

Dialysis Fair Payment Act of 1999, which provided an update to the Medicare reimbursement rate for dialysis services for Fiscal Year 2000. Thus, I was pleased to see the Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999 (BBRA) include a provision increasing the payment rate by 1.2 percent for Fiscal Year 2000 and 1.2 percent for Fiscal Year 2001.

However, the BBRA represented only the first step toward securing access to dialysis services for Medicare patients and ensuring they receive the highest quality of care. The legislation we are introducing today takes the necessary additional steps, as recommended by MedPAC this year, to assure proper reimbursement levels for dialysis services.

Specifically, the "Medicare Renal Dialysis Payment Fairness Act of 2000" provides a 1.2 percent increase in the payment rate for FY 2001, in addition to the 1.2 percent update included in the BBRA, providing a 2.4 percent total increase. This follows MedPAC's analysis of dialysis center costs that concluded that prices paid by dialysis centers would rise by 2.4 percent between Fiscal Year 2000 and 2001.

Second, the legislation ensure proper reimbursement in future years by requiring the Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA) to develop a market basket index for dialysis centers that measures input prices and other relevant factors and to annually review and update the payment rate based upon this index.

Overall, the Medicare Renal Dialysis Payment Fairness Act of 2000 will ensure that dialysis facilities receive the proper Medicare reimbursement to continue to provide high quality dialysis services to the ESRD population.

I am grateful to the National Kidney Foundation, the American Nephrology Nurses Association, the Renal Physicians Association, the National Renal Administrators Association, and the Renal Leadership Council for their support of the Medicare Renal Dialysis Payment Fairness Act of 2000, and I urge my colleagues to support this critical measure.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 577

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 577, a bill to provide for injunctive relief in Federal district court to enforce State laws relating to the interstate transportation of intoxicating liquor.

S. 642

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. MILLER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 642, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for Farm and Ranch Risk Management Accounts, and for other purposes.

S. 681

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from New Jersey

(Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 681, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act and Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies and lymph node dissections performed for the treatment of breast cancer.

S. 805

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 805, a bill to amend title V of the Social Security Act to provide for the establishment and operation of asthma treatment services for children, and for other purposes.

S. 1020

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT), and the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. L. CHAFEE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1020, a bill to amend chapter 1 of title 9, United States Code, to provide for greater fairness in the arbitration process relating to motor vehicle franchise contracts.

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1020, *supra*.

S. 1391

At the request of Mr. INOUE, the names of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) and the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) were added as cosponsors of S. 1391, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve benefits for Filipino veterans of World War II, and for other purposes.

S. 1510

At the request of Mr. MCCAIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1510, a bill to revise the laws of the United States appertaining to United States cruise vessels, and for other purposes.

S. 1810

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1810, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to clarify and improve veterans' claims and appellate procedures.

S. 1900

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1900, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a credit to holders of qualified bonds issued by Amtrak, and for other purposes.

S. 1974

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) were added as cospon-

sors of S. 1974, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make higher education more affordable by providing a full tax deduction for higher education expenses and a tax credit for student education loans.

S. 1987

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1987, a bill to amend the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act, the Older Americans Act of 1965, and the Public Health Service Act to ensure that older women are protected from institutional, community, and domestic violence and sexual assault and to improve outreach efforts and other services available to older women victimized by such violence, and for other purposes.

S. 2003

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2003, a bill to restore health care coverage to retired members of the uniformed services.

S. 2264

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2264, a bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish within the Veterans Health Administration the position of Advisor on Physician Assistants, and for other purposes.

S. 2274

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL) and the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) were added as cosponsors of S. 2274, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide families and disabled children with the opportunity to purchase coverage under the medicaid program for such children.

S. 2308

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2308, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to assure preservation of safety net hospitals through maintenance of the Medicaid disproportionate share hospital program.

S. 2399

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the names of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), and the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) were added as cosponsors of S. 2399, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to revise the coverage of immunosuppressive drugs under the medicare program.

S. 2612

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2612, a bill to combat Ecstasy trafficking, distribution, and abuse in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2698

At the request of Mr. MOYNIHAN, the names of the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM), the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS), and the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2698, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an incentive to ensure that all Americans gain timely and equitable access to the Internet over current and future generations of broadband capability.

S. 2787

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Washington (Mr. GORTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2787, a bill to reauthorize the Federal programs to prevent violence against women, and for other purposes.

S. 2828

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2828, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require that the Secretary of Health and Human Services wage adjust the actual, rather than the estimated, proportion of a hospital's costs that are attributable to wages and wage-related costs.

S. 2841

At the request of Mr. ROBB, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. TORRICELLI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2841, a bill to ensure that the business of the Federal Government is conducted in the public interest and in a manner that provides for public accountability, efficient delivery of services, reasonable cost savings, and prevention of unwarranted Government expenses, and for other purposes.

S. 2938

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2938, a bill to prohibit United States assistance to the Palestinian Authority if a Palestinian state is declared unilaterally, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the names of the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. ROTH), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER), and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of S. 2938, *supra*.

S. 3007

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. ROTH) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3007, a bill to provide for measures in response to a unilateral declaration of the existence of a Palestinian state.

S. 3016

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the names of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) were added as cosponsors of S. 3016, to amend the Social Security Act to establish an outpatient prescription drug assistance program for low-income medicare beneficiaries and medicare beneficiaries with high drug costs.

S. 3017

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3017, a bill to amend the Social Security Act to establish an outpatient prescription drug assistance program for low-income medicare beneficiaries and medicare beneficiaries with high drug costs.

S. 3020

At the request of Mr. GRAMS, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3020, a bill to require the Federal Communications Commission to revise its regulations authorizing the operation of new, low-power FM radio stations.

S. 3021

At the request of Mrs. HUTCHISON, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3021, a bill to provide that a certification of the cooperation of Mexico with United States counterdrug efforts not be required in fiscal year 2001 for the limitation on assistance for Mexico under section 490 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 not to go into effect in that fiscal year.

S. CON. RES. 102

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 102, a concurrent resolution to commend the bravery and honor of the citizens of Remy, France, for their actions with respect to Lieutenant Houston Braly and to recognize the efforts of the 364th Fighter Group to raise funds to restore the stained glass windows of a church in Remy.

S. RES. 304

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 304, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the development of educational programs on veterans' contributions to the country and the designation of the week that includes Veterans Day as "National Veterans Awareness Week" for the presentation of such educational programs.

S. RES. 347

At the request of Mr. HATCH, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 347, a resolution designating the week of September 17, 2000, through September 23, 2000, as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Week.

AMENDMENT NO. 4119

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, his name was added as a cosponsor of Amendment No. 4119 proposed to H.R. 4444, a bill to authorize extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the People's Republic of China.

SENATE RESOLUTION 353—DESIGNATING OCTOBER 20, 2000, AS "NATIONAL MAMMOGRAPHY DAY"

Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ASHCROFT, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GORTON, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. GRAMM, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HELMS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INOUE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERREY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. HOLLINGS, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MACK, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MILLER, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. REID, Mr. ROBB, Mr. ROTH, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SMITH of Oregon, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. VOINOVICH, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. WELLSTONE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 353

Whereas according to the American Cancer Society, in 2000, 182,800 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 40,800 women will die from this disease;

Whereas in the decade of the 1990's, it is estimated that about 2,000,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer, resulting in nearly 500,000 deaths;

Whereas the risk of breast cancer increases with age, with a woman at age 70 years having twice as much of a chance of developing the disease as a woman at age 50 years;

Whereas at least 80 percent of the women who get breast cancer have no family history of the disease;

Whereas mammograms, when operated professionally at a certified facility, can provide safe screening and early detection of breast cancer in many women;

Whereas experts agree that mammography is the best method of early detection of breast cancer, and early detection is the key to saving lives;

Whereas mammograms can reveal the presence of small cancers up to 2 years or more before a regular clinical breast examination or breast self-examination, reducing mortality by more than 30 percent; and

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for localized breast cancer is over 96 percent: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) designates October 20, 2000, as "National Mammography Day"; and

(2) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate programs and activities.

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, today I am introducing a resolution designating October 20, 2000, as "National Mammography Day". I am pleased that 54 of my colleagues have endorsed this proposal by agreeing to be original cosponsors. I might note that I have introduced a similar resolution each year since 1993, and on each occasion the Senate has shown its support for the fight against breast cancer by approving the resolution.

Each year, as I prepare to introduce this resolution, I review the latest information from the American Cancer