

Whereas the official launching of the International Year of Sanitation at the United Nations was on November 21, 2007; and

Whereas the thrust of the International Year of Sanitation has three parts, including raising awareness of the importance of sanitation and its impact on reaching other Millennium Development Goals, encouraging governments and its partners to promote and implement policies and actions for meeting the sanitation target, and mobilizing communities, particularly women's groups, towards changing sanitation and hygiene practices through sanitation health-education campaigns: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That Congress—*

(1) supports the goals and ideals of the International Year of Sanitation;

(2) recognizes the importance of sanitation on public health, poverty reduction, economic and social development, and the environment; and

(3) encourages the people of the United States to observe the International Year of Sanitation with appropriate recognition, ceremonies, activities, and programs to demonstrate the importance of sanitation, hygiene, and access to safe drinking water in achieving the Millennium Development Goals.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4381. Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3221, moving the United States toward greater energy independence and security, developing innovative new technologies, reducing carbon emissions, creating green jobs, protecting consumers, increasing clean renewable energy production, and modernizing our energy infrastructure, and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the production of renewable energy and energy conservation; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4382. Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Mr. SMITH, Mr. KERRY, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3221, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4383. Mr. NELSON of Florida (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. LEAHY)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 980, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to address online pharmacies.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4381. Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mr. HARKIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3221, moving the United States toward greater energy independence and security, developing innovative new technologies, reducing carbon emissions, creating green jobs, protecting consumers, increasing clean renewable energy production, and modernizing our energy infrastructure, and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the production of renewable energy and energy conservation; which was ordered to lie on the table, as follows:

On page 13, line 8, strike "\$200,000,000,000" and insert "\$237,500,000".

On page 13, line 13, strike the period and insert the following: " Provided, That, of

such amounts \$37,500,000 shall be used by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation (referred to in this section as the 'NRC') to (1) make grants to counseling intermediaries approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or the NRC to hire attorneys trained and capable of assisting homeowners of owner-occupied homes with mortgages in default, in danger of default, or subject to or at risk of foreclosure who have legal issues that cannot be handled by counselors already employed by such intermediaries, and (2) support NRC partnerships with State and local legal organizations and organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of that Code with demonstrated relevant legal experience in home foreclosure law, as such experience is determined by the Chief Executive Officer of NRC: Provided further, That for the purpose of the prior proviso the term 'relevant experience' means experience representing homeowners in negotiations and or legal proceedings aimed at preventing or mitigating foreclosure or providing legal research and technical legal expertise to community based organizations whose goal is to reduce, prevent, or mitigate foreclosure: Provided further, That of the amounts provided for in the prior provisos the NRC shall give priority consideration to counseling intermediaries and legal organizations that (1) provide legal assistance in the 100 metropolitan statistical areas (as defined by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget) with the highest home foreclosure rates, and (2) have the capacity to begin using the financial assistance within 90 days after receipt of the assistance."

On page 13, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

SEC. 302. LEGAL ASSISTANCE RELATED TO HOME OWNERSHIP PRESERVATION AND FORECLOSURE PREVENTION.

(a) APPROPRIATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated and there is appropriated to the Legal Services Corporation \$37,500,000 to provide legal assistance related to home ownership preservation, home foreclosure prevention, and tenancy associated with home foreclosure.

(2) AVAILABILITY.—Such funds shall remain available until expended.

(b) FUNDING REQUIREMENTS.—Each limitation on expenditures, and each term or condition, that applies to funds appropriated to the Legal Services Corporation under the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008, shall apply to funds appropriated to the Corporation under subsection (a), except as provided in subsections (a)(1) and (c).

(c) PRIORITY.—In providing financial assistance from the funds appropriated under subsection (a), the Corporation shall give priority to eligible entities and individuals that—

(1) provide legal assistance in the 100 metropolitan statistical areas (as defined by the Director of the Office of Management and Budget) with the highest home foreclosure rates; and

(2) have the capacity to begin using the financial assistance within 90 days after receipt of the assistance.

SA 4382. Mrs. LINCOLN (for herself, Mr. SMITH, Mr. KERRY, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 3221, moving the United States toward greater energy independence and security, developing innovative new technologies, reducing carbon emissions, creating green jobs, pro-

tecting consumers, increasing clean renewable energy production, and modernizing our energy infrastructure, and to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide tax incentives for the production of renewable energy and energy conservation; which was ordered to lie on the table, as follows:

At the end of title III add the following:

SEC. 302. EXCLUSION FOR AMOUNTS RECEIVED UNDER QUALIFIED GROUP LEGAL SERVICES PLANS RESTORED, EXTENDED, AND MODIFIED.

(a) REMOVAL OF DOLLAR LIMITATION.—Section 120(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to exclusion by employee for contributions and legal services provided by employer) is amended by striking the last sentence.

(b) REAL ESTATE MATTERS EMPHASIZED.—Section 120(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to requirements) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(6) BENEFITS.—The plan shall provide, at a minimum, legal services for real estate matters relating to family or personal residences, including document review of real estate sales, purchases, closings, mortgages, and foreclosures."

(c) EXTENSION.—Section 120(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

"(e) APPLICATION.—This section and section 501(c)(20) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007, and before January 1, 2010."

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SA 4383. Mr. NELSON of Florida (for Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. COLEMAN, and Mr. LEAHY)) proposed an amendment to the bill S. 980, to amend the Controlled Substances Act to address online pharmacies; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Ryan Haight Online Pharmacy Consumer Protection Act of 2008".

SEC. 2. REQUIREMENT OF A VALID PRESCRIPTION FOR CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES DISPENSED BY MEANS OF THE INTERNET.

Section 309 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 829) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"(e) CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES DISPENSED BY MEANS OF THE INTERNET.—

"(1) No controlled substance may be delivered, distributed, or dispensed by means of the Internet without a valid prescription.

"(2) As used in this subsection:

"(A) The term 'valid prescription' means a prescription that is issued for a legitimate medical purpose in the usual course of professional practice by—

"(i) a practitioner who has conducted at least 1 in-person medical evaluation of the patient; or

"(ii) a covering practitioner.

"(B)(i) The term 'in-person medical evaluation' means a medical evaluation that is conducted with the patient in the physical presence of the practitioner, without regard to whether portions of the evaluation are conducted by other health professionals.

"(ii) Nothing in clause (i) shall be construed to imply that 1 in-person medical evaluation demonstrates that a prescription has been issued for a legitimate medical purpose within the usual course of professional practice.

“(C) The term ‘covering practitioner’ means, with respect to a patient, a practitioner who conducts a medical evaluation (other than an in-person medical evaluation) at the request of a practitioner who—

“(i) has conducted at least 1 in-person medical evaluation of the patient or an evaluation of the patient through the practice of telemedicine, within the previous 24 months; and

“(ii) is temporarily unavailable to conduct the evaluation of the patient.

“(3) Nothing in this subsection shall apply to—

“(A) the delivery, distribution, or dispensing of a controlled substance by a practitioner engaged in the practice of telemedicine; or

“(B) the dispensing or selling of a controlled substance pursuant to practices as determined by the Attorney General by regulation, which shall be consistent with effective controls against diversion.”

**SEC. 3. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES ACT RELATING TO THE DELIVERY OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES BY MEANS OF THE INTERNET.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(50) The term ‘Internet’ means collectively the myriad of computer and telecommunications facilities, including equipment and operating software, which comprise the interconnected worldwide network of networks that employ the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol, or any predecessor or successor protocol to such protocol, to communicate information of all kinds by wire or radio.

“(51) The term ‘deliver, distribute, or dispense by means of the Internet’ refers, respectively, to any delivery, distribution, or dispensing of a controlled substance that is caused or facilitated by means of the Internet.

“(52) The term ‘online pharmacy’—

“(A) means a person, entity, or Internet site, whether in the United States or abroad, that knowingly or intentionally delivers, distributes, or dispenses, or offers or attempts to deliver, distribute, or dispense, a controlled substance by means of the Internet; and

“(B) does not include—

“(i) manufacturers or distributors registered under subsection (a), (b), (c), or (d) of section 303 who do not dispense controlled substances to an unregistered individual or entity;

“(ii) nonpharmacy practitioners who are registered under section 303(f) and whose activities are authorized by that registration;

“(iii) any hospital or other medical facility that is operated by an agency of the United States (including the Armed Forces), provided such hospital or other facility is registered under section 303(f);

“(iv) a health care facility owned or operated by an Indian tribe or tribal organization, only to the extent such facility is carrying out a contract or compact under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.);

“(v) any agent or employee of any hospital or facility referred to in clause (iii) or (iv), provided such agent or employee is lawfully acting in the usual course of business or employment, and within the scope of the official duties of such agent or employee, with such hospital or facility, and, with respect to agents or employees of health care facilities specified in clause (iv), only to the extent such individuals are furnishing services pursuant to the contracts or compacts described in such clause;

“(vi) mere advertisements that do not attempt to facilitate an actual transaction involving a controlled substance;

“(vii) a person, entity, or Internet site that is not in the United States and does not facilitate the delivery, distribution, or dispensing of a controlled substance by means of the Internet to any person in the United States;

“(viii) a pharmacy registered under section 303(f) whose dispensing of controlled substances via the Internet consists solely of—

“(I) ‘refilling prescriptions for controlled substances in schedule III, IV, or V’, as defined in paragraph (55); or

“(II) ‘filling new prescriptions for controlled substances in schedule III, IV, or V’, as defined in paragraph (56); or

“(ix) any other persons for whom the Attorney General and the Secretary have jointly, by regulation, found it to be consistent with effective controls against diversion and otherwise consistent with the public health and safety to exempt from the definition of an ‘online pharmacy’.

“(53) The term ‘homepage’ means the opening or main page or screen of the website of an online pharmacy that is viewable on the Internet.

“(54) The term ‘practice of telemedicine’ means, for purposes of this title, the practice of medicine in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws by a practitioner (other than a pharmacist) who is at a location remote from the patient and is communicating with the patient, or health care professional who is treating the patient, using a telecommunications system referred to in section 1834(m) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)), and that—

“(A) is being conducted—

“(i) while the patient is being treated by, and physically located in, a hospital or clinic registered under section 303(f); and

“(ii) by a practitioner—

“(I) acting in the usual course of professional practice;

“(II) acting in accordance with applicable State law; and

“(III) registered under section 303(f) in the State in which the patient is located, unless the practitioner—

“(aa) is exempted from such registration in all States under section 302(d); or

“(bb) is—

“(AA) an employee or contractor of the Department of Veterans Affairs who is acting in the scope of such employment or contract; and

“(BB) registered under section 303(f) in any State or is utilizing the registration of a hospital or clinic operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs registered under section 303(f);

“(B) is being conducted while the patient is being treated by, and in the physical presence of, a practitioner—

“(i) acting in the usual course of professional practice;

“(ii) acting in accordance with applicable State law; and

“(iii) registered under section 303(f) in the State in which the patient is located, unless the practitioner—

“(I) is exempted from such registration in all States under section 302(d); or

“(II) is—

“(aa) an employee or contractor of the Department of Veterans Affairs who is acting in the scope of such employment or contract; and

“(bb) registered under section 303(f) in any State or is using the registration of a hospital or clinic operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs registered under section 303(f);

“(C) is being conducted by a practitioner—

“(i) who is an employee or contractor of the Indian Health Service, or is working for an Indian tribe or tribal organization under its contract or compact with the Indian Health Service under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.);

“(ii) acting within the scope of the employment, contract, or compact described in clause (i); and

“(iii) who is designated as an Internet Eligible Controlled Substances Provider by the Secretary under section 311(g)(2);

“(D)(i) is being conducted during a public health emergency declared by the Secretary under section 319 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 247d); and

“(ii) involves patients located in such areas, and such controlled substances, as the Secretary, with the concurrence of the Attorney General, designates, provided that such designation shall not be subject to the procedures prescribed by subchapter II of chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code;

“(E) is being conducted by a practitioner who has obtained from the Attorney General a special registration under section 311(h);

“(F) is being conducted—

“(i) in a medical emergency situation—

“(I) that prevents the patient from being in the physical presence of a practitioner registered under section 303(f) who is an employee or contractor of the Veterans Health Administration acting in the usual course of business and employment and within the scope of the official duties or contract of that employee or contractor;

“(II) that prevents the patient from being physically present at a hospital or clinic operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs registered under section 303(f);

“(III) during which the primary care practitioner of the patient or a practitioner otherwise practicing telemedicine within the meaning of this paragraph is unable to provide care or consultation; and

“(IV) that requires immediate intervention by a health care practitioner using controlled substances to prevent what the practitioner reasonably believes in good faith will be imminent and serious clinical consequences, such as further injury or death; and

“(ii) by a practitioner that—

“(I) is an employee or contractor of the Veterans Health Administration acting within the scope of that employment or contract;

“(II) is registered under section 303(f) in any State or is utilizing the registration of a hospital or clinic operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs registered under section 303(f); and

“(III) issues a controlled substance prescription in this emergency context that is limited to a maximum of a 5-day supply which may not be extended or refilled; or

“(G) is being conducted under any other circumstances that the Attorney General and the Secretary have jointly, by regulation, determined to be consistent with effective controls against diversion and otherwise consistent with the public health and safety.

“(55) The term ‘refilling prescriptions for controlled substances in schedule III, IV, or V’—

“(A) means the dispensing of a controlled substance in schedule III, IV, or V in accordance with refill instructions issued by a practitioner as part of a valid prescription that meets the requirements of subsection (b) or (c) of section 309, as appropriate; and

“(B) does not include the issuance of a new prescription to an individual for a controlled substance that individual was previously prescribed.

“(56) The term ‘filling new prescriptions for controlled substances in schedule III, IV, or V’ means a prescription for an individual

for a controlled substance in schedule III, IV, or V, if—

“(A) the pharmacy dispensing that prescription has previously dispensed to the patient that same controlled substance other than by means of the Internet and pursuant to the valid prescription of a practitioner that meets the applicable requirements of sections 309(b) or (c) (in this paragraph referred to as the ‘original prescription’);

“(B) the pharmacy contacts the practitioner who issued the original prescription at the request of that individual to determine whether the practitioner will authorize the issuance of a new prescription for that individual for the controlled substance described in subparagraph (A); and

“(C) the practitioner, acting in the usual course of professional practice, determines there is a legitimate medical purpose for the issuance of the new prescription.”

(b) **REGISTRATION REQUIREMENTS.**—Section 303(f) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 823(f)) is amended in the matter preceding paragraph (1)—

(1) in the first sentence, by adding after “schedule II, III, IV, or V” the following: “and shall modify the registrations of pharmacies so registered to authorize them to dispense controlled substances by means of the Internet”; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking “if he determines that the issuance of such registration” and inserting “or such modification of registration if the Attorney General determines that the issuance of such registration or modification”.

(c) **REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.**—Section 307(d) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 827(d)) is amended by—

(1) designating the text as paragraph (1); and

(2) inserting after paragraph (1), as so designated by this Act, the following:

“(2) Each pharmacy with a modified registration under section 303(f) that authorizes the dispensing of controlled substances by means of the Internet shall report to the Attorney General the controlled substances it dispenses, in the amount specified, and in such time and manner as the Attorney General by regulation shall require, except that the Attorney General, under this paragraph, may not require any pharmacy to report any information other than the total quantity of each controlled substance that the pharmacy has dispensed each month. For purposes of this subsection, no reporting shall be required unless the pharmacy has met 1 of the following thresholds in the month for which the reporting is required:

“(A) 100 or more prescriptions dispensed.

“(B) 5,000 or more dosage units of all controlled substances combined.”

(d) **ONLINE PRESCRIPTION REQUIREMENTS.**—(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Controlled Substances Act is amended by inserting after section 310 (21 U.S.C. 830) the following:

“**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO ONLINE PHARMACIES AND TELEMEDICINE**

“**SEC. 311. (a) IN GENERAL.**—An online pharmacy shall display in a visible and clear manner on its homepage a statement that it complies with the requirements of this section with respect to the delivery or sale or offer for sale of controlled substances and shall at all times display on the homepage of its Internet site a declaration of compliance in accordance with this section.

“(b) **LICENSURE.**—Each online pharmacy shall comply with the requirements of State law concerning the licensure of pharmacies in each State from which it, and in each State to which it, delivers, distributes, or dispenses or offers to deliver, distribute, or dispense controlled substances by means of the Internet, pursuant to applicable licen-

sure requirements, as determined by each such State.

“(c) **INTERNET PHARMACY SITE DISCLOSURE INFORMATION.**—Each online pharmacy shall post in a visible and clear manner on the homepage of each Internet site it operates, or on a page directly linked thereto in which the hyperlink is also visible and clear on the homepage, the following information for each pharmacy that delivers, distributes, or dispenses controlled substances pursuant to orders made on, through, or on behalf of, that website:

“(1) The name and address of the pharmacy as it appears on the pharmacy’s Drug Enforcement Administration certificate of registration.

“(2) The pharmacy’s telephone number and email address.

“(3) The name, professional degree, and States of licensure of the pharmacist-in-charge, and a telephone number at which the pharmacist-in-charge can be contacted.

“(4) A list of the States in which the pharmacy is licensed to dispense controlled substances.

“(5) A certification that the pharmacy is registered under this part to deliver, distribute, or dispense by means of the Internet controlled substances.

“(6) The name, address, telephone number, professional degree, and States of licensure of any practitioner who has a contractual relationship to provide medical evaluations or issue prescriptions for controlled substances, through referrals from the website or at the request of the owner or operator of the website, or any employee or agent thereof.

“(7) The following statement, unless revised by the Attorney General by regulation: ‘This online pharmacy will only dispense a controlled substance to a person who has a valid prescription issued for a legitimate medical purpose based upon a medical relationship with a prescribing practitioner. This includes at least one prior in-person medical evaluation or medical evaluation via telemedicine in accordance with applicable requirements of section 309 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 829).’

“(d) **NOTIFICATION.**—(1) Thirty days prior to offering a controlled substance for sale, delivery, distribution, or dispensing, the online pharmacy shall notify the Attorney General, in the form and manner as the Attorney General shall determine, and the State boards of pharmacy in any States in which the online pharmacy offers to sell, deliver, distribute, or dispense controlled substances.

“(2) The notification required under paragraph (1) shall include—

“(A) the information required to be posted on the online pharmacy’s Internet site under subsection (c) and shall notify the Attorney General and the applicable State boards of pharmacy, under penalty of perjury, that the information disclosed on its Internet site under subsection (c) is true and accurate;

“(B) the online pharmacy’s Internet site address and a certification that the online pharmacy shall notify the Attorney General of any change in the address at least 30 days in advance; and

“(C) the Drug Enforcement Administration registration numbers of any pharmacies and practitioners referred to in subsection (c), as applicable.

“(3) An online pharmacy that is already operational as of the effective date of this section, shall notify the Attorney General and applicable State boards of pharmacy in accordance with this subsection not later than 30 days after the effective date of this section.

“(e) **DECLARATION OF COMPLIANCE.**—On and after the date on which it makes the notification under subsection (d), each online pharmacy shall display on the homepage of

its Internet site, in such form as the Attorney General shall by regulation require, a declaration that it has made such notification to the Attorney General.

“(f) **REPORTS.**—Any statement, declaration, notification, or disclosure required under this section shall be considered a report required to be kept under this part.

“(g) **NOTICE AND DESIGNATIONS CONCERNING INDIAN TRIBES.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—For purposes of sections 102(52) and 512(c)(6)(B), the Secretary shall notify the Attorney General, at such times and in such manner as the Secretary and the Attorney General determine appropriate, of the Indian tribes or tribal organizations with which the Secretary has contracted or compacted under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) for the tribes or tribal organizations to provide pharmacy services.

“(2) **DESIGNATIONS.**—

“(A) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary may designate a practitioner described in subparagraph (B) as an Internet Eligible Controlled Substances Provider. Such designations shall be made only in cases where the Secretary has found that there is a legitimate need for the practitioner to be so designated because the population served by the practitioner is in a sufficiently remote location that access to medical services is limited.

“(B) **PRACTITIONERS.**—A practitioner described in this subparagraph is a practitioner who is an employee or contractor of the Indian Health Service, or is working for an Indian tribe or tribal organization under its contract or compact under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450 et seq.) with the Indian Health Service.

“(h) **SPECIAL REGISTRATION FOR TELEMEDICINE.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—The Attorney General may issue to a practitioner a special registration to engage in the practice of telemedicine for purposes of section 102(54)(E) if the practitioner, upon application for such special registration—

“(A) demonstrates a legitimate need for the special registration; and

“(B) is registered under section 303(f) in the State in which the patient will be located when receiving the telemedicine treatment, unless the practitioner—

“(i) is exempted from such registration in all States under section 302(d); or

“(ii) is an employee or contractor of the Department of Veterans Affairs who is acting in the scope of such employment or contract and is registered under section 303(f) in any State or is utilizing the registration of a hospital or clinic operated by the Department of Veterans Affairs registered under section 303(f).

“(2) **REGULATIONS.**—The Attorney General shall, with the concurrence of the Secretary, promulgate regulations specifying the limited circumstances in which a special registration under this subsection may be issued and the procedures for obtaining such a special registration.

“(3) **DENIALS.**—Proceedings to deny an application for registration under this subsection shall be conducted in accordance with section 304(c).

“(i) **REPORTING OF TELEMEDICINE BY VHA DURING MEDICAL EMERGENCY SITUATIONS.**—

“(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Any practitioner issuing a prescription for a controlled substance under the authorization to conduct telemedicine during a medical emergency situation described in section 102(54)(F) shall report to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs the authorization of that emergency prescription, in accordance with such requirements as the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, by regulation, establish.

“(2) TO ATTORNEY GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date that a prescription described in subparagraph (A) is issued, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall report to the Attorney General the authorization of that emergency prescription.

“(j) CLARIFICATION CONCERNING PRESCRIPTION TRANSFERS.—Any transfer between pharmacies of information relating to a prescription for a controlled substance shall meet the applicable requirements under regulations promulgated by the Attorney General under this Act.”.

(2) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of contents for the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970 (Public Law 91-513; 84 Stat. 1236) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 310 the following:

“Sec. 311. Additional requirements relating to online pharmacies and telemedicine.”.

(e) OFFENSES INVOLVING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES IN SCHEDULES III, IV, AND V.—Section 401(b) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (C), by striking “1 gram of” before “flunitrazepam”;

(B) in subparagraph (D), by striking “or in the case of any controlled substance in schedule III (other than gamma hydroxybutyric acid), or 30 milligrams of flunitrazepam”;

(C) by adding at the end the following:

“(E)(i) In the case of any controlled substance in schedule III, such person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 10 years and if death or serious bodily injury results from the use of such substance shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 20 years, a fine not to exceed the greater of that authorized in accordance with the provisions of title 18, United States Code, or \$500,000 if the defendant is an individual or \$2,500,000 if the defendant is other than an individual, or both.

“(ii) If any person commits such a violation after a prior conviction for a felony drug offense has become final, such person shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 20 years and if death or serious bodily injury results from the use of such substance shall be sentenced to a term of imprisonment of not more than 30 years, a fine not to exceed the greater of twice that authorized in accordance with the provisions of title 18, United States Code, or \$1,000,000 if the defendant is an individual or \$5,000,000 if the defendant is other than an individual, or both.

“(iii) Any sentence imposing a term of imprisonment under this subparagraph shall, in the absence of such a prior conviction, impose a term of supervised release of at least 2 years in addition to such term of imprisonment and shall, if there was such a prior conviction, impose a term of supervised release of at least 4 years in addition to such term of imprisonment.”.

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by striking “3 years” and inserting “5 years”;

(B) by striking “6 years” and inserting “10 years”;

(C) by striking “after one or more prior convictions” and all that follows through “have become final,” and inserting “after a prior conviction for a felony drug offense has become final.”; and

(3) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking “2 years” and inserting “6 years”;

(B) by striking “after one or more convictions” and all that follows through “have become final,” and inserting “after a prior conviction for a felony drug offense has become final.”; and

(C) by adding at the end the following: “Any sentence imposing a term of imprisonment under this paragraph may, if there was a prior conviction, impose a term of supervised release of not more than 1 year, in addition to such term of imprisonment.”.

(f) OFFENSES INVOLVING DISPENSING OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES BY MEANS OF THE INTERNET.—Section 401 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 841) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(g) OFFENSES INVOLVING DISPENSING OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES BY MEANS OF THE INTERNET.—(1) It shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly or intentionally—

“(A) deliver, distribute, or dispense a controlled substance by means of the Internet, except as authorized by this title; or

“(B) aid or abet (as such terms are used in section 2 of title 18, United States Code) any activity described in subparagraph (A) that is not authorized by this title.

“(2) Examples of activities that violate paragraph (1) include, but are not limited to, knowingly or intentionally—

“(A) delivering, distributing, or dispensing a controlled substance by means of the Internet by an online pharmacy that is not validly registered with a modification authorizing such activity as required by section 303(f) (unless exempt from such registration);

“(B) writing a prescription for a controlled substance for the purpose of delivery, distribution, or dispensation by means of the Internet in violation of section 309(e);

“(C) serving as an agent, intermediary, or other entity that causes the Internet to be used to bring together a buyer and seller to engage in the dispensing of a controlled substance in a manner not authorized by sections 303(f) or 309(e);

“(D) offering to fill a prescription for a controlled substance based solely on a consumer’s completion of an online medical questionnaire; and

“(E) making a material false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation in the submission to the Attorney General under section 311.

“(3)(A) This subsection does not apply to—

“(i) the delivery, distribution, or dispensation of controlled substances by nonpractitioners to the extent authorized by their registration under this title;

“(ii) the placement on the Internet of material that merely advocates the use of a controlled substance or includes pricing information without attempting to propose or facilitate an actual transaction involving a controlled substance; or

“(iii) except as provided in subparagraph (B), any activity that is limited to—

“(I) the provision of a telecommunications service, or of an Internet access service or Internet information location tool (as those terms are defined in section 231 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 231)); or

“(II) the transmission, storage, retrieval, hosting, formatting, or translation (or any combination thereof) of a communication, without selection or alteration of the content of the communication, except that deletion of a particular communication or material made by another person in a manner consistent with section 230(c) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 230(c)) shall not constitute such selection or alteration of the content of the communication.

“(B) The exceptions under subclauses (I) and (II) of subparagraph (A)(iii) shall not apply to a person acting in concert with a person who violates paragraph (1).

“(4) Any person who knowingly or intentionally violates this subsection shall be sentenced in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.”.

(g) PUBLICATION.—Section 403(c) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 843(c)) is amended by—

(1) designating the text as paragraph (1); and

(2) adding at the end the following:

“(2)(A) Except as authorized by this title, it shall be unlawful for any person by means of the Internet to knowingly advertise the sale or distribution of, or to offer to sell, distribute, or dispense, a controlled substance.

“(B) Examples of activities that violate subparagraph (A) include, but are not limited to, knowingly or intentionally causing the placement on the Internet of an advertisement that refers to or directs prospective buyers to Internet sellers of controlled substances who are not registered with a modification under section 303(f).

“(C) Subparagraph (A) does not apply to material that either—

“(i) merely advertises the distribution of controlled substances by nonpractitioners to the extent authorized by their registration under this title; or

“(ii) merely advocates the use of a controlled substance or includes pricing information without attempting to facilitate an actual transaction involving a controlled substance.”.

(h) INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.—Section 512 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 882) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(c) STATE CAUSE OF ACTION PERTAINING TO ONLINE PHARMACIES.—(1) In any case in which the State has reason to believe that an interest of the residents of that State has been or is being threatened or adversely affected by the action of a person, entity, or Internet site that violates the provisions of section 303(f), 309(e), or 311, the State may bring a civil action on behalf of such residents in a district court of the United States with appropriate jurisdiction—

“(A) to enjoin the conduct which violates this section;

“(B) to enforce compliance with this section;

“(C) to obtain damages, restitution, or other compensation, including civil penalties under section 402(b); and

“(D) to obtain such other legal or equitable relief as the court may find appropriate.

“(2)(A) Prior to filing a complaint under paragraph (1), the State shall serve a copy of the complaint upon the Attorney General and upon the United States Attorney for the judicial district in which the complaint is to be filed. In any case where such prior service is not feasible, the State shall serve the complaint on the Attorney General and the appropriate United States Attorney on the same day that the State’s complaint is filed in Federal district court of the United States. Such proceedings shall be independent of, and not in lieu of, criminal prosecutions or any other proceedings under this title or any other laws of the United States.

“(B) Upon receiving notice respecting a civil action pursuant to this section, the United States shall have the right to intervene in such action, upon so intervening, to be heard on all matters arising therein, and to file petitions for appeal.

“(C) Service of a State’s complaint on the United States as required in this paragraph shall be made in accord with the requirements of rule 4(i)(1) of the Federal Rule of Civil Procedure.

“(3) For purposes of bringing any civil action under paragraph (1), nothing in this Act shall prevent an attorney general of a State from exercising the powers conferred on the attorney general of a State by the laws of such State to conduct investigations or to administer oaths or affirmations or to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of documentary or other evidence.

“(4) Any civil action brought under paragraph (1) in a district court of the United States may be brought in the district in

which the defendant is found, is an inhabitant, or transacts business or wherever venue is proper under section 1391 of title 28, United States Code. Process in such action may be served in any district in which the defendant is an inhabitant or in which the defendant may be found.

“(5) No private right of action is created under this subsection.

“(6) No civil action may be brought under paragraph (1) against—

“(A) the United States;

“(B) an Indian Tribe or tribal organization, to the extent such tribe or tribal organization is lawfully carrying out a contract or compact under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act; or

“(C) any employee of the United States or such Indian tribe or tribal organization, provided such agent or employee is acting in the usual course of business or employment, and within the scope of the official duties of such agent or employee therewith.”

(I) FORFEITURE OF FACILITATING PROPERTY IN DRUG CASES.—Section 511(a)(4) of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 881(a)(4)) is amended to read as follows:

“(4) Any property, real or personal, tangible or intangible, used or intended to be used to commit, or to facilitate the commission, of a violation of this title or title III, and any property traceable thereto.”

(J) IMPORT AND EXPORT ACT.—Section 1010(b) of the Controlled Substances Import and Export Act (21 U.S.C. 960(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking “or any quantity of a controlled substance in schedule III, IV, or V, (except a violation involving flunitrazepam and except a violation involving gamma hydroxybutyric acid)”;

(B) by inserting “, or” before “less than one kilogram of hashish oil”; and

(C) striking “imprisoned” and all that follows through the end of the paragraph and inserting “sentenced in accordance with section 401(b)(1)(D) of this title (21 U.S.C. 841(b)(1)(E)).”;

(2) by adding at the end the following:

“(5) In the case of a violation of subsection (a) of this section involving a controlled substance in schedule III, such person shall be sentenced in accordance with section 401(b)(1)(E).

“(6) In the case of a violation of subsection (a) of this section involving a controlled substance in schedule IV (except a violation involving flunitrazepam), such person shall be sentenced in accordance with section 401(b)(2).

“(7) In the case of a violation of subsection (a) of this section involving a controlled substance in schedule V, such person shall be sentenced in accordance with section 401(b)(3).”; and

(3) in paragraph (3), by striking “, nor shall a person so sentenced be eligible for parole during the term of such a sentence” in the final sentence.

(K) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this Act shall take effect 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) DEFINITION OF PRACTICE OF TELEMEDICINE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Until the earlier of 3 months after the date on which regulations are promulgated to carry out section 311(h) of the Controlled Substances Act, as amended by this Act, or 15 months after the date of enactment of this Act—

(i) the definition of the term “practice of telemedicine” in subparagraph (B) of this paragraph shall apply for purposes of the Controlled Substances Act; and

(ii) the definition of the term “practice of telemedicine” in section 102(54) of the Controlled Substances Act, as amended by this Act, shall not apply.

(B) TEMPORARY PHASE-IN OF TELEMEDICINE REGULATION.—During the period specified in subparagraph (A), the term “practice of telemedicine” means the practice of medicine in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws by a practitioner (as that term is defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)) (other than a pharmacist) who is at a location remote from the patient and is communicating with the patient, or health care professional who is treating the patient, using a telecommunications system referred to in section 1834(m) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395m(m)), if the practitioner is using an interactive telecommunications system that satisfies the requirements of section 410.78(a)(3) of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations.

(C) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to create a precedent that any specific course of conduct constitutes the “practice of telemedicine” (as that term is defined in section 102(54) of the Controlled Substances Act, as amended by this Act) after the end of the period specified in subparagraph (A).

(1) GUIDELINES AND REGULATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may promulgate and enforce any rules, regulations, and procedures which may be necessary and appropriate for the efficient execution of functions under this Act or the amendments made by this Act, and, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Health and Human Services where this Act or the amendments made by this Act so provides, promulgate any interim rules necessary for the implementation of this Act or the amendments made by this Act, prior to its effective date.

(2) SENTENCING GUIDELINES.—The United States Sentencing Commission, in determining whether to amend, or establish new, guidelines or policy statements, to conform the Federal sentencing guidelines and policy statements to this Act and the amendments made by this Act—

(A) shall consult with the Department of Justice, experts and other affected parties concerning which penalties for scheduled substances amended by this Act should be reflected in the Federal sentencing guidelines; and

(B) should not construe any change in the maximum penalty for a violation involving a controlled substance in a particular schedule as being the sole reason to amend a, or establish a new, guideline or policy statement.

(M) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually for 2 years after the initial report, the Drug Enforcement Administration, in consultation with the Department of State, shall submit to Congress a report describing—

(1) the foreign supply chains and sources of controlled substances offered for sale without a valid prescription on the Internet;

(2) the efforts and strategy of the Drug Enforcement Administration to decrease the foreign supply chain and sources of controlled substances offered for sale without a valid prescription on the Internet; and

(3) the efforts of the Drug Enforcement Administration to work with domestic and multinational pharmaceutical companies and others to build international cooperation and a commitment to fight on a global scale the problem of distribution of controlled substances over the Internet without a valid prescription.

#### SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this Act shall be construed as authorizing, prohibiting, or limiting the use of electronic prescriptions for controlled substances.

#### NOTICE OF MEETING

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to announce that the organizational meeting for the Joint Congressional Committee on Inaugural Ceremonies will be held tomorrow, Wednesday, April 2, 2008, at 5:15 p.m., in room S-219 of the Capitol.

For further information regarding this meeting, please contact Howard Gantman at the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration, 224-6352.

#### AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

##### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, at 2:30 p.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Finance be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, at 10 a.m., in room 215 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to hear testimony on “Anti-Terrorism Financing: Progress Made and the Challenges Ahead”.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, at 2:30 p.m., to hold a closed briefing on Iraq.

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

##### COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing entitled “Serious OSHA Violations: Strategies for Breaking Dangerous Patterns” on Tuesday, April 1, 2008. The hearing will commence at 10 a.m. in room 430 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

##### READINESS AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed

Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, at 2:30 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on the current readiness of the Armed Forces in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 and the Future Years Defense Program.

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

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on April 1, 2008, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed business meeting.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIRLAND

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Airland of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, at 9:30 a.m., in open session to receive testimony on the Army's new doctrine (field manual 3-0, operations) in review of the defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 and the Future Years Defense Program.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE LAW

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary, Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate to conduct a hearing entitled "Rape as a Weapon of War: Accountability for Sexual Violence in Conflict" on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, at 10 a.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness list

Lisa F. Jackson, Documentary Maker and Director of "The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo", New York, NY; Karin Wachter, Acting Gender-Based Violence Senior Technical Advisor, International Rescue Committee, New York, NY; Dr. Kelly Dawn Askin, Senior Legal Officer, Open Society Justice Initiative, New York, NY; Dr. Denis Mukwege, Director, Panzi General Referral Hospital, Bukavu, South Kivu, Democratic Republic of the Congo.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Strategic Forces of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, April 1, 2008, at 2:30 p.m., in open session to receive testimony on ballistic missile defense programs in review of the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 2009 and the Future Years Defense Program.

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

DISCHARGE AND REFERRAL—S.  
2756

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the HELP Committee be discharged from further consideration of S. 2756, and the bill be referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

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

FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 495, submitted earlier today by Senator AKAKA.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 495) designating April 2008 as "Financial Literacy Month."

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, it pleases me to once again sponsor a resolution designating April as Financial Literacy Month. I thank the cosponsors of this resolution, Senators ENZI, DODD, STABENOW, LEVIN, SCHUMER, INOUE, MENENDEZ, CRAPO, JOHNSON, CARDIN, LINCOLN, COCHRAN, MARTINEZ, MURRAY, ALLARD, DURBIN, BAUCUS, and FEINSTEIN.

Without a sufficient understanding of economics and personal finance, individuals will not be able to appropriately manage their finances, evaluate credit opportunities, and successfully invest for long-term financial goals in an increasingly complex marketplace. It is essential that we work toward improving education and consumer protection, and empowering individuals through economic and financial literacy in order to build stronger families, businesses, and communities. Now more than ever, it is imperative that education in economics, credit, and personal finance takes center stage. During the past year, we have seen the unscrupulous nature of predatory lenders as they enticed millions of families into complicated loans they could not afford nor understand, and we are now witnessing the results of a faltering housing market that has begun to impact other sectors of the U.S. economy. Rapidly increasing access to credit for Americans was not matched by efforts to ensure they could make sense of the complex agreements they were entering into.

As recent statistics released by the Federal Reserve and the Department of Commerce have shown, consumer debt in America continues to rise. Last year, the total amount of consumer debt topped \$2.5 trillion, of which credit card balances comprise a major portion. Hard-working Americans now spend a record 14 percent of their income just to pay the interest on their accumulated consumer debt. Personal savings rates have been negative for 2

out of the last 3 years, a situation not seen in this country since the Great Depression. In a time of rising costs of energy, higher education, and health care, it is even more challenging for working families to navigate their difficult financial situations.

Furthermore, a study conducted last year by the National Council on Economic Education found that, compared with 2004, even fewer States now require testing knowledge of economics as a requirement for high school graduation. We need to do more to invest in financial literacy now for our young men and women in order to ensure a knowledgeable, prosperous generation of future American leaders who will be able to make decisions that will benefit both their families and our nation.

I thank those organizations and individuals who do their part to ensure the education of personal finance reaches as many Americans as possible, and I applaud their efforts in these times of economic distress.

Taking the month of April to focus our attention on financial literacy will allow us to make steady progress in helping to make Americans more competent with their limited financial resources. I urge my colleagues to join with me in the swift passage of this resolution, and together we can work toward a future where all Americans enjoy the benefits of a financially literate society.

Mr. NELSON of Florida. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements be printed in the RECORD.

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

The resolution (S. Res. 495) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 495

Whereas the personal savings rate of people in the United States declined from negative 0.5 percent in 2005 to negative 1.0 percent in 2006, making 2005 and 2006 the only years since the Great Depression years of 1932 and 1933 when the savings rate has been negative, and the decline continued in the first month of 2008;

Whereas, in April 2007, a survey on personal finances reported that 25 percent of workers in the United States responded as having "no savings";

Whereas the 2007 Retirement Confidence Survey conducted by the Employee Benefit Research Institute found that only 43 percent of workers or their spouses calculated how much they need to save for retirement, down from 53 percent in 2006;

Whereas consumer debt exceeded \$2,500,000,000,000 in 2007, an increase of 33 percent since 2001;

Whereas household debt reached a record \$13,750,000,000,000 in 2007;

Whereas, during 2007, a near-record high of more than 14 percent of disposable personal income went to paying the interest on personal debt;

Whereas people in the United States are now facing record numbers of homes in foreclosure, and for the first time in history,