

plan has contacted the nonparticipating provider to arrange for discharge or transfer.

(D) LIABILITY OF PARTICIPANT.—A participant or beneficiary shall not be liable for the costs of services to which subparagraph (A) in an amount that exceeds the amount of liability that would be incurred if the services were provided by a participating health care provider with prior authorization by the plan.

(b) IN-NETWORK UNIFORM COSTS-SHARING AND OUT-OF-NETWORK CARE.—

(1) IN-NETWORK UNIFORM COST-SHARING.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing a group health plan (other than a fully insured group health plan) from imposing any form of cost-sharing applicable to any participant or beneficiary (including co-insurance, copayments, deductibles, and any other charges) in relation to coverage for benefits described in subsection (a), if such form of cost-sharing is uniformly applied under such plan, with respect to similarly situated participants and beneficiaries, to all benefits consisting of emergency medical care (as defined in subsection (c)) provided to such similarly situated participants and beneficiaries under the plan, and such cost-sharing is disclosed in accordance with section 714.

(2) OUT-OF-NETWORK CARE.—If a group health plan (other than a fully insured group health plan) provides any benefits with respect to emergency medical care (as defined in subsection (c)), the plan shall cover emergency medical care under the plan in a manner so that, if such care is provided to a participant or beneficiary by a nonparticipating health care provider, the participant or beneficiary is not liable for amounts that exceed the amounts of liability that would be incurred if the services were provided by a participating provider.

(c) DEFINITION OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE.—In this section:

(1) IN GENERAL.—The term “emergency medical care” means, with respect to a participant or beneficiary under a group health plan (other than a fully insured group health plan), covered inpatient and outpatient services that—

(A) are furnished by any provider, including a nonparticipating provider, that is qualified to furnish such services; and

(B) are needed to evaluate or stabilize (as such term is defined in section 1867(e)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395dd)(e)(3)) an emergency medical condition (as defined in paragraph (2)).

(2) EMERGENCY MEDICAL CONDITION.—The term “emergency medical condition” means a medical condition manifesting itself by acute symptoms of sufficient severity (including severe pain) such that a prudent layperson, who possesses an average knowledge of health and medicine, could reasonably expect the absence of immediate medical attention to result in—

(A) placing the health of the participant or beneficiary (or, with respect to a pregnant woman, the health of the woman or her unborn child) in serious jeopardy,

(B) serious impairment to bodily functions, or

(C) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part.

(d) APPLICATION OF PROVISIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act (or an amendment made by this Act), the provisions of this section shall only apply to group health plans (other than fully insured group health plans).

(2) FULLY INSURED GROUP HEALTH PLAN.—In this section, the term “fully insured group health plan” means a group health plan where benefits under the plan are provided pursuant to the terms of an arrangement be-

tween a group health plan and a health insurance issuer and are guaranteed by the health insurance issuer under a contract or policy of insurance.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

CONRAD AMENDMENT NO. 1244

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. CONRAD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 1233) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes; as follows:

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

TITLE —RURAL ECONOMY EMERGENCY STABILIZATION

SEC. 01. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the “Rural Economy Emergency Stabilization Act of 1999”.

SEC. 02. MARKET LOSS ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e), the Secretary of Agriculture (referred to in this title as the “Secretary”) shall use not more than \$5,600,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide assistance to owners and producers on a farm that are eligible for payments for fiscal year 1999 under a production flexibility contract for the farm under the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7201 et seq.) to partially compensate the owners and producers for the loss of markets for the 1999 crop of a commodity.

(b) AMOUNT.—Except as provided in subsections (d) and (e), the amount of assistance made available to owners and producers on a farm under this section shall be proportionate to the amount of the contract payment received by the owners and producers for fiscal year 1999 under a production flexibility contract for the farm under the Agricultural Market Transition Act.

(c) TIME FOR PAYMENT.—The assistance made available under this section for an eligible owner or producer shall be provided as soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act.

(d) DAIRY PRODUCERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the total amount made available under subsection (a), \$200,000,000 shall be available to provide assistance to dairy producers in a manner determined by the Secretary.

(2) FEDERAL MILK MARKETING ORDERS.—Payments made under this subsection shall not affect any decision with respect to rule-making activities under section 143 of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7253).

(e) PEANUTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Of the total amount made available under subsection (a), the Secretary shall use not to exceed \$45,000,000 to provide payments to producers of quota peanuts or additional peanuts to partially compensate the producers for the loss of markets for the 1998 crop of peanuts.

(2) AMOUNT.—The amount of a payment made to producers on a farm of quota peanuts or additional peanuts under paragraph (1) shall be equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

(A) the quantity of quota peanuts or additional peanuts produced or considered pro-

duced by the producers under section 155 of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7271); by

(B) an amount equal to 5 percent of the loan rate established for quota peanuts or additional peanuts, respectively, under section 155 of that Act.

SEC. 03. CROP INSURANCE PREMIUM RE-FUNDS.

The Secretary, acting through the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, shall use not more than \$400,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide premium refunds or other assistance to purchasers of crop insurance for their 2000 or preceding insured crops.

SEC. 04. CROP LOSS ASSISTANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In addition to amounts that have been made available before the date of enactment of this Act to carry out section 1102 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1421 note; Public Law 105-277) under other law, the Secretary shall use not more than \$360,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to provide crop loss assistance in accordance with that section in a manner that, to the maximum extent practicable—

(1) fully compensates agricultural producers for crop losses in accordance with that section (including regulations promulgated to carry out that section); and

(2) provides equitable treatment under that section for agricultural producers described in subsections (b) and (c) of that section.

(b) CITRUS CROP LOSSES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law (including regulations), for the purposes of section 1102 of that Act, a loss of a citrus crop caused by a disaster in 1998 shall be considered to be a loss of the 1998 crop of the citrus crop, without regard to the time of harvest.

(c) COMPENSATION FOR DENIAL OF CROP LOSS ASSISTANCE BASED ON TAXPAYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS.—The Secretary shall use not more than \$70,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation to make payments to producers on a farm that were denied crop loss assistance under section 1102 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1421 note; Public Law 105-277), as the result of a change in the taxpayer identification numbers of the producers if the Secretary determines that the change was not made to create an advantage for the producers in the crop insurance program through lower premiums or higher actual production histories.

SEC. 05. EMERGENCY LIVESTOCK FEED AS-SISTANCE.

For an additional amount to provide emergency livestock feed assistance in accordance with section 1103 of the Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (7 U.S.C. 1421 note; Public Law 105-277), there is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$295,000,000.

SEC. 06. FUNDS FOR STRENGTHENING MARKETS, INCOME, AND SUPPLY (SEC-TION 32).

For an additional amount for the fund maintained for funds made available under section 32 of the Act of August 24, 1935 (7 U.S.C. 612c), there is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$355,000,000.

SEC. 07. DISASTER RESERVE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—For the disaster reserve established under section 813 of the Agricultural Act of 1970 (7 U.S.C. 1427a), there is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$500,000,000.

(b) CROP AND LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall use the amount made available under this section to establish a program to provide crop or livestock indemnity payments to agricultural producers for the purpose of remedying losses caused by damaging weather or related condition resulting from a natural or major disaster or emergency over a prolonged period.

SEC. 08. FLOODED LAND RESERVE PROGRAM.

For an additional amount to carry out a flooded land reserve program, there is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$300,000,000.

SEC. 09. FARM SERVICE AGENCY.

For an additional amount for the Farm Service Agency, to be used at the discretion of the Secretary, for salaries and expenses of the Farm Service Agency, there is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$50,000,000.

SEC. 10. OILSEED PURCHASES AND DONATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary shall use not less than \$750,000,000 of funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation for the purchase and distribution of oilseeds, vegetable oil, and oilseed meal under applicable food aid authorities, including—

(1) section 416(b) of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1431(b));

(2) the Food for Progress Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1736o); and

(3) the Agricultural Trade Development and Assistance Act of 1954 (7 U.S.C. 1691 et seq.).

(b) LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES.—Not less than 75 percent of the commodities distributed pursuant to this section shall be made available to least developed countries, as determined by the Secretary.

(c) LOCAL CURRENCIES.—To the maximum extent practicable, local currencies generated from the sale of commodities under this section shall be used for development purposes that foster United States agricultural exports.

SEC. 11. UPLAND COTTON PRICE COMPETITIVENESS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 136(a) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7236(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by inserting “(in the case of each of the 1999–2000 and 2000–2001 marketing years for upland cotton, at the option of the recipient)” after “or cash payments”;

(2) by inserting “(or, in the case of each of the 1999–2000 and 2000–2001 marketing years for upland cotton, 1.25 cents per pound)”, after “3 cents per pound” each place it appears;

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

“(A) REDEMPTION, MARKETING, OR EXCHANGE.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish procedures for redeeming marketing certificates for cash or marketing or exchange of the certificates for—

“(I) except as provided in subclause (II), agricultural commodities owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation in such manner, and at such price levels, as the Secretary determines will best effectuate the purposes of cotton user marketing certificates; or

“(II) in the case of each of the 1999–2000 and 2000–2001 marketing years for upland cotton, agricultural commodities owned by the Commodity Credit Corporation or pledged to the Commodity Credit Corporation as collateral for a loan in such manner, and at such price levels, as the Secretary determines will best effectuate the purposes of cotton user marketing certificates, including enhancing the competitiveness and marketability of United States cotton.

“(ii) PRICE RESTRICTIONS.—Any price restrictions that would otherwise apply to the disposition of agricultural commodities by the Commodity Credit Corporation shall not apply to the redemption of certificates under this subparagraph.”; and

(4) in paragraph (4), by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, except that this paragraph shall not apply to each of fiscal years 2000 and 2001”.

(b) ENSURING THE AVAILABILITY OF UPLAND COTTON.—Section 136(b) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7236(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking “The” and inserting “Except as provided in paragraph (7),”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(7) 1999–2000 AND 2000–2001 MARKETING YEARS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of each of the 1999–2000 and 2000–2001 marketing years for upland cotton, the President shall carry out an import quota program as provided in this paragraph.

“(B) PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (C), whenever the Secretary determines and announces that for any consecutive 4-week period, the Friday through Thursday average price quotation for the lowest-priced United States growth, as quoted for Middling (M) 1½-inch cotton, delivered C.I.F. Northern Europe, adjusted for the value of any certificate issued under subsection (a), exceeds the Northern Europe price by more than 1.25 cents per pound, there shall immediately be in effect a special import quota.

“(C) TIGHT DOMESTIC SUPPLY.—During any month for which the Secretary estimates the season-ending United States upland cotton stocks-to-use ratio, as determined under subparagraph (D), to be below 16 percent, the Secretary, in making the determination under subparagraph (B), shall not adjust the Friday through Thursday average price quotation for the lowest-priced United States growth, as quoted for Middling (M) 1½-inch cotton, delivered C.I.F. Northern Europe, for the value of any certificates issued under subsection (a).

“(D) SEASON-ENDING UNITED STATES STOCKS-TO-USE RATIO.—For the purposes of making estimates under subparagraph (C), the Secretary shall, on a monthly basis, estimate and report the season-ending United States upland cotton stocks-to-use ratio, excluding projected raw cotton imports but including the quantity of raw cotton that has been imported into the United States during the marketing year.

“(E) LIMITATION.—The quantity of cotton entered into the United States during any marketing year described in subparagraph (A) under the special import quota established under this paragraph may not exceed the equivalent of 5 weeks’ consumption of upland cotton by domestic mills at the seasonally adjusted average rate of the 3 months immediately preceding the first special import quota established in any marketing year.”.

(c) REMOVAL OF SUSPENSION OF MARKETING CERTIFICATE AUTHORITY.—Section 171(b)(1)(G) of the Agricultural Market Transition Act (7 U.S.C. 7301(b)(1)(G)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: “, except that this subparagraph shall not apply to each of the 1999–2000 and 2000–2001 marketing years for upland cotton”.

(d) REDEMPTION OF MARKETING CERTIFICATES.—Section 115 of the Agricultural Act of 1949 (7 U.S.C. 1445k) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking “rice (other than negotiable marketing certificates for upland cotton or rice)” and inserting “rice, including

the issuance of negotiable marketing certificates for upland cotton or rice”;

(B) in paragraph (1), by striking “and” at the end;

(C) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(D) by adding at the end the following:

“(3) redeem negotiable marketing certificates for cash under such terms and conditions as are established by the Secretary.”; and

(2) in the second sentence of subsection (c), by striking “export enhancement program or the marketing promotion program established under the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978” and inserting “market access program or the export enhancement program established under sections 203 and 301 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5623, 5651)”.

SEC. 12. EMERGENCY CONSERVATION PROGRAM.

For an additional amount to carry out the emergency conservation program authorized under sections 401, 402, and 404 of the Agricultural Credit Act of 1978 (16 U.S.C. 2201, 2202, 2204) to provide cost-sharing assistance to eligible persons—

(1) to control weeds and establish cover crops in counties in which at least 20 percent of available cropland is prevented from being planted to an agricultural commodity as the result of damaging weather or related condition; and

(2) to reestablish permanent vegetative cover on acreage on which such cover is absent as the result of prolonged flooding; as determined by the Secretary, there is appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, \$30,000,000.

SEC. 13. EMERGENCY REQUIREMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The entire amount necessary to carry out this title and the amendments made by this title shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request for the entire amount, 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 (2 U.S.C. 900 et seq.) is transmitted by the President to Congress.

(b) DESIGNATION.—The entire amount is designated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of that Act (2 U.S.C. 901(b)(2)(A)).

SEC. 14. AVAILABILITY.

The amount necessary to carry out this title and the amendments made by this title shall be available for fiscal years 1999 and 2000.

PATIENTS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 1999

BINGAMAN (AND OTHERS)
AMENDMENT NO. 1245

Mr. KENNEDY (for Mr. BINGAMAN for himself, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. DODD, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. EDWARDS, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. REED, and Mr. KERRY) proposed an amendment to amendment No. 1243 proposed by Ms. COLLINS to the bill, S. 1344, *supra*; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . ACCESS TO SPECIALTY CARE.

(a) SPECIALTY CARE FOR COVERED SERVICES.—