

purposes of title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) to provide funds to States to use information identified under subsection (a), and other appropriate information, in order to do ex parte determinations or utilize other methods for identifying and enrolling individuals who are potentially—

(A) a qualified medicare beneficiary (as defined in 1905(p)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(p)(1)));

(B) otherwise eligible for medical assistance described in section 1902(a)(10)(E) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)(E)); or

(C) entitled to a premium or cost-sharing subsidy under section 1860D-14 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-114).

(2) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for the purpose of making grants under this subsection.

(c) **ADDITIONAL CMS FUNDING FOR OUTREACH AND ENROLLMENT PROJECTS.**—There are hereby appropriated, out of any funds in the treasury not otherwise appropriated, to the Secretary of Health and Human Services through the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, \$100,000,000 which shall be used only for the purpose of providing grants to States to fund projects to improve outreach and increase enrollment in Medicare Savings Programs and low-income subsidy programs under section 1860D-14 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-114). Such projects may include cooperative grants and contracts with community groups and other groups (such as the Department of Veterans' Affairs and the Indian Health Service) to assist in the enrollment of eligible individuals.

(d) **REPORTS.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to Congress periodic reports on the projects conducted under this section. Such reports shall include such recommendations for extension of such projects, and changes in laws based on such projects, as the Secretary deems appropriate.

SEC. 8. NOTICES TO CERTAIN NEW MEDICARE BENEFICIARIES.

(a) **SSA NOTICE.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—At the time that the Commissioner of Social Security sends a notice to individuals that they have been determined to be eligible for benefits under part A or B of title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq., 1395j et seq.), the Commissioner shall send a notice and application for benefits under title XIX of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396 et seq.) to those individuals the Commissioner identifies as being likely to be—

(A) a qualified medicare beneficiary (as defined in 1905(p)(1) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396d(p)(1)));

(B) eligible for benefits under clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of section 1902(a)(10)(E) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1396a(a)(10)(E)); or

(C) entitled to a premium or cost-sharing subsidy under section 1860D-14 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-114).

(2) **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED.**—Such notice and application shall be accompanied by information on how to submit such an application and where to obtain more information (including answers to questions) on the application process.

(b) **INCLUDING INFORMATION IN MEDICARE & YOU HANDBOOK.**—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall include in the annual handbook distributed under section 1804(a) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395b-2(a)) information on the availability of Medicare Savings Programs and a toll-free telephone number that medicare beneficiaries may use to obtain additional information about the program.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 262—CONDEMNING THE STATEMENTS OF FORMER EDUCATION SECRETARY WILLIAM J. BENNETT

Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. REID, Mr. CORZINE, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. SCHUMER,) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 262

Whereas William J. Bennett served as chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities from 1981 to 1985.

Whereas William J. Bennett served as Secretary of Education from 1985 to 1988.

Whereas William J. Bennett served as Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy from 1989 to 1990.

Whereas on September 28, 2005 William J. Bennett stated the following on Salem Radio Network's Bill Bennett's Morning in America: "[I] do know that it's true that if you wanted to reduce crime, you could—if that were your sole purpose, you could abort every black baby in this country, and your crime rate would go down. That would be an impossible, ridiculous, and morally reprehensible thing to do, but your crime rate would go down."

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SEC. 1. That the Senate strongly condemns William J. Bennett's reprehensible statements of September 28, 2005.

SEC. 2. That the Senate believes that such statements are unbecoming of a former Cabinet Secretary.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 56—EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR THE CONTRIBUTION OF CHINESE ART AND CULTURE AND RECOGNIZING THE FESTIVAL OF CHINA AT THE KENNEDY CENTER

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. STEVENS, and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. CON. RES. 56

Whereas mutual cultural understanding and appreciation helps to advance the overall bilateral relationship between the United States and China;

Whereas Chinese cultural achievements have enriched the world for over 5,000 years;

Whereas Chinese artists both in China and in the United States have excelled in music, dance, fashion, theater, film, and the visual arts;

Whereas the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts is hosting a month-long celebration of Chinese cultural contributions at the Festival of China in October 2005;

Whereas the event, with more than 50 performances and exhibitions and over 800 artists, will be the largest festival in the history of the Kennedy Center;

Whereas the Kennedy Center characterizes the Festival of China as the "the largest celebration of Chinese performing arts in American history";

Whereas events like the Festival of China, along with efforts to promote educational and scientific cooperation between the United States and China, further mutual understanding between our two societies;

Whereas publicly- and privately-funded exchange programs and other forms of Sino-American contacts foster positive relations; and

Whereas cultural events like the Festival of China help strengthen diplomatic, commercial, and political cooperation between the United States and China: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the diverse array of cultural contributions made by Chinese artists based in China, the United States, and around the world benefit the entire international community;

(2) the Kennedy Center, along with the Chinese Ministry of Culture, should be commended for promoting Chinese achievement in the arts at the Festival of China;

(3) the significant undertaking and efforts necessary to organize the Festival of China provides a unique opportunity for bilateral cooperation;

(4) building upon the Festival of China, additional efforts that promote cultural understanding between the United States and China should be encouraged;

(5) the United States and China should work to promote cultural, as well as scientific and educational, cooperation between the two countries;

(6) the United States and China should continue to promote exchange programs, such as the Festival of China, as a vital tool for advancing mutual understanding and cooperation between the people of the United States and the people of China; and

(7) the hundreds of performers and individuals who have contributed their time and effort to make this landmark celebration of Chinese culture and the arts a success are to be congratulated.

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I am pleased to have the opportunity to introduce a resolution to honor the contributions of Chinese art and culture and recognize the landmark Festival of China taking place this October at the John F. Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Washington, DC.

I commend the joint efforts of the Kennedy Center and the Chinese Ministry of Culture in organizing this celebration and congratulate the hundreds of individuals who have contributed to its success.

With over 800 artists and 50 scheduled events, the Festival of China will truly be one of the largest celebrations of Chinese performance arts in American history.

Starting with Beijing Cultural Week, the Festival will feature Chinese dance, theater, and opera, and musical performances, along with film and art exhibitions.

I am also privileged to be joined today in offering this resolution by two of my colleagues, Senators STEVENS and MURKOWSKI, both of whom play significant roles in fostering our relationship with China.

Senator STEVENS, as the Senate Pro Tempore, chairs the U.S.-China Interparliamentary Group, which facilitates annual exchanges between Members of the Senate and their counterparts in the Chinese National People's Congress.

A hero in both the United States and China, his long history with the Chinese people and their culture goes back