

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## INTRODUCTION OF THE WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH AND PREVENTION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

### HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 1998

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, I introduced legislation to revise and extend a number of important women's health research and prevention programs at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). My bill is a companion measure to S. 1722, the "Women's Health Research and Prevention Amendments of 1998." S. 1722 was introduced in March by Senator BILL FRIST and enjoys strong bipartisan support, including members of the Senate Leadership.

Both the NIH and the CDC play critical roles in efforts to improve women's health through research, screening, prevention, treatment, education and data collection. My bill reauthorizes programs at the NIH for vital research into the causes, prevention and treatment of some of the major diseases affecting women—including osteoporosis, breast and ovarian cancer—and for research into the aging processes of women.

In addition, the bill authorizes a new research program at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute to target heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women. This program will advance research into cardiovascular disease, which is the leading cause of death in women. In the past, the medical community has focused on men in research, treatment and counseling for heart disease and stroke. Clearly, the need exists to study these diseases in women to prevent and treat them.

My bill also reauthorizes several major programs at the CDC for prevention and education activities on women's health issues. These include the National Center for Health Statistics, the National Program of Cancer Registries, the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program and the Centers for Research and Demonstration of Health Promotion and Disease Prevention.

As Chairman of the Health and Environment Subcommittee of the House Commerce Committee, I believe Congress must play an active role in promoting women's health research and prevention efforts. My bill reauthorizes a number of these critical women's health programs, and I urge all Members to join me in supporting passage of this important legislation.

## SUMMARY OF THE WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH AND PREVENTION AMENDMENTS OF 1998 INTRODUCED BY THE HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

Purpose: To amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend certain programs with respect to women's health research and prevention activities at the Na-

tional Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

### TITLE I: PROVISIONS RELATING TO WOMEN'S HEALTH RESEARCH AT THE NIH.

Section 101. Research Program and Authorization of National Education Program Regarding Drug DES. Amends PHS Act Sec. 403A to extend the research program on DES (diethylstilbestrol), a drug widely prescribed to American women from 1938 to 1971 which has been shown to be harmful to pregnant women and their children. Adds to the PHS Act a new Sec. 1710 to establish a national program through the Public Health Service agencies for education of health professionals and the public with respect to DES.

Section 102. Research on Osteoporosis, Paget's Disease and Related Bone Disorders. Amends PHS Act Sec. 409A(d) to extend the research program on osteoporosis, Paget's disease and related bone disorders at the National Institute on Aging, the National Institute for Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, the National Institute of Dental Research and the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases.

Section 103. Research on Cancer, Breast Cancer, and Ovarian and Related Cancer. Amends PHS Act Sec. 417B(b) to extend the research programs for basic and clinical research and education efforts with respect to cancer, breast cancer, and ovarian and related cancer.

Section 104. Research on Heart Attack, Stroke, and other Cardiovascular Diseases in Women. Adds to the PHS Act a new Sec. 424A to expand, intensify, and coordinate research and related activities with respect to heart attack, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. This new authorization is included to support research into cardiovascular disease, which has been shown to be the leading cause of death in women in the United States.

Section 105. Aging Processes Regarding Women. Amends PHS Act Sec. 445H to extend the research programs at the National Institute on Aging into the aging processes of women, which give particular emphasis to the effects of menopause and the diagnosis, disorders, and complications related to aging and loss of ovarian hormones in women.

Section 106. Office of Research on Women's Health. Amends PHS Act Sec. 486(d) to allow the Director of NIH to make appointments to the Advisory Committee on Research on Women's Health.

### TITLE II: PROVISIONS RELATING TO WOMEN'S HEALTH AT THE CDC.

Section 201. National Center for Health Statistics. Amends PHS Act Sec. 306(n) to extend the authority for statistical and epidemiological activities conducted by the NCHS, the federal government's principal health statistical agency. NCHS maintains more than a dozen data systems, including vital statistics data acquired from states, data derived from personal interviews, physical examinations, and laboratory tests, review of records of health care providers, and other survey methods. Data produced by these systems identify and address a broad spectrum of health concerns from birth to death, including overall health status, life-

style, exposure to unhealthful influences, the onset and diagnosis of illness and disability, and the use of health care and rehabilitation services. Grant for Special Populations. The legislation extends the program for grants and studies on the health of ethnic and racial populations and on improving methods for developing statistics on ethnic and racial groups. The data collection supported by the NCHS is often the only national data available on the health status of U.S. women and their use of the health care system.

Section 202. National Program of Cancer Registries. Amends PHS Act Sec. 399L to extend the National Cancer Registries Program. The NPCR provides for the development of a comprehensive national cancer database for analysis of the cancer burden in the United States on a state, regional and national population basis. CDC provides funds to States and territories to enhance existing cancer registries; to implement registries in additional states; to develop model legislation and regulations for States to enhance viability of registry operations; to set standards for completeness, timeliness, and quality; and to provide training. This program generates reliable cancer surveillance data needed to monitor trends; guide cancer control programs; assist in allocations of health resources; advance population-based epidemiologic and health services research; and serve as the foundation of a national comprehensive cancer control strategy. CDC provides support to 42 states and the District of Columbia.

Section 203. National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. Amends PHS Act Sec. 1510(a) to extend the program, which provides for regular screening for breast and cervical cancers to underserved women, prompt follow-up if necessary, and assurances that the tests are performed in accordance with current quality recommendations. Amends PHS Act Sec. 1501(a)(2) to include support services such as case management under the purposes of the program. Amends PHS Act Sec. 1501(b) to authorize states to contract with for-profit entities to provide all types of services and to clarify that states may give priority to applications of equivalent quality submitted by nonprofit private entities. CDC supports activities at the state and national level in the areas of screening referral and follow-up services, quality assurance, public and provider education, surveillance, collaboration and partnership development.

Section 204. Centers for Research and Demonstration of Health Promotions and Disease Prevention (Prevention Centers). Amends PHS Act Sec. 1706(e) to extend authorization for grants to academic health institutions to establish centers for research and demonstration of health promotion and disease prevention. CDC funds 14 academic centers across the country. Areas of special emphasis include quality of life for special populations and curbing premature morbidity and mortality that lead to excessive health care costs. The NIH Women's Health Initiative and CDC Prevention Research Centers in Maryland, North Carolina, and Alabama are working together to develop strategies for prevention of cardiovascular disease in women.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4101,  
AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS  
ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. DOUG BEREUTER**

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 1998*

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, this Member rises to express his concerns about the inadequacy of the emergency farm relief package in the conference report for H.R. 4101. This Member would like to begin by expressing his appreciation to the distinguished gentleman from New Mexico (Mr. SKEEN) and the distinguished gentlewoman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) for their diligent work in crafting this legislation.

Although this legislation includes important emergency aid provisions for farmers, this Member believes that it is inadequate to address the enormous needs of agricultural producers who are reeling from depressed commodity prices across the board. Most of the assistance available under this agriculture relief package is targeted toward farmers who have suffered natural disaster and multi-year losses. As a result, it will offer little help to farmers in most agricultural states, such as Nebraska, who are harvesting good crops but encountering drastically lower prices.

Unfortunately, this Member does not believe that the \$1.65 billion in the package for market loss assistance is adequate to compensate producers. Since it represents a 29 percent increase over the AMTA payment received by producers in FY98, it is a good first step. However, the 1996 Farm Act was based on the premise of expanding international markets for the commodities produced by our nation's farmers. This clearly has not happened. Certainly, one of the root causes of the current low commodity prices is the recent economic down-turn. Nobody could predict the Asian financial crisis or the contagion effect which is still being felt. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) is now forecasting that FY98 exports will be \$2.3 billion lower than FY97 sales and \$4.8 billion below the FY96 record of \$59.8 billion.

Also, because of the strength of our national economy relative to most other countries, the value of our currency relative to others now makes our exports less price-competitive in Asian markets than our competitor exporters like Canada, Australia, Brazil, or the nations of the European Union. Thus, there is not only a dramatically reduced agricultural export market in Asia, we are also getting a reduced portion of the remaining Asian import business.

This Member continues to support the flexibility offered by the 1996 Agriculture Market Transition Act and does not want to see a return to the policies of the past. Farmers certainly appreciate the freedom to plant what they want and for the most part do not want to encounter unnecessary restrictions and bureaucracy. However, proposed changes, such as removing the loan rate caps would likely cause intermediate and long-term problems. A recent study prepared by the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute at the University of Missouri and Iowa State University concluded that such a change would lead to larger supplies and lower prices in the future.

This Member supports the Pomeroy motion to recommit with instructions which proposed that the conferees should "increase the assistance available to family farmers suffering economic loss as a result of record low prices, deteriorating market conditions and/or natural disasters."

In addition, this Member is supportive of recent actions which are designed to assist farmers during these difficult times. For example, this Member was supportive of the legislation which makes \$5.5 billion in current FY99 Farm Act payments to farmers available at an earlier date on October 1, 1998. This action will significantly expedite these much needed payments.

More must be done for our nation's farmers and this Member believes it almost certainly now will be necessary to approve an emergency supplemental appropriation to assist farmers early next year, because the emergency assistance to farmers is not sufficient given the wholly unexpected export conditions in Asia and world markets and very low commodity prices they face.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4101,  
AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND DRUG  
ADMINISTRATION, AND BELATED  
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS  
ACT, 1999

SPEECH OF

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 2, 1998*

Mrs. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill and to commend Chairman SKEEN for his dedication and commitment to the Agriculture Appropriations process.

He and Senate Subcommittee Chairman, Mr. COCHRAN, along with the full committee chairmen, Mr. LIVINGSTON in the House and Mr. STEVENS in the Senate have worked tirelessly throughout the entire process and, specifically, during conference proceedings.

The conferees did not succumb to outside pressures and stood firm against terrorist countries and parish states. They understood the tremendous differences between dealings with democratically elected governments versus attempts to negotiate with and support terrorist states such as the Castro regime in Cuba—that is what the provision by Senator DODD would have done.

The conferees understood that reality and eliminated the Dodd provision. The House and Senate conferees heard the rhetoric used by supporters of the Dodd provision but, when they heard the facts, they did what was right for the American people and for their security.

The conferees were clear on what they were dealing with when talking about Fidel Castro. They knew that Castro had recently rejected a U.S. proposal to provide donated aid to needy Cubans because it was coming from the United States. Even the North Korean dictatorship could not bring itself to deny aid for its people.

The conferees were fully aware of the fact that U.S. policy does not deny food and medicine to the Cuban people; that U.S. policy supports the Cuban people while punishing the dictator that enslaves them.

From a practical standpoint, the conferees understood that Castro does not have the

money to purchase food because Castro's socialist economy is a dismal failure.

As far as "credits", the conferees were aware of the fact that Castro has the highest per capita debt in Latin America, rendering Cuba unworthy of credit from any country or international lender in the world. The Dodd provision would have made the U.S. the laughing stock of the world. It would have turned the U.S. into the only country in the world offering to extend credits to Fidel Castro.

The conferees recalled the fact that just a few weeks ago, the FBI rounded up 10 Cuban spies working to obtain intelligence from three U.S. military bases in South Florida.

With the enemy at our doorstep; with Castro agents gnawing at U.S. domestic security; there were those who actually wanted to appease the oppressive Castro regime by supporting the Dodd provision.

But again, the majority of the conferees could not, would not be fooled. They dropped the Dodd provision from the Agriculture Appropriations bill.

I appreciate their cooperation throughout the last couple of months, and praise them for their commitment to what is right and just. On behalf of the Cuban people and the people of terrorist and oppressive regimes around the world, thank you.

SALUTING THE MEMORY OF  
SANDY ANDREWS

**HON. CHARLES H. TAYLOR**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 5, 1998*

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in 1991, a young woman in my district, Sandy Andrews, was tragically killed when a train struck her vehicle at a railroad crossing.

But sometimes, out of such tragedies, come good things.

Sandy Andrews was active in youth sports in North Cove, North Carolina, where she lived with her husband and three sons. So to honor her memory, her family donated approximately 10 acres along U.S. Highway 221 for building a park. With the involvement of the McDowell County government, many volunteers, and local grant monies, that park was built.

On Saturday, September 12, 1998, the Sandy Andrews Memorial Park was opened, providing a ball field with dugouts, a playground, basketball court, and a volleyball court.

In this day when so many senseless tragedies occur, the building of this park is a tribute to both the memory of Sandy Andrews, and the resolution of her family and her community to honor her memory.

It is an honor to share the story of that tribute with my colleagues today.

[From the McDowell News, Sept. 14, 1998]  
FAMILY HOPES MEMORIAL PARK WILL BENEFIT  
COUNTY'S CHILDREN

(By Ragan Robinson)

A host of North Cove residents and county officials were on hand for the dedications of the Sandy Andrews Memorial Park Saturday morning.

Approximately 10 acres of land located on U.S. 221 North was donated for the park by Roger, Tom and Louis Andrews.