

Johnson, E. B. Montgomery
 Johnson, Sam Moorhead
 Kaptur Moran
 Kasich Morella
 Kelly Murtha
 Kennedy (RI) Myers
 Kennelly Neal
 Kim Nethercutt
 King Neumann
 Kingston Ney
 Klink Nussle
 Klug Oberstar
 Knollenberg Ortiz
 Kolbe Oxley
 Lantos Packard
 Largent Pallone
 Latham Parker
 LaTourette Paxon
 Laughlin Payne (VA)
 Lazio Peterson (FL)
 Leach Petri
 Lewis (CA) Pickett
 Lightfoot Pombo
 Lipinski Porter
 Livingston Portman
 LoBiondo Pryce
 Longley Quillen
 Lucas Quinn
 Martini Radanovich
 Mascara Ramstad
 Matsui Reed
 McCollum Regula
 McCrery Richardson
 McDade Riggs
 McHale Roberts
 McHugh Roemer
 McInnis Rogers
 McIntosh Rohrabacher
 McKeon Ros-Lehtinen
 McNulty Rose
 Meek Roth
 Menendez Roukema
 Meyers Royce
 Mica Sawyer
 Miller (FL) Saxton
 Moakley Scarborough
 Molinari Schaefer
 Mollohan Schiff

NAYS—139

Baker (CA) Hayworth
 Baldacci Hilleary
 Barcia Hilliard
 Barrett (WI) Hinchey
 Becerra Hoyer
 Beilenson Hutchinson
 Bereuter Inglis
 Berman Istook
 Bonior Jackson-Lee
 Brown (OH) Jacobs
 Brownback Roybal-Allard
 Bryant (TN) Jefferson
 Bryant (TX) Johnston
 Chabot Jones
 Chenoweth Kanjorski
 Clay Kennedy (MA)
 Coburn Kildee
 Collins (IL) Kleczka
 Collins (MI) LaFalce
 Conyers LaHood
 Coyne Levin
 Crapo Lewis (GA)
 Cubin Lewis (KY)
 Danner Lincoln
 DeFazio Lofgren
 Dellums Lowey
 Deutsch Luther
 Dingell Maloney
 Doggett Manton
 Emerson Manzullo
 Engel Markey
 Evans Martinez
 Ewing McCarthy
 Fattah McDermott
 Fazio McKinney
 Fields (LA) Meehan
 Filner Metcalf
 Flake Mfume
 Foglietta Miller (CA)
 Forbes Mineta
 Frank (MA) Minge
 Funderburk Mink
 Furse Myrick
 Gephardt Nadler
 Graham Norwood
 Green Obey
 Gutierrez Olver
 Orton

Scott
 Seastrand
 Sensenbrenner
 Shaw
 Shays
 Shuster
 Skaggs
 Skeen
 Skelton
 Slaughter
 Smith (MI)
 Smith (TX)
 Solomon
 Spence
 Spratt
 Stearns
 Stenholm
 Stockman
 Stump
 Talent
 Tanner
 Tauzin
 Taylor (MS)
 Taylor (NC)
 Thomas
 Thornberry
 Thornton
 Thurman
 Traficant
 Upton
 Visclosky
 Vucanovich
 Waldholtz
 Walker
 Walsh
 Wamp
 Ward
 Weldon (PA)
 Weller
 Whitfield
 Wicker
 Wilson
 Wolf
 Young (AK)
 Young (FL)
 Zeliff
 Zimmer

Chapman
 Greenwood
 Linder
 Reynolds

NOT VOTING—11
 Rivers
 Sisisky
 Tejada
 Torkildsen

Tucker
 Volkmer
 Wise

Gekas
 Geren
 Gilchrest
 Gillmor
 Gilman
 Goodlatte
 Goodling
 Gordon
 Goss
 Graham
 Greenwood
 Gunderson
 Gutknecht
 Hall (TX)
 Hamilton
 Hancock
 Hansen
 Hastert
 Hastings (WA)
 Hayes
 Hayworth
 Hefley
 Hefner
 Heineman
 Herger
 Hilleary
 Hobson
 Hoekstra
 Hoke
 Horn
 Hostettler
 Hunter
 Hutchinson
 Hyde
 Inglis
 Istook
 Johnson (CT)
 Johnson, Sam
 Jones
 Kasich
 Kelly
 Kim
 King
 Kingston
 Klug
 Knollenberg
 Kolbe
 LaHood
 Largent
 Latham
 LaTourette
 Laughlin
 Lazio
 Leach

Lewis (CA)
 Lewis (KY)
 Lightfoot
 Lincoln
 Livingston
 LoBiondo
 Longley
 Lucas
 Manton
 Manzullo
 Martini
 McCollum
 McCrery
 McDade
 McHugh
 McInnis
 McIntosh
 McKeon
 Metcalf
 Meyers
 Mica
 Miller (FL)
 Molinari
 Mollohan
 Montgomery
 Moorhead
 Morella
 Murtha
 Myers
 Myrick
 Nethercutt
 Neumann
 Ney
 Norwood
 Nussle
 Oxley
 Packard
 Parker
 Paxon
 Petri
 Pombo
 Porter
 Portman
 Pryce
 Quillen
 Quinn
 Radanovich
 Ramstad
 Regula
 Riggs
 Roberts
 Rogers
 Rohrabacher
 Ros-Lehtinen

Roth
 Roukema
 Royce
 Salmon
 Sanford
 Saxton
 Scarborough
 Schaefer
 Schiff
 Seastrand
 Sensenbrenner
 Shadegg
 Shaw
 Shays
 Shuster
 Skeen
 Slaughter
 Smith (MI)
 Smith (NJ)
 Smith (TX)
 Smith (WA)
 Solomon
 Souder
 Spence
 Stearns
 Stenholm
 Stockman
 Stump
 Talent
 Tate
 Tauzin
 Taylor (NC)
 Thomas
 Thornberry
 Traficant
 Upton
 Vucanovich
 Waldholtz
 Walker
 Walsh
 Wamp
 Watts (OK)
 Weldon (FL)
 Weldon (PA)
 Weller
 White
 Whitfield
 Wicker
 Wilson
 Wolf
 Young (AK)
 Young (FL)
 Zeliff

□ 1708

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mrs. SMITH of Washington, and Messrs. BRYANT of Tennessee, HILLEARY, LUTHER, OWENS, EWING, ISTOOK, FAZIO of California, and ORTON, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. SALMON, Ms. JACKSON-LEE, Mr. BARCIA, and Mr. EMERSON changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mrs. CLAYTON, and Messrs. WAMP, ENSIGN, and CHRISTENSEN changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the resolution was agreed to. The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1977, DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1996

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HEFLEY). The pending business is the question de novo on agreeing to House Resolution 231.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the resolution.

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the ayes appeared to have it.

RECORDED VOTE

Mr. BEILENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I demand a recorded vote.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. This is a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were ayes 251, noes 171, not voting 12, as follows:

[Roll No. 695]
 AYES—251

Allard
 Archer
 Armey
 Bachus
 Baker (CA)
 Baker (LA)
 Ballenger
 Barr
 Barrett (NE)
 Bartlett
 Barton
 Bass
 Bateman
 Bevill
 Bilbray
 Bilirakis
 Bishop
 Bliley
 Blute
 Boehner
 Bonilla
 Bono
 Brewster
 Browder
 Brownback
 Bryant (TN)
 Bunn
 Bunning
 Burr
 Burton

Buyer
 Callahan
 Calvert
 Camp
 Canady
 Canady
 Castle
 Chabot
 Chambliss
 Chenoweth
 Christensen
 Chrysler
 Clement
 Clinger
 Coble
 Coburn
 Collins (GA)
 Combest
 Condit
 Cooley
 Costello
 Cox
 Cramer
 Crane
 Crapo
 Cremeans
 Cuban
 Cunningham
 Davis
 Deal
 DeLay

Diaz-Balart
 Dickey
 Dicks
 Doolittle
 Dornan
 Doyle
 Dreier
 Duncan
 Dunn
 Ehlers
 Ehrlich
 Emerson
 English
 Ensign
 Everett
 Ewing
 Fawell
 Fields (TX)
 Flanagan
 Foley
 Ford
 Fowler
 Fox
 Franks (CT)
 Franks (NJ)
 Frelinghuysen
 Frisa
 Funderburk
 Gallegly
 Ganske

Abercrombie
 Ackerman
 Andrews
 Baesler
 Baldacci
 Barcia
 Barrett (WI)
 Becerra
 Beilenson
 Bentsen
 Bereuter
 Berman
 Boehlert
 Bonior
 Borski
 Boucher
 Brown (CA)
 Brown (FL)
 Brown (OH)
 Bryant (TX)
 Cardin
 Clay
 Clayton
 Clyburn
 Coleman
 Collins (IL)
 Collins (MI)
 Conyers
 Coyne
 Danner
 de la Garza
 DeFazio
 DeLauro
 Dellums
 Deutsch
 Dingell
 Dixon
 Doggett
 Dooley
 Durbin
 Edwards
 Engel
 Eshoo

NOES—171

Evans
 Farr
 Fattah
 Fazio
 Fields (LA)
 Filner
 Flake
 Foglietta
 Forbes
 Frank (MA)
 Frost
 Furse
 Gejdenson
 Gephardt
 Gibbons
 Gonzalez
 Green
 Gutierrez
 Hall (OH)
 Harman
 Hastings (FL)
 Hilliard
 Hinchey
 Holden
 Hoyer
 Jackson-Lee
 Jacobs
 Jefferson
 Johnson (SD)
 Johnson, E. B.
 Johnston
 Kanjorski
 Kaptur
 Kennedy (MA)
 Kennedy (RI)
 Kennelly
 Kildee
 Kleczka
 Klink
 LaFalce
 Lantos
 Levin
 Lewis (GA)

Lipinski
 Lofgren
 Lowey
 Luther
 Maloney
 Markey
 Martinez
 Mascara
 Matsui
 McCarthy
 McDermott
 McHale
 McKinney
 McNulty
 Meehan
 Meek
 Menendez
 Miller (CA)
 Mineta
 Minge
 Mink
 Moakley
 Moran
 Nadler
 Neal
 Oberstar
 Obey
 Olver
 Ortiz
 Orton
 Owens
 Pallone
 Pastor
 Payne (NJ)
 Payne (VA)
 Pelosi
 Peterson (FL)
 Peterson (MN)
 Pickett
 Pomeroy
 Poshard
 Rahall
 Rangel

Reed	Skelton	Towns
Richardson	Spratt	Velazquez
Roemer	Stark	Vento
Rose	Stokes	Visclosky
Roybal-Allard	Studds	Ward
Rush	Stupak	Waters
Sabo	Tanner	Watt (NC)
Sanders	Taylor (MS)	Waxman
Sawyer	Thompson	Williams
Schroeder	Thornton	Woolsey
Schumer	Thurman	Wyden
Scott	Tiahrt	Wynn
Serrano	Torres	Yates
Skaggs	Torricelli	Zimmer

NOT VOTING—12

Chapman	Reynolds	Torkildsen
Houghton	Rivers	Tucker
Linder	Sisisky	Volkmer
Mfume	Tejeda	Wise

□ 1716

So the resolution was agreed to.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 2275

Mr. MARTINEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor from the bill, H.R. 2275.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HEFLEY). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

APPOINTMENT OF MEMBER TO BRITISH-AMERICAN INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUP

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BUNN of Oregon). Without objection, and pursuant to the provisions of section 168(b) of Public Law 102-138, the Chair announces the Speaker's appointment of the following member to the British-American interparliamentary group on the part of the House: The gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. BEREUTER].

There was no objection.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 2350, THE PATIENT CHOICE AND ACCESS ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. COBURN] is recognize for 5 minutes.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. Speaker, as Congress begins its consideration of reforming Medicare, I want to bring to the attention of my colleagues, perhaps the most important component of the Medicare reform debate. What must we do to ensure the quality of care that Medicare patients will receive after changes are made to the program?

While all of us in Congress are deeply concerned about the solvency of the

Medicare trust fund, we must be equally concerned that the changes made to this program do not adversely affect the availability of health care to the elderly. As a practicing physician, I have spoken with my patients; and as a Member of Congress, I also have heard from thousands of my constituents. Their message is a clear one. Any Medicare reform proposal must guarantee patient choice and access quality. It must not result in a decline in the quality of care Medicare patients now receive.

For the last several months, I have been working closely with the patient access to Specialty Care Coalition, a group of 115 patient, senior citizen, physician, and nonphysician organizations, dedicated to the principle that patients must be able to access the providers of their own choice. This week, I introduced H.R. 2350, the Patient Choice and Access Act, a bill to provide protection to beneficiaries enrolled in the Medicare Program. Throughout the process of crafting a Medicare reform bill, I have been urging the House leadership to include my patient protection provisions.

The cornerstone of the current Medicare law is choice of health care provider. Presently, there is a belief that the Federal Government can save money by enrolling seniors into managed care deliver systems. And I agree how such changes can produce dramatic Federal savings, I am not opposed to the concept of managed care or a gatekeeper model. Instead, I want to make sure that quality of care for seniors is preserved, should most of the elderly population be moved into managed care. In addition, I have deep concerns about how these proposed changes in Medicare may affect my rural constituents.

Today, many major changes are taking place in the way people purchase health insurance and receive medical care. The pressures to reduce health spending continues to be intense, and health plans and providers have become more aggressive in their cost containment activities. While many health plans have developed a number of effective techniques to achieve economy and maintain quality of care, others have not always achieved that balance. Since Medicare is a federally funded program, we should make sure that these tax dollars are returned to Medicare enrollees in the form of appropriate patient care.

After changes are made to Medicare, many existing and new products will be offered to the Medicare population. Our most vulnerable population will be flung into a fiercely competitive marketplace, where access to appropriated medical services may take a back seat. I believe that in this rapidly changing environment, Medicare patients must be given basic rights and effective protection against the potential that these new markets may inappropriately restrict access to medically necessary health care services.

My legislative proposal addresses these concerns, and it puts the patient first, not the doctor, not the insurance company, but the patient. My bill is designed to improve and enhance health care to our country's senior citizens. It will not add to the cost of the Medicare Program. Under my legislation, all patients will have the option to seek the out-of-network treatment they desire no matter what health care plan they select.

True freedom of choice for patients can only be achieved by making out-of-network medically necessary treatment and services available for all health care plans. Real health care security is the freedom for patients to choose their own primary and specialty care provider, and then to continue to access these same caregivers. All patients should have the option, at an additional copayment known in advance, to seek the out-of-network treatment they desire. This point-of-service feature should be built into every health care plan, and not just offered as an option at the time of enrollment.

Patients, especially seniors, are acting with less than perfect information about their health status at the time of enrollment. In reality, patients are unable to assess their health care needs, until they actually get sick or need specialty care. Consequently, the broadest possible patient protection is to build choice of health care provider into every health care plan.

The most effective check against abuses in this changing marketplace is the patient's power to go outside the network established by the health plan and obtain medical services. Health plans that provide good service to their enrollees will not be troubled by this requirement. Only health plans that fail to meet the needs of their subscribers will be affected.

Making out-of-network treatment and services available for enrollees in all health care plans provides a very good quality assurance check. It ensures that all health care plans provide seniors with the health care they need and deserve. If a Medicare enrollee is not satisfied with care, he or she could pursue other treatment for a reasonable, but not cost-prohibitive price.

Today, the fastest growing health insurance product is a managed care plan with the availability of out-of-network coverage. Patients have been demanding this freedom to choose, and the marketplace has responded. Requiring this type of plan for any senior is not intrusive, but rather advances a developing trend.

Building a point-of-service feature into all health plans under Medicare will not affect any health plan's ability to be aggressive in their cost-containment activities, nor will it limit their efforts to encourage providers and patients to use health care resources wisely. It will simply put pressure on health plans to keep the patient's welfare uppermost on their agenda, ahead of dividends and the bottom line.