

may be taken intermittently or on a reduced leave schedule.”; and

(ii) in paragraph (2), by inserting “or subsection (a)(3)” after “subsection (a)(1)”.

(B) **SUBSTITUTION OF PAID LEAVE.**—Section 6382(d) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following: “An employee may elect to substitute for leave under subsection (a)(3) any of the employee’s accrued or accumulated annual or sick leave under subchapter I for any part of the 26-week period of leave under such subsection.”.

(C) **NOTICE.**—Section 6382(e) of such title is amended by adding at the end the following: “(3) In any case in which an employee seeks leave under subsection (a)(3), the employee shall provide such notice as is practicable.”.

(D) **CERTIFICATION.**—Section 6383 of such title is amended by adding at the end the following:

“(f) An employing agency may require that a request for leave under section 6382(a)(3) be supported by a certification issued at such time and in such manner as the Office of Personnel Management may by regulation prescribe.”.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on August 14, 2007, at 9:30 a.m., at the Clovis-Carver Library, North Annex, located at 701 N. Main Street in Clovis, NM.

The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the Bureau of Reclamation’s implementation of the Rural Water Supply Act of 2006, and Federal, State, and local efforts to plan and develop the Eastern New Mexico Rural Water Supply Project.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record should send it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, DC 20510-6150, or by email to

Gina_Weinstock@energy.senate.gov.

For further information, please contact Michael Connor at (202) 224-5479 or Gina Weinstock at (202) 224-5684.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Evan Eschmeyer and Stacie Milbern of my staff be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of today’s session.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the following fellows and interns be granted floor privileges during the consideration of the Children’s Health Insurance Bill:

Amy Branger, Jennifer Donohue, Eric Willborg, Lindsay Erickson, Davie Lee, Brandon Perkins, Mary Baker, Tom Louthan, Sara Shepherd, Alex Hart, Grace Stephens, Susan Douglas, Diedra Henry-Spires, Elise Stein, Russ Ugone, George Serletis, Neil Ohlenkamp, Suzanne Payne, Jennifer Smith, Avi Salzman.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Tyler Tigges, Anne Freeman, and Lynda Simmons of the Finance Committee staff be given the privilege of the floor during the duration of the debate on H.R. 976.

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

WOUNDED WARRIOR ASSISTANCE ACT OF 2007

On Wednesday, July 25, 2007, the Senate passed H.R. 1538, as amended, as follows:

H.R. 1538

Resolved, That the bill from the House of Representatives (H.R. 1538) entitled “An Act to amend title 10, United States Code, to improve the management of medical care, personnel actions, and quality of life issues for members of the Armed Forces who are receiving medical care in an outpatient status, and for other purposes.”, do pass with the following amendment:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the “Dignified Treatment of Wounded Warriors Act”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—WOUNDED WARRIOR MATTERS

Sec. 101. General definitions.

Subtitle A—Policy on Care, Management, and Transition of Servicemembers With Serious Injuries or Illnesses

Sec. 111. *Comprehensive policy on care, management, and transition of members of the Armed Forces with serious injuries or illnesses.*

Sec. 112. *Consideration of needs of women members of the Armed Forces and veterans.*

Subtitle B—Health Care

PART I—ENHANCED AVAILABILITY OF CARE FOR SERVICEMEMBERS

Sec. 121. *Medical care and other benefits for members and former members of the Armed Forces with severe injuries or illnesses.*

Sec. 122. *Reimbursement of certain former members of the uniformed services with service-connected disabilities for travel for follow-on specialty care and related services.*

PART II—CARE AND SERVICES FOR DEPENDENTS

Sec. 126. *Medical care and services and support services for families of members of the Armed Forces recovering from serious injuries or illnesses.*

Sec. 127. *Extended benefits under TRICARE for primary caregivers of members of the uniformed services who incur a serious injury or illness on active duty.*

PART III—TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY AND POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER

Sec. 131. *Comprehensive plans on prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, and treatment of traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder in members of the Armed Forces.*

Sec. 132. *Improvement of medical tracking system for members of the Armed Forces deployed overseas.*

Sec. 133. *Centers of excellence in the prevention, diagnosis, mitigation, treatment, and rehabilitation of traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder.*

Sec. 134. *Review of mental health services and treatment for female members of the Armed Forces and veterans.*

Sec. 135. *Funding for improved diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of members of the Armed Forces with traumatic brain injury or post-traumatic stress disorder.*

Sec. 136. *Reports.*

PART IV—OTHER MATTERS

Sec. 141. *Joint electronic health record for the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs.*

Sec. 142. *Enhanced personnel authorities for the Department of Defense for health care professionals for care and treatment of wounded and injured members of the Armed Forces.*

Sec. 143. *Personnel shortages in the mental health workforce of the Department of Defense, including personnel in the mental health workforce.*

Subtitle C—Disability Matters

PART I—DISABILITY EVALUATIONS

Sec. 151. *Utilization of veterans’ presumption of sound condition in establishing eligibility of members of the Armed Forces for retirement for disability.*

Sec. 152. *Requirements and limitations on Department of Defense determinations of disability with respect to members of the Armed Forces.*

Sec. 153. *Review of separation of members of the Armed Forces separated from service with a disability rating of 20 percent disabled or less.*

Sec. 154. *Pilot programs on revised and improved disability evaluation system for members of the Armed Forces.*

Sec. 155. *Reports on Army action plan in response to deficiencies in the Army physical disability evaluation system.*

PART II—OTHER DISABILITY MATTERS

Sec. 161. *Enhancement of disability severance pay for members of the Armed Forces.*

Sec. 162. *Traumatic Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance.*

Sec. 163. *Electronic transfer from the Department of Defense to the Department of Veterans Affairs of documents supporting eligibility for benefits.*

Sec. 164. *Assessments of temporary disability retired list.*

Subtitle D—Improvement of Facilities Housing Patients

Sec. 171. *Standards for military medical treatment facilities, specialty medical care facilities, and military quarters housing patients.*

Sec. 172. *Reports on Army action plan in response to deficiencies identified at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.*