

(1) an evaluation of the effectiveness and the appropriateness of the authority provided by such section as a means of fund-raising; and

(2) a description of the monetary and other resources required of the Postal Service in carrying out such section.

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections for chapter 4 of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking the item relating to section 414 and inserting the following:

“414. Special postage stamps for breast cancer research.

“414a. Special postage stamps for highway-rail grade crossing safety.”.

(2) SECTION HEADING.—The heading for section 414 of title 39, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

“§414. Special postage stamps for breast cancer research.”.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 223

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 223, a bill to help communities modernize public school facilities, and for other purposes.

S. 327

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. KERREY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 327, a bill to exempt agricultural products, medicines, and medical products from U.S. economic sanctions.

S. 333

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 333, a bill to amend the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 to improve the farmland protection program.

S. 345

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 345, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to remove the limitation that permits interstate movement of live birds, for the purpose of fighting, to States in which animal fighting is lawful.

S. 348

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 348, a bill to authorize and facilitate a program to enhance training, research and development, energy conservation and efficiency, and consumer education in the oilheat industry for the benefit of oilheat consumers and the public, and for other purposes.

S. 443

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) were added as cosponsors of S. 443, a bill to regulate the sale of firearms at gun shows.

S. 459

At the request of Mr. BREAUX, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 459, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the State ceiling on private activity bonds.

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 459, *supra*.

S. 470

At the request of Mr. CHAFEE, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 470, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow tax-exempt private activity bonds to be issued for highway infrastructure construction.

S. 472

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 472, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide certain medicare beneficiaries with an exemption to the financial limitations imposed on physical, speech-language pathology, and occupational therapy services under part B of the medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 531

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 531, a bill to authorize the President to award a gold medal on behalf of the Congress to Rosa Parks in recognition of her contributions to the Nation.

S. 565

At the request of Mr. COVERDELL, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAIG) was added as a cosponsor of S. 565, a bill to provide for the treatment of the actions of certain foreign narcotics traffickers as an unusual and extraordinary threat to the United States for purposes of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act.

S. 569

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 569, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exclude certain farm rental income from net earnings from self-employment if the taxpayer enters into a lease agreement relating to such income.

S. 596

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 596, a bill to provide that the annual drug certification procedures under the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 not apply to certain countries with which the United States has bilateral agreements and other plans relating to counterdrug activities, and for other purposes.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from North Caro-

lina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend section 922 of chapter 44 of title 28, United States Code, to protect the right of citizens under the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

S. 617

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 617, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the medicare program of insulin pumps as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to provide assistance for poison prevention and to stabilize the funding of regional poison control centers.

S. 636

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act and part 7 of subtitle B of title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to establish standards for the health quality improvement of children in managed care plans and other health plans.

S. 660

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 660, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under part B of the medicare program of medical nutrition therapy services furnished by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals.

S. 668

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 668, a bill to encourage States to incarcerate individuals convicted of murder, rape, or child molestation.

S. 676

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 676, a bill to locate and secure the return of Zachary Baumel, a citizen of the United States, and other Israeli soldiers missing in action.

S. 689

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 689, a bill to authorize appropriations for the United States Customs Service for fiscal years 2000 and 2001, and for other purposes.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 14

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr.

VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 14, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 53

At the request of Mr. DODD, his name was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 53, a resolution to designate March 24, 1999, as "National School Violence Victims' Memorial Day."

SENATE RESOLUTION 54

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 54, a resolution condemning the escalating violence, the gross violation of human rights and attacks against civilians, and the attempt to overthrow a democratically elected government in Sierra Leone.

SENATE RESOLUTION 68

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 68, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the treatment of women and girls by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

SENATE RESOLUTION 71

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 71, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate rejecting a tax increase on investment income of certain associations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 74—EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE SENATE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO ARE ENGAGED IN MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, and all other Senators) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 74

Whereas the President has authorized United States participation in NATO military operations against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

Whereas up to 22,000 members of the Armed Forces are presently involved in operations in and around the Balkans region with the active participation of NATO and other coalition forces; and

Whereas the Senate and the American people have the greatest pride in the members of the Armed Forces and strongly support them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the members of the United States Armed Forces who are engaged in military operations against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and recognizes their professionalism, dedication, patriotism, and courage.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED ON
MARCH 23, 1999

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999

BINGAMAN AMENDMENT NO. 125

Mr. STEVENS (for Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 544) making emergency supplemental appropriations and rescissions for recovery from natural disasters, and foreign assistance, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ FINDINGS AND SENSE OF SENATE REGARDING SEQUENTIAL BILLING POLICY FOR HOME HEALTH PAYMENTS UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) Section 4611 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 included a provision that transfers financial responsibility for certain home health visits under the medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.) from part A to part B of such program.

(2) The sole intent of the transfer described in paragraph (1) was to extend the solvency of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund under section 1817 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i).

(3) The transfer described in paragraph (1) was supposed be "seamless" so as not to disrupt the provision of home health services under the medicare program.

(4) The Health Care Financing Administration has imposed a sequential billing policy that prohibits home health agencies under the medicare program from submitting claims for reimbursement for home health services provided to a beneficiary unless all claims for reimbursement for home health services that were previously provided to such beneficiary have been completely resolved.

(5) The Health Care Financing Administration has also expanded medical reviews of claims for reimbursement submitted by home health agencies, resulting in a significant slowdown nationwide in the processing of such claims.

(6) The sequential billing policy described in paragraph (4), coupled with the slowdown in claims processing described in paragraph (5), has substantially increased the cash flow problems of home health agencies because payments are often delayed by at least 3 months.

(7) The vast majority of home health agencies under the medicare program are small businesses that cannot operate with significant cash flow problems.

(8) There are many other elements under the medicare program relating to home health agencies, such as the interim payment system under section 1861(v)(1)(L) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(v)(1)(L)), that are creating financial problems for home health agencies, thereby forcing more than 2,200 home health agencies nationwide to close since the date of enactment of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that the Health Care Financing Administration should—

(1) evaluate and monitor the use of the sequential billing policy (as described in sub-

section (a)(4)) in making payments to home health agencies under the medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.);

(2) ensure that—

(A) contract fiscal intermediaries under the medicare program are timely in their random medical review of claims for reimbursement submitted by home health agencies; and

(B) such intermediaries adhere to Health Care Financing Administration instructions that limit the number of claims for reimbursement held for such review for any particular home health agency to no more than 10 percent of the total number of claims submitted by the agency; and

(3) ensure that such intermediaries are considering and implementing constructive alternatives, such as expedited reviews of claims for reimbursement, for home health agencies with no history of billing problems who have cash flow problems due to random medical reviews and sequential billing.

LEAHY (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 126

Mr. STEVENS (for Mr. LEAHY for himself, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Ms. COLLINS) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 544, supra; as follows:

On page 2, between lines 20 and 21, insert the following:

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE

For an additional amount to carry out the agricultural marketing assistance program under the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.), \$200,000, and the rural business enterprise grant program under section 310B(c) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1932(c)), \$500,000: *Provided*, That the entire amount shall be available only to the extent an official budget request for \$700,000, that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to Congress: *Provided further*, That the entire amount is designated by Congress as an emergency requirement under section 251(b)(2)(A) of such Act.

On page 37, between lines 9 and 10, insert the following:

FARM SERVICE AGENCY

EMERGENCY CONSERVATION FUND

Of the amount made available under the heading "EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM" in chapter 1 of title II of the 1998 Supplemental Appropriations and Rescissions Act (Public Law 105-174; 112 Stat. 68), \$700,000 are rescinded.

LINCOLN (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 127

Mr. STEVENS (for Mrs. LINCOLN for herself, Mr. HUTCHINSON, and Mr. WYDEN) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 544, supra; as follows:

On page 7, between lines 8 and 9, insert the following:

GENERAL PROVISION, THIS CHAPTER

SEC. ____ CROP INSURANCE OPTIONS FOR PRODUCERS WHO APPLIED FOR CROP REVENUE COVERAGE PLUS.—(a) ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS.—This section applies with respect to a producer eligible for insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) who applied for the supplemental crop insurance endorsement known as Crop Revenue Coverage PLUS (referred to in this section as