

S. 1996. A bill to reauthorize the Enhancing Education Through Technology Act of 2001, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mrs. McCASKILL:

S. 1997. A bill to require all new and up-graded fuel pumps to be equipped with automatic temperature compensation equipment, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DODD, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mr. JOHNSON):

S. 1998. A bill to reduce child marriage, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. DOMENICI, and Mr. OBAMA):

S. 1999. A bill to provide for the establishment of a Center of Excellence in Prevention, Diagnosis, Mitigation, Treatment, and Rehabilitation of Military Eye Injuries, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. DODD (by request):

S. 2000. A bill to amend and extend the Export Administration Act of 1979 and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. COLEMAN):

S. 2001. A bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 2002. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to simplify certain provisions applicable to real estate investment trusts, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 2003. A bill to facilitate the part-time re-employment of annuitants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Mr. CRAIG):

S. 2004. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish epilepsy centers of excellence in the Veterans Health Administration of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. SANDERS, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 2005. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide education on the health consequences of exposure to second-hand smoke, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2006. A bill to provide for disaster assistance for power transmission and distribution facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. HARKIN:

S. 2007. A bill to amend part B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide a floor of 1.0 for the practice expense and for the work expense geographic practice cost indices (GPCI) under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2008. A bill to reform the single family housing loan guarantee program under the Housing Act of 1949; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. COLEMAN):

S. 2009. A bill to authorize additional funds for emergency repairs and reconstruction of

the Interstate I-35 bridge located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, that collapsed on August 1, 2007, to waive the \$100,000,000 limitation on emergency relief funds for those emergency repairs and reconstruction, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. LIEBERMAN:

S. 2010. A bill to require prisons and other detention facilities holding Federal prisoners or detainees under a contract with the Federal Government to make the same information available to the public that Federal prisons and detention facilities are required to do by law; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LEVIN (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER):

S. 2011. A bill entitled "The Protect America Act of 2007"; read twice.

By Mr. THUNE:

S. 2012. A bill to amend the U.S. Troop Readiness, Veterans' Care, Katrina Recovery, and Iraq Accountability Appropriations Act, 2007, to extend the period of emergency financial assistance to certain individuals and entities; to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. VOINOVICH):

S. 2013. A bill to initially apply the required use of tamper-resistant prescription pads under the Medicaid Program to schedule II narcotic drugs and to delay the application of the requirement to other prescription drugs for 18 months; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. BROWN (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 2014. A bill to provide for statewide longitudinal data systems to improve elementary and secondary education, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. KYL:

S. 2015. A bill to increase the economic pressure on terror sponsoring states, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. STEVENS (for himself, Mr. INOUE, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. KERRY, Ms. COLLINS, Mrs. MURRAY, and Mrs. BOXER):

S.J. Res. 17. A joint resolution directing the United States to initiate international discussions and take necessary steps with other Nations to negotiate an agreement for managing migratory and transboundary fish stocks in the Arctic Ocean; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

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

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CORNYN):

S. Res. 299. A resolution recognizing the religious and historical significance of the festival of Diwali; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. OBAMA):

S. Res. 300. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) should stop the utilization of materials that violate provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between FYROM and Greece regarding "hostile activities or propaganda" and should work with the United Nations and Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy

goals of finding a mutually-acceptable official name for FYROM; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself and Mr. PRYOR):

S. Res. 301. A resolution recognizing the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School, one of the most significant events in the American civil rights movement; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, and Mrs. BOXER):

S. Res. 302. A resolution censuring the President and Vice President; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. Res. 303. A resolution censuring the President and the Attorney General; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. SUNUNU (for himself and Mr. GREGG):

S. Res. 304. A resolution congratulating Charles Simic on being named the 15th Poet Laureate of the United States of America by the Library of Congress; considered and agreed to.

By Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. HARKIN, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. Res. 305. A resolution to express the sense of the Senate regarding the Medicare national coverage determination on the treatment of anemia in cancer patients; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REID:

S. Con. Res. 43. A concurrent resolution providing for a conditional adjournment or recess of the Senate, and a conditional adjournment of the House of Representatives; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 399

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of S. 399, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to include podiatrists as physicians for purposes of covering physicians services under the Medicaid program.

S. 402

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 402, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for qualified timber gains.

S. 431

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 431, a bill to require convicted sex offenders to register online identifiers, and for other purposes.

S. 450

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 450, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the medicare outpatient rehabilitation therapy caps.

S. 456

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) were added as cosponsors of S. 456, a bill to increase and

enhance law enforcement resources committed to investigation and prosecution of violent gangs, to deter and punish violent gang crime, to protect law-abiding citizens and communities from violent criminals, to revise and enhance criminal penalties for violent crimes, to expand and improve gang prevention programs, and for other purposes.

S. 558

At the request of Mr. CORKER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 558, a bill to provide parity between health insurance coverage of mental health benefits and benefits for medical and surgical services.

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the names of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) were added as cosponsors of S. 558, *supra*.

S. 576

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 576, a bill to provide for the effective prosecution of terrorists and guarantee due process rights.

S. 580

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 580, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to require the Secretary of the Interior to update the feasibility and suitability studies of four national historic trails, and for other purposes.

S. 600

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the names of the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW) were added as cosponsors of S. 600, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish the School-Based Health Clinic program, and for other purposes.

S. 771

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 771, a bill to amend the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 to improve the nutrition and health of schoolchildren by updating the definition of "food of minimal nutritional value" to conform to current nutrition science and to protect the Federal investment in the national school lunch and breakfast programs.

S. 775

At the request of Mr. CARPER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 775, a bill to establish a National Commission on the Infrastructure of the United States.

S. 791

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 791, a bill to establish a collaborative program to protect the Great Lakes, and for other purposes.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Iowa

(Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to repeal a provision enacted to end Federal matching of State spending of child support incentive payments.

S. 814

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 814, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the deduction of attorney-advanced expenses and court costs in contingency fee cases.

S. 881

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CHAMBLISS) were added as cosponsors of S. 881, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend and modify the railroad track maintenance credit.

S. 932

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 932, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to authorize physical therapists to evaluate and treat Medicare beneficiaries without a requirement for a physician referral, and for other purposes.

S. 970

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 970, a bill to impose sanctions on Iran and on other countries for assisting Iran in developing a nuclear program, and for other purposes.

S. 1015

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1015, a bill to reauthorize the National Writing Project.

S. 1160

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1160, a bill to ensure an abundant and affordable supply of highly nutritious fruits, vegetables, and other specialty crops for American consumers and international markets by enhancing the competitiveness of United States-grown specialty crops.

S. 1175

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1175, a bill to end the use of child soldiers in hostilities around the world, and for other purposes.

S. 1196

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1196, a bill to improve mental health care for wounded members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1259

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a co-

sponsor of S. 1259, a bill to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to provide assistance for developing countries to promote quality basic education and to establish the achievement of universal basic education in all developing countries as an objective of United States foreign assistance policy, and for other purposes.

S. 1328

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1328, a bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate discrimination in the immigration laws by permitting permanent partners of United States citizens and lawful permanent residents to obtain lawful permanent resident status in the same manner as spouses of citizens and lawful permanent residents and to penalize immigration fraud in connection with permanent partnerships.

S. 1338

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1338, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a two-year moratorium on certain Medicare physician payment reductions for imaging services.

S. 1356

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1356, a bill to amend the Federal Deposit Insurance Act to establish industrial bank holding company regulation, and for other purposes.

S. 1390

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1390, a bill to provide for the issuance of a "forever stamp" to honor the sacrifices of the brave men and women of the armed forces who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

S. 1545

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1545, a bill to implement the recommendations of the Iraq Study Group.

S. 1572

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1572, a bill to increase the number of well-trained mental health service professionals (including those based in schools) providing clinical mental health care to children and adolescents, and for other purposes.

S. 1605

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1605, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect and preserve access of Medicare beneficiaries in rural areas to health care providers under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

S. 1628

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1628, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize programs to increase the number of nurse faculty and to increase the domestic nursing and physical therapy workforce, and for other purposes.

S. 1638

At the request of Mr. LEAHY, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1638, a bill to adjust the salaries of Federal justices and judges, and for other purposes.

S. 1651

At the request of Mr. MENENDEZ, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1651, a bill to assist certain Iraqis who have worked directly with, or are threatened by their association with, the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1669

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1669, a bill to amend titles XIX and XXI of the Social Security Act to ensure payment under Medicaid and the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) for covered items and services furnished by school-based health clinics.

S. 1730

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1730, a bill to amend part A of title IV of the Social Security Act, to reward States for engaging individuals with disabilities in work activities, and for other purposes.

S. 1744

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1744, a bill to prohibit the application of certain restrictive eligibility requirements to foreign non-governmental organizations with respect to the provision of assistance under part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

S. 1755

At the request of Mr. CASEY, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1755, a bill to amend the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to make permanent the summer food service pilot project for rural areas of Pennsylvania and apply the program to rural areas of every State.

S. 1795

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1795, a bill to improve access to workers' compensation programs for injured Federal employees.

S. 1823

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Vermont

(Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1823, a bill to set the United States on track to ensure children are ready to learn when they begin kindergarten.

S. 1825

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1825, a bill to provide for the study and investigation of wartime contracts and contracting processes in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, and for other purposes.

S. 1843

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1843, a bill to amend title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 to clarify that an unlawful practice occurs each time compensation is paid pursuant to a discriminatory compensation decision or other practice, and for other purposes.

S. 1895

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1895, a bill to aid and support pediatric involvement in reading and education.

S. 1898

At the request of Mrs. CLINTON, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1898, a bill to amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to expand family and medical leave for spouses, sons, daughters, and parents of servicemembers with combat-related injuries.

S. 1934

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) were added as cosponsors of S. 1934, a bill to extend the existing provisions regarding the eligibility for essential air service subsidies through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

S. 1953

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1953, a bill to amend the Agricultural Manufacturing Act of 1946 to require labeling of raw agricultural forms of ginseng, including the country of harvest, and for other purposes.

S. 1963

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the names of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. CASEY) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 1963, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow bonds guaranteed by the Federal home loan banks to be treated as tax exempt bonds.

S. 1965

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER) was added as

a cosponsor of S. 1965, a bill to protect children from cybercrimes, including crimes by online predators, to enhance efforts to identify and eliminate child pornography, and to help parents shield their children from material that is inappropriate for minors.

S. 1970

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1970, a bill to establish a National Commission on Children and Disasters, a National Resource Center on Children and Disasters, and for other purposes.

S. 1975

At the request of Mr. DODD, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1975, a bill to expand family and medical leave in support of servicemembers with combat-related injuries.

S. RES. 178

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 178, a resolution expressing the sympathy of the Senate to the families of women and girls murdered in Guatemala, and encouraging the United States to work with Guatemala to bring an end to these crimes.

S. RES. 269

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) and the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 269, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee should recommend to the Postmaster General that a commemorative postage stamp be issued in honor of former United States Representative Barbara Jordan.

S. RES. 296

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the name of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 296, a resolution designating September 2007 as "National Youth Court Month".

AMENDMENT NO. 2063

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2063 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2125

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2125 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction,

and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2208

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 2208 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 2647

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 2647 intended to be proposed to H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. ROCKEFELLER (for himself, Mr. INOUE, and Mr. SANDERS):

S. 1990. A bill to amend part D of title III of the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants and loan guarantees for health centers to enable the centers to fund capital needs projects, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, today I rise with Senators INOUE and SANDERS to introduce a very important bill—the Build, Update, Improve, Lift, and Design Health Centers Act of 2007. Also known as the BUILD Act, this legislation would provide building grants and loan guarantees to community health centers qualified under Section 330 of the Public Health Service Act. This widely-needed source of funding would be used for clinic renovation, replacement, modernization, and/or expansion in order to support community health centers in their on-going efforts to deliver high-quality health care in medically underserved areas.

Research from the National Association of Community Health Centers and the Robert Graham Center indicates that there are 56 million Americans that do not have access to a primary care provider, regardless of insurance. Another 45 million Americans lack health insurance or the funds to pay out-of-pocket for their basic health care needs. This means that more than 100 million Americans do not get the medical treatment they need each year.

Established over 40 years ago, community health centers are the back-

bone of America's health care safety net. Encompassing a network of over 1,000 centers, they provide much needed care to nearly 16 million people each year, including one in five children. 40 percent of health center patients are uninsured while Medicaid and CHIP cover approximately 36 percent. More than 70 percent of patients live in poverty. The average annual cost per patient is small, roughly \$1.25 per day. However, the benefits of community health centers are great. People in areas served by these clinics are less likely to use emergency room services and have unmet health care needs. Without these centers, many people, particularly those in rural areas, would have nowhere to turn.

Clearly, our Nation's health centers bring health care to those in need, but these health centers are in need as well. Renovation and modernization are important to keep these buildings intact and up-to-date. According to the National Association of Community Health Centers, 30 percent of the buildings are more than 30 years old and 12 percent are more than 50 years old. Narrow operating margins, however, mean that most health centers do not have the resources necessary to pay for the capital improvements or new facilities needed to continue providing effective health care.

In recent years, the President and the Senate have supported dramatic increases in funding to create a number of new community health centers. However, there has been no corresponding commitment to address the desperate need for renovation and modernization of the older centers.

Currently, the Federal Government has no authority to provide grants or loan guarantees to address the building and capacity needs of existing community health centers. The BUILD Act provides such authority and, in doing so, supports the ability of these clinics to continue offering high quality, cost-effective care now and into the future.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this critical legislation. I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

S. 1990

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 “Build, Update, Improve, Lift, and Design Health Centers Act of 2007” or the “BUILD Act”.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Many health care experts believe that lack of access to basic health services is our Nation's single most pressing health care problem. There are 56,000,000 Americans that do not have access to a primary care provider, whether they have health insurance or not. In addition, more than 45,000,000 Americans lack health insurance and have difficulty accessing care due to the inability to pay for such care.

(2) Health centers, including community health centers, migrant health centers, health centers for the homeless, and public housing health centers, address the health care access problem by providing primary care services in thousands of rural and urban medically-underserved communities throughout the United States.

(3) Health centers provide basic health care services to 16,000,000 Americans each year, including nearly 9,500,000 minorities, 850,000 farmworkers, and 750,000 homeless individuals. One in five children from low-income families receives care through health centers.

(4) Studies show that health centers provide high-quality and cost-effective health care. The average yearly cost for a health center patient is approximately \$1.25 per day.

(5) One of the most effective ways to address America's health care access problem is by dramatically expanding access to health centers, as both the Senate and the President have proposed.

(6) Many existing health centers operate in facilities that desperately need renovation or modernization. Thirty percent of health centers are located in buildings that are more than 30 years old, with 12 percent of such centers operating out of facilities that are more than 50 years old. In a survey of health centers in 11 States, 2/3 of those centers identified a need to improve, expand, or replace their current facility. An extrapolation based on this survey indicates there may be as much as \$2,200,000,000 in unmet capital needs in our Nation's health centers.

(7) Dramatically increasing access to health centers requires building new facilities in communities that have access problems and lack a health center.

(8) Health centers often do not have the means to pay for capital improvements or new facilities. While most health centers raise some funds through private donations, it is difficult to raise sufficient amounts for capital needs without a middle-upper-class donor base similar to other nonprofit organizations like universities and hospitals.

(9) Health centers have a limited ability to support loan payments. Due to an increasing number of uninsured patients and the fact that many health care reimbursements are less than the cost of care, health centers rarely have more than minimal positive operating margins. Yet lenders are rarely willing to take risks on nonprofit organizations without these positive margins.

(10) While the Federal Government currently provides grants to health centers to assist with operational expenses used to provide care to a medically underserved population, there is no authority to provide grants to assist health centers to meet capital needs, such as construction of new facilities or modernization, expansion, or replacement of existing buildings.

(11) To assist health centers with their mission of providing health care to the medically underserved, the Federal Government should supplement local efforts to meet the capital needs of health centers.

SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT.

(a) HEALTH CARE FACILITY GRANTS AND LOAN GUARANTEES.—Subpart I of part D of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 254b et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 330R. HEALTH CARE FACILITY GRANTS AND LOAN GUARANTEES.

“(a) ELIGIBLE HEALTH CENTER DEFINED.—In this section, the term ‘eligible health center’ means a health center that receives—

“(1) a grant, on or after the date of enactment of this section, under subsection