section for the fiscal year; multiplied by

“(B) the percentage represented by the amount appropriated for that year, divided by the total amount of adoption incentive payments otherwise payable under this section for the fiscal year.

“(e) **2-YEAR AVAILABILITY OF INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.**—Payments to a State under this section in a fiscal year shall remain available for use by the State through the end of the succeeding fiscal year.

“(f) **LIMITATIONS ON USE OF INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.**—A State shall not expend an amount paid to the State under this section except to provide to children or families any service (including post-adoption services) that may be provided under part B or E. Amounts expended by a State in accordance with the preceding sentence shall be disregarded in determining State expenditures for purposes of Federal matching payments under section 474.

“(g) **DEFINITIONS.**—As used in this section:

“(1) **FOSTER CHILD ADOPTION.**—The term ‘foster child adoption’ means the final adoption of a child who, at the time of adoptive placement, was in foster care under the supervision of the State.

“(2) **SPECIAL NEEDS ADOPTION.**—The term ‘special needs adoption’ means the final adoption of a child for whom an adoption assistance agreement is in effect under section 473.

“(3) **BASE NUMBER OF FOSTER CHILD ADOPTIONS.**—The term ‘base number of foster child adoptions for a State’ means, with respect to a fiscal year, the average number of foster child adoptions in the State for the 3 most recent fiscal years.

“(4) **BASE NUMBER OF SPECIAL NEEDS ADOPTIONS.**—The term ‘base number of special needs adoptions for a State’ means, with respect to a fiscal year, the average number of special needs adoptions in the State for the 3 most recent fiscal years.

“(h) **LIMITATIONS ON AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For grants under this section, there is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary \$15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 1999 through 2003.

“(2) **AVAILABILITY.**—Amounts appropriated under paragraph (1) are authorized to remain available until expended, but not after fiscal year 2003.

“(i) **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.**—The Secretary shall provide, directly, or by grant, contract, or interagency agreement, technical assistance upon request to assist States and local communities to reach their targets for increased numbers of adoptions.”.

“(j) **DISCRETIONARY CAP ADJUSTMENT FOR ADOPTION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.**—

(1) **SECTION 251 AMENDMENT.**—Section 251(b)(2) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)), as amended by section 10203(a)(4) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(G) **ADOPTION INCENTIVE PAYMENTS.**—Whenever a bill or joint resolution making appropriations for fiscal year 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, or 2003 is enacted that specifies an amount for adoption incentive payments for the Department of Health and Human Services—

“(i) the adjustments for new budget authority shall be the amounts of new budget authority provided in that measure for adoption incentive payments, but not to exceed \$15,000,000; and

“(ii) the adjustment for outlays shall be the additional outlays flowing from such amount.”.

(2) **SECTION 314 AMENDMENT.**—Section 314(b) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended by section 10114(a) of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, is amended—

(A) by striking “or” at the end of paragraph (4);

(B) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (5) and inserting “; or”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) in the case of an amount for adoption incentive payments (as defined in section 251(b)(2)(G) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985) for fiscal year 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, or 2003 for the Department of Health and Human Services, an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000.”.

SEC. 202. ADOPTIONS ACROSS STATE AND COUNTY JURISDICTIONS.

(a) **ELIMINATION OF GEOGRAPHIC BARRIERS TO INTERSTATE ADOPTION.**—Section 471(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a)), as amended by section 107, is amended—

(1) by striking “and” at the end of paragraph (19);

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (20) and inserting “; and”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(21) provides that neither the State nor any other entity in the State that receives funds from the Federal Government and is involved in adoption may—

“(A) deny to any person the opportunity to become an adoptive parent on the basis of the geographic residence of the person or of the child involved; or

“(B) delay or deny the placement of a child for adoption on the basis of the geographic residence of an adoptive parent or of the child involved.”.

(b) STUDY OF INTERJURISDICTIONAL ADOPTION ISSUES.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (in this subsection referred to as the “Secretary”) shall appoint an advisory panel that shall—

(A) study and consider how to improve procedures and policies to facilitate the timely and permanent adoptions of children across State and county jurisdictions;

(B) examine, at a minimum, interjurisdictional adoption issues—

(i) concerning the recruitment of prospective adoptive families from other States and counties;

(ii) concerning the procedures to grant reciprocity to prospective adoptive family home studies from other States and counties;

(iii) arising from a review of the comity and full faith and credit provided to adoption decrees and termination of parental rights orders from other States; and

(iv) concerning the procedures related to the administration and implementation of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children; and

(C) not later than 12 months after the final appointment to the advisory panel, submit to the Secretary the report described in paragraph (3).

(2) **COMPOSITION OF ADVISORY PANEL.**—In establishing the advisory panel required under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall appoint members from the general public who are individuals knowledgeable on adoption and foster care issues, and with due consideration to representation of ethnic or racial minorities and diverse geographic areas, and who, at a minimum, include the following:

(A) Adoptive and foster parents.

(B) Public and private child welfare agencies that place children in and out of home care.

(C) Family court judges.

(D) Adoption attorneys.

(E) An Administrator of the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children and an Administrator of the Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance.

(F) A representative cross-section of individuals from other organizations and individuals with expertise or advocacy experience in adoption and foster care issues.

(3) **CONTENTS OF REPORT.**—The report required under paragraph (1)(C) shall include the results of the study conducted under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1) and recommendations on how to improve proce-

dures to facilitate the interjurisdictional adoption of children, including interstate and intercounty adoptions, so that children will be assured timely and permanent placements.

(4) **CONGRESS.**—The Secretary shall submit a copy of the report required under paragraph (1)(C) to the appropriate committees of Congress, and, if relevant, make recommendations for proposed legislation.

SEC. 203. STATE PERFORMANCE IN PROTECTING CHILDREN.

(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Part E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 670 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 479A. ANNUAL REPORT.

“(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall issue an annual report containing ratings of the performance of each State in protecting children who are placed in foster care, for adoption, or with a relative or guardian. The report shall include ratings on outcome measures for categories related to safety and permanence for children.

“(b) OUTCOME MEASURES.—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary, in consultation with the American Public Welfare Association, the National Governors’ Association, the National Conference of State Legislatures, and child welfare advocates, shall develop a set of outcome measures to be used in preparing the report.

(2) **CATEGORIES.**—In developing the outcome measures, the Secretary shall develop measures that can track performance over time for the following categories:

“(A) The number of children placed annually for adoption, the number of placements of children with special needs, and the number of children placed permanently in a foster family home, with a relative, or with a guardian who is not a relative.

“(B) The number of children, including those with parental rights terminated, that annually leave foster care at the age of majority without having been adopted or placed with a guardian.

“(C) The median and mean length of stay of children in foster care, for children with parental rights terminated, and children for whom parental rights are retained by the biological or adoptive parent.

“(D) The median and mean length of time between a child having a plan of adoption and termination of parental rights, between the availability of a child for adoption and the placement of the child in an adoptive family, and between the placement of the child in such a family and the finalization of the adoption.

“(E) The number of deaths of children in foster care and other out-of-home care, including kinship care, resulting from substantiated child abuse and neglect.

“(F) The specific steps taken by the State to facilitate permanence for children.

(3) **MEASURES.**—In developing the outcome measures, the Secretary shall use data from the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System established under section 479 to the maximum extent possible.

“(c) **RATING SYSTEM.**—The Secretary shall develop a system (including using State census data and poverty rates) to rate the performance of each State based on the outcome measures.

“(d) **PREPARATION AND ISSUANCE.**—On May 1, 1999, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall prepare, submit to Congress, and issue to the States the report described in subsection (a). Each report shall rate the performance of a State on each outcome measure developed under subsection (b), include an explanation of the rating system developed under subsection (c), and the way in which scores are determined under the rat-

ing system, analyze high and low performances for the State, and make recommendations to the State for improvement.”.

(2) **CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.**—Section 471(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a)), as amended by section 202(a), is amended—

(A) in paragraph (20), by striking “and” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (21), by striking the period and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(22) provides that the State shall annually provide to the Secretary the information required under section 479A.”.

(b) **DEVELOPMENT OF PERFORMANCE-BASED INCENTIVE SYSTEM.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with State and local public officials responsible for administering child welfare programs and child welfare advocates, shall develop and recommend to Congress an incentive system to provide payments under parts B and E of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 620 et seq., 670 et seq.) to any State based on such State’s performance under such a system. Such system shall, to the extent the Secretary determines feasible and appropriate, be based on the annual report required under section 479A of the Social Security Act (as added by subsection (a) of this Act) or on any proposed modifications of such annual report. Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall report on the new system to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate.

TITLE III—ADDITIONAL IMPROVEMENTS AND REFORMS

SEC. 301. EXPANSION OF CHILD WELFARE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 1130(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-9) is amended to read as follows:

“(a) **AUTHORITY TO APPROVE DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may authorize States to conduct demonstration projects pursuant to this section which the Secretary finds are likely to promote the objectives of part B or E of title IV. Such projects shall be designed to achieve 1 or more of the following goals:

“(A) Reducing a backlog of children in long-term foster care or awaiting adoption placement.

“(B) Ensuring, not later than 1 year after a child enters foster care, an adoptive placement for the child.

“(C) Identifying and addressing barriers that result in delays to adoptive placements for children in foster care.

“(D) Identifying and addressing parental substance abuse problems that endanger children and result in the placement of children in foster care, including through the placement of children with their parents in residential treatment facilities (including residential treatment facilities for post-partum depression) that are specifically designed to serve parents and children together in order to promote family reunification and that can ensure the health and safety of the children in such placements.

“(E) Overcoming barriers to the adoption of children with special needs resulting from a lack of health insurance coverage for such children.

“(F) Any other goal that the Secretary has approved for a demonstration project under this section as of the date of enactment of the Promotion of Adoption, Safety, and Support for Abused and Neglected Children (PASS) Act, or, after such date, specifies by regulation.

(2) **REQUIREMENT.**—In considering an application to conduct a demonstration project

under this section that has been submitted by a State in which there has been a court order determining that the State's child welfare program has failed to comply with the provisions of part B or E of title IV or of the Constitution, the Secretary shall take into consideration the effect of approving the proposed project on the terms and conditions of any court order related to such failure to comply that is in effect in the State.”.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in the amendments made by subsection (a) shall be construed as affecting the terms and conditions of any demonstration projects under section 1130 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320a-9) that have been approved by the Secretary as of the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 302. PERMANENCY PLANNING HEARINGS.

Section 475(5)(C) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 675(5)(C)) is amended—

(1) by striking “dispositional” and inserting “permanency planning”;

(2) by striking “eighteen” and inserting “12”;

(3) by striking “original placement” and inserting “date the child is considered to have entered foster care (as determined under subparagraph (F))”; and

(4) by striking “future status of” and all that follows through “long term basis)” and inserting “permanency plan for the child that includes whether, and if applicable when, the child will be returned to the parent, placed for adoption and the State will file a petition for termination of parental rights, or referred for legal guardianship or custody, or (in cases where the State agency has documented to the State court a compelling reason for determining that it would not be in the best interests of the child to return home, be referred for termination of parental rights, or be placed for adoption, with a qualified relative, or with a legal guardian) placed in another planned permanent living arrangement”.

SEC. 303. KINSHIP CARE.

(a) REPORT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall—

(A) not later than March 1, 1998, convene the advisory panel provided for in subsection (b)(1) and prepare and submit to the advisory panel an initial report on the extent to which children in foster care are placed in the care of a relative (in this section referred to as “kinship care”); and

(B) not later than November 1, 1998, submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a final report on the matter described in subparagraph (A), which shall—

(i) be based on the comments submitted by the advisory panel pursuant to subsection (b)(2) and other information and considerations; and

(ii) include the policy recommendations of the Secretary with respect to the matter.

(2) REQUIRED CONTENTS.—Each report required by paragraph (1) shall—

(A) include, to the extent available for each State, information on—

(i) the policy of the State regarding kinship care;

(ii) the characteristics of the kinship care providers (including age, income, ethnicity, and race, and the relationship of the kinship care providers to the children);

(iii) the characteristics of the household of such providers (such as number of other persons in the household and family composition);

(iv) how much access to the child is afforded to the parent from whom the child has been removed;

(v) the cost of, and source of funds for, kinship care (including any subsidies such as medicaid and cash assistance);

(vi) the permanency plan for the child and the actions being taken by the State to achieve the plan;

(vii) the services being provided to the parent from whom the child has been removed; and

(viii) the services being provided to the kinship care provider; and

(B) specifically note the circumstances or conditions under which children enter kinship care.

(b) ADVISORY PANEL.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Chairman of the Committee on Finance of the Senate, shall convene an advisory panel which shall include parents, foster parents, relative caregivers, former foster children, State and local public officials responsible for administering child welfare programs, private persons involved in the delivery of child welfare services, representatives of tribal governments and tribal courts, judges, and academic experts.

(2) DUTIES.—The advisory panel convened pursuant to paragraph (1) shall review the report prepared pursuant to subsection (a), and, not later than July 1, 1998, submit to the Secretary comments on the report.

SEC. 304. CLARIFICATION OF ELIGIBLE POPULATION FOR INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES.

Section 477(a)(2)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 677(a)(2)(A)) is amended by inserting “(including children with respect to whom such payments are no longer being made because the child has accumulated assets, not to exceed \$5,000, which are otherwise regarded as resources for purposes of determining eligibility for benefits under this part)” before the comma.

SEC. 305. REAUTHORIZATION AND EXPANSION OF FAMILY PRESERVATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES.

(a) REAUTHORIZATION OF FAMILY PRESERVATION AND SUPPORT SERVICES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 430(b) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629(b)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking “or” at the end;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(6) for fiscal year 1999, \$275,000,000;

“(7) for fiscal year 2000, \$295,000,000; and

“(8) for fiscal year 2001, \$305,000,000.”.

(2) CONTINUATION OF RESERVATION OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 430(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 630(d)) are each amended by striking “and 1998” and inserting “1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001”.

(3) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 13712 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 670 note) is amended—

(A) in subsection (c), by striking “1998” each place it appears and inserting “2001”; and

(B) in subsection (d)(2), by striking “and 1998” and inserting “1998, 1999, 2000, and 2001”.

(b) EXPANSION FOR TIME-LIMITED FAMILY REUNIFICATION SERVICES AND ADOPTION PROMOTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES.—

(1) ADDITIONS TO STATE PLAN; MINIMUM SPENDING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 432 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629b) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (4), by striking “and community-based family support services” and inserting “, community-based family support

services, time-limited family reunification services, and adoption promotion and support services;”; and

(ii) in paragraph (5)(A), by striking “and community-based family support services” and inserting “, community-based family support services, time-limited family reunification services, and adoption promotion and support services”; and

(B) in subsection (b)(1), by striking “and family support” and inserting “, family support, family reunification, and adoption promotion and support”.

(2) DEFINITIONS OF TIME-LIMITED FAMILY REUNIFICATION SERVICES AND ADOPTION PROMOTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES.—Section 431(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

(7) TIME-LIMITED FAMILY REUNIFICATION SERVICES.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ‘time-limited family reunification services’ means the services and activities described in subparagraph (B) that are provided to a child that is removed from the child’s home and placed in a foster family home or a child care institution and to the parents or primary caregiver of such a child, in order to facilitate the reunification of the child safely and appropriately within a timely fashion, but only during the 1-year period that begins on the date that the child is removed from the child’s home.

“(B) SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES DESCRIBED.—The services and activities described in this subparagraph are the following:

“(i) Individual, group, and family counseling.

“(ii) Inpatient, residential, or outpatient substance abuse treatment services.

“(iii) Mental health services.

“(iv) Assistance to address domestic violence.

“(v) Services designed to provide temporary child care and therapeutic services for families, including crisis nurseries.

“(vi) Transportation to or from any of the services and activities described in this subparagraph.

“(8) ADOPTION PROMOTION AND SUPPORT SERVICES.—The term ‘adoption promotion and support services’ means services and activities designed to encourage more adoptions out of the foster care system, when adoptions promote the best interests of children, and shall include the following:

“(A) Models to encourage adoptions of special needs children, including through the provision of medical assistance.

“(B) The development of best practice guidelines for expediting termination of parental rights.

“(C) Models to encourage the use of concurrent planning.

“(D) The development of specialized units and expertise in moving children toward adoption as a part of a permanency plan.

“(E) The development of risk assessment tools to facilitate early identification of the children who will be at risk of harm if returned home.

“(F) Models to encourage the fast tracking of children who have not attained 1 year of age into adoptive and preadoptive placements.

“(G) Development of programs that place children in preadoptive families without waiting for termination of parental rights.

“(H) Development of programs to recruit adoptive parents.

“(I) Such other services or activities that are designed to promote and support adoption as the Secretary may approve.”.

(3) ADDITIONAL CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(A) PURPOSES.—Section 430(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629(a)) is amended by

striking "and community-based family support services" and inserting ", community-based family support services, time-limited family reunification services, and adoption promotion and support services".

(B) EVALUATIONS.—Subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 435(a)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629d(a)(2)) are each amended by striking "and family support" each place it appears and inserting ", family support, family reunification, and adoption promotion and support".

(C) PROGRAM TITLE.—The heading of subpart 2 of part B of title IV of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629 et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

Subpart 2—Promoting Adoptive, Safe, and Stable Families".

(c) EMPHASIZING THE SAFETY OF THE CHILD.—

(1) REQUIRING ASSURANCES THAT THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN SHALL BE OF PARAMOUNT CONCERN.—Section 432 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629b) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (7)(B), by striking "and" at the end;

(B) by redesignating paragraph (8) as paragraph (9); and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (7), the following:

"(8) contains assurances that in administering and conducting service programs under the plan, the safety of the children to be served shall be of paramount concern; and".

(2) DEFINITIONS OF FAMILY PRESERVATION AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES.—Section 431(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)) is amended—

(A) in paragraph (1)—

(i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting "safe and" before "appropriate" each place it appears; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting "safely" after "remain"; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by inserting "safety and" before "well-being"; and

(ii) by striking "stable" and inserting "safe, stable".

(d) CLARIFICATION OF MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT REQUIREMENT.—

(1) DEFINITION OF NON-FEDERAL FUNDS.—Section 431(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 629a(a)), as amended by subsection (b)(2), is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(9) NON-FEDERAL FUNDS.—The term 'non-Federal funds' means State funds, or at the option of a State, State and local funds.".

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) takes effect as if included in the enactment of section 13711 of the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-33; 107 Stat. 649).

SEC. 306. HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS.

Section 471(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a)), as amended by section 203(a)(2), is amended—

(1) in paragraph (21), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (22), by striking the period and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(23) provides for health insurance coverage for any child who has been determined to be a child with special needs, for whom there is in effect an adoption assistance agreement (other than an agreement under this part) between the State and an adoptive parent or parents, and who the State has determined cannot be placed with an adoptive parent or parents without medical assistance because such child has special needs for medical, mental health, or rehabilitative care, and that with respect to the provision of such health insurance coverage—

"(A) such coverage may be provided through 1 or more State medical assistance programs;

"(B) the State, in providing such coverage, shall ensure that the medical benefits, including mental health benefits, provided are of the same type and kind as those that would be provided for children by the State under title XIX;

"(C) in the event that the State provides such coverage through a State medical assistance program other than the program under title XIX, and the State exceeds its funding for services under such other program, any such child shall be deemed to be receiving aid or assistance under the State plan under this part for purposes of section 1902(a)(10)(A)(i)(I); and

"(D) in determining cost-sharing requirements, the State shall take into consideration the circumstances of the adopting parent or parents and the needs of the child being adopted.".

SEC. 307. CONTINUATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR ADOPTION ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS ON BEHALF OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS WHOSE INITIAL ADOPTION HAS BEEN DISRUPTED.

(a) CONTINUATION OF ELIGIBILITY.—Section 473(a)(2) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 673(a)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following: "Any child who has been determined to meet the requirements of subparagraph (C), and who has previously been determined eligible for adoption assistance payments under paragraph (1)(B)(ii), who has again become available for adoption because a court has set aside the child's previous adoption or the child's adoptive parents have died, and who fails to meet the requirements of subparagraphs (A) and (B) but would meet such requirements if the child were treated as if the child were in the same financial and other circumstances the child was in the last time the child was determined eligible for adoption assistance payments and the previous adoption were treated as having never occurred, shall be treated as meeting the requirements of this paragraph for purposes of paragraph (1)(B)(ii).".

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall only apply to children who become available for adoption because a court has set aside the child's previous adoption, or the child's adoptive parents have died, and whose subsequent adoption occurs on or after October 1, 1997.

SEC. 308. STATE STANDARDS TO ENSURE QUALITY SERVICES FOR CHILDREN IN FOSTER CARE.

Section 471(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 671(a)), as amended by section 306, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (22), by striking "and" at the end;

(2) in paragraph (23), by striking the period and inserting "; and"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(24) provides that, not later than January 1, 1999, the State shall develop and implement standards to ensure that children in foster care placements in public or private agencies are provided quality services that protect the safety and health of the children.".

TITLE IV—MISCELLANEOUS

SEC. 401. PRESERVATION OF REASONABLE PARENTING.

Nothing in this Act is intended to disrupt the family unnecessarily or to intrude inappropriately into family life, to prohibit the use of reasonable methods of parental discipline, or to prescribe a particular method of parenting.

SEC. 402. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.

Any information required to be reported under this Act shall be supplied to the Sec-

retary of Health and Human Services through data meeting the requirements of the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System established pursuant to section 479 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 679), to the extent such data is available under that system. The Secretary shall make such modifications to regulations issued under section 479 of such Act with respect to the Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System as may be necessary to allow States to obtain data that meets the requirements of such system in order to satisfy the reporting requirements of this Act.

SEC. 403. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING STANDBY GUARDIANSHIP.

It is the sense of Congress that the States should have in effect laws and procedures that permit any parent who is chronically ill or near death, without surrendering parental rights, to designate a standby guardian for the parent's minor children, whose authority would take effect upon—

- (1) the death of the parent;
- (2) the mental incapacity of the parent; or
- (3) the physical debilitation and consent of the parent.

PRIVATE RELIEF ACT

HATCH AMENDMENT NO. 1615

Mr. CRAIG (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1304) for the relief of Belinda McGregor; as follows:

SECTION 1. At page 1, line 7, delete "lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence" and insert in lieu thereof the following: "selected for a diversity immigrant visa for FY 1998".

SECTION 2. At page 2, lines 4 and 5, change (a) to (c).

THE GROUP HOSPITALIZATION AND MEDICAL SERVICES FEDERAL CHARTER REPEAL ACT

THOMPSON AMENDMENT NO. 1616

Mr. CRAIG (for Mr. THOMPSON) proposed an amendment to the bill to repeal the Federal charter of Group Hospitalization and Medical Services, Inc., and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 8, line 15, strike "(2)".

THE UNIFORM RELOCATION ASSISTANCE AND REAL PROPERTY ACQUISITION POLICIES ACT AMENDMENTS ACT OF 1997

BENNETT AMENDMENT NO. 1617

Mr. CRAIG (for Mr. BENNETT) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1258) to amend the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 to prohibit an alien who is not lawfully present in the United States from receiving assistance under that Act; as follows:

On page 2, line 3, strike "(a)".

On page 3, line 4, strike "...under this Act.".

On page 3, beginning on line 5, strike "on the basis of race, color, or national origin".