

Drug plan may not require participating pharmacies to accept insurance risk as a condition of participation.

SA 933. Mr. BINGAMAN proposed an amendment to the bill S. 1, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make improvements in the Medicare program, to provide prescription drug coverage under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 120, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

“(I) ELIMINATION OF APPLICATION OF ASSET TEST.—With respect to eligibility determinations for premium and cost-sharing subsidies under this section made on or after October 1, 2008, such determinations shall be made without regard to subparagraph (C) of section 1905(p)(1) (to the extent a State, as of such date, has not already eliminated the application of such subparagraph).”

SA 934. Mrs. LINCOLN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make improvements in the Medicare program, to provide prescription drug coverage under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 9, line 7, insert “(including syringes, and necessary medical supplies associated with the administration of insulin, as defined by the Administrator)” before the semicolon.

On page 170, line 10, insert “(including syringes, and necessary medical supplies associated with the administration of insulin, as defined by the Secretary)” before the comma.

SA 935. Mrs. LINCOLN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to make improvements in the Medicare program, to provide prescription drug coverage under the Medicare program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 410 and insert the following:

SEC. 410. EXCEPTION TO INITIAL RESIDENCY PERIOD FOR GERIATRIC RESIDENCY OR FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS.

(a) CLARIFICATION OF CONGRESSIONAL INTENT.—Congress intended section 1886(h)(5)(F)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395ww(h)(5)(F)(ii)), as added by section 9202 of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (Public Law 99-272), to provide an exception to the initial residency period for geriatric residency or fellowship programs such that, where a particular approved geriatric training program requires a resident to complete 2 years of training to initially become board eligible in the geriatric specialty, the 2 years spent in the geriatric training program are treated as part of the resident's initial residency period, but are not counted against any limitation on the initial residency period.

(b) INTERIM FINAL REGULATORY AUTHORITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE.—The Secretary shall promulgate interim final regulations consistent with the congressional intent expressed in this section after notice and pending opportunity for public comment to be effective for cost reporting periods beginning on or after October 1, 2003.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 18, 2003. The purpose of this meeting will be to discuss the nomination of Thomas Dorr to be Under Secretary of Agriculture for Rural Development.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 18, 2003, at 10:00 a.m., to conduct an oversight hearing on “Review of the New Basel Capital Accord.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on June 18, 2003, at 2:00 p.m., to conduct a mark-up of “The Check Truncation Act of 2003” and of “S. 498, the Rev. Joseph A. De Laine Congressional Gold Medal Bill.”

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at 2:30 p.m. to hold a hearing on A Review of the Development of Democracy in Burma.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at 4:00 p.m. to hold a Nomination hearing.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 18, 2003 at 9:30 a.m. in SD-342 to consider the nominations of Fern Flanagan Saddler to be an Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia; Judith Nan Macaluso to be an Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia (new position created by District of Columbia Family Court Act of 2002); J. Michael Ryan to be an Associate Judge, Superior Court

of the District of Columbia (new position created by District of Columbia Family Court Act of 2002); and Jerry S. Byrd to be an Associate Judge, Superior Court of the District of Columbia (new position created by District of Columbia Family Court Act of 2002).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Subcommittee on Employment, Safety, and Training be authorized to meet for a hearing on “Reauthorization of the Workforce Investment Act” during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 18, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. in SD-430.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Indian Affairs be authorized to meet on Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at 10:00 a.m. in Room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct a HEARING on Native American Sacred Places.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, June 18, 2003 at 2:30 p.m. to hold a closed business meeting.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ANTITRUST, COMPETITION POLICY AND CONSUMER RIGHTS

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights be authorized to meet to conduct a hearing on “The NewsCorp/DirecTV Deal: The Marriage of Content and Global Distribution” on Wednesday, June 18, 2003, at 2:30 p.m. in Room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office building.

Tentative Witness List

Panel I: Mr. Rupert Murdoch, Chairman and CEO, News Corporation; Mr. Eddy Hartenstein, Chairman and CEO, DirecTV; Mr. Gene Kimmelman, Director, Consumer Union, Washington, DC; Mr. Robert Miron, Chairman and CEO, Advance/Newhouse Communications; Mr. Scott Cleland, CEO, The Precursor Group, Washington, DC.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Ms. STABENOW. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Oliver Kim, a fellow in my office, be granted floor privileges during the consideration of S. 1.