

(B) the product of—

(i) the per resident rate for indirect medical education, as determined under paragraph (3), for the cost reporting period; and

(ii) the number of full-time equivalent residents in the hospital's approved medical residency training programs for the cost reporting period.

(2) PER RESIDENT RATE FOR DIRECT MEDICAL EDUCATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The per resident rate for direct medical education for a hospital for a cost reporting period ending in or after fiscal year 1999 is the updated rate determined under subparagraph (B), as adjusted for the hospital under subparagraph (C).

(B) COMPUTATION OF UPDATED RATE.—The Secretary shall—

(i) compute a base national DME average per resident rate equal to the average of the per resident rates computed under section 1886(h)(2) of the Social Security Act for cost reporting periods ending during fiscal year 1998; and

(ii) update such rate by the applicable percentage increase determined under section 1886(b)(3)(B)(i) of such Act for the fiscal year involved.

(C) ADJUSTMENT FOR VARIATIONS IN LABOR-RELATED COSTS.—The Secretary shall adjust for each hospital the portion of such updated rate that is related to labor and labor-related costs to account for variations in wage costs in the geographic area in which the hospital is located using the factor determined under section 1886(d)(3)(E) of the Social Security Act.

(3) PER RESIDENT RATE FOR INDIRECT MEDICAL EDUCATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The per resident rate for indirect medical education for a hospital for a cost reporting period ending in or after fiscal year 1999 is the updated amount determined under subparagraph (B).

(B) COMPUTATION OF UPDATED AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall—

(i) determine, for each hospital with a graduate medical education program which is paid under section 1886(d) of the Social Security Act, the amount paid to that hospital pursuant to section 1886(d)(5)(B) of such Act for the equivalent of a full twelve-month cost reporting period ending during the preceding fiscal year and divide such amount by the number of full-time equivalent residents participating in its approved residency programs and used to calculate the amount of payment under such section in that cost reporting period;

(ii) take the sum of the amounts determined under clause (i) for all the hospitals described in such clause and divide that sum by the number of hospitals so described; and

(iii) update the amount computed under clause (ii) for a hospital by the applicable percentage increase determined under section 1886(b)(3)(B)(i) of such Act for the fiscal year involved.

(c) MAKING OF PAYMENTS.—

(1) INTERIM PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall estimate, before the beginning of each cost reporting period for a hospital for which a payment may be made under this section, the amount of the payment to be made under this section to the hospital for such period and shall pay such amount in 26 equal interim installments during such period.

(2) FINAL PAYMENT.—At the end of each such period, the hospital shall submit to the Secretary such information as the Secretary determines to be necessary to determine the final payment amount due under this section for the hospital for the period. Based on such determination, the Secretary shall recoup any overpayments made, or pay any balance due. The final amount so determined shall be considered a final intermediary determination for purposes of applying section 1878 of

the Social Security Act and shall be subject to review under that section in the same manner as the amount of payment under section 1886(d) is subject to review under such section.

(d) LIMITATION ON EXPENDITURES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), there are hereby appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for payments under this section for cost reporting periods beginning in—

(A) fiscal year 1999 \$100,000,000;

(B) fiscal year 2000, \$285,000,000;

(C) fiscal year 2001, \$285,000,000; and

(D) fiscal year 2002, \$285,000,000.

(2) CARRYOVER OF EXCESS.—If the amount of payments under this section for cost reporting periods ending in fiscal year 1999, 2000, or 2001 is less than the amount provided under this subsection for such payments for such periods, then the amount available under this subsection for cost reporting periods ending in the following fiscal year shall be increased by the amount of such difference.

(e) RELATION TO MEDICARE AND MEDICAID PAYMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, payments under this section to a hospital for a cost reporting period—

(1) are in lieu of any amounts otherwise payable to the hospital under section 1886(h) or 1886(d)(5)(B) of the Social Security Act to the hospital for such cost reporting period, but

(2) shall not affect the amounts otherwise payable to such hospitals under a State medical plan under title XIX of such Act.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) APPROVED MEDICAL RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAM.—The term "approved medical residency training program" has the meaning given such term in section 1886(h)(5)(A) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(h)(5)(A)).

(2) CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.—The term "children's hospital" means a hospital described in section 1886(d)(1)(B)(iii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(d)(1)(B)(iii)).

(3) DIRECT GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION COSTS.—The term "direct graduate medical education costs" has the meaning given such term in section 1886(h)(5)(C) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(h)(5)(C)).

(4) SECRETARY.—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of Health and Human Services.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Communications Subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet on Tuesday, May 19, 1998, at 9:30 a.m. on Oversight of the Wireless Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be granted permission to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 19, for purposes of conducting a full committee hearing which is scheduled to begin at 9:30 a.m. The purpose of this oversight hearing is to consider

the fiscal and economic implications of Puerto Rico status.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 19, 1998 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a Business Meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Tuesday, May 19, 1998, at 10:00 a.m. for a hearing on "Government Computer Security."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Labor and Human Resources be authorized to meet for a hearing on "Health Care Quality: Grievance Procedures" during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 19, 1998, at 10:00 a.m.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, BUSINESS RIGHTS AND COMPETITION

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Antitrust, Business Rights, and Competition, of the Senate Judiciary Committee, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 19, 1998 at 10:00 a.m. to hold a hearing in room 226, Senate Dirksen Building, on "Consolidation in the Telephone Industry: Good or Bad for Consumers?"

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT AND THE COURTS

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Administrative Oversight and the Courts, of the Senate Judiciary Committee, be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, May 19, 1998 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing in room 226, Senate Dirksen Building, on: "S. 1914, The Business Bankruptcy Reform Act: Business Bankruptcy Issues in Review."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

NATO WRAP UP

• Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I joined the majority of my Senate colleagues in voting overwhelmingly in favor of the resolution approving the accession to NATO of Poland, Hungary, and the Czech Republic. I believe that these three countries have made remarkable progress in establishing