

using respiratory machines. The more CF patients can participate in clinical trials, the faster scientists can discover new treatments and eventually a cure.

Sage has personally seen in her lifetime five drugs that started in clinical trials and are now available to CF patients. Each medication has increased her quality of life and decreased the amount of time she has spent in the hospital or on IV antibiotics. There are more than 30 promising drugs in the research pipeline right now that the CF Foundation is calling miracle drugs so it is imperative that patients have access to clinical trials so these drugs can get on the market.

Under current law, the small compensation provided to trial participants, which averages around \$500, is included as additional income that could cause a person to lose their public assistance benefits, like Supplemental Security Income, SSI, and Medicaid. These benefits are crucial for patients living with rare diseases. For instance, nearly 50 percent of the CF population uses SSI or Medicaid. As a result, patients choose not to enroll in clinical trials that could dramatically improve their lives out of the fear that they may lose the benefits on which they rely.

This bill allows patients with a rare disease to disregard up to \$2,000 of compensation received for participation in a clinical trial in their SSI and Medicaid income calculations. Though it will have a negligible impact on the Federal budget, it will make a dramatic difference in the lives of those who will gain access to potentially life-saving treatments by enrolling in clinical trials as well as all those in the future whose lives will be improved by the medical advances that arise from this research.

Please join me in supporting this legislation that will provide patients with rare disease access to potentially life-saving clinical trials without losing their public assistance health benefits.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 266—RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOHN SWEENEY TO THE UNITED STATES LABOR MOVEMENT

Mrs. GILLIBRAND (for herself, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. CASEY, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. BROWN, Mr. REED, Mr. SANDERS, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. MERKLEY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Mr. KAUFMAN, Mr. WEBB, and Mr. TESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 266

Whereas John Sweeney was born in the Bronx, New York, to hard-working Irish im-

migrant parents, who instilled in him a sense of faith, a commitment to justice, and a love for the United States and its infinite potential to provide opportunity to all people;

Whereas John Sweeney was raised by his father, a bus driver, and his mother, a domestic worker, who both worked hard to allow him to attend St. Joseph's School, Cardinal Hayes High School, and Iona College, where he worked as a porter and a grave digger to help pay for his tuition;

Whereas because of his upbringing and his experiences growing up, John Sweeney gave up a high-paying career to dedicate his life to helping the labor movement and improving the lives of millions of working families across the United States;

Whereas John Sweeney's career in the labor movement has taken him from working on behalf of the factory workers of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (ILGWU) and the doormen and cleaning women of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) to being elected, in October 1995, to serve as the president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO);

Whereas John Sweeney transformed labor organization and engaged the people of the United States on economic justice issues through methods such as the innovative "Justice for Janitors" campaign, while also nearly doubling the membership of the SEIU during his time as its president, making it the first union to reach 1,000,000 members;

Whereas John Sweeney led efforts at SEIU that resulted in landmark equal wage rulings for female building employees and launched an organization drive that gave nearly 20,000 home care employees a voice in improving their own income and working conditions;

Whereas John Sweeney has served as a transformational figure for millions of working individuals in the United States, and as president of the AFL-CIO, he has worked to revitalize and modernize the role of labor unions, train a new generation of organizers, promote diversity in union leadership, and make unions a driving force for social justice;

Whereas under John Sweeney's leadership, the National Labor College has become a first-rate institute of higher learning, providing an unparalleled opportunity for advancement to countless workers in the United States;

Whereas John Sweeney has fought on multiple fronts for legislation that advances justice, opportunity, and fairness for workers and their families, including legislation for a fair minimum wage, increased family leave, and improved worker health and safety rules;

Whereas because of his mother's experiences as a domestic worker, John Sweeney has personally dedicated himself to working on a Domestic Workers Bill of Rights for the State of New York;

Whereas John Sweeney has championed the effort to provide high-quality health care that is affordable and available to everyone in the United States; and

Whereas John Sweeney, as an author, father, grandfather, organizer, and inveterate advocate for the voiceless, continues to inspire a new generation of labor leaders: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) recognizes the contributions that John Sweeney has made to the labor movement and to the lives of working men and women across the United States;

(2) congratulates John Sweeney on his decades of extraordinary and dedicated service; and

(3) honors John Sweeney for his commitment to economic and social justice and his

tireless advocacy on behalf of the working families of this Nation.

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 267—SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

Ms. STABENOW (for herself, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. BENNET, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. BAYH, Mr. FRANKEN, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 267

Whereas ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all gynecologic cancers, and the reported mortality rate from ovarian cancer is increasing;

Whereas ovarian cancer is the 5th leading cause of cancer deaths among women in the United States;

Whereas the mortality rate for ovarian cancer has not significantly decreased since the "War on Cancer" was declared, nearly 40 years ago;

Whereas all women are at risk for ovarian cancer, and 90 percent of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer do not have a family history that puts them at higher risk;

Whereas the Pap test is sensitive and specific to the early detection of cervical cancer, but not to ovarian cancer;

Whereas there is currently no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer;

Whereas many people are unaware that the symptoms of ovarian cancer often include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms, and several other symptoms that are easily confused with other diseases;

Whereas, due to the lack of a reliable early detection test, 75 percent of cases of ovarian cancer are detected at an advanced stage, making the overall 5-year survival rate only 45 percent;

Whereas, if ovarian cancer is diagnosed and treated at an early stage, before the cancer spreads outside of the ovary, the survival rate is as high as 90 percent;

Whereas there are factors that are known to reduce the risk for ovarian cancer and that play an important role in the prevention of the disease;

Whereas awareness and early recognition of ovarian cancer symptoms are the best way to save the lives of women;

Whereas, each year during the month of September, the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance holds a number of events to increase public awareness of ovarian cancer; and

Whereas the President has designated September 2009 as "National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

##### SENATE RESOLUTION 268—RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF LATINOS IN THE UNITED STATES AND THEIR IMMENSE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NATION

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. REID, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. SCHUMER, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. BEGICH, Mr. BROWN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. KERRY, Ms. MIKULSKI,