

“(A) the maximum contribution allowed under subsection (b)(1) with respect to any employee or annuitant, exceeds

“(B) the amount of the Government contribution actually made with respect to the individual under subsection (b) for coverage under the catastrophic plan.

“(3) The Government contributions under this subsection shall be paid into a medical savings account (designated by the individual involved) in a manner that is specified by the Office and consistent with the timing of contributions under subsection (b).

“(4) Subsections (f) and (g) shall apply to contributions under this section in the same manner as they apply to contributions under subsection (b).

“(5) For the purpose of this subsection, the term ‘medical savings account’ has the meaning given such term by section 220(d) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.”.

(2) ALLOWING PAYMENT OF FULL AMOUNT OF CHARGE FOR CATASTROPHIC PLAN.—Section 8906(b)(2) of such title is amended by inserting “(or 100 percent of the subscription charge in the case of a catastrophic plan)” after “75 percent of the subscription charge”.

(b) OFFERING OF CATASTROPHIC PLANS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 8903 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(5) CATASTROPHIC PLANS.—One or more plans described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3), but which provide benefits of the types referred to by paragraph (5) of section 8904(a), instead of the types referred to in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of such section.”.

(2) TYPES OF BENEFITS.—Section 8904(a) of such title is amended by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

“(5) CATASTROPHIC PLANS.—Benefits of the types named under paragraph (1) or (2) of this subsection or both, to the extent expenses covered by the plan exceed \$500.”.

(3) DETERMINING LEVEL OF GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS.—Section 8906(b) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following: “Subscription charges for medical savings accounts shall be deemed to be the amount of Government contributions made under subsection (j)(2).”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to contract terms beginning on or after January 1, 2000.

BURNS AMENDMENT NO. 704

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. BURNS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill, S. 1233, *supra*; as follows:

On page 76, between lines 6 and 7, insert the following:

SEC. 7 ____ SENSE OF SENATE ON LAMB MEAT IMPORTS.—It is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) there is an overabundance of foreign lamb meat being imported into the United States;

(2) the glut of imported lamb meat is severely harming domestic producers and the domestic agricultural industry;

(3) the sheep industry filed a petition to take action under section 201 of the Trade Act of 1974 (19 U.S.C. 2251) to prevent further loss of market share due to the enormous quantities of lamb being imported into the United States from New Zealand and Australia;

(4) on February 9, 1999, the International Trade Commission voted unanimously that lamb imports are a threat to the sheep industry in the United States;

(5) on March 26, 1999, the International Trade Commission voted to support 4 years of market stability in the marketing of lamb meat;

(6) several remedies have been offered to achieve this market stability, including tariff rate quotas and ad-valorem tariffs;

(7) the efforts of the sheep industry in the United States should be supported;

(8) although international military issues have recently consumed much time and consideration, with the Kosovo agreement now in place, Congress should turn its attention to domestic matters;

(9) the problem of the overabundance of foreign lamb meat in the United States has important consequences for imports and international trade; and

(10) the remedy that will provide the greatest practicable assistance to the domestic lamb industry should be implemented as soon as practicable.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will be held on Tuesday, June 22, 1999, 9:30 a.m., in SD-628 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is “ESEA: Professional Development”. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, Subcommittee on Aging will be held on June 22, 1999, 2:30 p.m., in SD-628 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is “Older Americans Act”. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions will be held on Wednesday, June 23, 1999, 9:30 a.m., in SD-628 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is “ESEA: Title VI”. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry will meet on June 24, 1999 in SR-328A at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss Agriculture issues related to a variety of trade topics.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO BOBBIE FOUST

• Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to Roberta Foust, or “Bobbie” as she is known to

her many friends and readers. With her recent retirement from The Paducah Sun, Bobbie completes a distinguished career as a journalist.

Her byline has long been a familiar one to news readers in the western part of Kentucky. She worked for The Calvert News in Calvert City in the 1960’s. In 1972, she began working as a reporter and photographer for The Tribune Courier in Marshall County, in the heart of Kentucky’s Western Lakes region. After 5 years, she moved to the rival Marshall County Messenger, where she was responsible for all news content, layout, and design. She returned to The Tribune Courier in a similar capacity in 1979. In 1988, she became the editor of the weekly Herald Ledger in Eddyville, a position she held until the local ownership sold the paper in 1991.

Bobbie then joined the largest newspaper in far Western Kentucky, The Paducah Sun, a daily with a circulation of 31,000. With the Sun, Bobbie served as a general assignment reporter. In this position, she worked in Marshall, Lyon, and other lakes-area counties. Besides the usual broad assortment of news she covered in her day-to-day duties, Bobbie covered certain continuing stories, and developed an in-depth knowledge in these areas that was widely recognized. Among these were the Land Between the Lakes and the role of the Tennessee Valley Authority in LBL and Western Kentucky. During this time, Bobbie earned broad respect in the region she covered, as well as at TVA headquarters in Knoxville and Washington.

I have not only been a regular reader of Bobbie’s, but have often been covered in her stories. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to get to know her first-hand, and feel that I am in a uniquely qualified position to comment upon her journalistic legacy. Bobbie has earned a reputation of persistence, thoroughness, and objectivity—the three lodestars of her profession. Always firm in getting the story for her readers, she was unflappably cordial in personal demeanor in the performance of her duties.

Bobbie’s retirement plans include the possibility of taking some college course work, and hopefully, the role of occasional contributor to The Paducah Sun. Along with Bobbie’s husband, Ray, and children, Donna, Terrie, Jackie, and Dennis, I wish Bobbie an enjoyable and productive retirement. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the career of this outstanding Kentuckian.●

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF BREAD FOR THE WORLD

• Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, for 25 years, Bread for the World has been putting principles of faith to work in pursuit of justice for the world’s hungry people. Bread for the World members are now in Washington for their

National Gathering, Silver Anniversary Celebration, and Annual Lobby Day. I want to take this opportunity to welcome them and to congratulate Bread for the World and its tens of thousands of members for 25 years of accomplishment in the service of humankind. It is a great honor for me to be a member of Bread for the World's board.

Bread for the World remains true to its origins as a grassroots organization working from local churches on through to the national and international levels to address the fundamental causes of hunger and poverty. The organization was founded in 1974 by a small group of Catholics and Protestants who sought to mobilize persons of faith to influence United States policies relating to hunger and poverty. Bread for the World grew rapidly under the outstanding leadership of the Reverend Arthur Simon, and now includes more than 44,000 members and churches. The Reverend David Beckmann serves very capably as the group's current President.

As a nonpartisan citizen's movement based in the Christian community, Bread for the World members work hard to promote policies that will improve the lives of hungry and poor people in the United States and around the world. Through their dedicated advocacy, Bread for the World members have been instrumental in winning key victories in the fight to alleviate hunger and poverty. They have, for example, worked successfully to improve and devote more resources to WIC and other child nutrition programs, to enhance food security in Africa by increasing investment at the farm and village level where it really counts, and to restore food stamp benefits to vulnerable legal immigrants. This year Bread for the World members are participating in the laudable worldwide effort, known as Jubilee 2000, to reduce poverty in developing nations through critically needed international debt relief.

I am proud to be able to give thanks for the moral commitment and grassroots mobilizing of Bread for the World members as they celebrate their 25th anniversary year. I sincerely wish them continued blessings as they carry on their efforts toward seeking justice and ending hunger.●

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 1999 MISS NEW MEXICO

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Miss Katie Kelly, an exceptional young woman from my home state of New Mexico who was recently crowned 1999 Miss New Mexico. Miss Kelly, a Santa Fean, will go on to represent New Mexico in the Miss America contest in Atlantic City, New Jersey, this fall.

Miss Kelly is representative of the selfless, poised, and self-assured young women that I am proud to have represent our state on a national level.

This year's Miss New Mexico laureate is a Christian Life Academy graduate who is now attending Santa Fe Community College. She plans to attend Pepperdine University next year and study broadcast journalism and voice. Her previous achievements include, being named 1998 Miss Albuquerque Teen USA, 1999 Miss Santa Fe America, and second runner-up of the Miss New Mexico Teen USA pageant.

I have no reservations that she will dutifully fulfill the responsibilities that accompany this accolade. I wish her the best of luck in the Miss America Contest and in all her future endeavors.●

TRIBUTE TO THE LADIES OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY, INCORPORATED, BETA ALPHA OMEGA CHAPTER

● Mr. LAUTENBERG. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated Beta Alpha Omega Chapter, commemorating 65 years of service to the people of Newark.

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated was founded in 1908 at Howard University by 16 dynamic women. It is the oldest and largest Greek-letter sorority established by and for African-American women. Today, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority is an international network of professional women, with over 150,000 members and 900 chapters located in the United States, West Africa, Bahamas, the Virgin Islands, and Europe.

The ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority have dedicated themselves to the spirit behind their motto "service to all mankind." After 91 years of service to the community, they continue to send college-trained women into the world to improve the social and economic conditions throughout the United States and abroad.

Beta Alpha Omega became an affiliate chapter in January of 1934 and now holds the honor of being New Jersey's oldest affiliate chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. The women of the Beta Alpha Omega Chapter have contributed immeasurably to the city of Newark and its surrounding areas. In 1998 alone, the chapter awarded \$15,000 in scholarships to graduating seniors from high schools in Newark and Irvington; co-sponsored the Kwanza Celebration at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center; sponsored continuous voter registration events and provided "Share Baskets" for the needy at Thanksgiving.

The theme for the chapter over the next four years will be "Blazing New Trails" in the 21st century. This initiative will focus the chapter's community efforts on improving programs in the arts, education, health and economic empowerment, as well as in strengthening the African-American family.

The women of Beta Alpha Omega have faithfully served the people of

Newark and its surrounding areas for over six decades. Their ability to respond to the challenges of our society is demonstrated through their active service in outreach programs. Moreover, these women represent an integral part of American history. As stated by the sorority's historian, Marjorie Parker: "History is of small worth unless its gifts nourish the seeds from which tomorrow's great achievements blossom." The women of Beta Alpha Omega are the seed of hope for the next generation of African-American women.●

TRIBUTE TO JONATHAN EDWARD STEPHENS

● Mr. SMITH of New Hampshire. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Jonathan Edward Stephens on his graduation summa cum laude from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. I commend his outstanding academic achievements.

Jonathan was the 1995 Dover High School Valedictorian and went on to a superb academic career at Rensselaer. Ranking first in his class with a 4.0 average, Jonathan was also awarded the Erwin R. Gaertner award, given to a nuclear engineer or engineering physics major. The award recognizes excellence in scholarship, personal character, and promise of outstanding performance in research related to nuclear engineering and physics.

Jonathan was also awarded the Senior Design Project Award for his project, titled the "International Neutron Spherical Torus Explosives Detector." His research will be used to detect land mines. Mr. President, as a veteran, I recognize our need to find land mines.

Jonathan also has exciting opportunities ahead of him. He has been offered a full fellowship at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to pursue a doctorate in the field of nuclear physics. He has also received the national full fellowship from the Oak Ridge Labs in Tennessee to pursue a doctorate at any University in the United States. Jonathan has chosen to accept a position as a nuclear engineer with the Knoll Atomic Power Lab, a division of Lockheed Martin, where he will design nuclear reactors for the U.S. Navy's aircraft carriers. He plans to complete his Master's at Rensselaer.

As a former teacher and school board chairman, I recognize the challenges students face to succeed. I applaud Jonathan for his exemplary academic career. I wish him luck as he continues his education and work in the engineering field. I am pleased to recognize such an outstanding young mind, and it is with great pleasure that I represent him in the United States Senate.●

WEST VIRGINIA DAY

● Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I ask that we take a moment today to recognize the State of West Virginia.