

acts of violence. We need to make sure law enforcement has the tools it needs to protect families. That is why in the Economic Recovery Act, we included \$225 million for Violence Against Women Programs and \$100 million for programs that are part of the Victims of Crime Act. We also provided critical funding for law enforcement to keep cops on the street and support law enforcement programs and services through the Byrne Grant Program.

There is so much at stake, and there is so much each of us can still do to make a difference. We have to remember that any act of domestic violence hurts not only the individual victim, it hurts their family and hurts our community at large.

I will always remember a case we prosecuted when I was county attorney that brought home that point to me. It was a very sad case. The victim was a Russian immigrant. She was very isolated from the community, didn't have many friends, a victim of domestic violence, they later learned, over the years. Her husband murdered her one day. They had a little 4-year-old girl. I don't want to get into the gory details of what happened with her body, but he basically sickly brought her body to another State with the 4-year-old girl in the back seat. He later confessed to the crime, and there was a little service. I say "little" because the only people at the funeral service were her parents, who were from Russia, and her identical twin sister, the victim's identical twin sister. I was there, and the victim witness advocate was there. That was it. The little 4-year-old girl, I was told, had been at the airport when the plane came in from Russia to meet for the first time her grandmother and her now deceased mother's identical twin sister.

When they got off the plane and came into the airport, this little girl ran across the airport and hugged that identical twin sister and said: Mommy, mommy, mommy. She thought it was her mother who had come back.

That moment and that story always remind me that when we are talking about domestic violence, it is not just one victim. It is the children and it is our entire community. That is why it is so important we recognize Domestic Violence Month as well as reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act.

I thank Senators LEAHY, KOHL, FEINGOLD, GILLIBRAND, CRAPO, COLLINS, SPECTER, LANDRIEU, STABENOW, KAUFMAN, DURBIN, BROWN, and Senator BURRIS, the Presiding Officer, for being cosponsors. I invite all other colleagues to join us.

I am proud to come from a State that has long been a leader in a nationwide effort to end domestic violence. We opened one of the first shelters in the country in 1974, and we started one of the first programs aimed at addressing batterers in the early 1980s. The city of Duluth, MN, was the first city to mandate that its police officers make arrests in domestic abuse cases. The city

of Duluth in northern Minnesota recognized before the rest of the country that violence is violence, whether it is perpetrated by someone you love or a stranger on the street.

We can never stop working on behalf of women, children, and families everywhere to end domestic violence.

I ask unanimous consent to add Senator BURRIS as a cosponsor of the resolution.

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

SENATE RESOLUTION 318—SUPPORTING "LIGHTS ON AFTERSCHOOL", A NATIONAL CELEBRATION OF AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS

Mr. DODD (for himself, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BEGICH, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CASEY, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. INOUE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. SANDERS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, and Mr. SPECTER) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 318

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs provide safe, challenging, engaging, and fun learning experiences that help children and youth develop their social, emotional, physical, cultural, and academic skills;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs support working families by ensuring that the children in such families are safe and productive after the regular school day ends;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs build stronger communities by involving the Nation's students, parents, business leaders, and adult volunteers in the lives of the Nation's youth, thereby promoting positive relationships among children, youth, families, and adults;

Whereas high-quality afterschool programs engage families, schools, and diverse community partners in advancing the well-being of the Nation's children;

Whereas "Lights On Afterschool", a national celebration of afterschool programs held on October 22, 2009, highlights the critical importance of high-quality afterschool programs in the lives of children, their families, and their communities;

Whereas more than 28,000,000 children in the United States have parents who work outside the home and 15,100,000 children in the United States have no place to go after school; and

Whereas many afterschool programs across the United States are struggling to keep their doors open and their lights on: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the goals and ideals of "Lights On Afterschool", a national celebration of afterschool programs.

SENATE RESOLUTION 319—COMMEMORATING 40 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP BY WOMEN IN THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION AND CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF FEMALE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL FFA ORGANIZATION

Mr. JOHANNIS (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. LUGAR, Mr.

ROBERTS, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. PRYOR, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. LEAHY, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. BENNET, and Mrs. SHAHEEN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 319

Whereas the National FFA Organization is a premier student leadership organization with more than 507,000 members in all 50 States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands;

Whereas the mission of the National FFA Organization is to make a positive difference in the lives of students by developing their potential for leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education;

Whereas women were first admitted as members of the National FFA Organization in 1969 at the 42nd Annual National FFA Convention;

Whereas, by 2009, 41 percent of all members of the National FFA Organization were women, and more than 50 percent of leadership positions in the National FFA Organization were held by women; and

Whereas female members have made positive contributions to the goals of the National FFA Organization, including proficient agricultural leadership and advocacy, community citizenship, volunteerism, and cooperation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate congratulates the National FFA Organization for 40 years of membership by women and celebrates the achievements and contributions of female members of the National FFA Organization.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 2696. Mrs. LINCOLN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1776, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the update under the Medicare physician fee schedule for years beginning with 2010 and to sunset the application of the sustainable growth rate formula, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 2697. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1776, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 2696. Mrs. LINCOLN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 1776, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the update under the Medicare physician fee schedule for years beginning with 2010 and to sunset the application of the sustainable growth rate formula, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Medicare Physician Fairness Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. MEDICARE PHYSICIAN FEE SCHEDULE UPDATE FOR 2010 THROUGH 2014.

Section 1848(d) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395w-4(d)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(10) UPDATE FOR 2010 THROUGH 2014.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraphs (7)(B), (8)(B), and (9)(B), in lieu of the update to the single conversion factor established in

paragraph (1)(C) that would otherwise apply for each of 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014, the update to the single conversion factor shall be 0.5 percent.

“(B) NO EFFECT ON COMPUTATION OF CONVERSION FACTOR FOR 2015 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS.—The conversion factor under this subsection shall be computed under paragraph (1)(A) for 2015 and subsequent years as if subparagraph (A) had never applied.”

SEC. 3. REDUCTION IN TARP FUNDS TO OFFSET THE COSTS OF THE PAYMENT UPDATE FOR MEDICARE PHYSICIANS' SERVICES.

Paragraph (3) of section 115(a) of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008 (12 U.S.C. 5225) is amended by striking “\$1,259,000,000” and inserting “\$179,259,000,000”.

SA 2697. Mr. LEAHY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill S. 1776, to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the update under the Medicare physician fee schedule for years beginning with 2010 and to sunset the application of the sustainable growth rate formula, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____ . HEALTH INSURANCE INDUSTRY ANTITRUST ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2009.

(a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This section may be cited as the “Health Insurance Industry Antitrust Enforcement Act of 2009”.

(b) **PURPOSE.**—It is the purpose of this section to ensure that health insurance issuers and medical malpractice insurance issuers cannot engage in price fixing, bid rigging, or market allocations to the detriment of competition and consumers.

(c) **PROHIBITION OF ANTI-COMPETITIVE ACTIVITIES.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, nothing in the Act of March 9, 1945 (15 U.S.C. 1011 et seq., commonly known as the “McCarran-Ferguson Act”), shall be construed to permit health insurance issuers (as defined in section 2791 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300gg-91) or issuers of medical malpractice insurance to engage in any form of price fixing, bid rigging, or market allocations in connection with the conduct of the business of providing health insurance coverage (as defined in such section) or coverage for medical malpractice claims or actions.

(d) **APPLICATION TO ACTIVITIES OF STATE COMMISSIONS OF INSURANCE AND OTHER STATE INSURANCE REGULATORY BODIES.**—Nothing in this section shall apply to the information gathering and rate setting activities of any State commission of insurance, or any other State regulatory entity with authority to set insurance rates.

NOTICE OF HEARING

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The hearing will be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, at 10:00 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on the role of natural gas in mitigating climate change.

Because of the limited time available for the hearing, witnesses may testify by invitation only. However, those wishing to submit written testimony for the hearing record may do so by sending it to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510-6150, or by e-mail to Rosemarie_Calabro@energy.senate.gov

For further information, please contact Kevin Rennert at (202) 224-7826, or Deborah Estes at (202) 224-5360 or Rosemarie Calabro at (202) 224-5039.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 21, at 9:45 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 21, 2009, at 10 a.m. in SD-430.

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

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 21, 2009, at 9:30 a.m. to conduct a hearing entitled “H1N1 Flu: Monitoring the Nation’s Response.”

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate, on October 21, 2009, at 2 p.m., in room SD-226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, to conduct a hearing entitled “Nominations.”

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 21, 2009. The Committee will meet in room 418 of the Russell Senate Office Building beginning at 9:30 a.m.

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

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND SPACE

Mrs. SHAHEEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Science and Space of the

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on October 21, 2009, at 2:30 p.m. in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building.

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

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Kyle Sheahen and Spencer Baldwin, legal interns on my Judiciary Committee staff, be granted the privilege of the floor for the remainder of this session.

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

RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF CLIFFORD PETER HANSEN, FORMER UNITED STATES SENATOR FOR THE STATE OF WYOMING

Mr. ENZI. Mr. President, it is with a great deal of sadness that Senator BARRASSO and Representative LUMMIS and I inform our colleagues that we have lost one of our good friends and a former Member of this body, Clifford P. Hansen.

Cliff Hansen passed away on Tuesday night at the age of 97. His was, in every sense, a truly remarkable life. He was a man to match his mountains. He came from the shadow of the Tetons. If you have ever been there, you know that when God made the Alps he had a couple left over and he took the biggest ones and he put them in Wyoming, and that is where Jackson Hole is.

Times such as these always draw me to the words of the Bible which remind us that “to everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven.” So it is with all of us. Each role we play, each task we are called to perform is another time for us, another season in our lives.

As has often been said, Cliff Hansen was Wyoming through and through, a favorite son of the West who knew and understood our western way of life better than anyone else. He knew it because he lived it and he lived it each and every day.

Cliff Hansen lived most of his life in the Jackson Hole area—all of his life, except the time he was providing public service. He was born at the base of the Tetons and he lived a life in which he stood as tall and as proud in his support of Wyoming as those magnificent mountains. His parents were homesteaders and from them he learned the importance of working hard for what you believe in and always giving it your best. It was a philosophy that suited him well. A lot of people don't know that as a child he was a stut-terer, but he had a phenomenal teacher who worked with him, put rocks in his mouth. He attributed his success at oratory to her help through those years.

A rancher by profession, Cliff spent the early part of his life working the