home'' requirement may continue to act as an inappropriate restriction in meeting the real-life mobility needs of Medicare beneficiaries with physical disabilities and mobility impairments.

Recently CMS announced a final National Coverage Determination (NCD) for mobility assistance equipment (MAE) that fails to adequately address the concerns of beneficiaries and other parties with the ''in the home'' restriction.

In order to ensure that the ''in the home'' requirement does not act as a barrier to community participation for Medicare beneficiaries with disabilities and mobility impairments; we ask that you modify this requirement through the regulatory process. Additionally, if your agency concludes that the ''in the home'' requirement cannot be addressed through the regulatory process, we request that you respond with such information as quickly as possible, so that Congress may begin examining legislative alternatives.

We thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Jeff Bingaman; Rick Santorum; John Kerry; Joseph I. Lieberman; Barbara Mikulski; Maria Cantwell; Edward M. Kennedy; Patty Murray; Evan Bayh; Mark Dayton; Jack Reed; Johnny Isakson; Sam Brownback; Jon S. Corzine; James M. Talent; Pat Roberts; Frank Lautenberg; James M. Jeffords; Christopher S. Bond; Mike DeWine; Daniel K. Akaka; Mary L. Landrieu; Debbie Stabenow; Charles E. Schumer; Ron Wyden; Herb Kohl; Patrick J. Leahy; Arlen Specter; Hillary Rodham Clinton; Christopher J. Dodd; John McCain; Carl Levin; Tom Harkin; Olympia J. Snowe.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 332—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS SHOULD INCREASE THEIR INVESTMENT IN PAIN MANAGEMENT RESEARCH

Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Armed Services:

S. RES. 332

Whereas the characteristics of modern warfare, including the global war on terror, expose members of the uniformed services to many adverse and dangerous environment-related diseases and living conditions;

Whereas today's war zone conditions, including areas replete with noxious gases released from explosive devices in Iraq and Afghanistan, produce traumatic, life-altering battlefield injuries in degrees unheard of in previous wars including infections, instant crushing of skulls and other bones, loss of sight and limbs, dehydration, blood and other body infections, and, in some cases, severe impairment or total loss of mental and physical functions;

Whereas military medical rapid response teams provide superb, state of the art, life-saving medical and psychological treatment and care at battlefield sites with an extraordinarily high success rate;

Whereas military, Department of Veterans Affairs, and specialty civilian health care treatment facilities are overburdened with caring for the most serious and most painful battlefield casualties ever witnessed from war; and

Whereas the Nation's medical and mental health care professionals have not been provided with sufficient resources to adequately research, diagnose, treat, and manage acute and chronic pain associated with present day battlefield casualties: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) Federal funding for pain management research, treatment and therapies at the Department of Defense, Department of Veterans Affairs and at the National Institutes of Health should be significantly increased;

(2) Congress and the administration should redouble their efforts to ensure that an effective pain management program is uniformly established and implemented for military and Department of Veterans Affairs treatment facilities; and

(3) the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs should increase their investment in pain management clinical research by improving and accelerating clinical trials at military and Department of Veterans Affairs treatment facilities and affiliated university medical centers and research programs.

SENATE RESOLUTION 333—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRODUCTION OF RECORDS BY THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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

S. RES. 333

Whereas, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs conducted an investigation in 2003 and 2004 into abusive practices by the credit counseling industry;

Whereas, the Subcommittee has received a request from a federal law enforcement agency for access to records of the Subcommittee's investigation;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and Rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate can, by administrative or judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate is needed for the promotion of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, acting jointly, are authorized to provide to federal or state law enforcement or regulatory agencies and officials records of the Subcommittee's investigation into abusive practices by the credit counseling industry.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3048. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3049. Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. FEINGOLD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3050. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3051. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3052. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3053. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3054. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3055. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3056. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3057. Mr. MARTINEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3058. Mr. KENNEDY (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. DODD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3059. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3060. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3061. Mr. CRAPO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3062. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3063. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3064. Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself, Mr. LOTT, Mr. KYL, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. COBURN, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. BARRASSO) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3065. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3066. Mr. DEMINT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3067. Mrs. DOLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 976, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3068. Mr. REID (for Mr. OBAMA (for himself, Mr. BOND, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. BOXER, and Mrs. MCCASKILL)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3069. Mr. HATCH submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3070. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3071. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 976, to amend title XXI of the Social Security Act to reauthorize the State Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

SA 3072. Mr. REID proposed an amendment to amendment SA 3071 proposed by Mr. REID to the bill H.R. 976, supra.

SA 3073. Mr. REID (for Mr. OBAMA (for himself and Mr. WHITEHOUSE)) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3074. Mr. SPECTER (for himself and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the joint resolution H.J. Res. 52, making continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 2008, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3075. Mr. BIDEN (for himself, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CASEY, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BROWN, and Mrs. LINCOLN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3048. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title I, add the following:

SEC. 115. M4 CARBINE RIFLE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The members of the Armed Forces are entitled to the best individual combat weapons available in the world today.

(2) Full and open competition in procurement is required by law, and is the most effective way of selecting the best individual combat weapons for the Armed Forces at the best price.

(3) The M4 carbine rifle is currently the individual weapon of choice for the Army, and it is procured through a sole source contract.

(4) The M4 carbine rifle has been proven in combat and meets or exceeds the existing requirements for carbines.

(5) The Army Training and Doctrine Command is conducting a full Capabilities Based Assessment (CBA) of the small arms of the Army which will determine whether or not gaps exist in the current capabilities of such small arms and inform decisions as to whether or not a new individual weapon is required to address such gaps.

(b) REPORT ON CAPABILITIES BASED ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Army shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the Capabilities Based Assessment of the small arms of the Army referred to in subsection (a)(5).

(c) COMPETITION FOR NEW INDIVIDUAL WEAPON.—

(1) COMPETITION REQUIRED.—In the event the Capabilities Based Assessment identifies gaps in the current capabilities of the small arms of the Army and the Secretary of the Army determines that a new individual weapon is required to address such gaps, the Secretary shall procure the new individual weapon through one or more contracts entered into after full and open competition described in paragraph (2).

(2) FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION.—The full and open competition described in this paragraph is full and open competition among all responsible manufacturers that—

(A) is open to all developmental item solutions and nondevelopmental item (NDI) solutions; and

(B) provides for the award of the contract or contracts concerned based on selection criteria that reflect the key performance parameters and attributes identified in an Army-approved service requirements document.

(d) REPORT REQUIRED.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the feasibility and advisability of each of the following:

(1) The certification of a Joint Enhanced Carbine requirement that does not require commonality with existing technical data.

(2) The award of contracts for all available nondevelopmental carbines in lieu of a developmental program intended to meet the proposed Joint Enhanced Carbine requirement.

(3) The reprogramming of funds for the procurement of small arms from the procurement of M4 Carbines to the procurement of Joint Enhanced Carbines authorized only as the result of competition.

(4) The use of rapid equipping authority to procure weapons under $2,000 per unit that meet service-approved requirements, with such weapons being nondevelopmental items selected through full and open competition.

SA 3049. Mr. SANDERS (for himself, Mr. BYRD, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. FEINGOLD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2011 proposed by Mr. NELSON of Nebraska (for Mr. LEVIN) to the bill H.R. 1585, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title III, add the following:

SEC. 325. GULF WAR ILLNESSES RESEARCH.

(a) FUNDING.—Of the amount authorized to be appropriated by section 301(5) for operation and maintenance for Defense-wide activities, $15,000,000 shall be available for the Army Medical Research and Materiel Command to carry out, as part of its Medical Research Program required by Congress, a program for Gulf War Illnesses Research.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the program shall be to develop diagnostic markers and treatments for the complex of symptoms commonly known as ''Gulf War Illnesses (GWI)'', including widespread pain, cognitive impairment, and persistent fatigue in conjunction with diverse other symptoms and abnormalities, that are associated with service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations in the early 1990s during the Persian Gulf War.

(c) PROGRAM ACTIVITIES.—

(1) Highest priority under the program shall be afforded to pilot and observational studies of treatments for the complex of symptoms described in subsection (b) and comprehensive clinical trials of such treatments that have demonstrated effectiveness in previous past pilot and observational studies.

(2) Secondary priority under the program shall be afforded to studies that identify objective markers for such complex of symptoms and biological mechanisms underlying such complex of symptoms that can lead to the identification and development of such markers and treatments.

(3) No study shall be funded under the program that is based on psychiatric illness and psychological stress as the central cause of such complex of symptoms (as is consistent with current research findings).

(d) COMPETITIVE SELECTION AND PEER REVIEW.—The program shall be conducted using competitive selection and peer review for the identification of activities having the most substantial scientific merit, utilizing individuals with recognized expertise in Gulf War illnesses in the design of the solicitation and in the scientific and programmatic review processes.

SA 3050. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 976, to amend the