

or obese. Being overweight is a leading cause of diabetes. A quarter of our State's citizens do not exercise. Unfortunately, it is not just adults who are suffering from this disease. In North Carolina, there are over 4,000 children who have diabetes. While type 1 diabetes is the most frequent diabetes in children, it is because of increasing obesity rates that the incidence and prevalence of type 2 diabetes is growing.

Not only is diabetes wreaking havoc on people's health, it is also costing the country millions of dollars to treat. In my State of North Carolina, diabetes costs \$5.3 billion annually in medical interventions, lost productivity, and premature mortality. Annually diabetes accounts for 16,000 hospitalizations. People suffering from diabetes have greater risk of renal disease, heart attack, stroke, and blindness. Diabetics also have a high risk of amputations if they fail to get appropriate foot care.

However, with proper prevention and treatment, we can curb the staggering cost of diabetes and people can live healthier, happier lives. Lifestyle changes in diet and physical activity can reduce the development of diabetes in prediabetics. Early detection and treatment of diabetic eye disease can reduce blindness and lowering one's blood pressure can reduce the decline in kidney function, thereby averting renal failure. It is because of these proven interventions that I introduce this important bill today.

The Catalyst to Better Diabetes Care Act will address five major issues to further the fight against this debilitating and deadly disease. This bill creates a cross-agency, collaborative patient and provider outreach program to increase the utilization of the Medicare diabetes screening benefit. Although this screening program was established in 2003, at present, very few seniors are taking advantage of this benefit. Early screening allows diabetics to better monitor and control their condition and prevent complications. This provision will save money and lives. When employees have incentives to select more nutritious food and to exercise, not only are they more productive, their overall health is improved. Companies like Pitney Bowes are implementing innovative practices to encourage their employees to live healthier lives, and such initiatives have shown remarkable results.

Building upon these experiences, this bill establishes an advisory group to promote innovative private sector wellness and disease management programs. Diabetes takes an enormous toll on society. Yet we have very little consolidated data which measures the true impact and outcome of this disease. To address this gap, this bill creates a national and State-by-State level diabetes report card which will track our progress toward beating diabetes. The report card will contain information on preventative care prac-

tices and quality of care, risk factors, and outcomes of individuals who are diagnosed with diabetes and prediabetics.

Studies indicate that only 35 to 40 percent of diabetics who die have diabetes listed anywhere on their death certificate, and only about 10 to 15 percent have diabetes listed as the underlying cause of death. Without this information, our country is not able to grasp the full impact that complications from diabetes has on our health care system and society.

In order to better understand the scope of this epidemic, this bill requires the director of the CDC to promote the education and training of physicians on properly completing a birth and death certificate as well as the possibility of promoting language to improve the collection of diabetes mortality data, despite estimates that nearly one in three children today will go on to develop diabetes. Today's medical students are only required to have 4 hours of education in diabetes to become a board-certified physician. As diabetes touches more and more Americans, it will be critical that our doctors recognize this disease and have the tools and understanding to discuss prevention and proper treatment with their patients. That is why this bill requires HHS to collaborate with the Institute of Medicine and other related entities to study the impact of diabetes on the practice of medicine and develop recommendations to appropriate levels of diabetes medical education that should be required prior to licensure, board certification, and board recertification.

Diabetes has taken an enormous toll on our society's health and our economy. But in many cases, this disease can be preventable.

The Catalyst of Better Diabetes Care will address some of the fundamental obstacles that prevent us from tackling this disease head on. Better outreach, better data, and better education of patients and physicians are the keys to reducing morbidity and mortality from diabetes and lessening the costly burden this condition has inserted upon our country.

I wish to thank my Republican colleague, Senator JOHN CORNYN, for joining me in cosponsoring this measure. I urge my other colleagues to join us in supporting this very important bill.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 217—COMMENDING CAPTAIN WEI JIAFU AND THE CHINA OCEAN SHIPPING COMPANY FOR INCREASING BUSINESS RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA

Mr. KERRY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 217

Whereas, as a young sea captain, the United States Coast Guard gave Captain Wei

Jiafu special recognition for knowledge and skill in navigating in the waters of the United States;

Whereas, as Chairman of COSCO, Captain Wei oversees the largest China-based employer of United States workers;

Whereas, under the leadership of Captain Wei, the China Ocean Shipping Company (referred to in this preamble as "COSCO") was the first foreign shipping company to comply with the regulations of the Department of Homeland Security governing ocean shipping containers;

Whereas, under the leadership of Captain Wei, the port authorities in cities including Long Beach, Seattle, New York, and New Orleans have recognized COSCO;

Whereas the most notable accomplishment of Captain Wei and COSCO was establishing service between the Port of Boston and ports in China, which saved the jobs of thousands of port workers in Massachusetts; and

Whereas, under the leadership of Captain Wei, COSCO has donated a Chair to Harvard University, financially supported cleaner oceans and the protection of sea life in Alaska, and mobilized employees to volunteer time and resources to assist victims of disasters in China and other countries in Asia: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Captain Wei Jiafu and the China Ocean Shipping Company (referred to in this resolution as "COSCO") for staying committed to professionalism and promoting citizen participation that increases understanding and cooperation between the people of the United States and China;

(2) recognizes the efforts of Captain Wei to improve business relations between the United States and China; and

(3) recognizes the charitable contributions of COSCO and the efforts of the company to support higher education in the United States and around the world.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1619. Mr. UDALL, of Colorado submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1390, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2010 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 1620. Ms. LANDRIEU submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1390, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1621. Mrs. SHAHEEN (for herself, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. KAUFMAN, and Mr. BEGICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1390, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1622. Mr. KERRY (for himself and Mr. RISCH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1390, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1623. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1390, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1624. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1390, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1625. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1390, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1626. Mr. MCCAIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1390, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.