

and cancer caused by the hepatitis B and C viruses have become urgent problems of global proportions;

Whereas an estimated 2,000,000,000 people worldwide have been infected with the hepatitis B virus, and as many as 400,000,000 people worldwide live with chronic hepatitis B infection;

Whereas an estimated 600,000 people worldwide die each year due to a hepatitis B infection;

Whereas an estimated 170,000,000 people worldwide live with chronic hepatitis C infection, and an estimated 3,500,000 people are newly infected with hepatitis C each year;

Whereas an estimated 1,700,000 people worldwide die each year due to liver failure or primary liver cancer from chronic hepatitis C infection;

Whereas infection with the hepatitis B and C viruses is a growing health crisis in the United States, and an estimated 5,300,000 people in the United States are chronically infected with the hepatitis B or C virus;

Whereas each year in the United States, an estimated 43,000 people are newly infected with the hepatitis B virus and 17,000 people are newly infected with the hepatitis C virus;

Whereas approximately 65 percent and 75 percent of the people infected with hepatitis B and hepatitis C virus, respectively, are unaware of the infection;

Whereas, because of the asymptomatic nature of the hepatitis B and C viruses, a person who has become chronically infected with 1 of the viruses may not have symptoms for up to 40 years after the initial infection has occurred;

Whereas many people are unaware that they have been infected with the hepatitis B or C virus until years later, when symptoms of liver cancer or liver disease develop;

Whereas, as a result of late diagnosis, approximately 15,000 people die each year from liver disease or liver cancer related to chronic viral hepatitis;

Whereas hepatitis C claims roughly 12,000 lives each year in the United States, and the overall rate of hepatitis C-related deaths in the United States is expected to triple by 2019;

Whereas, in the United States, African-Americans, Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders, Latinos, Native Americans, Alaskan Natives, gay and bisexual men, and persons who inject drugs have higher rates of chronic viral hepatitis infection;

Whereas 1/3 of HIV-positive people in the United States are co-infected with the hepatitis C virus, and 1/10 of HIV-positive people in the United States are co-infected with the hepatitis B virus;

Whereas, although life expectancies for HIV-positive persons have increased with therapy, liver disease, mostly related to hepatitis B or C infections, has become the most common non-AIDS-related cause of death among HIV-positive persons;

Whereas chronic hepatitis B and C infections cost the United States \$16,000,000,000 each year;

Whereas, despite the fact that chronic viral hepatitis is the most common blood-borne infection in the United States, no routine or universal screening is in place for early detection as of the date of the agreement to this resolution;

Whereas, in 2010, the Institute of Medicine issued a report on chronic viral hepatitis, which attributed the lack of knowledge and awareness among the public and health providers of the United States of chronic viral hepatitis, the large health disparities for people infected with chronic viral hepatitis, and the current morbidity and mortality rate for people infected with chronic viral hepatitis, to the lack of dedicated resources for chronic viral hepatitis;

Whereas the first World Hepatitis Day on May 19, 2008, raised awareness about the need for action, compassion, and understanding about chronic viral hepatitis around the world; and

Whereas the goals of World Hepatitis Day and National Hepatitis Awareness Month are—

(1) to highlight the global nature of the chronic viral hepatitis epidemic;

(2) to recognize the need for a comprehensive public education and awareness campaign designed to help infected patients and the physicians of patients to identify and manage the secondary consequences of the disease; and

(3) to help increase the length and quality of life for individuals diagnosed with chronic hepatitis B or C infections: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of World Hepatitis Day and National Hepatitis Awareness Month;

(2) promotes raising awareness of the risks and consequences of undiagnosed chronic hepatitis B or hepatitis C infections; and

(3) urges a robust governmental and public health response to protect the health of the more than 5,000,000 people in the United States and nearly 600,000,000 people worldwide who suffer from chronic viral hepatitis.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 4042. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4043. Mr. DODD (for Mr. LIEBERMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2711, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the transportation and moving expenses for the immediate family of certain Federal employees who die in the performance of their duties.

SA 4044. Mr. DODD (for Mr. LIEBERMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2711, *supra*.

SA 4045. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BENNETT, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4046. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4047. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, *supra*; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 4042. Ms. COLLINS (for herself and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 988, line 15, insert “, unless the individual who is alleging discharge or other discrimination in violation of subparagraph (A) is an employee of the Federal Government, in which case the individual shall only bring an action under section 1221 of title 5, United States Code” before the period.

SA 4043. Mr. DODD (for Mr. LIEBERMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2711, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the transportation and moving expenses for the immediate family of certain Federal employees who die in the performance of their duties; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Special Agent Samuel Hicks Families of Fallen Heroes Act”.

SEC. 2. TRANSPORTATION AND MOVING EXPENSES FOR IMMEDIATE FAMILY OF CERTAIN DECEASED FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 5724c the following:

“§5724d. Transportation and moving expenses for immediate family of certain deceased Federal employees

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations prescribed by the President, the head of the agency concerned (or a designee) may determine that a covered employee died as a result of personal injury sustained while in the performance of the employee's duty and authorize or approve the payment by the agency, from Government funds, of—

“(1) any qualified expense of the immediate family of the covered employee attributable to a change in their place of residence, if the place where the immediate family will reside following the death of the employee is—

“(A) different from the place where the immediate family resided at the time of the employee's death; and

“(B) within the United States; and

“(2) any expense of preparing and transporting the remains of the deceased to—

“(A) the place where the immediate family will reside following the death of the employee; or

“(B) such other place appropriate for interment as is determined by the agency head (or designee).

“(b) No DUPLICATE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES.—No expenses may be paid under this section if those expenses are paid from Government funds under section 5742 or any other authority.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) the term ‘covered employee’ means—

“(A) a law enforcement officer, as defined in section 5541;

“(B) any employee in or under the Federal Bureau of Investigation who is not described in subparagraph (A); and

“(C) a customs and border protection officer, as defined in section 8331(31); and

“(2) the term ‘qualified expense’, as used with respect to an immediate family changing its place of residence, means the transportation expenses of the immediate family, the expenses of moving (including transporting, packing, crating, temporarily storing, draying, and unpacking) the household goods and personal effects of such immediate family, not in excess of 18,000 pounds net weight, and, when authorized or approved by the agency head (or designee), the transportation of 1 privately owned motor vehicle.”.

(b) NO RELEVANCE AS TO COMPENSATION CLAIMS.—No determination made under section 5724d of title 5, United States Code, shall be deemed relevant to or be considered in connection with any claim for compensation under chapter 81 of that title or under any other law under which compensation may be provided on account of death or personal injury, nor shall any determination made with respect to any such claim be deemed relevant to or be considered in connection with any request for payment of expenses under such section 5724d.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 5724c the following:

“Sec. 5724d. Transportation and moving expenses for immediate family of certain deceased Federal employees.”.

SA 4044. Mr. DODD (for Mr. LIEBERMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2711, to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the transportation and moving expenses for the immediate family of certain Federal employees who die in the performance of their duties; as follows:

Amend the title so as to read: “An Act to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the transportation and moving expenses for the immediate family of certain Federal employees who die in the performance of their duties.”.

SA 4045. Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BENNETT, and Mr. LEVIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 431, strike lines 14 through 20 and insert the following:

(ii) results from—

(I) the merger or whole acquisition of a commercial firm that directly or indirectly controls the industrial bank, credit card bank, or trust bank in a bona fide merger with or acquisition by another commercial firm, as determined by the appropriate Federal banking agency; or

(II) an acquisition of voting shares in a publicly traded holding company of a indus-

trial bank if, after the acquisition, the acquiring shareholder (or group of shareholders acting in concert)—

(aa) holds less than 25 percent of the voting shares of the company; and

(bb) has obtained all regulatory approvals required for such change of control under section 7(j) of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j)) and any applicable State law.

SA 4046. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 749, line 17 strike all through page 752, line 11, and insert the following:

“(2) PROHIBITION OF DISCLOSURE OF IDENTITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (B) of this subsection, or with the written consent of the whistleblower, the Commission may not disclose the name, identity or identifying information about the whistleblower who has provided information to the Commission.

“(B) NOTICE AND APPLICABILITY TO OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND FOREIGN AUTHORITIES.—Whenever the Commission makes a disclosure to other agencies and foreign authorities, it shall provide reasonable advance notice to the whistleblower if disclosure of that person's identity or identifying information is to occur. Any entity that receives such as disclosure shall protect the whistleblower's confidentiality in accordance with this subsection.

SA 4047. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3739 proposed by Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD (for himself and Mrs. LINCOLN)) to the bill S. 3217, to promote the financial stability of the United States by improving accountability and transparency in the financial system, to end “too big to fail”, to protect the American taxpayer by ending bailouts, to protect consumers from abusive financial services practices, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 990, line 7, strike all through page 993, line 7, and insert the following:

“(2) PROHIBITION OF DISCLOSURE OF IDENTITY.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (B), or with the written consent of the whistleblower, the Commission may not disclose the name, identity or identifying information about the whistleblower who has provided information to the Commission.

“(B) NOTICE AND APPLICABILITY TO OTHER GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND FOREIGN AUTHORITIES.—Whenever the Commission makes a disclosure to other agencies and foreign authorities, it shall provide reasonable advance notice to the whistleblower if disclosure of that person's identity or identifying information is to occur. Any entity that receives such as disclosure shall protect the whistleblower's confidentiality in accordance with this subsection.

SPECIAL AGENT SAMUEL HICKS FAMILIES OF FALLEN HEROES ACT

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar No. 234, H.R. 2711.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The bill clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2711) to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the transportation of the dependents, remains, and effects of certain Federal employees who die while performing official duties or as a result of the performance of official duties.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, with amendments; as follows:

(The parts of the bill intended to be stricken are shown in boldface brackets and the parts of the bill intended to be inserted are shown in italics.)

H.R. 2711

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 “Special Agent Samuel Hicks Families of Fallen Heroes Act”.

SEC. 2. TRANSPORTATION OF DEPENDENTS, REMAINS, AND EFFECTS OF CERTAIN FEDERAL EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter II of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 5724c the following:

“§5724d. Transportation of dependents, remains, and effects of certain Federal employees

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Under regulations prescribed under section 5738 and when the head of the agency concerned (or a designee thereof) authorizes or approves, if a covered employee dies while performing official duties or as a result of the performance of official duties, the agency may pay from Government funds—

“(1) the qualified expenses of the immediate family of the employee, if the place where the family will reside following the death of the employee is—

“(A) different from the place where the family resided at the time of the employee's death; and

“(B) within the United States; and

“(2) the expenses of preparing and transporting the remains of the deceased to—

“(A) the place where the immediate family will reside following the death of the employee; or

“(B) such other place, appropriate for interment, as is determined by the agency head (or designee).

“(b) QUALIFIED EXPENSES.—For purposes of this section, the term ‘qualified expenses’, as used with respect to a family changing its place of residence, means the moving expenses, transportation expenses, and relocation expenses of the family which are attributable to the change in place of residence.

“(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

“(1) the term ‘covered employee’ means—