The survival rate when colon cancer is detected at an early, localized stage is 90 percent. But only 37 percent of such cancers are discovered at that stage. The later the disease is caught, the lower the survival rate.

That's why in 1997, Congress led the fight against colon cancer by making screening for the disease a covered benefit for every Medicare recipient. That is especially significant because the risk of colon cancer rises with age.

Heightened awareness and greater access to treatment are working. Over the last 15 years, we've seen steady, if slow, annual declines in both incidence rates and mortality rates tied to colon cancer.

But we can do more, because barriers to screening still exist. Modern technology has blessed us with extremely accurate screening tools, in particular the colonoscopy, which results in higher colon cancer identification rates and better long-term survival rates due to early detection. A consultation with a doctor before a colonoscopy is required to ensure that patients are properly prepared before they undergo the procedure.

Unfortunately, Medicare does not pay for that consultation before a screening, creating an obvious obstacle to preventive treatment for many men and women. The Colon Cancer ''Screen for Life'' Act would cover these medical visits so that more Medicare beneficiaries will have easy access to screening.

Further, with this legislation, just as Congress has done for screening mammography, screening colonoscopy will not count toward a senior's Medicare deductible. This will remove additional financial disincentives to screening.

Finally, with this bill, we're breaking through another big barrier to early detection and treatment.

The medical reality is that colonoscopy procedures are invasive and require sedation to perform, making it safer for them to be conducted in the hospital or an outpatient setting, where safety standards and emergency procedures are in place, rather than in a private doctor's office. But when doctors perform colonoscopies for Medicare patients in an outpatient setting, they take a hit on cost, because reimbursement for the procedure performed there has decreased by nearly 36 percent since 1997, while reimbursement for the procedure performed in a doctor's private office has increased by 52 percent.

As a result, to balance their budgets, doctors and hospitals are typically forced to space out their Medicare patients, creating long waits for and limited access to these vital screenings. That financial incentive structure is indefensible.

The job of medical services should be cutting cancer, not cutting costs. Unfortunately, today something as critical as colon cancer screening is moderated not by the real needs of patients and their medical doctors, but by market incentives.

To address the problem, the ''Screen for Life'' Act would increase the payment rates for colonoscopies performed in hospitals and outpatient facilities by 30 percent. The result will be more access to early detection and treatment and thousands of lives saved.

Colon cancer is a formidable foe, but we can make a difference in the fight against it. Early detection and treatment is our first line of defense.

With the help of the Colon Cancer ''Screen for Life'' Act, I hope that in a decade we'll have fewer cancer cases to contend with and more survivors to celebrate the simple fact that screening saves lives.

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I am pleased to join Senators LIEBERMAN, TORRICELLI, SNOWE, and COCHRAN in introducing the Colon Cancer Screen for Life Act of 2002 to improve patients' access to the colorectal cancer screening benefit under Medicare.

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States for both men and women: more than 57,000 Americans will die from this disease this year, yet it is a disease that many of us feel uncomfortable discussing.

The sad irony is that cancer of the colon is probably the most treatable and survivable of all cancers, but only if it is caught early. If detected and treated early, colon cancer is curable in more than 90 percent of diagnosed cases. Conversely, if the cancer is detected in an advanced stage, death rates are high. As many as 92 percent of these patients will die within five years.

Despite the fact that we have extremely effective screening tests for colon cancer, our screening rates for colon cancer, even among those Americans who are most at risk, are woefully low. Moreover, even the addition in 1998 of a new Medicare benefit covering these services has not improved the situation.

In 2000, the General Accounting Office, GAO, conducted a review of claims data to determine the extent to which this new preventive health service has been used. According to the GAO, only 3.8 percent of Medicare patients received either a screening or diagnostic colonoscopy in 1999, far below the recommended use rates and just a one percent increase over the rate in 1995.

Clearly we must find ways to heighten public awareness about the importance of colon cancer screening and remove any remaining barriers that may be preventing Medicare beneficiaries from receiving these critically important services. While the GAO identified a lack of patient awareness, understanding and inclination as the most significant factors inhibiting the use of colorectal cancer screening services, it also found that physician practices affect rates of screening. One factor is the inadequate Medicare reimbursement rates to cover the costs involved.

Medicare reimbursement rates for this procedure have declined in recent years and are almost universally lower than reimbursements under private insurance. Moreover, in many States, the Medicare rates are lower than Medicaid rates. Our legislation will therefore increase the Medicare payment rates for colonoscopies performed both in hospitals and outpatient settings. Specifically, the payment rates in hospitals and outpatient facilities would be increased by 30 percent, while payment for procedures done in physicians' offices would be increased by 10 percent.

Our legislation will also require Medicare to provide reimbursements for pre-procedure consultations to ensure that beneficiaries are properly prepared and educated before they undergo a screening colonoscopy. Medicare currently only pays for the pre-procedure appointment prior to a diagnostic colonoscopy. This pre-procedure visit is no less necessary in the case of a screening colonoscopy and should be covered.

Finally, under our legislation, the normal Part B deductible will not apply for screening colonoscopy, just as it does not apply for screening mammography. This will remove a financial disincentive for seniors to seek screening and increase the likelihood that they will undergo screening colonoscopy.

The Colon Cancer Screen for Your Life Act of 2002 will not only help to ensure the safety of colorectal cancer screenings, but it will also increase Medicare patients' access to this life-saving procedure, and I urge all of my colleagues to join us as cosponsors.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2843. Mr. ENZI proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2471 submitted by Mr. DASCHLE and intended to be proposed to the bill (S. 1731) to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers, to enhance resource conservation and rural development, to provide for farm credit, agricultural research, nutrition, and related programs, to ensure consumers abundant food and fiber, and for other purposes.

SA 2844. Mr. DAYTON (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KOHL, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2471 submitted by Mr. DASCHLE and intended to be proposed to the bill (S. 1731) supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2843. Mr. ENZI proposed an amendment to amendment SA 2471 submitted by Mr. DASCHLE and intended to be proposed to the bill (S. 1731) to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers, to enhance resource conservation and rural development, to provide for farm credit, agricultural research, nutrition, and related programs, to ensure consumers abundant food and fiber, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 126, before line 1, insert the following:

SEC. 1 . LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Section 194 of the Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act of 1996 (7 U.S.C. 6933) is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 194. LIVESTOCK ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a program to provide livestock feed assistance to livestock producers affected by disasters.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—These are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $500,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2003 through 2008.

SA 2844. Mr. DAYTON (for himself, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. KOHL, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. LEAHY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2471 submitted by Mr. DASCHLE and intended to be proposed to the bill (S. 1731) to strengthen the safety net for agricultural producers, to enhance resource conservation and rural development, to provide for farm credit, agricultural research, nutrition, and related programs, to ensure consumers abundant food and fiber, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SECTION . IMPOSITION OF TARIFF-RATE QUOTAS ON CERTAIN CASEIN AND MILK CONCENTRATES.

(a) CASEIN AND CASEIN PRODUCTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Additional U.S. notes to chapter 35 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States are amended—

(A) in note 1, by striking ''subheading 3501.10.10'' and inserting ''subheadings 3501.10.05, 3501.10.15, and 3501.10.20''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new note:

''2. The aggregate quantity of casein, caseinates, milk protein concentrate, and other casein derivatives entered under subheadings 3501.10.15, 3501.10.65, and 3501.90.65 in any calendar year shall not exceed 54,051,000 kilograms. Articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included under this quantitative limitation and no such article shall be classifiable therein.''.

(2) RATES FOR CERTAIN CASEINS, CASEINATES, AND OTHER DERIVATIVES AND GLUES.—Chapter 35 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended by striking subheadings 3501.10 through 3501.90.60, inclusive, and inserting the following new subheadings with article descriptions for subheadings 3501.10 and 3501.90 having the same degree of indentation as the article description for subheading 3502.20.00:

''	3501.10	Casein:				
		Milk protein concentrate:				
	3501.10.05	Described in general note 15 of the tariff schedule and entered pursuant to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J, MX)	12¢/kg	
	3501.10.15	Described in additional U.S. note 2 to this chapter and entered according to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J)	12¢/kg	
	3501.10.20	Other	$2.16/kg	Free (MX)	$2.81/kg	
		Other:				
	3501.10.55	For industrial uses other than the manufacture of food for humans or other animals or as ingredients in such food	Free	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J, MX)	Free	
		Other:				
	3501.10.60	Described in general note 15 of the tariff schedule and entered pursuant to its provisions	Free	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J, MX)	12¢/kg	
	3501.10.65	Described in additional U.S. note 2 to this chapter and entered according to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J)	12¢/kg	
	3501.10.70	Other	$2.16/kg	Free (MX)	$2.81/kg	
	3501.90	Other:				
	3501.90.05	Casein glues	6%	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J, MX)	30%	
		Other:				
	3501.90.30	For industrial uses other than the manufacture of food for humans or other animals or as ingredients in such food	6%	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J, MX)	30%	
		Other:				
	3501.90.55	Described in general note 15 of the tariff schedule and entered pursuant to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J, MX)	12.1¢/kg	
	3501.90.65	Described in additional U.S. note 2 to this chapter and entered according to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J)	12.1¢/kg	
	3501.90.70	Other	$2.16/kg	Free (MX)	$2.81/kg	''

(b) MILK PROTEIN CONCENTRATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Additional U.S. notes to chapter 4 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States are amended—

(A) in note 13, by striking ''subheading 0404.90.10'' and inserting ''subheadings 0404.90.05, 0404.90.15, and 0404.90.20''; and

(B) by adding at the end the following new note:

''27. The aggregate quantity of milk protein concentrates entered under subheading 0404.90.15 in any calendar year shall not exceed 15,818,000 kilograms. Articles the product of Mexico shall not be permitted or included under this quantitative limitation and no such article shall be classifiable therein.''.

(2) RATES FOR CERTAIN MILK PROTEIN CONCENTRATES.—Chapter 4 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States is amended by striking subheading 0404.90 through 0404.90.10, inclusive, and inserting the following new subheadings with the article description for subheading 0404.90 having the same degree of indentation as the article description for subheading 0405.10 and the article description for subheadings 0404.90.05, 0404.90.15, and 0404.90.20 having the same degree of indentation as the article description for subheading 0405.20.40:

''	0404.90	Other:				
		Milk protein concentrates:				
	0404.90.05	Described in general note 15 of the tariff schedule and entered pursuant to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J, MX)	12¢/kg	

0404.90.15	Described in additional U.S. note 27 to this chapter and entered pursuant to its provisions	0.37¢/kg	Free (A*, CA, E, IL, J)	12¢/kg	
0404.90.20	Other	$1.56/kg	Free (MX)	$2.02/kg	''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section apply to goods entered, or withdrawn from warehouse for consumption, on or after the first day of the first month after the date that is 15 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2. COMPENSATION AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—If the provisions of section 1 require, the President—

(1) may enter into a trade agreement with any foreign country or instrumentality for the purpose of granting new concessions as compensation in order to maintain the general level of reciprocal and mutually advantageous concessions; and

(2) may proclaim such modification or continuance of any existing duty, or such continuance of existing duty-free or excise treatment, as the President determines to be required or appropriate to carry out any such agreement.

(b) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—No proclamation shall be made pursuant to subsection (a) decreasing any rate of duty to a rate which is less than 70 percent of the existing rate of duty.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR CERTAIN DUTY REDUCTIONS.—If the rate of duty in effect at any time is an intermediate stage under section 1102(a) of the Omnibus Trade and Competitiveness Act of 1988, the proclamation made pursuant to subsection (a) may provide for the reduction of each rate of duty at each such stage proclaimed under section 1102(a) by not more than 30 percent of such rate of duty, and may provide for a final rate of duty which is not less than the 70 percent of the rate of duty proclaimed as the final stage under section 1102(a).

(3) ROUNDING.—If the President determines that such action will simplify the computation of the amount of duty computed with respect to an article, the President may exceed the limitations provided in paragraphs (1) and (2) by not more than the lesser of—

(A) the difference between such limitation and the next lower whole number, or

(B) one-half of one percent ad valorem.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CLEAN AIR, WETLANDS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works, Subcommittee on Clean Air, Wetlands, and Climate Change be authorized to meet on Monday, February 11, 2002, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a field hearing to receive testimony on the impacts of the September 11 attack on air quality and possible related health impacts in the area of the World Trade Center and how to address any such impacts. The hearing will be held at the Alexander Hamilton U.S. Customs House, One Bowling Green, New York, NY.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION, INFRASTRUCTURE AND NUCLEAR SAFETY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works, Subcommittee on Transportation, Infrastructure, and Nuclear Safety be authorized to meet on Monday, February 11, 2002, at 1 p.m. to conduct a hearing to examine the administration's 03 budget proposal, the Revenue Aligned Budget Authority, (RABA), mechanism and budget-related reauthorization issues. The hearing will be held in Rm. SD–406.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. LUGAR. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that Pat Sweeney, a detailee to the Agriculture Committee from the General Accounting Office, be granted privileges of the floor during consideration of the farm bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREEMENT—S. 1731

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all first-degree amendments on the finite list of amendments to S. 1731 must be proposed by 3 p.m. Tuesday, February 12, with the exception of managers' amendments.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate resume consideration of the farm bill immediately following the prayer and the pledge at 9:30 a.m. tomorrow; that there be 40 minutes for debate on Senator GRASSLEY's second-degree amendment, No. 2837, to Senator CRAIG's amendment, No. 2835; that following the use or yielding back of that time, there then be 15 minutes equally divided in the usual form in relation to each of the following amendments: the amendment of Senator CRAPO, amendment No. 2533, and the amendment of Senator BAUCUS, amendment No. 2839; that the amendments be debated in the above order; that at the conclusion or yielding back of time the Senate vote in relation to the Grassley second-degree amendment; that upon the conclusion of that vote, Senator REID be recognized to move to table the amendment of Senator CRAPO; that at the conclusion of that vote, the Senate vote in relation to the Baucus amendment with no other amendments in order prior to those ordered votes; and that if any amendment in this agreement is not disposed of at the conclusion of these votes, it shall remain debatable and amendable.

Mr. LUGAR. Reserving the right to object, and I will not object, I commend the distinguished floor leader for working with both sides of the aisle to provide a good structure for our debate tomorrow and for a conclusion of the farm bill debate. I simply wanted to indicate that on our side of the aisle, we have worked closely with the leader and that we have an excellent format. Therefore, I will not object and commend what is occurring and will support it.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Nevada.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, two things: One, on the unanimous consent agreement I first offered, I want to make sure the time is 3 p.m. not 2 p.m. I think I said 3 p.m.

I say to my friend, the manager of the bill, I have spoken to Senator CRAPO and have indicated to him that on my second-degree amendment that is pending, I am going to modify that in the morning. So this amendment should have no bearing on that.

Mr. LUGAR. That is my understanding.

Once again, reserving the right to object, and I will not object, Senator SANTORUM's amendment has been withdrawn from this list. He is modifying the amendment. It may be that amendment can be accepted in due course. If not, it will come in the normal rotation for debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I will simply say, Senator HARKIN and Senator LUGAR have worked very hard on this farm bill—not for days or weeks but for months. I think we are now seeing the light at the end of the tunnel. Senator DASCHLE has asked me to indicate he would very much like to finish this bill tomorrow. It is a very heavy task because during the middle of the day we have the time for the two party conferences, but it can be done, and we are going to do everything we can to work with both sides to see if we can get that done.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ORDERS FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2002

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it adjourn until the hour of 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Tuesday, February 12; following