

SECTION 172. USE OF PART D DATA

Gives the Secretary authority to use Medicare Part D data for improving public health and conducting congressional oversight.

SECTION 173. INCLUSION OF MEDICARE PROVIDERS AND SUPPLIERS IN FEDERAL PAYMENT LEVY AND ADMINISTRATIVE OFFSET PROGRAM

Allows Treasury Department to levy a proportion of a Medicare provider's reimbursement against outstanding tax debt.

TITLE II—MEDICAID

SECTION 201. EXTENSION OF TRANSITIONAL MEDICAL ASSISTANCE AND ABSTINENCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Extends the Transitional Medical Assistance program (TMA) through September 30, 2009. This program helps low-income individuals transition from welfare to work by maintaining healthcare for their children. Extends the current abstinence-only education program until September 30, 2009.

SECTION 202. EXTENSION OF QUALIFYING INDIVIDUAL (QI) PROGRAM

Provides assistance through Medicaid for low-income seniors and individuals who need help meeting their Medicare premiums. Extends this program through September 30, 2009 to continue serving current populations.

SECTION 203. MEDICAID DSH EXTENSION

Extends authority for disproportionate share hospital funding under section 1923 of the Social Security Act for Tennessee and Hawaii through December 31, 2009.

SECTION 204. EXTENSION OF SUPPLEMENTAL SECURITY INCOME (SSI) WEB-BASED ASSET DEMONSTRATION PROJECT TO THE MEDICAID PROGRAM

Extends the existing SSI Web-based asset demonstration program to Medicaid to all 50 States.

SECTION 205. APPLICATION OF MEDICARE PAYMENT ADJUSTMENT FOR CERTAIN HOSPITAL-ACQUIRED CONDITIONS TO PAYMENTS FOR IN-PATIENT HOSPITAL SERVICES UNDER MEDICAID

Requires states to develop Medicaid payment systems that reduce payments for certain hospital-acquired conditions consistent with the payment system used in Medicare.

SECTION 206. ELIMINATION OF DUPLICATIVE ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

Reduces payments for administrative costs to prevent duplication of payments under Title IV (the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families).

SECTION 207. CLARIFICATION OF TREATMENT OF REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Clarifies that a regional medical center located on the border of multiple States may receive Medicaid reimbursement from any of those States.

SECTION 208. OUTREACH AND ENROLLMENT IN MEDICAID

Provides \$25 million for outreach efforts to enroll eligible but uninsured children into Medicaid.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS

SECTION 301 EXTENSION OF TANF SUPPLEMENTAL GRANTS

Extends the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) supplemental grants through September 30, 2009.

SECTION 302. EXTENSION OF SPECIAL DIABETES PROGRAM

Extends the Special Diabetes Program through September 30, 2011 to fund type 1 diabetes research and type 2 treatment and prevention programs for Native Americans and Alaska Natives.

SECTION 303. MEDICARE ENROLLMENT ASSISTANCE

Provides \$19 million for grants to states for state health insurance assistance programs

and \$6 million for grants to states for area agencies on aging and to Aging and Disability Resource Centers. Such funds will be allocated to states based on a combination of the state's low-income beneficiaries and the state's rural beneficiaries. Most of the grant money must be used to provide outreach to beneficiaries who may be eligible for Medicare savings programs or low-income subsidies.

SECTION 304. EXTENSION OF FEDERAL REIMBURSEMENT OF EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES FURNISHED TO UNDOCUMENTED ALIENS

Extends Federal reimbursement of emergency health services furnished to undocumented aliens under section 1011 of the MMA through FY 2010 for \$200 million per year.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 591—RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) FOR THE HISTORIC TOUCHDOWN OF THE PHOENIX MARS LANDER DURING ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR

Mr. BROWN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 591

Whereas the Phoenix Mars Lander (Phoenix) touched down successfully on Mars on May 25, 2008;

Whereas the Phoenix landing was the first successful soft landing on Mars in over 30 years;

Whereas this achievement occurred during the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) 50th year of scientific and technological excellence, and 47 years to the day after President Kennedy challenged the Nation to put a man on the moon;

Whereas the successful Phoenix landing is the result of years of planning, analyzing, and testing conducted by the dedicated men and women of NASA;

Whereas less than 50 percent of all previous lander missions have made it safely to the Mars planetary surface;

Whereas Phoenix is the first mission in NASA's Mars Scout program, a series of innovative and lower-cost spacecraft that will complement major missions;

Whereas Phoenix will be the first mission to collect meteorological data in the Martian arctic;

Whereas the mission will study the history of the planet in its water and ice, monitor weather of the polar region, and investigate whether the subsurface environment in the far-northern plains of Mars has ever been favorable for sustaining microbial life;

Whereas this data will allow scientists to accurately model Mars's past climate and predict future weather processes;

Whereas this data will increase our knowledge of the existence and nature of habitable zones on Mars;

While this data is instrumental in achieving the science goals of NASA's long-term Mars Exploration Program;

Whereas NASA Glenn Research Center's support to past Mars missions has enabled the continuing scientific exploration of Mars; and

Whereas the Glenn Research Center's contributions to NASA's Human Research Program play a vital role in providing solutions to critical problems that place human exploration missions and their crews at risk: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for 50 years of scientific and technological excellence;

(2) recognizes NASA for the historic landing of the Phoenix Mars Lander;

(3) recognizes the importance of the Phoenix mission to NASA's long-term Mars Exploration Program;

(4) recognizes the importance of contributions made by NASA Glenn Research Center to the NASA space program, including to Mars and moon missions; and

(5) recognizes the importance of NASA's Human Research Program, and Glenn Research Center's contributions to such program, to the health and safety of all NASA astronauts.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 89—AUTHORIZING FRANK WOODRUFF BUCKLES TO LIE IN HONOR IN THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL UPON HIS DEATH

Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. CRAIG, Mrs. DOLE, and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. CON. RES. 89

Whereas the veterans of the First World War fought bravely and made heroic sacrifices for the Allied forces; and

Whereas past resolutions have sought authorization for American heroes to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol upon an individual's passing, it is the Nation's collective desire to express its gratitude for the service of all World War I veterans by making it known to that war's last American survivor the honor it wishes to bestow on him before he passes: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. HONORING FRANK WOODRUFF BUCKLES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—In recognition of the historic contributions of United States veterans who served in the First World War, Frank Woodruff Buckles, the last surviving United States veteran of the First World War, shall be permitted to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol upon his death, so that the citizens of the United States may pay their last respects to this great American.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Architect of the Capitol, under the direction and supervision of the President pro tempore of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall take the necessary steps to implement subsection (a).

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I have sought recognition today to introduce a resolution honoring the last surviving member of a heroic group, the American World War I veterans. When the U.S. entered the First World War in 1917, 4.7 million Americans donned a military uniform and fought with the Allies struggling in an imperialistic battle of trench warfare. Now, 90 years after America's entry into the war, only one veteran remains.

Corporal Frank Woodruff Buckles, born in 1901, was sent to England and France during the First World War after exaggerating his age on Army paperwork. Eager to join the action, Buckles trained in the ambulance services and acted as a driver, remaining

after the armistice to escort prisoners of war back to Germany.

Mr. Buckles now stands as the last representation of the Americans that served in the Great War. Though now distanced by the following economic depression, subsequent World War and more recent conflicts, World War I still remains a critical part of our history, symbolizing the emergence of our country as a superpower and demonstrating the willingness and selflessness of those who serve in our military. These men, 90 years later, still deserve the recognition and admiration of a grateful nation.

In honor of Frank Buckles and the millions of veterans he stands for, I am introducing a resolution authorizing Mr. Buckles to lie in honor in the rotunda of the Capitol upon his passing so that citizens may pay tribute to the last member of this faithful group of Americans. After a period of repose, Mr. Buckles will receive final burial at the Arlington National Cemetery, a privilege offered earlier this year. I introduce this resolution now, so that Mr. Buckles will be aware of the respect we wish to pay to him and his fellow veterans.

We should not allow this generation to fade from our society without showing our appreciation of their service. As Ranking Member of the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and on behalf of Senator BYRD, I ask my colleagues to join us in extending this honor to Mr. Buckles.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at 3 p.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, to conduct a hearing on Judicial nominations on Wednesday, June 11, 2008, at 2 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that for the next 30 minutes, an energy intern from my office, Carolyn Jones, be granted the privilege of the floor.

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

MEASURES INDEFINITELY POSTPONED EN BLOC

Ms. STABENOW. I ask unanimous consent that the following calendar items be indefinitely postponed en bloc: Calendar Nos. 35, 37, 42, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 143, 224, 227, 228, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 245, 248, 250, 251, 252, 254, 255, 256, 267, 285, 354, 360, 361, 362, 364, 367, 372, 373, 375, 377, 378, 379, 385, 424, 425, 436, 437, 546, 572, 639, 640, 643, 655, 658, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, and 724.

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

MEASURE READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 3118

Ms. STABENOW. I understand that S. 3118, introduced earlier today by Senator GRASSLEY, is at the desk. I ask for its first reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will read the bill by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 3118) to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to preserve beneficiary access to care by preventing a reduction in the Medicare physician fee schedule, to improve the quality of care by advancing value based purchasing, electronic health records, and electronic prescribing, and to maintain and improve access to care in rural areas, and for other purposes.

Ms. STABENOW. I ask for a second reading and object to my own request.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The bill will receive its second reading on the next legislative day.

ORDERS FOR THURSDAY, JUNE 12, 2008

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Thursday, June 12; that following the prayer and pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that the Senate resume the motion to proceed to S. 3101, the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act, as under the previous order.

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

PROGRAM

Ms. STABENOW. Madam President, also under the previous order, the clo-

ture vote on the motion to proceed to the Medicare bill will occur at approximately 3 p.m. tomorrow afternoon.

ORDER FOR ADJOURNMENT

Ms. STABENOW. I ask unanimous consent that following the remarks of Senator COBURN and Senator INHOFE, if there is no further business to come before the Senate, it stand adjourned under the previous order.

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

The Senator from Oklahoma is recognized.

MEDICARE IMPROVEMENTS FOR PATIENTS AND PROVIDERS ACT

Mr. COBURN. We heard some reasons we should support the Baucus doctor fix. I happen to have been practicing in 2004 when the Senate did exactly what they are doing right now. This bill is going to guarantee the doctor fix is not done by July 1. That is what is going to happen with this bill.

Let me tell you, we are eventually going to fix the problem for the doctors for 18 months. There is no question. Everybody agrees to that. But what we are doing is, we are making sure we are going to add hundreds of thousands if not millions of dollars of cost in every State for every private physician that is practicing.

And the reason is because the bill is not going to get changed by July 1, and they are going to be under the 10.9-percent cut. Then they are going to come back, whenever we finally get it done. They are going to have to refile all of that, and Medicare is going to have to repay all of this.

So this exercise in political gamesmanship, of working only with one side of the aisle, not working with Senator GRASSLEY, to truly get this done in a way that the President will not veto it and accomplish the purposes for which we all say we want, to eliminate the 10.9-percent cut for physicians, that is something we are going to lose grasp of, and we are going to create a hardship on every physician in this country because we are playing a political game with this rather than fixing the problem.

That brings me to my next point. Why is it every 18 months the physicians in this country have to come and beg Congress not to cut their fees when we are not cutting the fees for the rest of the providers throughout the Medicare Program?

What we have decided is that doctors make too much money. We have decided that when they work 80 hours a week, one and a half to two times what everybody else works in this country, they spend their time away from their families making great sacrifices, that we are going to fund increases in the care for our elderly and seniors in this country on the backs of physicians.

Now, I will not dispute the fact that there are some disparities in physician