

We also feel that it is important to provide incentives to expand Medicaid coverage nationally to the children of families who are at 150 percent of the Federal poverty level—the working poor. This legislation builds upon the good work done in Vermont, and many other States, in ensuring that our children have access to health care.

Our bill encourages States to expand current Medicaid eligibility for children and pregnant women to 150 percent of the Federal poverty level by increasing the amount of money that the Federal Government contributes to the Medicaid Program. States that elect to participate in the program will need to guarantee that all children are covered to at least 100 percent of the Federal poverty level and that all children are provided with 12 months of continuous medical coverage.

The bill also provides grant money for outreach programs. States may design their own outreach programs based on their special needs and specific populations. We will help by simplifying the application process for Medicaid and other Federal programs for which these children qualify. One third of all uninsured children are eligible but not enrolled in Medicaid. Our bill, by emphasizing outreach and administrative simplification, will help get many of these children enrolled in the Medicaid Program.

We must commit our efforts to giving children the best possible start in life. As a recent report entitled "the Social Well-Being of Vermonters" indicates, the foundations we lay for our young children will affect their later success in all areas of life. A healthy start begins with a healthy pregnancy and early, comprehensive prenatal care. Our legislation will give many children the health insurance coverage they need and, by doing so, help ensure a solid foundation for our country's future.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 71

At the request of Mr. DASCHLE, the name of the Senator from Virginia [Mr. ROBB] was added as a cosponsor of S. 71, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to provide more effective remedies to victims of discrimination in the payment of wages on the basis of sex, and for other purposes.

S. 82

At the request of Mr. KOHL, the names of the Senator from Utah [Mr. HATCH], and the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN] were added as cosponsors of S. 82, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a credit against tax for employers who provide child care assistance for dependents of their employees, and for other purposes.

S. 181

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK] was added as a cosponsor of S. 181, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide that installment sales of certain farmers not be treated as a preference item for purposes of the alternative minimum tax.

S. 191

At the request of Mr. HELMS, the name of the Senator from Arizona [Mr. KYL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 191, a bill to throttle criminal use of guns.

S. 328

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 328, a bill to amend the National Labor Relations Act to protect employer rights, and for other purposes.

S. 351

At the request of Mrs. MURRAY, the name of the Senator from Maryland [Ms. MIKULSKI] was added as a cosponsor of S. 351, a bill to provide for teacher technology training.

S. 358

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the names of the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN], the Senator from Maine [Ms. SNOWE], the Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER], the Senator from Maine [Ms. COLLINS], the Senator from South Dakota [Mr. JOHNSON], and the Senator from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] were added as cosponsors of S. 358, a bill to provide for compassionate payments with regard to individuals with blood-clotting disorders, such as hemophilia, who contracted human immunodeficiency virus due to contaminated blood products, and for other purposes.

S. 432

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Florida [Mr. MACK] was added as a cosponsor of S. 432, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the designation of renewal communities, and for other purposes.

S. 484

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. INOUE] was added as a cosponsor of S. 484, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for the establishment of a pediatric research initiative.

S. 525

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 525, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide access to health care insurance coverage for children.

S. 526

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Illinois [Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 526, a bill to amend the

Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the excise taxes on tobacco products for the purpose of offsetting the Federal budgetary costs associated with the Child Health Insurance and Lower Deficit Act.

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Maryland [Ms. MIKULSKI] was added as a cosponsor of S. 526, supra.

S. 606

At the request of Mr. HUTCHINSON, the names of the Senator from Texas [Mrs. HUTCHISON], the Senator from Wyoming [Mr. THOMAS], and the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] were added as cosponsors of S. 606, a bill to prohibit discrimination in contracting on federally funded projects on the basis of certain labor policies of potential contractors.

S. 625

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Colorado [Mr. ALLARD] was added as a cosponsor of S. 625, a bill to provide for competition between forms of motor vehicle insurance, to permit an owner of a motor vehicle to choose the most appropriate form of insurance for that person, to guarantee affordable premiums, to provide for more adequate and timely compensation for accident victims, and for other purposes.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 26

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from North Carolina [Mr. HELMS] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 26, a joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment to establish limited judicial terms of office.

SENATE RESOLUTION 15

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Nevada [Mr. REID] was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 15, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that the Federal commitment to biomedical research should be increased substantially over the next 5 years.

SENATE RESOLUTION 63

At the request of Mr. DOMENICI, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. NICKLES], and the Senator from Montana [Mr. BURNS] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 63, a resolution proclaiming the week of October 19 through October 25, 1997, as "National Character Counts Week."

SENATE RESOLUTION 78

At the request of Mr. BURNS, the names of the Senator from Colorado [Mr. CAMPBELL], the Senator from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN], the Senator from California [Mrs. FEINSTEIN], the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. AKAKA], the Senator from Virginia [Mr. ROBB], the Senator from Washington [Mrs. MURRAY], the Senator from Maine [Ms. SNOWE], and the Senator from California [Mrs. BOXER] were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 78, a resolution to designate April 30, 1997, as "National Erase the Hate and Eliminate Racism Day."