it needs to conduct timely reviews of studies and labeling changes; and establishing an Office of Pediatric Therapeutics within FDA to coordinate activities among review divisions and provide oversight for all pediatric activities undertaken by FDA.

Finally, I would like to address a concern that has been expressed by many in the press, and rightfully so. No one can ignore the risk involved in having children participate in clinical trials. Parents with sick children, sadly, have to weigh these risks and make treatment decisions. I want to commend Senator DODD for his foresight in this area of providing research protections for children involved in clinical trials. With the increase in pediatric research through this law and other laws, we needed to ensure that research protections exist and are strengthened, if necessary.

That is why last year, in the ''Children's Health Act,'' Senator DODD and I proposed language that would ensure that federally funded, conducted, and regulated research adheres to scientific and ethical review standards. There is currently a review of these federal protections for children involved in clinical trials to further ensure that the highest standards of scientific and ethical review are in place. The alternative to clinical trials is uncontrolled, unregulated, and unreported studies of smaller groups of children. Pediatric experts agree that controlled clinical trials are the much-preferred alternative.

We must make the health of our children a priority. Through our new bill we are doing that. We are furthering the success of current law by providing parents and doctors with more information to make better informed decisions when medicating children. Our children deserve no less.

I urge my colleagues to support this important measure.

By Mrs. HUTCHISON (for herself, Mr. BAYH, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. BURNS, Mr. KERRY, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. HELMS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. BIDEN):

S. 839. A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the amount of payment for inpatient hospital services under the medicare program and to freeze the reduction in payments to hospitals for indirect costs of medical education; to the Committee on Finance.

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce, along with Senators BAYH, HUTCHINSON, and several other distinguished colleagues, the American Hospital Preservation Act.

Our hospitals are the very foundation of our health care system, a system that is considered the best in the world. To ensure this quality of care remains at this high level, we cannot ask yet more cuts of our financially troubled hospitals.

Two such cuts currently being faced by our nation's hospitals are a reduction in the annual inflation update hospitals receive for their Medicare payments, and a reduction in the Medicare adjustment teaching hospitals receive to support their medical education programs. Both of these issues are critical to the long-term stability of hospitals, and to maintaining the scope and quality of the care they provide.

We do have the best health care in the world. Why should we put it at risk? Especially when the savings we have achieved already are far in excess of what was originally estimated. In other words, the cuts that were enacted have more than achieved their goals. There is no more fat left to trim.

Last year, through enactment of the Medicare, Medicaid and SCHIP Benefit Improvement and Protection Act, BIPA, we were successful in getting approximately half of the annual market basket update restored for our hospitals. In addition, we delayed further reductions in the indirect medical education, IME, adjustment for teaching hospitals. This legislation would build upon that success, and would help to ensure hospitals' long-term financial stability. In effect, it would preserve the ability of American hospitals to continue to provide the highest level of health care to be found anywhere in the world.

With respect to the IME provisions of this bill, all of the evidence points to the fact that the financial health of major teaching hospitals continues to deteriorate. In fact, with projections that Medicare margins could drop to negative 3.8 percent by 2005, it is becoming an increasingly common phenomenon that when a Medicare patient walks in to a hospital, he or she represents a money loser for that institution. While our hospitals must remain committed to providing care no matter the patients' circumstance, that sort of monetary shortfall will logically result in many hospitals closing down. Or, as we have seen happen many times recently, many hospitals will dramatically scale back their outpatient and other services for those in need.

Particularly in the rural areas of our nation, having a hospital close down would mean losing access to life-saving medical services. It would also have a dramatic effect on the community's economy. Hospitals are often the core components of the local community. To have the hospital close down would mean the loss of jobs and of businesses. It would have a ripple effect on the neighborhood, destroying its sense of stability and community.

This legislation addresses the unique situation of teaching hospitals. These hospitals, which are centers of experimental, innovative and technically sophisticated services as well as routine care and services, tend to incur much higher costs. We must recognize the higher costs these teaching hospitals incur to provide adequate learning experiences and faculty support to medical students. To do this, we must increase the indirect medical education adjustment one percentage point to 6.4 percent for FY 2003 and the future.

In addition, this legislation will reverse cuts previously enacted by Congress regarding the annual market basket updates. These cuts are unnecessary and harmful. For a hospital to effectively compete for skilled workers, especially in these days of tight labor markets, it is critical to have an adequate overall revenue stream. Medicare's measure of inflation, the market basket update, plays a key role in determining the adequacy of these payments from year to year.

As hospital costs increase rapidly in every area from labor to pharmaceuticals to blood and blood products to the costs of compliance with new regulations, the market basket update must keep pace. This legislation eliminates the update reductions mandated earlier.

It is critical that we not neglect our health care system and that we continue to invest in the very foundation of that system, our hospitals. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to ensure that this bill meets that objective yet still fits within our overall budgetary constraints.

This legislation represents our obligation to not only our most vulnerable citizens, but also to all Americans. Our hospitals provide the highest level and quality of care in the world. This bill ensures that they will be able to continue to do so, and I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support it.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 378. Mr. KENNEDY (for Mrs. MURRAY) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 358 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill (S. 1) to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965.

SA 379. Mr. KENNEDY (for Ms. MIKULSKI (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY)) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 358 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill (S. 1) supra.

SA 380. Mr. ALLEN (for himself and Mr. WARNER) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 358 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill (S. 1) supra.

SA 381. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 382. Mr. DODD proposed an amendment to amendment SA 358 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill (S. 1) supra.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 378. Mr. KENNEDY (for Mrs. MURRAY) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 358 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill (S. 1) to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; as follows:

On page 383, after line 21, add the following:

SEC. 203. CLASS SIZE REDUCTION.

Title II of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, as amended by sections 201 and 202, is further amended by adding at the end the following:

"PART E—CLASS SIZE REDUCTION

"SEC. 2501. GRANT PROGRAM.

''(a) PURPOSE.—The purposes of this section are—

''(1) to reduce class size through the use of highly qualified teachers;

''(2) to assist States and local educational agencies in recruiting, hiring, and training 100,000 teachers in order to reduce class sizes nationally, in the early grades, to an average of 18 students per regular classroom; and

''(3) to improve teaching in those grades so that all students can learn to read independently and well by the end of the 3rd grade.

''(b) ALLOTMENT TO STATES.—

''(1) RESERVATION.—From the amount made available to carry out this part for a fiscal year, the Secretary shall reserve not more than 1 percent for the Secretary of the Interior (on behalf of the Bureau of Indian Affairs) and the outlying areas for activities carried out in accordance with this section.

''(2) STATE ALLOTMENTS.—

''(A) HOLD HARMLESS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B) and clause (ii), from the amount made available to carry out this part for a fiscal year and not reserved under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall allot to each State an amount equal to the amount that such State received for the preceding fiscal year under this section or section 306 of the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2001 (as enacted into law by section 1(a)(1) of Public Law 106–554), as the case may be.

''(ii) RATABLE REDUCTION.—If the amount made available to carry out this part for a fiscal year and not reserved under paragraph (1) is insufficient to pay the full amounts that all States are eligible to receive under clause (i) for such fiscal year, the Secretary shall ratably reduce such amounts for such fiscal year.

''(B) ALLOTMENT OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), for any fiscal year for which the amount made available to carry out this part and not reserved under paragraph (1) exceeds the amount made available to the States for the preceding year under the authorities described in subparagraph (A)(i), the Secretary shall allot to each of those States the percentage of the excess amount that is the greater of—

''(I) the percentage the State received for the preceding fiscal year of the total amount made available to the States under section 1122; or

''(II) the percentage so received of the total amount made available to the States under section 2202(b), as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of the Better Education for Students and Teachers Act, or the corresponding provision of this title, as the case may be.

''(ii) RATABLE REDUCTIONS.—If the excess amount for a fiscal year is insufficient to pay the full amounts that all States are eligible to receive under clause (i) for such fiscal year, the Secretary shall ratably reduce such amounts for such fiscal year.

''(c) ALLOCATION TO LOCAL EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES.—

''(1) ALLOCATION.—Each State that receives funds under this section shall allocate a portion equal to not less than 99 percent of those funds to local educational agencies, of which—

''(A) 80 percent of the portion shall be allocated to those local educational agencies in proportion to the number of children, age 5 through 17, from families with incomes below the poverty line (as defined by the Office of Management and Budget and revised annually in accordance with section 673(2) of the Community Services Block Grant Act) applicable to a family of the size involved, who reside in the school district served by that local educational agency for the most recent fiscal year for which satisfactory data are available, compared to the number of those children who reside in the school districts served by all the local educational agencies in the State for that fiscal year; and

''(B) 20 percent of the portion shall be allocated to those local educational agencies in accordance with the relative enrollments of children, age 5 through 17, in public and private nonprofit elementary schools and secondary schools within the areas served by those agencies.

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subsection (d)(2)(B), if the award to a local educational agency under this section is less than the starting salary for a new highly qualified teacher for a school served by that agency who is certified or licensed within the State, has a baccalaureate degree, and demonstrates the general knowledge, teaching skills, and subject matter knowledge required to teach in the content areas in which the teacher teaches, that agency may use funds made available under this section to—

''(A) help pay the salary of a full- or part-time teacher hired to reduce class size, which may be done in combination with the expenditure of other Federal, State, or local funds; or

''(B) pay for activities described in subsection (d)(2)(A)(iii) that may be related to teaching in smaller classes.

''(3) STATE ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—The State educational agency for a State that receives funds under this section may use not more than 1 percent of the funds for State administrative expenses.

''(d) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) MANDATORY USES.—Each local educational agency that receives funds under this section shall use those funds to carry out effective approaches to reducing class size through use of highly qualified teachers to improve educational achievement for both regular and special needs children, with particular consideration given to reducing class size in the early elementary grades for which some research has shown class size reduction is most effective.

''(2) PERMISSIBLE USES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each such local educational agency may use funds made available under this section for—

''(i) recruiting (including through the use of signing bonuses, and other financial incentives), hiring, and training highly qualified regular and special education teachers (which may include hiring special education teachers to team-teach with regular teachers in classrooms that contain both children with disabilities and non-disabled children) and teachers of special needs children, who are certified or licensed within the State, have a baccalaureate degree and demonstrate the general knowledge, teaching skills, and subject matter knowledge required to teach in the content areas in which the teachers teach;

''(ii) testing new teachers for academic content knowledge, and to meet State certification or licensing requirements that are consistent with this title; and

''(iii) providing professional development (which may include such activities as promoting retention and mentoring) for teachers, including special education teachers and teachers of special needs children, in order to meet the goal of ensuring that all teachers have the general knowledge, teaching skills, and subject matter knowledge necessary to teach effectively in the content areas in which the teachers teach, consistent with title II of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

''(B) LIMITATION ON TESTING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), a local educational agency may use not more than a total of 25 percent of the funds received by the agency under this section for activities described in clauses (ii) and (iii) of subparagraph (A).

''(ii) WAIVERS.—A local educational agency may apply to the State educational agency for a waiver that would permit the agency to use more than 25 percent of the funds the agency receives under this section for activities described in subparagraph (A)(iii) for the purpose of helping teachers who have not met applicable State and local certification or licensing requirements become certified or licensed if—

''(I) the agency is in an Ed-Flex Partnership State under the Education Flexibility Partnership Act of 1999; and

''(II) 10 percent or more of teachers in elementary schools served by the agency have not met the certification or licensing requirements, or the State educational agency has waived those requirements for 10 percent or more of the teachers.

''(iii) USE OF FUNDS UNDER WAIVER.—If the State educational agency approves the local educational agency's application for a waiver under clause (ii), the local educational agency may use the funds subject to the conditions of the waiver for activities described in subparagraph (A)(iii) that are needed to ensure that at least 90 percent of the teachers in the elementary schools are certified or licensed within the State.

''(C) USE OF FUNDS BY AGENCIES THAT HAVE REDUCED CLASS SIZE.—Notwithstanding subparagraph (B), a local educational agency that has already reduced class size in the early elementary grades to 18 or fewer children (or has already reduced class size to a State or local class size reduction goal that was in effect on November 28, 1999 if that goal is 20 or fewer children) may use funds received under this section—

''(i) to make further class size reductions in kindergarten through third grade;

''(ii) to reduce class size in other grades; or

''(iii) to carry out activities to improve teacher quality, including professional development.

''(3) SUPPLEMENT, NOT SUPPLANT.—Each such agency shall use funds made available under this section only to supplement, and not to supplant, State and local funds that, in the absence of funds made available under this section, would otherwise be expended for activities described in this section.

''(4) LIMITATION ON USE FOR SALARIES AND BENEFITS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), no funds made available under this section may be used to increase the salaries of, or provide benefits (other than participation in professional development and enrichment programs) to, teachers who are not hired under this section.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Funds made available under this section may be used to pay the salaries of teachers hired under—

''(i) section 307 of the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 1999;

''(ii) section 310 of the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2000; or

''(iii) section 306 of the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2001 (as enacted into law by section 1(a)(1) of Public Law 106–554).

''(e) REPORTS.—

''(1) STATE ACTIVITIES.—Each State receiving funds under this section shall prepare and submit to the Secretary a biennial report on activities carried out in the State under this section that provides data on the use of funds, the types of services furnished, and the students served under this part.

''(2) PROGRESS CONCERNING CLASS SIZE AND QUALIFIED TEACHERS.—Each State and local educational agency receiving funds under this section shall publicly report to parents on—

''(A) the agency's progress in reducing class size; and

''(B) the impact that hiring additional highly qualified teachers and reducing class size, has had, if any, on increasing student academic achievement.

''(3) PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS.—Each school receiving funds under this section shall provide to parents, on request, information about the professional qualifications of their child's teacher.

''(f) PRIVATE SCHOOLS.—If a local educational agency uses funds made available under this section for professional development activities, the agency shall ensure the equitable participation of private nonprofit elementary schools and secondary schools in such activities in accordance with section 5342. Section 5342 shall not apply to other activities carried out under this section.

''(g) LOCAL ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—A local educational agency that receives funds under this section may use not more than 3 percent of such funds for local administrative expenses.

''(h) REQUEST FOR FUNDS.—Each local educational agency that desires to receive funds under this section shall include in the application required under section 2122 a description of the agency's program to reduce class size by hiring additional highly qualified teachers.

''(i) CERTIFICATION, LICENSING, AND COMPETENCY.—No funds made available under this section may be used to pay the salary of any teacher hired with funds made available under—

''(1) section 307 of the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 1999;

''(2) section 310 of the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2000; or

''(3) section 306 of the Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2001 (as enacted into law by section 1(a)(1) of Public Law 106–554),

unless, by the start of the 2002–2003 school year, the teacher is certified or licensed within the State and demonstrates competency in the content areas in which the teacher teaches.

''(j) DEFINITION.—In this section:

''(1) CERTIFIED.—The term 'certified' includes certification through State or local alternative routes.

''(2) STATE.—The term 'State' means each of the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

''SEC. 2502. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part $2,400,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 6 succeeding fiscal years.''.

SA 379. Mr. KENNEDY (for Ms. MIKULSKI (for herself and Mr. KENNEDY)) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 358 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill (S. 1) to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; as follows:

On page 245, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

''Subpart 1—21st Century Community Learning Centers

On page 245, line 15, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 245, line 18, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 246, line 13, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 249, line 11, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 249, line 16, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 249, line 18, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 250, line 16, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 250, line 23, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 251, line 2, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 251, line 22, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 251, line 25, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 252, line 13, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 252, line 15, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 252, line 20, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 252, line 23, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 254, line 2, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 254, line 12, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 254, line 15, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 255, line 3, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 256, line 24, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 257, line 1, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 257, line 12, strike ''part'' and insert ''subpart''.

On page 257, between lines 18 and 19, insert the following:

''Subpart 2—Community Technology Centers

''SEC. 1611. PURPOSE; PROGRAM AUTHORITY.

''(a) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this subpart to assist eligible applicants to—

''(1) create or expand community technology centers that will provide disadvantaged residents of economically distressed urban and rural communities with access to information technology and related training; and

''(2) provide technical assistance and support to community technology centers.

''(b) PROGRAM AUTHORITY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary is authorized, through the Office of Educational Technology, to award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements on a competitive basis to eligible applicants in order to assist such applicants in—

''(A) creating or expanding community technology centers; or

''(B) providing technical assistance and support to community technology centers.

''(2) PERIOD OF AWARD.—The Secretary may award grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements under this subpart for a period of not more than 3 years.

''(3) SERVICE OF AMERICORPS PARTICIPANTS.—The Secretary may collaborate with the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service on the use of participants in National Service programs carried out under subtitle C of title I of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 in community technology centers.

''SEC. 1612. ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.

''(a) ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS.—In order to be eligible to receive an award under this subpart, an applicant shall—

''(1) have the capacity to expand significantly access to computers and related services for disadvantaged residents of economically distressed urban and rural communities (who would otherwise be denied such access); and

''(2) be—

''(A) an entity such as a foundation, museum, library, for-profit business, public or private nonprofit organization, or community-based organization;

''(B) an institution of higher education;

''(C) a State educational agency;

''(D) a local education agency; or

''(E) a consortium of entities described in subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), or (D).

''(b) APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS.—In order to receive an award under this subpart, an eligible applicant shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, and containing such information, as the Secretary may require. Such application shall include—

''(1) a description of the proposed project, including a description of the magnitude of the need for the services and how the project would expand access to information technology and related services to disadvantaged residents of an economically distressed urban or rural community;

''(2) a demonstration of—

''(A) the commitment, including the financial commitment, of entities such as institutions, organizations, business and other groups in the community that will provide support for the creation, expansion, and continuation of the proposed project; and

''(B) the extent to which the proposed project establishes linkages with other appropriate agencies, efforts, and organizations providing services to disadvantaged residents of an economically distressed urban or rural community;

''(3) a description of how the proposed project would be sustained once the Federal funds awarded under this subpart end; and

''(4) a plan for the evaluation of the program, which shall include benchmarks to monitor progress toward specific project objectives.

''(c) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—The Federal share of the cost of any project funded under this subpart shall not exceed 50 percent. The non-Federal share of such project may be in cash or in kind, fairly evaluated, including services.

''SEC. 1613. USES OF FUNDS.

''(a) REQUIRED USES.—A recipient shall use funds under this subpart for—

''(1) creating or expanding community technology centers that expand access to information technology and related training for disadvantaged residents of distressed urban or rural communities; and

''(2) evaluating the effectiveness of the project.

''(b) PERMISSIBLE USES.—A recipient may use funds under this subpart for activities, described in its application, that carry out the purposes of this subpart, such as—

''(1) supporting a center coordinator, and staff, to supervise instruction and build community partnerships;

''(2) acquiring equipment, networking capabilities, and infrastructure to carry out the project; and

''(3) developing and providing services and activities for community residents that provide access to computers, information technology, and the use of such technology in support of pre-school preparation, academic achievement, lifelong learning, and workforce development, such as the following:

''(A) After-school activities in which children and youths use software that provides academic enrichment and assistance with homework, develop their technical skills, explore the Internet, and participate in multimedia activities, including web page design and creation.

''(B) Adult education and family literacy activities through technology and the Internet, including—

''(i) General Education Development, English as a Second Language, and adult basic education classes or programs;

''(ii) introduction to computers;

''(iii) intergenerational activities; and

''(iv) lifelong learning opportunities.

''(C) Career development and job preparation activities, such as—

''(i) training in basic and advanced computer skills;

''(ii) resume writing workshops; and

''(iii) access to databases of employment opportunities, career information, and other online materials.

''(D) Small business activities, such as—

''(i) computer-based training for basic entrepreneurial skills and electronic commerce; and

''(ii) access to information on business start-up programs that is available online, or from other sources.

''(E) Activities that provide home access to computers and technology, such as assistance and services to promote the acquisition, installation, and use of information technology in the home through low-cost solutions such as networked computers, web-based television devices, and other technology.

''SEC. 1614. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''For purposes of carrying out this subpart, there is authorized to be appropriated $100,000,000 for fiscal year 2002 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 6 succeeding fiscal years.

SA 380. Mr. ALLEN (for himself and Mr. WARNER) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 358 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill (S. 1) to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. . SENSE OF THE SENATE REGARDING EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY TAX RELIEF.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) Improving the education of our children is an essential and important responsibility facing this country.

(2) Strong parental involvement is a cornerstone for academic success; it is parents who know and understand the special, individual needs of their own children.

(3) Advanced technology has fueled unprecedented economic growth and positively transformed the way Americans conduct business and communicate with each other.

(4) Families will need ready access to the technical tools and skills necessary for their school age children to succeed in the classroom and the increasingly competitive international marketplace.

(5) Studies have shown that the presence of a computer in the home has a positive impact on a student's level of academic achievement and performance in school.

(6) Tax relief, enabling the purchase of technology and tutorial services for K–12 education purposes, would significantly help defray the cost of education expenses by: empowering families financially and increasing education spending; allowing families to provide their children access to a far greater range of educational opportunities suited to their individual needs, and; bridging the digital divide.

(b) SENSE OF THE SENATE.—It is the sense of the Senate that Congress and the President should—

(1) Act expeditiously to pass legislation in the First Session of the 107th Congress that provides tax relief to parents of K–12 students for the cost of their children's education-related expenses, specifically, computers, peripherals and computer-related technology, educational software, Internet access and tutoring services; and

(2) That such tax relief would not apply toward the cost of private school tuition.

SA 381. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1, to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title IX, insert the following:

SEC. ___. AMENDMENT TO THE INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES EDUCATION ACT.

Part D of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (20 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''Chapter 3—Improving Early Intervention, Educational, and Transitional Services and Results for Children with Disabilities Through the Provision of Certain Services

''SEC. 691. FINDINGS.

''Congress makes the following findings:

''(1) Approximately 1,000,000 children and youth in the United States have low-incidence disabilities which affects the hearing, vision, movement, emotional, and intellectual capabilities of such children and youth.

''(2) There are 15 States that do not offer or maintain teacher training programs for any of the 3 categories of low-incidence disabilities. The 3 categories are deafness, blindness, and severe disabilities.

''(3) There are 38 States in which teacher training programs are not offered or maintained for 1 or more of the 3 categories of low-incidence disabilities.

''(4) The University of Northern Colorado is in a unique position to provide expertise, materials, and equipment to other schools and educators across the nation to train current and future teachers to educate individuals that are challenged by low-incidence disabilities.

''SEC. 692. NATIONAL CENTER FOR LOW-INCIDENCE DISABILITIES.

''In order to fill the national need for teachers trained to educate children who are challenged with low-incidence disabilities, the University of Northern Colorado shall be designated as a National Center for Low-Incidence Disabilities.

''SEC. 693. SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAMS.

''(a) GRANT.—The Secretary shall award a grant to the University of Northern Colorado to enable such University to provide to institutions of higher education across the nation such services that are offered under the special education teacher training program carried out by such University, such as providing educational materials or other information necessary in order to aid in such teacher training.

''(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section, $2,000,000 for fiscal year 2002, and $1,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2003 through 2005.''.

SA 382. Mr. DODD proposed an amendment to amendment SA 358 proposed by Mr. JEFFORDS to the bill (S. 1) to extend programs and activities under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965; as follows:

On page 752, line 7, strike ''F or''.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON INDIAN AFFAIRS

Mr. CAMPBELL. Mr. President, I would like to announce that the Committee on Indian Affairs will meet on Thursday, May 10, 2001, at 2:45 p.m. in room 485 of the Russell Senate Office Building to conduct an oversight hearing to receive the goals and priorities of the Alaska Native community for the 107th Congress.

Those wishing additional information may contact committee staff at 202/224–2251.

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs will hold a hearing entitled ''Tissue Banks: Is the Federal Government's Oversight Adequate?'' The upcoming hearing will identify and describe alleged problems in the tissue industry and assess the current adequacy of current and anticipated federal oversight.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, May 24, 2001, at 9:30 a.m., in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact Christopher A. Ford of the subcommittee staff at 224–3721.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that John Adams, who is a fellow in my office, be granted the privilege of the floor for the duration of the debate on the Bolton nomination.

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

FOREIGN CURRENCY REPORTS

In accordance with the appropriate provisions of law, the Secretary of the Senate herewith submits the following report(s) of standing committees of the Senate, certain joint committees of the Congress, delegations and groups, and select and special committees of the Senate, relating to expenses incurred in the performance of authorized foreign travel: