

duty to be made directly by the National Park Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

S. 2248. An act to allow for waiver and indemnification in mutual law enforcement agreements between the National Park Service and a State or political subdivision, when required by State law, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2284. An act to establish the Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in the State of South Dakota, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources and National Security.

S. 2285. An act to establish a commission, in honor of the 150th Anniversary of the Seneca Falls Convention, to further protect sites of importance in the historic efforts to secure equal rights for women, to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2309. An act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to enter into an agreement for the construction and operation of the Gateway Visitor Center at Independence National Historical Park; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2468. An act to designate the Biscayne National Park Visitor Center as the Dante Fascell Visitor Center; to the Committee on Resources.

S. 2584. An act to provide aviator continuation pay for military members killed in Operation Desert Shield; to the Committee on National Security.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. COBLE: Committee of Conference. Conference report on H.R. 2281. A bill to amend title 17, United States Code, to implement the World Intellectual Property Organization Copyright Treaty and Performances and Phonograms Treaty (Rept. 105-796). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. HANSEN: Committee on Standards of Official Conduct. Report in the matter of Representative Jay Kim (Rept. 105-797). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. DREIER: Committee of Rules. House Resolution 584. Resolution further providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4274) making appropriations for the Department of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes (Rept. 105-798). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. LINDER: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 586. Resolution waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3150) to amend title 11 of the United States Code, and for other purposes (Rept. 105-799). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. GOODLING: Committee of Conference. Conference report on H.R. 1853. A bill to amend the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Applied Technology Education Act (Rept. 105-800). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. BLILEY: Committee on Commerce. H.R. 3888. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to improve the protection of consumers against "slamming" by telecommunications carriers, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 105-801). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. BLILEY: Committee on Commerce. H.R. 4353. A bill to amend the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Foreign Corrupt

Practices Act of 1977 to improve the competitiveness of American business and promote foreign commerce, and for other purposes (Rept. 105-802). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

REPORTED BILL SEQUENTIALLY REFERRED

Under clause 5 of rule X, bills and reports were delivered to the Clerk for printing, and bills referred as follows:

[Omitted from the RECORD of October 6, 1998]

Mr. BLILEY: Committee on Commerce. H.R. 3610. A bill to authorize and facilitate a program to enhance training, research and development, energy conservation and efficiency, and consumer education in the oilheat industry for the benefit of oilheat consumers and the public, and for other purposes, with an amendment; referred to the Committee on Science for a period ending not later than October 7, 1998, for consideration of such provisions of the bill and amendment as fall within the jurisdiction of that committee pursuant to clause 1(n), rule X. (Rept. 105-787, Pt. 1). Ordered to be printed.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of Rule X and clause 4 of Rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. MATSUI (for himself and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts):

H.R. 4732. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide for the treatment of bonds issued to finance electric output facilities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. MATSUI (for himself and Mr. BONIOR):

H.R. 4733. A bill to amend the Trade Act of 1974 to consolidate and enhance the trade adjustment assistance and NAFTA transitional adjustment assistance programs under that Act, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. WELLER:

H.R. 4734. A bill to amend part Q of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to reduce the local matching amount to ensure more local communities can qualify for a grant to hire additional police officers; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. HANSEN:

H.R. 4735. A bill to make technical corrections to the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. BENTSEN (for himself, Mr. CRANE, Mr. GANSKE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STARK, and Mr. JEFFERSON):

H.R. 4736. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to ensure the proper payment of approved nursing and paramedical education programs under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. KELLY (for herself, Mr. FROST, Mr. GANSKE, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. CONDIT, Mr. LOBIONDO, and Mrs. MALONEY of New York):

H.R. 4737. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, and the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to require that group and individual health insurance coverage and group health plans provide coverage for treatment of a minor child's congenital or developmental deformity or disorder due to trauma, infection, tumor, or disease; to the Committee on Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, and Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. ARCHER:

H.R. 4738. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, provide tax relief for farmers and small businesses, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CARDIN (for himself, Mr. STARK, and Mr. JEFFERSON):

H.R. 4739. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for comprehensive financing for graduate medical education; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. CRANE:

H.R. 4740. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit early distributions from employee stock ownership plans for higher education expenses and first-time homebuyer purchases; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. CRANE:

H.R. 4741. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permit 401(k) contributions which would otherwise be limited by employer contributions to employee stock ownership plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. DEFAZIO (for himself, Mr. SANDERS, and Ms. KAPTUR):

H.R. 4742. A bill to improve consumers' access to airline industry information, to promote competition in the aviation industry, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts (for himself and Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts):

H.R. 4743. A bill to reauthorize the Public Safety and Community Policing Grants, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREENWOOD (for himself and Mr. GINGRICH):

H.R. 4744. A bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for a system of sanctuaries for chimpanzees that have been designated as being no longer needed in research conducted or supported by the Public Health Service, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. GUTIERREZ:

H.R. 4745. A bill to establish a program to assist homeowners experiencing unavoidable, temporary difficulty making payments on mortgages insured under the National Housing Act; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. HANSEN:

H.R. 4746. A bill to provide for the settlement of the reserved water rights of the Shivwits and for the construction of certain water projects; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. MINGE (for himself and Mr. POMEROY):

H.R. 4747. A bill to respond to the needs of United States farmers experiencing exceptionally low commodity prices and extensive crop failures; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committee on

the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. QUINN:

H.R. 4748. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to require 6-months' advance notice to enrollees of Medicare managed care plans of termination of hospital participation under such plans; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SAXTON (by request):

H.R. 4749. A bill to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Republic of Estonia; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. SAXTON (by request):

H.R. 4750. A bill to approve a governing international fishery agreement between the United States and the Republic of Lithuania; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. SNYDER (for himself, Mr. EVANS, Mr. KENNEDY of Massachusetts, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Ms. CARSON, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. FILNER, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. SANCHEZ, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mrs. CAPPS, and Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut):

H.R. 4751. A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish a presumption of service connection for the occurrence of hepatitis C in certain veterans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. SOLOMON:

H.R. 4752. A bill to prohibit the construction of any monument, memorial, or other structure at the site of the Iwo Jima Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, until such time as an environmental impact statement is prepared for the construction; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. STARK:

H.R. 4753. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of outpatient prescription drugs and home infusion drug therapy under the Medicare Program; to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. THOMPSON (for himself, Mr. DICKEY, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. PICKERING, and Mr. CALLAHAN):

H.R. 4754. A bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a 12-month study of the effects of double-crested cormorants on commercial and recreational fish species, and to require the Secretary to prepare a long-term, comprehensive population management strategy for double-crested cormorants; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. YOUNG of Alaska:

H.R. 4755. A bill to provide for the collection and interpretation of state of the art, non-intrusive 3-dimensional seismic data on certain federal lands in Alaska, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. SMITH of New Jersey:

H.J. Res. 132. A joint resolution commending the veterans of service in the Army who fought in the Battle of the Bulge during World War II, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. GILMAN:

H. Con. Res. 336. Concurrent resolution condemning the Taliban regime and supporting a broad based government in Afghanistan; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself and Mr. PAYNE):

H. Con. Res. 337. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress that the total debt owed by 31 of the 40 Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) to the United States should be forgiven; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. CAMPBELL:

H. Con. Res. 338. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the people of Taiwan deserve to be represented in international institutions; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. CAMPBELL (for himself and Mr. PAYNE):

H. Con. Res. 339. Concurrent resolution concerning economic, humanitarian, and other assistance to the northern part of Somalia; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. DELAY (for himself, Mr. ROHR-ABACHER, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. FORBES, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. TALENT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. CRANE, Mr. SALMON, Mr. JENKINS, and Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania):

H. Con. Res. 340. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that Iraq is in unacceptable and material breach of its international obligations, that the United States should insist on the removal, destruction, or otherwise rendering harmless of Iraq's programs for biological, chemical, and nuclear weapons, and that the United States should fully support the right of inspectors with the United Nations Special Commission on Iraq to unfettered and unannounced inspections of suspected weapons facilities; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. DELAY (for himself, Mr. ROHR-ABACHER, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. FORBES, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. TALENT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Mr. KNOLLENBERG):

H. Con. Res. 341. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the commitment made by the United States, in conjunction with South Korea and Japan, to arrange financing and construction of 2 nuclear reactors for North Korea, and to provide fuel oil and other assistance to North Korea, should be suspended until North Korea no longer poses a nuclear threat to the peace and security of Northeast Asia or the United States; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. DELAY (for himself, Mr. ROHR-ABACHER, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. FORBES, Mr. BACHUS, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. GIBBONS, Mr. TALENT, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HAYWORTH, and Mr. CRANE):

H. Con. Res. 342. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should impose sanctions under the Arms Export Control Act and the Iran-Iraq Arms Non-Proliferation Act of 1992 with respect to the acquisition by Iran of advanced missile technology from other countries and should take steps to expedite the development of a missile defense system for the United States and for United States forces wherever deployed to deal with the Iranian missile threat, and should assist Israel in the acquisition of a missile defense system capable of defending all Israeli territory against Iranian missile attack; referred to the Committee on International Relations, and in addition to the Committee on National Security, for a period to be subse-

quently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. FOWLER (for herself, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. ROHR-ABACHER, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. HEFLEY, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Mr. DELAY, Mr. LINDER, Mr. RILEY, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. SOLOMON, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. COBURN, Mr. BOB SCHAFFER, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. JENKINS, Mr. NEUMANN, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. OXLEY, Mr. MCCOLLUM, Mr. HOBSON, Mr. BEREUTER, Mr. TAUZIN, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. TRAFICANT, Mr. REDMOND, Mrs. CUBIN, Ms. DUNN of Washington, Mr. HERGER, Mr. MCINNIS, Mr. LARGENT, Mr. FOLEY, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. JONES, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. BAKER, Mr. HAYWORTH, Mr. COLLINS, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. NETHERCUTT, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. WICKER, and Mr. STEARNS):

H. Con. Res. 343. Concurrent resolution expressing the opposition of Congress to any deployment of United States ground forces in Kosovo, a province in southern Serbia, for peacemaking or peacekeeping purposes; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. PALLONE:

H. Con. Res. 344. Concurrent resolution to express the sense of the Congress regarding North Atlantic swordfish and other highly migratory species of fish; to the Committee on Resources.

By Mr. SAXTON (for himself, Mr. SALMON, and Mr. DELAY):

H. Con. Res. 345. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of the Congress that the President should reassert the traditional opposition of the United States to the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian State; to the Committee on International Relations.

By Mr. SMITH of Oregon (for himself, Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska, Mr. THUNE, and Mr. HILL):

H. Res. 583. A resolution expressing the sense of the House with respect to barriers between the United States and Canada with regard to certain agriculture products; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. BONILLA, Mr. COMBEST, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. SMITH of Texas, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mr. BARTON of Texas, and Mr. PAUL):

H. Res. 585. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Health Care Financing Administration should adhere to the statutory deadlines for implementation of the prospective payment system for home health services furnished under the Medicare Program; referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mrs. ROUKEMA (for herself and Ms. KAPTUR):

H. Res. 587. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to the seriousness of the national problems associated with mental illness and with respect to congressional intent to establish a mental illness task force; to the Committee on Commerce.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 59: Mrs. WILSON.
 H.R. 778: Mrs. CAPPS.
 H.R. 779: Mrs. CAPPS.
 H.R. 780: Mrs. CAPPS.
 H.R. 857: Mr. BOSWELL.
 H.R. 1711: Mr. ISTOOK.
 H.R. 1816: Mr. FORBES.
 H.R. 2001: Mr. SCARBOROUGH.
 H.R. 2174: Mr. RANGEL.
 H.R. 2397: Mr. BERRY, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. GOODLING, and Mr. HEFNER.
 H.R. 2635: Mr. ADAM SMITH of Washington, Mr. HALL of Ohio, and Mr. BERMAN.
 H.R. 2708: Mr. SMITH of Texas and Mr. NUSSLE.
 H.R. 2882: Mr. SMITH of Texas.
 H.R. 3333: Mr. OLVER.
 H.R. 3435: Mr. ALLEN.
 H.R. 3503: Mr. BLUMENAUER and Mr. PETRI.
 H.R. 3511: Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. HULSHOF, Mrs. MINK of Hawaii, and Mr. STUPAK.
 H.R. 3514: Mr. MASCARA.
 H.R. 3622: Mr. ALLEN, Mr. DOYLE, Mr. ACKERMAN, and Ms. DEGETTE.
 H.R. 3684: Mr. BACHUS.
 H.R. 3794: Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. MASCARA, and Mr. TIERNEY.
 H.R. 3828: Mr. ALLEN, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. THOMPSON, Mr. NORWOOD, Mrs. WILSON, Mr. STENHOLM, and Mr. CONDIT.
 H.R. 4031: Mr. DAVIS of Illinois.
 H.R. 4070: Mr. WEXLER.
 H.R. 4175: Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. WATT of North Carolina, and Ms. SLAUGHTER.
 H.R. 4180: Mr. HINCHEY.
 H.R. 4182: Mr. KANJORSKI and Mr. VISLOSKY.
 H.R. 4203: Mr. PAYNE, Mrs. TAUSCHER, and Mr. BALDACCIO.
 H.R. 4214: Mr. OLVER and Mrs. CAPPS.
 H.R. 4291: Mr. DEGETTE, Mr. FROST, and Mrs. THURMAN.
 H.R. 4403: Ms. DELAURO.
 H.R. 4415: Mr. DAN SCHAEFER of Colorado.
 H.R. 4448: Mr. FORD, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. McNULTY, Ms. DELAURO, and Mr. GUTIERREZ.
 H.R. 4449: Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. MILLER of California, and Mr. SMITH of Oregon.
 H.R. 4467: Mr. GEJDENSON.
 H.R. 4476: Mr. DOYLE and Mr. RUSH.
 H.R. 4513: Mr. BOEHLERT.
 H.R. 4538: Mrs. CAPPS and Mr. HOLDEN.
 H.R. 4567: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. STUMP, Mrs. NORTHUP, and Mr. SUNUNU.
 H.R. 4590: Ms. KAPTUR and Mr. FORBES.
 H.R. 4621: Mr. BOSWELL.
 H.R. 4634: Mr. PALLONE and Mr. MCGOVERN.
 H.R. 4648: Mr. DELAHUNT and Mr. TIERNEY.
 H.R. 4659: Mr. ENGEL.
 H.R. 4674: Mr. OLVER.
 H.R. 4684: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.
 H.R. 4692: Mr. SANDLIN.
 H. Con. Res. 154: Mr. McDERMOTT.
 H. Con. Res. 290: Mr. METCALF, Mr. MASCARA, Mr. BOYD, Mr. GEKAS, Mr. ADAM SMITH of Washington, Mr. MCINTOSH, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. BUYER, Mr. SHADEGG, and Mr. GIBBONS.
 H. Con. Res. 213: Ms. KILPATRICK.
 H. Con. Res. 328: Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. SHIMKUS, Ms. CARSON, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. HOUGHTON, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. McNULTY, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
 H. Res. 359: Mr. MATSUI, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. WALSH, Mr. WOLF, Mr. SNYDER, and Mr. MEEKS of New York.
 H. Res. 460: Mr. MASCARA.
 H. Res. 479: Mr. TIERNEY.
 H. Res. 561: Mr. GOODLING and Mr. UNDERWOOD.

DELETIONS OF SPONSORS FROM PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 4 of rule XXII, sponsors were deleted from public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 4567: Mr. ALLEN, Mr. STUPAK, and Mr. OBERSTAR.

AMENDMENTS

Under clause 6 of rule XXIII, proposed amendments were submitted as follows:

H.R. 4567

OFFERED BY: MR. THOMAS

(Amendments in the Nature of a Substitute)

AMENDMENT NO. 1: Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the “Medicare Home Health and Veterans Health Care Improvement Act of 1998”.

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

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—MEDICARE HOME HEALTH CARE INTERIM PAYMENT SYSTEM REFINEMENT

Sec. 101. Increase in per beneficiary limits and per visit payment limits for payment for home health services.

TITLE II—VETERANS MEDICARE ACCESS IMPROVEMENT

Sec. 201. Improvement in veterans’ access to services.

TITLE III—AUTHORIZATION OF ADDITIONAL EXCEPTIONS TO IMPOSITION OF PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN INDUCEMENTS

Sec. 301. Authorization of additional exceptions to imposition of penalties for providing inducements to beneficiaries.

TITLE IV—EXPANSION OF MEMBERSHIP OF THE MEDICARE PAYMENT ADVISORY COMMISSION

Sec. 401. Expansion of membership of MedPAC to 17.

TITLE V—REVENUE OFFSET

Sec. 501. Revenue offset.

TITLE I—MEDICARE HOME HEALTH CARE INTERIM PAYMENT SYSTEM REFINEMENT**SEC. 101. INCREASE IN PER BENEFICIARY LIMITS AND PER VISIT PAYMENT LIMITS FOR PAYMENT FOR HOME HEALTH SERVICES.**

(a) INCREASE IN PER BENEFICIARY LIMITS.—Section 1861(v)(1)(L) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(v)(1)(L)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of clause (v), by inserting “subject to clause (viii)(I),” before “the Secretary”;

(2) in clause (vi)(I), by inserting “subject to clauses (viii)(II) and (viii)(III)” after “fiscal year 1994”; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new clause:

“(viii)(I) In the case of a provider with a 12-month cost reporting period ending in fiscal year 1994, if the limit imposed under clause (v) (determined without regard to this subclause) for a cost reporting period beginning during or after fiscal year 1999 is less than the median described in clause (vi)(I) (but determined as if any reference in clause (v) to ‘98 percent’ were a reference to ‘100 percent’), the limit otherwise imposed under clause (v) for such provider and period shall be increased by ½ of such difference.

“(II) Subject to subclause (IV), for new providers and those providers without a 12-

month cost reporting period ending in fiscal year 1994, but for which the first cost reporting period begins before fiscal year 1999, for cost reporting periods beginning during or after fiscal year 1999, the per beneficiary limitation described in clause (vi)(I) shall be equal to 50 percent of the median described in such clause plus 50 percent of the sum of 75 percent of such median and 25 percent of 98 percent of the standardized regional average of such costs for the agency’s census division, described in clause (v)(I). However, in no case shall the limitation under this subclause be less than the median described in clause (vi)(I) (determined as if any reference in clause (v) to ‘98 percent’ were a reference to ‘100 percent’).

“(III) Subject to subclause (IV), in the case of a new home health agency for which the first cost reporting period begins during or after fiscal year 1999, the limitation applied under clause (vi)(I) (but only with respect to such provider) shall be equal to 75 percent of the median described in clause (vi)(I).

“(IV) In the case of a new provider or a provider without a 12-month cost reporting period ending in fiscal year 1994, subclause (II) shall apply, instead of subclause (III), to a home health agency which filed an application for home health agency provider status under this title before September 15, 1998, or which was approved as a branch of its parent agency before such date and becomes a subunit of the parent agency or a separate agency on or after such date.

“(V) Each of the amounts specified in subclauses (I) through (III) are such amounts as adjusted under clause (iii) to reflect variations in wages among different areas.”.

(b) REVISION OF PER VISIT LIMITS.—Section 1861(v)(1)(L)(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395x(v)(1)(L)(i)) is amended—

(1) in subclause (II), by striking “or”;

(2) in subclause (IV)—

(A) by inserting “and before October 1, 1998,” after “October 1, 1997,”; and

(B) by striking the period at the end and inserting “, or”;

(3) by adding at the end the following new subclause:

“(V) October 1, 1998, 108 percent of such median.”.

(c) EXCLUSION OF ADDITIONAL PART B COSTS FROM DETERMINATION OF PART B MONTHLY PREMIUM.—Section 1839 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395r) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(3), by inserting “(except as provided in subsection (g))” after “year that”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(g) In estimating the benefits and administrative costs which will be payable from the Federal Supplementary Medical Insurance Trust Fund for a year for purposes of determining the monthly premium rate under subsection (a)(3), the Secretary shall exclude an estimate of any benefits and administrative costs attributable to the application of section 1861(v)(1)(L)(viii) or to the establishment under section 1861(v)(1)(L)(i)(V) of a per visit limit at 108 percent of the median (instead of 105 percent of the median), but only to the extent payment for home health services under this title is not being made under section 1895 (relating to prospective payment for home health services).”.

(d) REPORTS ON SUMMARY OF RESEARCH CONDUCTED BY THE SECRETARY ON THE PROSPECTIVE PAYMENT SYSTEM.—By not later than January 1, 1999, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall submit to Congress a report on the following matters:

(1) RESEARCH.—A description of any research paid for by the Secretary on the development of a prospective payment system for home health services furnished under the