

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 women 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

abortion such as childbirth and adoption and information concerning public and private agencies that will assist in those alternatives.

(D) The entity will obtain and maintain medical malpractice insurance in an amount not less than \$1,000,000, and such insurance will cover all activities relating to the use of the ultrasound machine purchased with the grant under subsection (a).

(E) The entity does not receive more than 30 percent of its gross annual revenue from a single source or donor.

(C) LIMITATION ON INDIVIDUAL GRANT AMOUNT.—No grant under subsection (a) may be made in an amount that exceeds an amount equal to 50 percent of the purchase price cost of the ultrasound machine involved, or \$20,000, whichever is less.

(D) APPLICATION FOR GRANT.—A grant may be made under subsection (a) only if an application for the grant is submitted to the Secretary and the application is in such form, is made in such manner, and contains such agreements, assurances, and information as the Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out this section.

(E) ANNUAL REPORT TO SECRETARY.—A grant may be made under subsection (a) only if the applicant for the grant agrees to report on an annual basis to the Secretary, in such form and manner as the Secretary may require, on the ongoing compliance of the applicant with the eligibility conditions established in subsection (b).

(F) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this Act:

(1) The term “community based pregnancy help medical clinic” means a facility that—

(A) provides free medical services to pregnant women under the supervision and direction of a licensed physician who serves as the medical director for such clinic; and

(B) does not charge for any services rendered to its clients, whether or not such services are for pregnancy or nonpregnancy related matters.

(2) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

(G) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—For the purpose of carrying out this section, there are authorized to be appropriated \$3,000,000 for fiscal year 2003, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 2004 through 2006.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 214—DESIGNATING MARCH 25, 2002, AS “GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY: A NATIONAL DAY OF CELEBRATION OF GREEK AND AMERICAN DEMOCRACY”

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) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 214

Whereas the ancient Greeks developed the concept of democracy, in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people;

Whereas the Founding Fathers of the United States drew heavily on the political experience and philosophy of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy;

Whereas Greek Commander in Chief Petros Mavromichalis, a founder of the modern Greek state, said to the citizens of the United States in 1821, “it is in your land that liberty has fixed her abode and . . . in imitating you, we shall imitate our ancestors and be thought worthy of them if we succeed in resembling you”;

Whereas Greece is 1 of only 3 nations in the world, beyond the former British Empire, that has been allied with the United States in every major international conflict for more than 100 years;

Whereas Greece played a major role in the World War II struggle to protect freedom and democracy through such bravery as was shown in the historic Battle of Crete and in Greece, presenting the Axis land war with its first major setback, which set off a chain of events that significantly affected the outcome of World War II;

Whereas the price for Greece holding our common values in their region was high, as hundreds of thousands of civilians were killed in Greece in the World War II period;

Whereas President George W. Bush, in a letter to the Prime Minister of Greece, Constantinos Simitis, in January 2001, referred to the “stable foundations and common values” that are the basis of relations between Greece and the United States;

Whereas President Bush in his January 10, 2002 meeting with the Greek Prime Minister, said, “I am most appreciative of your strong stand against terror. You have been a friend in our mutual concerns about routing out terror around the world,” and, “I look forward to the Olympics. It’s going to be a magnificent moment for the sporting world to have the Olympics return to Athens. I’m confident your country will do a fine job”;

Whereas as a member of NATO, Greece has assigned members of its air force to fly surveillance missions over the United States;

Whereas Greece is a stabilizing force by virtue of its political and economic power in the volatile Balkan region, is one of the fastest growing economies in Europe, and will hold the presidency of the European Union in 2003;

Whereas Greece, geographically located in a region where Christianity meets Islam and Judaism, maintains excellent relations with Muslim nations and Israel;

Whereas Greece has had extraordinary success in recent years in furthering cross-cultural understanding and reducing tensions between Greece and Turkey;

Whereas Greece and the United States are at the forefront of the effort for freedom, democracy, peace, stability, and human rights;

Whereas those and other ideals have forged a close bond between our 2 nations and their peoples;

Whereas March 25, 2002, marks the 181st anniversary of the beginning of the revolution that freed the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire; and

Whereas it is proper and desirable to celebrate with the Greek people and to reaffirm the democratic principles from which our 2 great nations were born: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates March 25, 2002, as “Greek Independence Day: A National Day of Celebration of Greek and American Democracy”; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, today I am pleased to submit a resolution along with 52 of my colleagues to designate March 25, 2002, as “Greek Independence Day: A Celebration of Greek and American Democracy.”

One hundred and eighty one years ago, the Greek people began the revolution that would free them from the Ottoman Empire and return Greece to its democratic heritage. It was, of course, the ancient Greeks who developed the concept of democracy in which the supreme power to govern was vested in the people. Our Founding Fathers drew heavily upon the political and philosophical experience of ancient Greece in forming our representative democracy. Thomas Jefferson proclaimed that, “to the ancient Greeks . . . we are all indebted for the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness.” It is fitting, then, that we should recognize the anniversary of the beginning of their efforts to return to that democratic tradition.

The democratic form of government is only one of the most obvious of the many benefits we have gained from the Greek people. The ancient Greeks contributed a great deal to the modern world, particularly to the United States of America, in the areas of art, philosophy, science and law. Today, Greek-Americans continue to enrich our culture and make valuable contributions to American society, business, and government.

It is my hope that strong support for this resolution in the Senate will serve as a clear goodwill gesture to the people of Greece with whom we have enjoyed such a close bond throughout history. Similar resolutions have been passed by the Senate since 1984 with overwhelming support. Accordingly, I urge my Senate colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution.

SENATE RESOLUTION 215—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING MARCH 17, 2002, AS “NATIONAL SAFE PLACE WEEK”

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. INOUYE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. McCONNELL, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SPECTER, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary: