

“(F) Any act or activity constituting an offense involving a Federal health care offense as that term is defined in section 982(a)(6)(B) of this title.”

#### TITLE VI—PAYMENTS FOR STATE HEALTH CARE FRAUD CONTROL UNITS

##### SEC. 601. ESTABLISHMENT OF STATE FRAUD UNITS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF HEALTH CARE FRAUD AND ABUSE CONTROL UNIT.—The Governor of each State shall, consistent with State law, establish and maintain in accordance with subsection (b) a State agency to act as a Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Unit for purposes of this part.

(b) DEFINITION.—In this section, a “State Fraud Unit” means a Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control Unit designated under subsection (a) that the Secretary certifies meets the requirements of this part.

##### SEC. 602. REQUIREMENTS FOR STATE FRAUD UNITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The State Fraud Unit must—

(1) be a single identifiable entity of the State government;

(2) be separate and distinct from any State agency with principal responsibility for the administration of any Federally-funded or mandated health care program;

(3) meet the other requirements of this section.

(b) SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED.—The State Fraud Unit shall—

(1) be a Unit of the office of the State Attorney General or of another department of State government which possesses statewide authority to prosecute individuals for criminal violations;

(2) if it is in a State the constitution of which does not provide for the criminal prosecution of individuals by a statewide authority and has formal procedures, (A) assure its referral of suspected criminal violations to the appropriate authority or authorities in the State for prosecution, and (B) assure its assistance of, and coordination with, such authority or authorities in such prosecutions; or

(3) have a formal working relationship with the office of the State Attorney General or the appropriate authority or authorities for prosecution and have formal procedures (including procedures for its referral of suspected criminal violations to such office) which provide effective coordination of activities between the Fraud Unit and such office with respect to the detection, investigation, and prosecution of suspected criminal violations relating to any Federally-funded or mandated health care programs.

(c) STAFFING REQUIREMENTS.—The State Fraud Unit shall—

(1) employ attorneys, auditors, investigators and other necessary personnel; and

(2) be organized in such a manner and provide sufficient resources as is necessary to promote the effective and efficient conduct of State Fraud Unit activities.

(d) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS; MEMORANDA OF UNDERSTANDING.—The State Fraud Unit shall have cooperative agreements with—

(1) Federally-funded or mandated health care programs;

(2) similar Fraud Units in other States, as exemplified through membership and participation in the National Association of Medicaid Fraud Control Units or its successor; and

(3) the Secretary.

(e) REPORTS.—The State Fraud Unit shall submit to the Secretary an application and an annual report containing such information as the Secretary determines to be necessary to determine whether the State Fraud Unit meets the requirements of this section.

(f) FUNDING SOURCE; PARTICIPATION IN ALL-PAYER PROGRAM.—In addition to those sums

expended by a State under section 604(a) for purposes of determining the amount of the Secretary's payments, a State Fraud Unit may receive funding for its activities from other sources, the identity of which shall be reported to the Secretary in its application or annual report. The State Fraud Unit shall participate in the all-payer fraud and abuse control program established under section 101.

##### SEC. 603. SCOPE AND PURPOSE.

The State Fraud Unit shall carry out the following activities:

(1) The State Fraud Unit shall conduct a statewide program for the investigation and prosecution (or referring for prosecution) of violations of all applicable state laws regarding any and all aspects of fraud in connection with any aspect of the administration and provision of health care services and activities of providers of such services under any Federally-funded or mandated health care programs;

(2) The State Fraud Unit shall have procedures for reviewing complaints of the abuse or neglect of patients of facilities (including patients in residential facilities and home health care programs) that receive payments under any Federally-funded or mandated health care programs, and, where appropriate, to investigate and prosecute such complaints under the criminal laws of the State or for referring the complaints to other State agencies for action.

(3) The State Fraud Unit shall provide for the collection, or referral for collection to the appropriate agency, of overpayments that are made under any Federally-funded or mandated health care program and that are discovered by the State Fraud Unit in carrying out its activities.

##### SEC. 604. PAYMENTS TO STATES.

(a) MATCHING PAYMENTS TO STATES.—Subject to subsection (c), for each year for which a State has a State Fraud Unit approved under section 602(b) in operation the Secretary shall provide for a payment to the State for each quarter in a fiscal year in an amount equal to the applicable percentage of the sums expended during the quarter by the State Fraud Unit.

(b) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGE DEFINED.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In subsection (a), the “applicable percentage” with respect to a State for a fiscal year is—

(A) 90 percent, for quarters occurring during the first 3 years for which the State Fraud Unit is in operation; or

(B) 75 percent, for any other quarters.

(2) TREATMENT OF STATES WITH MEDICAID FRAUD CONTROL UNITS.—In the case of a State with a State Medicaid fraud control in operation prior to or as of the date of the enactment of this Act, in determining the number of years for which the State Fraud Unit under this part has been in operation, there shall be included the number of years for which such State Medicaid fraud control unit was in operation.

(c) LIMIT ON PAYMENT.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the total amount of payments made to a State under this section for a fiscal year may not exceed the amounts as authorized pursuant to section 1903(b)(3) of the Social Security Act. •

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. DOLE. I thank the Chair.

(The remarks of Mr. DOLE pertaining to the introduction of S. 256 and S. 257 are located in today's RECORD under “Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.”)

Mr. CRAIG addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from Idaho.

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to proceed for 5 minutes as if in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate is in morning business. The Senator from Idaho is recognized for up to 15 minutes.

Mr. CRAIG. I thank the Chair for clarifying that.

(Mr. INHOFE assumed the chair.)

#### REAUTHORIZE THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President and fellow Senators, I think the American public and even we here in the Congress recognize that the November elections was a profound statement on the part of this country to speak to change.

Since that time, all eyes have been focused on Washington, as we saw the changing of the guard in the House after 40 years of single-party rule, and certainly the change that has occurred here that has resulted with Republicans being in the majority, leading the Senate and chairing the committees. That has also resulted in a very aggressive legislative agenda that has focused most of the attention of the American people on what is going on in Washington. Whether it was the rule changes in the House or the debate on the unfunded mandates bill that still is before this Senate, directed by my colleague from Idaho, DIRK KEMPTHORNE, or whether it is the growing debate that will soon come to the floor on a balanced budget amendment, all eyes remain focused on Washington.

But while that is going on, something very tragic is still happening across America. And that is that there still remains business as usual on the part of the Federal Government and our Federal agencies and our Federal regulators—as was going on and has been going on long before the elections of last November—the trading on the private citizen, the taking away of rights, a Federal Government that is unconcerned, or demonstrating at least little concern, about the impact of their decisions and their activities on the economies of local communities.

So for just a moment this afternoon, I thought I would once again focus on something that is now occurring in my State of Idaho and try to once again impress upon the Congress, and certainly those who might be watching, the magnitude of the job we have before us and the tragedy of this administration failing to be responsive and allowing their agencies to run amok in an unwillingness to be concerned about the human being—the citizen, the taxpayer—but to be all concerned about the Federal regulations and to make sure that every letter of the law is complied with, even laws that no longer work for the American people or