

This new method eliminated paper applications for free school meals, and replaced them with a socioeconomic survey based method of determining reimbursement rates and eligibility.

Paper applications are costly, and parents too often fail to return them. The socioeconomic survey based approach was chosen because it reduced administrative overhead costs and is thought to better ensure that all eligible students are accounted for. In addition, by providing Universal Service the stigma associated with receiving a free or reduced price school meal is eliminated. Indeed, during the first year of the Universal Feeding Pilot Program, the Philadelphia School District saw a 14 percent increase in lunch participation in elementary schools, a 45 percent increase in middle schools and a 180 percent increase in high schools. The Philadelphia Universal Feeding Pilot Program has successfully increased student participation in the school meal program. Should this program be ended, as the Department of Agriculture would have it, children in the Philadelphia School District will have their ability to learn undermined by Washington, DC, bureaucrats.

The students and parents in 200 of Philadelphia's poorest schools have not filled out paper applications for free and reduced priced school meals in over seventeen years. It is almost certain that some parents will fail to return paper applications to the school district, resulting in the under-reporting of eligible students. In fact, the Secretary of Agriculture tacitly acknowledges the ineffectiveness of paper applications by offering outreach assistance to the Philadelphia School District.

A decrease in the amount of students claiming free or reduced lunches will lower the Department of Agriculture's reimbursement rate to the Philadelphia School District. Reducing the school meal reimbursement rate will not only cause the Philadelphia School District budgetary problems in relation to the school meals program, but because other grant funding is often based on the percentage of low income students in a district, as determined by participation rates in the school meal program, the District could potentially lose millions of dollars in other state and Federal grant funding. Federal E-rate funding, for example, which is used for educational technology, is based directly on school meal program eligibility percentages.

Congress is expected to take up the Child Nutrition Act reauthorization later this year. Universal Feeding and the National School Breakfast and Lunch Program will be a part of this debate, and this is an appropriate time and place to consider changes to the program. We know from experience that Congressional action is not always as swift as planned, and that the legislative calendar changes from week to week if not from day to day.

Therefore, Senator CASEY and I introduce legislation today to extend the

Philadelphia School District's Universal Feeding Pilot Program through the close of the 2012-2013 school year to ensure that Philadelphia school children receive the necessary nutritional assistance until Congress can enact a new policy.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 168—COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE 2009 NCAA WOMEN'S COLLEGE WORLD SERIES

Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 168

Whereas on June 2, 2009, for the first time in university history, the University of Washington Women Huskies won the National Collegiate Athletic Association ("NCAA") national softball championship game with a 3-2 victory over the University of Florida Gators;

Whereas University of Washington pitcher Danielle Lawrie was named the Women's College World Series Most Valuable Player and the USA Softball National Collegiate Player of the Year;

Whereas the Huskies finished the 2009 season with an impressive record of 51-12;

Whereas the members of the 2009 University of Washington softball team are excellent representatives of a university that is 1 of the premier academic institutions in Washington State, producing many outstanding student-athletes and other leaders; and

Whereas the members of the women's softball team have brought great honor to themselves, their families, the University of Washington, and the State of Washington: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) congratulates the University of Washington softball team for winning the 2009 Women's College World Series;

(2) recognizes the achievements of the players, coaches, students, and staff whose hard work and dedication helped the University of Washington win the championship; and

(3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the Senate to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to—

(A) Mark A. Emmert, president of the University of Washington;

(B) Scott Woodward, director of athletics of the University of Washington; and

(C) Heather Tarr, head coach of the University of Washington softball team.

SENATE RESOLUTION 169—EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA SHOULD WORK WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROCESS WITH GREECE TO ACHIEVE LONGSTANDING UNITED STATES AND UNITED NATIONS POLICY GOALS OF FINDING A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE COMPOSITE NAME, WITH A GEOGRAPHICAL QUALIFIER AND FOR ALL INTERNATIONAL USES FOR THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. SHAHEEN, and Ms. MIKULSKI) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

S. RES. 169

Whereas, on April 8, 1993, the United Nations General Assembly admitted as a member the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, under the name the "former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia";

Whereas United Nations Security Council Resolution 817 (1993) states that the international dispute over the name must be resolved to maintain peaceful relations between Greece and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and regional stability;

Whereas Greece is a strategic partner and ally of the United States in bringing political stability and economic development to the Balkan region, having invested over \$20,000,000,000 in the countries of the region, thereby creating over 200,000 new jobs, and having contributed over \$750,000,000 in development aid for the region;

Whereas Greece has invested over \$1,000,000,000 in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, thereby creating more than 10,000 new jobs and having contributed \$110,000,000 in development aid;

Whereas Senate Resolution 300, introduced in the 110th Congress, urged the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to abstain from hostile activities and stop the utilization of materials that violate provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece regarding "hostile activities or propaganda";

Whereas NATO's Heads of State and Government unanimously agreed in Bucharest on April 3, 2008, that "... within the framework of the UN, many actors have worked hard to resolve the name issue, but the Alliance has noted with regret that these talks have not produced a successful outcome. Therefore we agreed that an invitation to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will be extended as soon as a mutually acceptable solution to the name issue has been reached. We encourage the negotiations to be resumed without delay and expect them to be concluded as soon as possible";

Whereas the Heads of State and Government participating in the meeting of the North Atlantic Council in Strasbourg/Kehl on April 4, 2009, reiterated their unanimous support for the agreement at the Bucharest Summit "to extend an invitation to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as soon as a mutually acceptable solution to the name issue has been reached within the framework of the UN, and urge intensified efforts towards that goal."; and

Whereas authorities in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia urged their citizens to boycott Greek investments in the

country and not to travel to Greece: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) urges the Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to work within the framework of the United Nations process with Greece to achieve longstanding United States and United Nations policy goals by finding a mutually acceptable composite name, with a geographical qualifier and for all international uses for the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia; and

(2) urges the Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to abstain from hostile activities and stop violating provisions of the United Nations-brokered Interim Agreement between the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Greece regarding “hostile activities or propaganda”.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1257. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1247 proposed by Mr. DODD to the bill H.R. 1256, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees’ Retirement System, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1258. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1247 proposed by Mr. DODD to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1259. Mr. BENNETT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1260. Mr. ENZI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1261. Mr. BURR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1262. Mr. BURR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1263. Mr. BURR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1264. Mr. BURR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1265. Mr. ALEXANDER (for himself, Mr. VITTER, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1266. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1247 proposed by Mr. DODD to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1267. Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1268. Mr. CHAMBLISS (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1269. Mr. BAYH (for himself, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. BURRIS, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr.

WARNER, Mr. WEBB, Mr. NELSON, of Nebraska, and Mr. BEGICH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1270. Mr. CORKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1271. Mr. KOHL (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, and Mrs. GILLIBRAND) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1272. Mr. VITTER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1273. Mr. WEBB submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1257. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1247 proposed by Mr. DODD to the bill H.R. 1256, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees’ Retirement System, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS FROM USERS OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS UNDER FEDERAL EMPLOYEES HEALTH BENEFITS PLANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 8906 of title 5, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting “of this subsection and subsection (j)” after “and (4)”;

(2) in subsection (c), by striking “subsection (b)” and inserting “subsections (b) and (j)”;

(3) by adding at the end the following:

“(j)(1) In this subsection—

“(A) the term ‘enrollee’ means an employee or annuitant enrolled in a health benefits plan under this chapter;

“(B) the term ‘tobacco product’ means—

“(i) any product made or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, including any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product (except for raw materials other than tobacco used in manufacturing a component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product); and

“(ii) shall not include an article that is a drug under subsection (g)(1) of section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321), a device under subsection (h) of that section, or a combination product described in section 503(g) of that Act; and

“(C) the term ‘user of a tobacco product’ means an individual who has used a tobacco product within the last 12 months.

“(2)(A) If an enrollee (or any individual covered by that enrollee if enrollment is for self and family) is a user of a tobacco product, the contribution paid by that enrollee shall be increased by 35 percent.

“(B) If an enrollee (and any individual covered by that enrollee if enrollment is for self and family) is not a user of a tobacco product, the contribution paid by that enrollee shall be reduced by 15 percent.

“(3) The Government contribution paid for each enrollee, as applicable, shall be—

“(A) reduced by the dollar amount of the increase adjusted under paragraph (2)(A); or

“(B) increased by the dollar amount of the reduction adjusted under paragraph (2)(B).

“(4) Any adjustment under this subsection shall be subject to the limitation under subsection (b)(2).”

(b) REGULATIONS.—The Office of Personnel Management shall prescribe regulations to carry out the amendment made by this section.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act and shall apply to contracts entered into under section 8902 of title 5, United States Code, that take effect with respect to calendar years that begin more than 1 year after that date.

SA 1258. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1247 proposed by Mr. DODD to the bill H.R. 1256, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees’ Retirement System, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division A, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . ADJUSTMENT OF THE AMOUNT OF THE MEDICARE PART B PREMIUM TO REWARD BENEFICIARIES WHO REFRAIN FROM TOBACCO USE.

Section 1839 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395r) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2), by striking “and (i)” and inserting “(i), and (j)”;

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

“(j)(1) With respect to the monthly premium amount under this section for months after December 2010, the Secretary shall adjust (under procedures established by the Secretary) the amount of such premium for an individual based on whether or not the individual refrains from tobacco use. Such procedures shall include providing an individual whose premium was increased under the preceding sentence for a year with the opportunity to have the amount of such increase for the year refunded in whole or in part if the individual demonstrates to the Secretary that the individual now refrains from tobacco use.

“(2) In making the adjustments under paragraph (1) for a month, the Secretary shall ensure that the total amount of premiums to be paid under this part for the month is equal to the total amount of premiums that would have been paid under this part for the month if no such adjustments had been made, as estimated by the Secretary.”

SA 1259. Mr. BENNETT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 1256, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, to amend title 5, United States Code, to make certain modifications in the Thrift Savings Plan, the Civil Service Retirement System, and the Federal Employees’ Retirement System, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows: