

(5) urges the expansion of clinical preventive activities, including screenings and immunizations; and

(6) pledges to help significantly improve the health of all people in the United States by supporting increased investment in Federal public health programs.

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, I rise today to introduce a resolution promoting increased investment in preventive health and public health.

Our Nation's annual health expenditures have reached the astonishing total of \$2.2 trillion, or approximately \$7,000 for each American. Our health expenditures also represent 16 percent of the gross domestic product. That's a higher percentage of GDP than any other nation as well as a higher amount per capita.

But what are we getting for our health care dollars? Rankings from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, OECD, consistently show the United States ranking far behind most other industrialized countries in overall health status, in infant health as measured by infant mortality rates, and in life expectancy.

And if we examine the distribution of expenditures, it becomes apparent that we are dedicating the lion's share of resources to a few, chronic diseases, such as diabetes, and hypertension. From 1987 to 2000, while our overall health care spending doubled, spending on strokes nearly quadrupled and spending on hypertension rose from \$8 billion to \$23 billion a year. Chronic diseases are the leading cause of preventable death and disability, and are responsible for more than 1.7 million deaths each year. They are particularly costly for publicly-funded insurance programs, accounting for 96 cents of every Medicare dollar and 83 cents of every Medicaid dollar. Project HOPE has estimated that by the year 2050, nearly half the population of the United States will develop at least one chronic disease if we do not act.

But analyses also show that of the money spent on health care, fewer than 4 cents of every dollar are dedicated to public health and prevention. We need to prioritize public health and preventive approaches if we are to have a healthier America.

We already know that early detection can save lives, reduce costs, and result in a more efficient health care system for all of us. One prominent example is colorectal cancer screening. Colorectal cancer is the number two cancer killer in the United States. This year, an estimated 148,000 new cases will be diagnosed and more than 52,000 Americans will die from the disease.

The risk of colorectal cancer begins to increase after the age of 40 and rises sharply at the ages of 50 to 55, at which point the risk doubles with each succeeding decade. Despite advances in surgical techniques and adjuvant therapy, there has been only a modest improvement in survival for patients who present with advanced cancers.

The good news is that colorectal cancer can be prevented, and is highly

treatable when discovered early. Most cases of the disease begin as non-cancerous polyps which can be detected and removed during routine screenings—preventing the development of colorectal cancer. Screening tests also save lives even when they detect polyps that have become cancerous by catching the disease in its earliest, most curable stages. The cure rate is up to 93 percent when colorectal cancer is discovered early.

We must also promote changes in lifestyles, community-based interventions, to improve our health status. This means encouraging and enabling proper nutrition, increasing our level of physical activity, supporting smoking cessation programs for those who smoke now, and educating youth about the dangers of smoking.

Trust for America's Health has just released a report entitled "Prevention for a Healthier America." Among its conclusions is that "an investment of \$10 per person per year in community-based programs to increase physical activity, improve nutrition, and prevent smoking and other tobacco use could save the country more than \$16 billion annually every five years . . . a return of \$5.60 for every \$1. Of the \$16 billion, Medicare could save more than \$5 billion, Medicaid could save more than \$1.9 billion, and private payers could save more than \$9 billion."

It is clear that to make a real difference in America's health status, and to produce a far more efficient health care system, the answer is to use our health care resources more wisely. That means investing in the clinically-based and community-based interventions that will prevent the serious, chronic illnesses that are draining our health care resources now.

Finally, Mr. President, I want to thank Senator CLINTON for joining me in introducing this resolution. Her knowledge of and expertise in health care are unparalleled, and I am very appreciative of her support. I urge all my colleagues to support this resolution.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 641—CONGRATULATING THE FOCUS ON THE FAMILY RADIO PROGRAM FOR ITS INDUCTION INTO THE NATIONAL RADIO HALL OF FAME

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. HATCH, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation.

S. RES. 641

Whereas the National Radio Hall of Fame & Museum was created to commemorate significant figures in the world of radio, a medium that has been integral to American society since the early 20th century;

Whereas a key element of the mission of the National Radio Hall of Fame & Museum is to recognize and showcase contemporary

talent from diverse radio programming formats;

Whereas, each November since 1992, significant radio figures have been honored for their excellence in the field of radio by being inducted into the National Radio Hall of Fame;

Whereas James C. Dobson, Ph.D., is founder and chairman of Focus on the Family;

Whereas the Focus on the Family radio program first aired in 1977 and now is heard through more than 3,000 radio outlets in North America and in 27 languages in over 160 other countries;

Whereas the Focus on the Family radio program has benefitted the lives of families and individuals across the United States and around the world;

Whereas the Focus on the Family radio program has been named as a 2008 inductee to the National Radio Hall of Fame; and

Whereas the Focus on the Family radio program is the first faith-based radio program to receive this honor: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate congratulates the Focus on the Family radio program, its staff, and its founder and chairman, James Dobson, for their excellence in radio programming and the program's worthy induction into the National Radio Hall of Fame.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 642—TO AUTHORIZE THE PRODUCTION OF RECORDS BY THE PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. REID (for himself and Mr. MCCONNELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 642

Whereas, the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs conducted an investigation into tax haven financial institutions, their formation and administration of offshore entities and accounts for use by U.S. clients, and the impact of those activities on tax compliance in the United States;

Whereas, the Subcommittee has received a number of requests from law enforcement and regulatory agencies for access to records of the Subcommittee's investigation;

Whereas, by the privileges of the Senate of the United States and rule XI of the Standing Rules of the Senate, no evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate can, by administrative or judicial process, be taken from such control or possession but by permission of the Senate;

Whereas, when it appears that evidence under the control or in the possession of the Senate is needed for the promotion of justice, the Senate will take such action as will promote the ends of justice consistent with the privileges of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, acting jointly, are authorized to provide to law enforcement officials, regulatory agencies, and other entities or individuals duly authorized by federal, state, or foreign governments, records of the Subcommittee's investigation into tax haven financial institutions, their formation and administration of offshore entities and accounts for use by U.S. clients, and the impact of those activities on tax compliance in the United States.