

By Mr. COCHRAN:

S. 2482. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to designate certain entities organized to participate in States workmen's compensation assigned risk insurance plans as tax-exempt entities; to the Committee on Finance.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. HARKIN):

S. 2483. A bill to establish programs regarding early detection, diagnosis, and interventions for newborns and infants with hearing loss; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mr. LEAHY (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. BIDEN, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. REID, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. DORGAN, and Mr. TORRICELLI):

S. 2484. A bill to combat violent and gang-related crime in schools and on the streets, to reform the juvenile justice system, target international crime, promote effective drug and other crime prevention programs, assist crime victims, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GORTON:

S. 2485. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to allow States to use the funds available under the State children's health insurance program for enhanced matching rate for coverage of additional children under the medicaid program; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. KERREY:

S. 2486. A bill for the relief of Luis A. Gonzalez and Virginia Aguilla Gonzalez; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. ASHCROFT:

S. 2487. A bill to amend The Equal Access Act to provide equal access for elementary and secondary school groups to expense reimbursement and materials, and to provide equal access for community groups to meeting space; to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources.

By Mrs. MURRAY:

S. 2488. A bill to establish the Northwest Straits Advisory Commission; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. HATCH (for himself, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. MCCAIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DODD, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. BOND, Mr. KERRY, Mr. GRASSLEY, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN, and Mr. REID):

S. Res. 278. A resolution designating the 30th day of April of 1999, as "Dia de los Ninos: Celebrating Young Americans", and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. D'AMATO:

S. Con. Res. 118. A concurrent resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Rotunda on September 23, 1998, for the presentation of the Congressional Gold Medal to Nelson Mandela; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2477. A bill to amend title 5, United States Code, to provide for the establishment of a program under which long-term care insurance may be obtained by Federal employees and annuitants; to the Committee on Governmental Affairs.

CIVIL SERVICE LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE BENEFIT ACT

• Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, today I introduce the Civil Service Long-Term Care Insurance Benefit Act. This legislation is an important first step in helping Americans prepare for their long-term care needs.

I am pleased to have my colleague Senator GRAHAM of Florida join me as a cosponsor of this legislation, which has also been introduced in the House of Representatives by Representative JOHN MICA.

The Civil Service Long-Term Care Insurance Benefit Act will establish a program under which long-term care insurance may be obtained by current and former employees of the federal government. The premiums will not be subsidized by the government and will be paid for entirely by the employee or retiree. However, this legislation will make long-term care insurance more affordable to by using the government's purchasing power to negotiate volume discounts.

It is my belief that the participation of a large employer such as the federal government in the long-term care insurance market will act as a catalyst to encourage other large employers to offer similar plans. This legislation will establish a larger market for long-term care insurance and help ensure the availability of competitively priced, high quality insurance products.

This measure will encourage Americans to be pro-active and prepare for their long term care needs by making insurance more widely available and affordable. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD as follows:

S. 2477

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Civil Service Long-Term Care Insurance Benefit Act".

SEC. 2. LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart G of part III of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

"CHAPTER 90—LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE

"Sec.

"9001. Definitions.

"9002. Availability of insurance.

"9003. Participating carriers.

"9004. Administrative functions.

"9005. Coordination with State laws.

"9006. Commercial items.

"§ 9001. Definitions

"For purposes of this chapter:

"(1) EMPLOYEE.—The term 'employee' has the meaning given such term by section 8901, but does not include an individual employed by the government of the District of Columbia.

"(2) ANNUITANT.—The term 'annuitant' means—

"(A) a former employee who, based on the service of that individual, receives an annuity under subchapter III of chapter 83, chapter 84, or another retirement system for employees of the Government (disregarding title XVIII of the Social Security Act and any retirement system established for employees described in section 2105(c)); and

"(B) any individual who receives an annuity under any retirement system referred to in subparagraph (A) (disregarding those described parenthetically) as the surviving spouse of an employee (including an amount under section 8442(b)(1)(A), whether or not an annuity under section 8442(b)(1)(B) is also payable) or of a former employee under subparagraph (A);

but does not include a former employee of a Government corporation excluded by regulation of the Office of Personnel Management or the spouse of such a former employee.

"(3) ELIGIBLE RELATIVE.—The term 'eligible relative', as used with respect to an employee or annuitant, means each of the following:

"(A) The spouse of the employee or annuitant.

"(B) The father or mother of the employee or annuitant, or an ancestor of either.

"(C) A stepfather or stepmother of the employee or annuitant.

"(D) The father-in-law or mother-in-law of the employee or annuitant.

"(E) A son or daughter of the employee or annuitant who is at least 18 years of age.

"(F) A stepson or stepdaughter of the employee or annuitant who is at least 18 years of age.

"(4) GOVERNMENT.—The term 'Government' means the Government of the United States, including an agency or instrumentality thereof.

"(5) GROUP LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE.—The term 'group long-term care insurance' means group long-term care insurance purchased by the Office of Personnel Management under this chapter.

"(6) INDIVIDUAL LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE.—The term 'individual long-term care insurance' means any long-term care insurance offered under this chapter which is not group long-term care insurance.

"(7) QUALIFIED CARRIER.—A carrier shall be considered to be a 'qualified carrier', with respect to a State, if it is licensed to issue group or individual long-term care insurance (as the case may be) under the laws of such State.

"(8) QUALIFIED LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE CONTRACT.—The term 'qualified long-term care insurance contract' has the meaning given such term by section 7702B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

"(9) STATE.—The term 'State' means a State, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and any other territory or possession of the United States.

"§ 9002. Availability of insurance

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Personnel Management shall establish and administer a program through which employees and annuitants may obtain group or individual long-term care insurance for themselves, a spouse, or, to the extent permitted under the terms of the contract of insurance involved, any other eligible relative.