

S. 1623

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the names of the Senator from Virginia [Mr. ROBB] and the Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER] were added as cosponsors of S. 1623, a bill to establish a National Tourism Board and a National Tourism Organization, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 226

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the names of the Senator from Virginia [Mr. WARNER] and the Senator from Minnesota [Mr. WELLSTONE] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 226, a resolution to proclaim the week of October 13 through October 19, 1996, as "National Character Counts Week."

SENATE RESOLUTION 248—
RELATIVE TO LIBERIA

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself, Mrs. KASSEBAUM, Mr. SIMON, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. JEFFORDS, and Mr. PELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 248

Whereas, the war in Liberia begun in 1989 has devastated that country, with more than 150,000 people killed, up to 1 million forced to flee as refugees to neighboring countries, and thousands of children conscripted into the rebel armies;

Whereas, the Abuja Accords signed in August 1995 represented the most realistic path for lasting peace;

Whereas, the Senate passed a resolution on September 20, 1995, expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should strongly support the peace process in Liberia, including support for the west African peacekeeping force;

Whereas the U.S. committed \$10 million in support for the west African peacekeeping force, but has delivered only \$5.5 million, most of which arrived only in February 1996;

Whereas, the peacekeeping force has fewer than 6,000 soldiers, but needs over 15,000 to carry out its mission;

Whereas, violence characterized by massive looting, shelling, and ethnic hostilities broke out in Monrovia on April 6, 1996, forcing tens of thousands of people into hiding, without food and water, halting most humanitarian assistance programs in Liberia, and signifying a failure of the west African peacekeeping force to maintain order and stability in Monrovia;

Whereas, 214 U.S. armed forces and 1400 support personnel have been deployed to Liberia to facilitate the successful evacuation of approximately 1800 people, including over 300 Americans, from Liberia;

Whereas, while the U.S. is the only functioning diplomatic mission in Monrovia, some nations, such as Japan, have continuing economic concerns in Liberia and other nations, such as France, have national interests in western Africa; and

Whereas, negotiations for a ceasefire and the peaceful release of hostages are being led by Ghanaian Kojo Tsikata, and Cote D'Ivoire, Burkina Faso and others are trying to use their influence to moderate combatants.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Senate

(1) commends the U.S. Armed Forces and the U.S. Embassy personnel for the successful evacuation of over 1795 people from Liberia;

(2) declares that a breakdown of the Abuja process would have disastrous humanitarian

ramifications and seriously threaten other U.S. interests in west Africa;

(3) calls upon all factions to reach a ceasefire and re-commit themselves to the Abuja process; and

(4) urges the Administration to:

a. scrutinize the Federal budget to identify funds that could be either re-programmed or transferred and used to support additional non-Nigerian West African peacekeepers;

b. consider the provision of excess defense articles for communications and logistical support and training for crowd-control techniques for non-Nigerian troops to participate effectively in a west African peacekeeping force;

c. use its influence with other nations with interests in Liberia to solicit further support for west African peacekeeping forces, including their participation at the April 26 meeting of a newly-formed Contact Group in Liberia; and

d. lead efforts in the United Nations to activate a Commission in the United Nations to develop an implementation plan and sanctions against those parties violating the U.N. arms embargo on Liberia.

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I am submitting a resolution today on behalf of myself, and Senators KASSEBAUM, SIMON, LEAHY, JEFFORDS, and PELL, which includes proposals for United States action in support of the Liberian peace process. I will be speaking at length on this later this week.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

THE IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT AMENDMENT ACT OF 1996

FAIRCLOTH AMENDMENT NO. 3674

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. FAIRCLOTH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill (S. 1664) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to increase control over immigration to the United States by increasing border patrol and investigative personnel and detention facilities, improving the system used by employers to verify citizenship or work-authorized alien status, increasing penalties for alien smuggling and document fraud, and reforming asylum, exclusion, and deportation law and procedures; to reduce the use of welfare by aliens; and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following new section:

SEC. . REVIEW OF CONTRACTS WITH STANDARDIZED CITIZENSHIP TEST CENTERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General of the United States shall investigate and submit a report to the Congress regarding the practices of test centers authorized to administer the standardized citizenship test pursuant to section 312.3(a) of title 8, Code of Federal Regulations. The report shall include any findings of fraudulent practices by the centers.

(b) PRELIMINARY AND FINAL REPORTS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to the Congress a preliminary report of the findings of the investigation conducted pursuant to subsection (a) and shall submit to the Congress a final report within

275 days after the submission of the preliminary report.

THE HEALTH INSURANCE REFORM ACT OF 1996

KASSEBAUM (AND KENNEDY)
AMENDMENT NO. 3675

Mrs. KASSEBAUM (for herself and Mr. KENNEDY) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1028) to provide increased access to health care benefits, to provide increased portability of health care benefits, to provide increased security of health care benefits, to increase the purchasing power of individuals and small employers, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Health Insurance Reform Act of 1996".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—HEALTH CARE ACCESS,
PORTABILITY, AND RENEWABILITY

Subtitle A—Group Market Rules

Sec. 101. Guaranteed availability of health coverage.

Sec. 102. Guaranteed renewability of health coverage.

Sec. 103. Portability of health coverage and limitation on preexisting condition exclusions.

Sec. 104. Special enrollment periods.

Sec. 105. Disclosure of information.

Subtitle B—Individual Market Rules

Sec. 110. Individual health plan portability.

Sec. 111. Guaranteed renewability of individual health coverage.

Sec. 112. State flexibility in individual market reforms.

Sec. 113. Definition.

Subtitle C—COBRA Clarifications

Sec. 121. COBRA clarifications.

Subtitle D—Private Health Plan Purchasing Cooperatives

Sec. 131. Private health plan purchasing cooperatives.

TITLE II—APPLICATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF STANDARDS

Sec. 201. Applicability.

Sec. 202. Enforcement of standards.

TITLE III—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 301. HMOs allowed to offer plans with deductibles to individuals with medical savings accounts.

Sec. 302. Health coverage availability study.

Sec. 303. Sense of the Committee concerning medicare.

Sec. 304. Effective date.

Sec. 305. Severability.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this Act:

(1) BENEFICIARY.—The term "beneficiary" has the meaning given such term under section 3(8) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(8)).

(2) EMPLOYEE.—The term "employee" has the meaning given such term under section 3(6) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(6)).

(3) EMPLOYER.—The term "employer" has the meaning given such term under section 3(5) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (29 U.S.C. 1002(5)), except