H. R. 26

To amend various provisions of law to ensure that services related to abortion are made available to the same extent as are all other pregnancy-related services under federally funded programs.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 5, 1993

Mr. Fazio of California (for himself, Mr. Abercrombie, Mr. Beilenson, Mr. Berman, Mrs. Clayton, Mr. Conyers, Mr. DeFazio, Ms. DeLauro, Mr. Edwards of California, Mr. Frank of Massachusetts, Mr. Frost, Mrs. Johnson of Connecticut, Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Kopetski, Mrs. Lowey of New York, Mr. McDermott, Mr. Machtley, Mr. Markey, Mr. Martinez, Mr. Matsui, Ms. Molinari, Mr. Moran, Mrs. Morella, Ms. Norton, Mr. Payne of New Jersey, Mrs. Schroeder, Ms. Slaughter, Mr. Stark, Mr. Studds, Mr. Torres, Mr. Towns, Mrs. Unsoeld, Mr. Waxman, Mr. Wyden, and Mr. Zimmer) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Armed Services, the District of Columbia, Energy and Commerce, Foreign Affairs, the Judiciary, Natural Resources, and Post Office and Civil Service

A BILL

To amend various provisions of law to ensure that services related to abortion are made available to the same extent as are all other pregnancy-related services under federally funded programs.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

- 2 This Act may be cited as the "Reproductive Health
- 3 Equity Act".

4 SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

- 5 The Congress finds that—
 - (1) abortion is a legal medical service related to pregnancy and the choice to elect an abortion is a personal, private right protected by the Constitution;
 - (2) the Federal Government provides assistance for pregnancy-related care for substantial numbers of women under a variety of Federal programs, including the medicaid program, the Indian health care program, the Federal employees' health benefits program (FEHBP), the program of health care for military dependents and retirees (CHAMPUS), the Peace Corps program, general payments to the District of Columbia, and the program of medical services to Federal penal and correctional institutions;
 - (3) pregnant women who otherwise are provided pregnancy-related care under these programs have been denied equal access to health care services due to Congress' severe and unjustified restrictions on their freedom to choose services that relate to abortion; and
 - (4) denial of access to health care services because those services relate to abortion is unjust and

unfair to pregnant women who are or whose spouses 1 2 are employed by the Federal Government or who otherwise are dependent on the Federal Government 3 for health care and threatens the health and wellbeing of themselves and their families. 5 SEC. 3. MEDICAID PROGRAM. 7 Section 1902(a)(10) of the Social Security Act (42) U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)), relating to medical assistance 8 under the medicaid program, is amended— (1) by striking "and" at the end of subpara-10 11 graph (E); (2) by inserting "and" at the end of subpara-12 graph (F); and 13 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (F) the fol-14 lowing new subparagraph: 15 "(G) for making medical assistance avail-16 17 able with respect to services related to abortion 18 to the same extent as such assistance is pro-19 vided with respect to other pregnancy-related 20 services;". 21 SEC. 4. FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS PRO-22 GRAM. 23 Section 8904 of title 5, United States Code, relating to the type of benefits under the Federal employees health

- 1 benefits program, is amended by adding at the end the
- 2 following new subsection:
- 3 "(c) All plans contracted for under this chapter shall
- 4 include benefits for services related to abortion to the
- 5 same extent as for other pregnancy-related services.".

6 SEC. 5. INDIAN HEALTH CARE.

- 7 (a) GENERAL AUTHORITY.—Section 201(b) of the
- 8 Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C.
- 9 1621(b)), relating to the direct or indirect patient care
- 10 program for Indians, is amended by adding at the end the
- 11 following new paragraph:
- 12 "(3) Funds appropriated under the authority of this
- 13 section for each fiscal year are available to provide services
- 14 related to abortion to the same extent as such funds are
- 15 available for other pregnancy-related services.".
- 16 (b) Conforming Amendment.—Section 806 of the
- 17 Indian Health Care Improvement Act (25 U.S.C. 1676)
- 18 is repealed.

19 SEC. 6. MILITARY HEALTH CARE.

- 20 (a) Members and Former Members.—Section
- 21 1074 of title 10, United States Code, relating to medical
- 22 and dental care for members and certain former members
- 23 of the uniformed services, is amended by adding at the
- 24 end the following new subsection:

- 1 "(d) Medical care provided under this section shall
- 2 include services related to abortion to the same extent as
- 3 such care includes other pregnancy-related services.".
- 4 (b) DEPENDENTS.—Section 1077(a)(8) of such title,
- 5 relating to medical care for dependents of members of the
- 6 uniformed services, is amended—
- 7 (1) by striking out the comma after "infant
- 8 care" and inserting in lieu thereof a period;
- 9 (2) by striking out "including" and inserting in
- lieu thereof "Such care shall include"; and
- 11 (3) by inserting before the period at the end the
- following: "and services related to abortion to the
- same extent as other pregnancy-related services".
- 14 (c) Conforming Amendment.—Section 1093 of
- 15 such title is repealed.
- 16 SEC. 7. PEACE CORPS.
- 17 Section 5(e) of the Peace Corps Act (22 U.S.C.
- 18 2504(e)), relating to health care for Peace Corps volun-
- 19 teers, is amended by inserting before the period at the end
- 20 of the first sentence the following: ", except that health
- 21 care provided under this subsection to volunteers during
- 22 their service shall include services related to abortion to
- 23 the same extent as such care includes other pregnancy-
- 24 related services".

SEC. 8. DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

- 2 Section 503 of the District of Columbia Self-Govern-
- 3 ment and Governmental Reorganization Act, relating to
- 4 the authorization of appropriations of the Federal pay-
- 5 ment to the District of Columbia, is amended—
- 6 (1) by redesignating subsection (b) as sub-
- 7 section (c); and
- 8 (2) by inserting after subsection (a) the follow-
- 9 ing new subsection:
- 10 "(b) Amounts appropriated pursuant to the author-
- 11 ization provided under this section shall be made available
- 12 for services related to abortion to the same extent as such
- 13 amounts may be made available for other pregnancy-relat-
- 14 ed services.".
- 15 SEC. 9. FEDERAL PENAL AND CORRECTIONAL INSTITU-
- 16 TIONS.
- 17 Section 4005(a) of title 18, United States Code, re-
- 18 lating to medical services to the Federal penal and correc-
- 19 tional institution, is amended by adding at the end the
- 20 following new sentence: "Notwithstanding any other provi-
- 21 sion of law, medical services provided under this sub-
- 22 section shall include services related to abortion to the
- 23 same extent as they include other pregnancy-related serv-
- 24 ices.".