

I cannot overstate the need for this legislation. When faced with the rising prevalence of diabetes, the high percentage of seniors who already have the disease, the alarmingly high number of seniors who have diabetes but do not know it yet, and the high cost associated with its treatment, it is obvious that Medicare should provide coverage for diabetes screening.

The American Diabetes Association has identified Medicare screening coverage as their top legislative priority, and I have worked closely with them to craft this legislation. I urge all of my colleagues to give serious consideration to the Diabetes Screening Act of 2002.

STATEMENTS ON SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 337—AUTHORIZING THE PRINTING WITH ILLUSTRATIONS OF A DOCUMENT ENTITLED “COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, UNITED STATES SENATE, 135TH ANNIVERSARY, 1867-2002”

Mr. BYRD (for himself and Mr. STEVENS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 337

Resolved, That there be printed with illustrations as a Senate document a compilation of materials entitled “Committee on Appropriations, United States Senate, 135th Anniversary, 1867-2002”, and that there be printed two thousand additional copies of such document for the use of the Committee on Appropriations.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 151—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS THAT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND THE STATES SHOULD MAKE IT A PRIORITY TO ENSURE A STABLE, QUALITY DIRECT SUPPORT WORKFORCE THAT PROVIDE SERVICES AND SUPPORTS FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION AND OTHER DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Mr. HUTCHINSON submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions:

S. CON. RES. 157

Whereas there are more than 8,000,000 Americans who have mental retardation or other developmental disabilities;

Whereas individuals with developmental disabilities include those with mental retardation, autism, cerebral palsy, Down’s syndrome, epilepsy, and other related conditions;

Whereas individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities have a continuous need for individually planned and coordinated services due to substantial limitations on their functional capacities, including limitations in at least 2 of the areas of self-care, receptive and expressive language, learning, mobility, self-direction,

independent living, and economic self-sufficiency;

Whereas for the past 2 decades individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities and their families have increasingly expressed a desire to live and work in their communities and to join the mainstream of American life;

Whereas the Supreme Court, in *Olmstead v. L.C.*, 527 U.S. 581 (1999), affirmed the right of individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities to receive community-based services as an alternative to institutional care;

Whereas the demand for community supports and services is rapidly growing, as States comply with *Olmstead* and continue to move more individuals from institutions into the community;

Whereas the demand for community supports and services will also continue to grow as family caregivers age, waiting lists grow, individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities live longer, and services for such individuals expand;

Whereas our Nation’s long-term care delivery system is dependent upon a disparate array of public and private funding sources, and is not a conventional industry, but rather is financed primarily through third-party insurers;

Whereas Medicaid financing of supports and services to individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities varies considerably from State to State, causing significant disparities across geographic regions, among differing groups of consumers, and between community and institutional supports;

Whereas aside from families, private providers that employ direct support professionals deliver the majority of supports and services for individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities in the community;

Whereas direct support professionals provide a wide range of supportive services to individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities on a day-to-day basis, including habilitation, health care, personal care and hygiene, employment, transportation, recreation, housekeeping, and other home management-related supports and services that enable these individuals to live and work in their communities;

Whereas direct support professionals generally assist individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities to lead a self-directed family, community, and social life;

Whereas private providers and the individuals for whom they provide supports and services are in jeopardy as a result of the growing crisis in recruiting and retaining a direct support workforce;

Whereas providers of supports and services to individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities typically draw from a labor market that competes with other entry-level jobs that provide less physically and emotionally demanding work as well as higher pay and other benefits, and therefore these direct support jobs are not currently competitive in today’s labor market;

Whereas annual turnover rates of direct support workers range from 40 to 75 percent;

Whereas high rates of employee vacancies and turnover threaten the ability of providers to achieve their core mission, which is the provision of safe and high-quality supports to individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities;

Whereas direct support staff turnover is emotionally difficult for the individuals being served;

Whereas many parents are becoming increasingly afraid that there will be no one

available to take care of their sons and daughters with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities who are living in the community; and

Whereas this workforce shortage is the most significant barrier to implementing the *Olmstead* decision, undermines the expansion of community integration as called for by President George W. Bush’s New Freedom Initiative, and places the community support infrastructure at risk: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This resolution may be cited as the “Direct Support Professional Recognition Resolution”.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING SERVICES OF DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS TO INDIVIDUALS WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES.

It is the sense of Congress that the Federal Government and the States should work to advance our Nation’s commitment to community integration for individuals with mental retardation or other developmental disabilities and to advance personal security for such individuals and their families by making it a priority to ensure a stable, quality direct support workforce that provides services and supports for such individuals.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED & PROPOSED

SA 4858. Mr. LEVIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 45, to authorize the use of United States Armed Forces against Iraq; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4859. Mr. LEVIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 45, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4860. Mr. LEVIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 45, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4861. Mr. LEVIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 45, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4862. Mr. LEVIN (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. JEFFORDS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4856 proposed by Mr. LIEBERMAN (for himself, Mr. WARNER, Mr. BAYH, Mr. MCCAIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MILLER, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. HELMS, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. LOTT, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. THOMPSON, and Mr. NICKLES) to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 45, supra.

SA 4863. Mr. LEVIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4586 submitted by Mr. SPECTER and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 5005, to establish the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4864. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4586 submitted by Mr. SPECTER and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 5005, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4865. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 4586 submitted by Mr. SPECTER and intended to be proposed to the bill H.R. 5005, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 4866. Mrs. BOXER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the joint resolution S.J. Res. 45, to authorize the use of United States Armed Forces against Iraq; which was ordered to lie on the table.