

entitled "Amendment to Section 6050I Cross-Referencing Section 5331 of Title 31 Relating to Reporting of Certain Currency Transactions by Nonfictional Trades of Business Under the Bank Secrecy Act" (RIN1545-BA48) received on March 1, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5610. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Republication of Revenue Procedure 2001-6" (Rev. Proc. 2002-6) received on March 1, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5611. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Republication of Revenue Procedure 2001-5" (Rev. Proc. 2002-5) received on March 1, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5612. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Excise Taxes on Excess Benefits" (RIN1545-AY65) received on March 1, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5613. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disallowance of Deductions and Credits for Failure to File Timely Return" (RIN1545-BA40) received on March 1, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

EC-5614. A communication from the Chief of the Regulations Unit, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Section 807: Actuarial Guideline 33" (Rev. Rul. 2002-6) received on March 1, 2002; to the Committee on Finance.

PETITIONS AND MEMORIALS

The following petitions and memorials were laid before the Senate and were referred or ordered to lie on the table as indicated:

POM-219. A petition presented by a citizen from the state of Texas relative to equal rights; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SARBANES):

S. 1982. A bill to amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to increase the Government contribution for Federal employee health insurance; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. CLINTON:

S. 1983. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 Main Street, Lake Placid, New York, as the "John A. 'Jack' Shea Post Office Building"; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

By Mr. BUNNING:

S. 1984. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to nonprofit tax-exempt organizations for the purchase of ultrasound equipment to provide free examinations to pregnant women needing such services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HOLLINGS (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CLELAND,

Mr. BIDEN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. REID, Mr. MILLER, and Mr. STEVENS):

S. J. Res. 33. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States relating to contributions and expenditures intended to affect elections; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BREAUX, Mrs. CARNAHAN, Mr. CLELAND, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. LOTT, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. THOMAS, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. VOINOVICH, and Mr. WARNER):

S. Res. 214. A resolution designating March 25, 2002, as "Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAYH, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BURNS, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FRIST, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HELMS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. Res. 215. A resolution designating the week beginning March 17, 2002, as "National Safe Place Week"; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 121

At the request of Mr. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. BROWNBACK), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), and the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) were added as cosponsors of S. 121, a bill to establish an Office of Children's Services within the Department of Justice to coordinate and implement Government actions involving unaccompanied alien children, and for other purposes.

S. 177

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 177, a bill to amend the provisions of title 39, United States Code, relating to the manner in which pay policies and schedules and fringe benefit programs for postmasters are established.

S. 229

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED) was added as a cosponsor of S. 229, a bill to amend Federal banking law to permit the payment of interest on business checking accounts in certain circumstances, and for other purposes.

S. 326

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 326, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the 15 percent reduction in payment rates under the prospective payment system for home health services and to permanently increase payments for such services that are furnished in rural areas.

S. 913

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 913, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the medicare program of all oral anticancer drugs.

S. 946

At the request of Ms. SNOWE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 946, a bill to establish an Office on Women's Health within the Department of Health and Human Services.

S. 1054

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. BREAUX) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1054, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to prevent abuse of recipients of long-term care services under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

S. 1125

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1125, a bill to conserve global bear populations by prohibiting the importation, exportation, and interstate trade of bear viscera and items, products, or substances containing, or labeled or advertised as containing, bear viscera, and for other purposes.

S. 1356

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1356, a bill to establish a commission to review the facts and circumstances surrounding injustices suffered by European Americans, Europeans Latin Americans, and European refugees during World War II.

S. 1394

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1394, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 1644

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

VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1644, a bill to further the protection and recognition of veterans' memorials, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1644, *supra*.

S. 1812

At the request of Mr. CORZINE, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1812, a bill to repeal the provision of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001 that requires the reduction of a claimant's compensation by the amount of any collateral source compensation payments the claimant is entitled to receive, and for other purposes.

S. 1897

At the request of Mrs. CARNAHAN, the name of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1897, a bill to require disclosure of the sale of securities by an affiliate of the issuer of the securities to be made available to the Commission and to the public in electronic form, and for other purposes.

S. 1911

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1911, a bill to amend the Community Services block Grant Act to reauthorize national and regional programs designed to provide instructional activities for low-income youth.

S. 1917

At the request of Mr. JEFFORDS, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Alaska (Mr. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), and the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) were added as cosponsors of S. 1917, a bill to provide for highway infrastructure investment at the guaranteed funding level contained in the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

S. 1973

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ALLEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1973, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to exclude certain basic allowances for housing of a member of a uniformed service from the determination of eligibility for free and reduced price meals of a child of the member.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. SARBANES):

S. 1982. A bill to amend chapter 89 of title 5, United States Code, to increase

the Government contribution for Federal employee health insurance; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce the Federal Employees Health Benefits Improvement Act of 2002 along with my colleague from Maryland, Senator SARBANES. This bill would reduce the employee portion of premiums costs under the Federal Employee Health Benefits Plan.

Our Federal employees work hard for the American people and they deserve quality benefits.

What is the need for this legislation?

Health insurance premiums for Federal employees and retirees rose an average of 13.3 percent this year. In contrast, wages rose by 4.77 percent in the Washington-Baltimore area. This follows a 10.5 percent increase last year, and increases of greater than 9 percent for 2000 and 1999. As a result, premiums are nearly 50 percent greater than they were just five years ago.

The Federal program provides health insurance coverage to about 9 million government workers, retirees and family members. More than 800,000 of these workers live in the DC metro area.

Health insurance costs are skyrocketing, and Federal employees are paying a greater share of their take home pay for health care each year. Currently, Federal employees pay anywhere between 28 percent to 30 percent of premiums. In the private sector, other large employers pay at least 80 percent of premiums and employees pay 20 percent according to recent data published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Kaiser Family Foundation.

How would this bill help solve this problem?

This bill would change the financing formula for Federal Employees Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). Under this approach, the federal agencies would pay 80 percent of the weighted average for premiums. This would help reduce the out-of-pocket health care costs for federal employees and improve the affordability of FEHBP immensely.

What would this mean to Federal employees?

My bill would help improve the affordability of health care insurance for all 9 million. Currently, about 250,000 Federal employees do not have health insurance. Many of them cannot afford health care insurance at the current rates. My proposal would improve the affordability of health care insurance so that many of these workers would be able to afford coverage.

Providing quality benefits for Federal employees is also an important tool in helping recruit and retain a high quality workforce and compete with the private sector and other state and local governments.

This bill would have an enormous impact in my State, Maryland, but would also benefit Federal workers nationally. Under this proposal, the percent that a Federal employee pays in health

insurance premiums would decline, putting more money into Federal employees pockets each pay period.

This bill improves benefits for our hardworking Federal employees.

I urge my colleagues to join me in expressing support for this bill.

By Mr. BUNNING:

S. 1984. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services to make grants to nonprofit tax-exempt organizations for the purchase of ultrasound equipment to provide free examinations to pregnant women needing such services, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. BUNNING. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 1984

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GRANTS FOR PURCHASE OF ULTRASOUND EQUIPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human services may make grants for the purchase of ultrasound equipment. Such ultrasound equipment shall be used by the recipients of such grants to provide, under the direction and supervision of a licensed medical physician, free ultrasound examinations to pregnant woman needing such services.

(b) ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS.—An entity may receive a grant under subsection (a) only if the entity meets the following conditions:

(1) The entity is a nonprofit private organization that is approved by the Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt entity under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

(2) The entity operates as a community based pregnancy help medical clinic, as defined in subsection (f).

(3) The entity provides medical services to pregnant women under the guidance and supervision of a physician who serves as the medical director of the clinic and is duly licensed to practice medicine in the State in which the entity is located.

(4) The entity is legally qualified to provide such medical services to pregnant women and is in compliance with all Federal, State, and local requirements for the provision of such services.

(5) The entity agrees to comply with the following medical procedures:

(A) Each pregnant woman upon whom the ultrasound equipment is used will be shown the visual image of the fetus from the ultrasound examination and will be given a general anatomical and physiological description of the characteristics of the fetus.

(B) Each pregnant woman will be given, according to the best medical judgment of the physician performing the ultrasound examination or the physician's agent performing such exam, the approximate age of the embryo or fetus considering the number of weeks elapsed from the probable time of the conception of the embryo or fetus, based upon the information provided by the client as to the time of her last menstrual period, her medical history, a physical examination, or appropriate laboratory tests.

(C) Each pregnant woman will be given information on abortion and alternatives to