

hidden in a mountain of paperwork. My legislation would require plan providers to have beneficiaries sign the following certification before enrollment:

I understand that the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or MA-PD Plan that I am signing up for may result in a gap in coverage during a given year. I understand that if subject to this gap in coverage, I will be responsible for paying 100 percent of the costs of my prescription drugs and will continue to be responsible for paying the plan's monthly premium while subject to this gap in coverage. For specific information on the potential coverage gap under this plan, I understand that I should contact [prescription drug plan] at [toll free phone number].

The bottom line is that, after months of trying to explain this new drug benefit to Medicare beneficiaries, many do not understand the ramifications of the coverage gap. Unfortunately, millions of Medicare beneficiaries may learn about the coverage gap the hard way—when the pharmacist at the cash register tells them sometime next year that they are suddenly required to pay the full cost of their prescriptions.

Mr. President, a study by the Commonwealth Fund found that 38 percent of Medicare enrollees are likely to experience this costly interruption in care. Moreover, the benefits must be renewed each year, meaning that the coverage gap repeats itself if beneficiaries reach the coverage gap again.

A recent survey by the Kaiser Foundation and the Harvard School of Public Health, found that only 35 percent of people 65 and older said they understood the new drug benefit. In addition, the numerous media stories in recent days contain anecdotal evidence that illustrates the confusion around the new drug benefit.

I therefore urge my colleagues to support this bill. Only with such a clear, separate disclaimer will seniors have a fair opportunity to be warned of the risks posed by this gap in drug coverage.

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. 2026

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Medicare Prescription Drug Gap Disclosure Act".

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT OF SIGNED CERTIFICATION PRIOR TO PLAN ENROLLMENT UNDER PART D.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1860D-1(b)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-101) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(D) SPECIAL RULE FOR PLANS WITH AN INITIAL COVERAGE LIMIT.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—The process for enrollment established under subparagraph (A) shall include, in the case of a prescription drug plan or an MA-PD plan that has an initial coverage limit (as described in section 1860D-2(b)(3)), a requirement that, prior to enrolling a part D eligible individual in the

plan, the plan must obtain a certification signed by the enrollee or the legal guardian of the enrollee that meets the requirements described in clause (ii) and includes the following text: 'I understand that the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan or MA-PD Plan that I am signing up for may result in a gap in coverage during a given year. I understand that if subject to this gap in coverage, I will be responsible for paying 100 percent of the cost of my prescription drugs and will continue to be responsible for paying the plan's monthly premium while subject to this gap in coverage. For specific information on the potential coverage gap under this plan, I understand that I should contact (insert name of the sponsor of the prescription drug plan or the sponsor of the MA-PD plan) at (insert toll free phone number for such sponsor of such plan).'

"(ii) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED.—The certification required under clause (i) shall meet the following requirements:

"(I) The certification shall be printed in a typeface of not less than 18 points.

"(II) The certification shall be printed on a single piece of paper separate from any matter not related to the certification.

"(III) The certification shall have a heading printed at the top of the page in all capital letters and bold face type that states the following: 'WARNING: POTENTIAL MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION DRUG COVERAGE GAP'."

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 317—EX-PRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING OVERSIGHT OF THE INTERNET CORPORATION FOR ASSIGNED NAMES AND NUMBERS

Mr. BURNS (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. INOUE, Mr. SMITH, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ALLEN, and Mr. CRAIG) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 317

Whereas the origins of the Internet can be found in United States Government funding of research to develop packet-switching technology and communications networks, starting with the "ARPANET" network established by the Department of Defense's Advanced Research Projects Agency in the 1960s and carried forward by the National Science Foundation's "NSFNET";

Whereas in subsequent years the Internet evolved from a United States Government research initiative to a global tool for information exchange as in the 1990s it was commercialized by private sector investment, technical management and coordination;

Whereas since its inception the authoritative root zone server—the file server system that contains the master list of all top level domain names made available for routers serving the Internet—has been physically located in the United States;

Whereas today the Internet is a global communications network of inestimable value;

Whereas the continued success and dynamism of the Internet is dependent upon continued private sector leadership and the ability for all users to participate in its continued evolution;

Whereas in allowing people all around the world freely to exchange information, communicate with one another, and facilitate economic growth and democracy, the Internet has enormous potential to enrich and transform human society;

Whereas existing structures have worked effectively to make the Internet the highly robust medium that it is today;

Whereas the security and stability of the Internet's underlying infrastructure, the domain name and addressing system, must be maintained;

Whereas the United States has been committed to the principles of freedom of expression and the free flow of information, as expressed in Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and reaffirmed in the Geneva Declaration of Principles adopted at the first phase of the World Summit on the Information Society;

Whereas the U.S. Principles on the Internet's Domain Name and Addressing System, issued on June 30, 2005, represent an appropriate framework for the coordination of the system at the present time;

Whereas the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers popularly known as ICANN, is the proper organization to coordinate the technical day-to-day operation of the Internet's domain name and addressing system;

Whereas all stakeholders from around the world, including governments, are encouraged to advise ICANN in its decision-making;

Whereas ICANN makes significant efforts to ensure that the views of governments and all Internet stakeholders are reflected in its activities;

Whereas governments have legitimate concerns with respect to the management of their country code top level domains;

Whereas the United States Government is committed to working successfully with the international community to address those concerns, bearing in mind the need for stability and security of the Internet's domain name and addressing system;

Whereas the topic of Internet governance, as currently being discussed in the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society is a broad and complex topic;

Whereas it is appropriate for governments and other stakeholders to discuss Internet governance, given that the Internet will likely be an increasingly important part of the world economy and society in the 21st Century;

Whereas Internet governance discussions in the World Summit should focus on the real threats to the Internet's growth and stability, and not recommend changes to the current regime of domain name and addressing system management and coordination on political grounds unrelated to any technical need; and

Whereas market-based policies and private sector leadership have allowed this medium the flexibility to innovate and evolve: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) it is incumbent upon the United States and other responsible governments to send clear signals to the marketplace that the current structure of oversight and management of the Internet's domain name and addressing service works, and will continue to deliver tangible benefits to Internet users worldwide in the future; and

(2) therefore the authoritative root zone server should remain physically located in the United States and the Secretary of Commerce should maintain oversight of ICANN so that ICANN can continue to manage the day-to-day operation of the Internet's domain name and addressing system well, remain responsive to all Internet stakeholders

worldwide, and otherwise fulfill its core technical mission.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2581. Mr. ENZI (for Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BAUCUS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1783, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the pension funding rules, and for other purposes.

SA 2582. Mr. ISAKSON (for himself, Mr. NELSON, of Florida, Mr. LOTT, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BURNS, Mr. HATCH, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CARPER, and Mr. SALAZAR) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1783, supra.

SA 2583. Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. INOUE, and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1783, supra.

SA 2584. Mr. ISAKSON (for Mr. CRAIG) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1234, to increase, effective as of December 1, 2005, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans.

SA 2585. Mr. ISAKSON (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL)) proposed an amendment to the concurrent resolution S. Con. Res. 62, directing the Joint Committee on the Library to procure a statue of Rosa Parks for placement in the Capitol.

SA 2586. Mr. SMITH (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURR, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. DOLE, Mrs. MURRAY, and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2020, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2587. Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. DODD, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. REED, Mr. LIEBERMAN, and Mr. KOHL) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2020, supra.

SA 2588. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. DURBIN, and Mr. JOHNSON) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2020, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2589. Mr. MARTINEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2020, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2590. Mr. KOHL (for himself and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2020, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2591. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1238, to amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 to provide for the conduct of projects that protect forests, and for other purposes.

SA 2592. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 485, to reauthorize and amend the National Geologic Mapping Act of 1992.

SA 2593. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. BINGAMAN)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1170, An act to establish the Fort Stanton-Snowy River Cave National Conservation Area.

SA 2594. Mr. MCCONNELL (for Mr. DOMENICI) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1170, supra.

SA 2595. Mr. SCHUMER (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2020, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202(b)

of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2596. Mr. DURBIN proposed an amendment to the bill S. 2020, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2597. Mr. LAUTENBERG submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 2020, to provide for reconciliation pursuant to section 202(b) of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2006; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2581. Mr. ENZI (for Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. BAUCUS)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1783, to amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reform the pension funding rules, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the “Pension Security and Transparency Act of 2005”.

(b) **TABLE OF CONTENTS.**—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.

TITLE I—FUNDING AND DEDUCTION RULES FOR SINGLE-EMPLOYER DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS AND RELATED PROVISIONS

Subtitle A—Amendments to Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974

- Sec. 101. Minimum funding standards.
- Sec. 102. Funding rules for single-employer defined benefit pension plans.
- Sec. 103. Benefit limitations under single-employer plans.
- Sec. 104. Technical and conforming amendments.
- Sec. 105. Special rules for multiple employer plans of certain cooperatives.
- Sec. 106. Temporary relief for certain rescued plans.

Subtitle B—Amendments to Internal Revenue Code of 1986

- Sec. 111. Modifications of the minimum funding standards.
- Sec. 112. Funding rules applicable to single-employer pension plans.
- Sec. 113. Benefit limitations under single-employer plans.
- Sec. 114. Increase in deduction limit for single-employer plans.
- Sec. 115. Technical and conforming amendments.

Subtitle C—Interest Rate Assumptions and Deductible Amounts for 2006

- Sec. 121. Extension of replacement of 30-year Treasury rates.
- Sec. 122. Deduction limits for plan contributions.
- Sec. 123. Updating deduction rules for combination of plans.

TITLE II—FUNDING AND DEDUCTION RULES FOR MULTIEMPLOYER DEFINED BENEFIT PLANS AND RELATED PROVISIONS

Subtitle A—Funding Rules

- PART I—AMENDMENTS TO EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974**
- Sec. 201. Funding rules for multiemployer defined benefit plans.

Sec. 202. Additional funding rules for multi-employer plans in endangered or critical status.

Sec. 203. Measures to forestall insolvency of multiemployer plans.

Sec. 204. Special rule for certain benefits funded under an agreement approved by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation.

Sec. 205. Withdrawal liability reforms.

PART II—AMENDMENTS TO INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986

Sec. 211. Funding rules for multiemployer defined benefit plans.

Sec. 212. Additional funding rules for multi-employer plans in endangered or critical status.

PART III—SUNSET OF FUNDING RULES

Sec. 216. Sunset of funding rules.

Subtitle B—Deduction and Related Provisions

- Sec. 221. Deduction limits for multiemployer plans.
- Sec. 222. Transfer of excess pension assets to multiemployer health plan.

TITLE III—INTEREST RATE ASSUMPTIONS

- Sec. 301. Interest rate assumption for determination of lump sum distributions.
- Sec. 302. Interest rate assumption for applying benefit limitations to lump sum distributions.
- Sec. 303. Restrictions on funding of non-qualified deferred compensation plans by employers maintaining underfunded or terminated single-employer plans.
- Sec. 304. Modification of pension funding requirements for plans subject to current transition rule.

TITLE IV—IMPROVEMENTS IN PBGC GUARANTEE PROVISIONS

- Sec. 401. Increases in PBGC premiums.
- Sec. 402. Authority to enter alternative funding agreements to prevent plan terminations.
- Sec. 403. Special funding rules for plans maintained by commercial airlines that are amended to cease future benefit accruals.
- Sec. 404. Limitation on PBGC guarantee of shutdown and other benefits.
- Sec. 405. Rules relating to bankruptcy of employer.
- Sec. 406. PBGC premiums for new plans of small employers.
- Sec. 407. PBGC premiums for small and new plans.
- Sec. 408. Authorization for PBGC to pay interest on premium overpayment refunds.
- Sec. 409. Rules for substantial owner benefits in terminated plans.
- Sec. 410. Acceleration of PBGC computation of benefits attributable to recoveries from employers.
- Sec. 411. Treatment of certain plans where cessation or change in membership of a controlled group.
- Sec. 412. Effect of title.

TITLE V—DISCLOSURE

- Sec. 501. Defined benefit plan funding notice.
- Sec. 502. Access to multiemployer pension plan information.
- Sec. 503. Additional annual reporting requirements.
- Sec. 504. Timing of annual reporting requirements.
- Sec. 505. Section 4010 filings with the PBGC.
- Sec. 506. Disclosure of termination information to plan participants.
- Sec. 507. Benefit suspension notice.
- Sec. 508. Study and report by Government Accountability Office.