

the Chair of the Commission, the head of that department or agency shall furnish that information to the Commission.

(d) **MAILS.**—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(e) **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.**—Upon the request of the Commission, the Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, the administrative support services necessary for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this Act.

#### SEC. 8. REPORTS.

(a) **INTERIM REPORTS.**—The Commission may submit to Congress such interim reports as the Commission considers to be appropriate.

(b) **FINAL REPORT.**—The Commission shall submit a final report to Congress not later than the expiration of the 4-year period beginning on the date of the formation of the Commission. The final report shall contain—

(1) a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Commission;

(2) the recommendations of the Commission; and

(3) any other information that the Commission considers to be appropriate.

#### SEC. 9. BUDGET ACT COMPLIANCE.

Any spending authority provided under this Act shall be effective only to such extent and in such amounts as are provided in appropriation Acts.

#### SEC. 10. TERMINATION.

The Commission shall terminate 120 days after submitting the final report of the Commission pursuant to section 8.

#### SEC. 11. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

### NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

#### HATCH AMENDMENT NO. 2796

Ms. COLLINS (for Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the resolution (S. Res. 108) resolution designating the month of March each year as "National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month"; as follows:

On page 2, line 5, strike "March of each year" and insert "March, 2000."

Amend the title so as to read: "Resolution designating the month of March, 2000, as National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month".

### FOSTER CARE INDEPENDENCE ACT OF 1999

#### COLLINS (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 2797

Ms. COLLINS (for herself, Mr. ROTH, Mr. L. CHAFEE, and Mr. REED) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 1802) to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to provide States with more funding and greater flexibility in carrying out programs designed to help children make the transition from foster care to self-sufficiency, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the "Foster Care Independence Act of 1999".

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

#### TITLE I—IMPROVED INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM

##### Subtitle A—Improved Independent Living Program

Sec. 101. Improved independent living program.

##### Subtitle B—Related Foster Care Provision

Sec. 111. Increase in amount of assets allowable for children in foster care.

Sec. 112. Preparation of foster parents to provide for the needs of children in State care.

##### Subtitle C—Medicaid Amendments

Sec. 121. State option of Medicaid coverage for adolescents leaving foster care.

##### Subtitle D—Adoption Incentive Payments

Sec. 131. Increased funding for adoption incentive payments.

#### TITLE II—SSI FRAUD PREVENTION

##### Subtitle A—Fraud Prevention and Related Provisions

Sec. 201. Liability of representative payees for overpayments to deceased recipients.

Sec. 202. Recovery of overpayments of SSI benefits from lump sum SSI benefit payments.

Sec. 203. Additional debt collection practices.

Sec. 204. Requirement to provide State prisoner information to Federal and federally assisted benefit programs.

Sec. 205. Treatment of assets held in trust under the SSI program.

Sec. 206. Disposal of resources for less than fair market value under the SSI program.

Sec. 207. Administrative procedure for imposing penalties for false or misleading statements.

Sec. 208. Exclusion of representatives and health care providers convicted of violations from participation in social security programs.

Sec. 209. State data exchanges.

Sec. 210. Study on possible measures to improve fraud prevention and administrative processing.

Sec. 211. Annual report on amounts necessary to combat fraud.

Sec. 212. Computer matches with Medicare and Medicaid institutionalization data.

Sec. 213. Access to information held by financial institutions.

##### Subtitle B—Benefits For Certain World War II Veterans

Sec. 251. Establishment of program of special benefits for certain World War II veterans.

##### Subtitle C—Study

Sec. 261. Study of denial of SSI benefits for family farmers.

#### TITLE III—CHILD SUPPORT

Sec. 301. Narrowing of hold harmless provision for State share of distribution of collected child support.

#### TITLE IV—TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS

Sec. 401. Technical corrections relating to amendments made by the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996.

#### TITLE I—IMPROVED INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM

##### Subtitle A—Improved Independent Living Program

#### SEC. 101. IMPROVED INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM.

(a) **FINDINGS.**—The Congress finds the following:

(1) States are required to make reasonable efforts to find adoptive families for all children, including older children, for whom reunification with their biological family is not in the best interests of the child. However, some older children will continue to live in foster care. These children should be enrolled in an Independent Living program designed and conducted by State and local government to help prepare them for employment, postsecondary education, and successful management of adult responsibilities.

(2) Older children who continue to be in foster care as adolescents may become eligible for Independent Living programs. These Independent Living programs are not an alternative to adoption for these children. Enrollment in Independent Living programs can occur concurrent with continued efforts to locate and achieve placement in adoptive families for older children in foster care.

(3) About 20,000 adolescents leave the Nation's foster care system each year because they have reached 18 years of age and are expected to support themselves.

(4) Congress has received extensive information that adolescents leaving foster care have significant difficulty making a successful transition to adulthood; this information shows that children aging out of foster care show high rates of homelessness, non-marital childbearing, poverty, and delinquent or criminal behavior; they are also frequently the target of crime and physical assaults.

(5) The Nation's State and local governments, with financial support from the Federal Government, should offer an extensive program of education, training, employment, and financial support for young adults leaving foster care, with participation in such program beginning several years before high school graduation and continuing, as needed, until the young adults emancipated from foster care establish independence or reach 21 years of age.

(b) **IMPROVED INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM.**—Section 477 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 677) is amended to read as follows:

#### "SEC. 477. JOHN H. CHAFEE FOSTER CARE INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM.

"(a) **PURPOSE.**—The purpose of this section is to provide States with flexible funding that will enable programs to be designed and conducted—

"(1) to identify children who are likely to remain in foster care until 18 years of age and to help these children make the transition to self-sufficiency by providing services such as assistance in obtaining a high school diploma, career exploration, vocational training, job placement and retention, training in daily living skills, training in budgeting and financial management skills, substance abuse prevention, and preventive health activities (including smoking avoidance, nutrition education, and pregnancy prevention);

"(2) to help children who are likely to remain in foster care until 18 years of age receive the education, training, and services necessary to obtain employment;

"(3) to help children who are likely to remain in foster care until 18 years of age prepare for and enter postsecondary training and education institutions;

"(4) to provide personal and emotional support to children aging out of foster care, through mentors and the promotion of interactions with dedicated adults; and