

such information as is necessary for the investigation of fraud and abuse

(1) Procedures would be established to assure the confidentiality of the information required by the national fraud and abuse program and the privacy of individuals receiving health care services

B. Health plans and providers would be required to disclose information that the Secretary deems appropriate, including information relating to the ownership, control and management of a health care entity

IV. Establishment of fraud and abuse account

A. Civil money penalties, fines, forfeitures and damages assessed in criminal, civil or administrative health care cases, along with any gifts and bequests would be deposited in an "All Payer Health Care Fraud and Abuse Control account"

B. The assets in the Account would be used, in addition to such appropriated amounts, to meet the operating costs of the national health care fraud control program

Subtitle C: Application of fraud and abuse authorities under the Social Security Act to other payers

I. Application of civil monetary statutory penalties to all payers

A. The provisions under the Medicare and Medicaid programs which provide for civil monetary penalties for specified fraud and abuse violations (as amended by this Act) would apply to similar violations with respect to all payers

B. The following activity would be prohibited and subject to a civil monetary penalty not to exceed \$10,000:

(1) Expelling or refusing to re-enroll an individual in violation of federal standards for health plans or State law

(2) Engaging in any practice that would reasonably be expected to have the effect of denying or discouraging enrollment in a health plan on the basis of a medical condition

(3) Engaging in any practice to induce enrollment in a health plan through representations which the person knows or should know are false

Subtitle D: Advisory opinions on kickbacks and self-referral

I. Issuance of Advisory Opinions

A. The Secretary would require an individual requesting an advisory opinion to pay a fee equal to the costs incurred by the Secretary to issue the opinion.

Subtitle E: Preemption of State corporate practice laws

I. Preemption of State Laws Prohibiting Corporate Practice of Medicine

A. No provision of State or local law would apply that prohibits a corporation from practicing medicine.

TITLE II: INFORMATION SYSTEMS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SIMPLIFICATION

I. Uniform health claims card

A. Each beneficiary of a health benefit plan, including Medicare, would be issued a uniform health claims card

B. Each card would include a uniform health claims identification number which would be the Social Security number of the beneficiary

C. The card would be in a form similar to that of a credit card and would have information encoded in electronic form

II. Requirement for entitlement verification systems

A. The Secretary would provide for an electronic system for the verification of an individual's enrollment in a health plan, including Medicare and entitlement to benefits

B. The Secretary would establish standards respecting the requirements for certification of entitlement verification systems

(1) The system would be required to be able to coordinate benefit information among health plans and Medicare

(2) The system would also be required to accept inquiries from health care providers and health benefit plans electronically through the use of electronic card readers, touch-tone telephones, or computer modems

(3) Health benefit plans that fail to provide for an electronic verification system would be subject to civil monetary penalties

III. Uniform claims and electronic claims data set

(A) All claims submitted by providers would be transmitted using a uniform electronic format to be developed by the Secretary

(B) The Secretary would develop a single, uniform coding system for procedures and diagnoses

(C) The Secretary would provide for a unique identifier code for each health service provider and health plan

(D) Health service providers and health plans that fail to submit a claim for payment in a form and manner consistent with the standards would be subject to civil monetary penalties

(E) All claims for clinical lab tests would be submitted directly by the person or entity that performed the test.

IV. Electronic medical records and reporting

(A) The Secretary would promulgate standards for hospitals concerning electronic medical records

(B) As a condition of Medicare participation each hospital would be required to maintain hospital clinical data in electronic form in accordance with these standards

(C) State quill pen laws that require medical or health information to be maintained in written form would be pre-empted

V. Uniform hospital cost reporting

(A) Each hospital would be required to report information on costs to the Secretary in a uniform manner consistent with standards established by the Secretary

DELAURO HONORS DOROTHY BROWN OF STRATFORD UPON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22 1995

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, June 23, 1995, the town of Stratford will pay tribute to Dorothy Irene Brown in honor of her retirement. After 48 years of exemplary service to the residents of Stratford, Dorothy Brown will be retiring from the position of town purchasing agent.

Dorothy Brown began her career with the town of Stratford in 1947. Since then, she has worked tirelessly to provide the highest standard of service to the town's citizens. Indeed, her dedication and attention to detail have become legendary. Among her many achievements are the implementation of numerous cost-saving measures that have greatly benefited the town of Stratford and its residents. Dorothy is an extremely conscientious and dedicated employee and will be sorely missed by her colleagues.

Dorothy has also served with distinction as president of the Stratford Supervisors Union, and chairwoman of the Stratford employees pension fund. Her strong and insightful leadership skills have earned her enormous respect

among her colleagues. For almost half a century she has been the epitome of a public servant.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to salute Dorothy Brown for a lifetime of service to her community. It is people like Dorothy who make local government work for its citizens, by addressing their needs on a personal level. The contributions of these exemplary public servants should not be overlooked. Their hard work and commitment are the cornerstone of strong and effective local government. Individuals such as Dorothy Brown deserve our strong support and admiration.

I extend my warmest congratulations to Dorothy on this well-deserved tribute, and commend her for 48 years of distinguished work. I wish her many years of good health and happiness in her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MINA AND JORDAN RUSH

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 22, 1995

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, please join me in saluting Mina and Jordan Rush, who will receive the service award for their vision of the future at the 47th Annual Tribute Dinner of B'nai David-Judea Congregation on June 25, 1995.

Mina Rush has served B'nai David-Judea Congregation in numerous capacities for many years. She has been a member of the board of directors, membership chairman, and co-chairman of the annual banquet.

Mina Rush has always generously and selflessly devoted herself to worthwhile causes. She has served the State of Israel and cooperated with the Israel Defense Forces in her work with the Volunteers for Israel. She also led the recent Kiev emergency relief project that provided enormous quantities of food for a starving community.

Jordan Rush has had a distinguished career in entertainment as a producer, director, and actor. He served in these roles in "The Mirror," which was honored at the Southwest Film Festival. As a humanitarian, he has chaired Volunteers for Israel and Adopt a Soviet Family, a program of the Jewish Federation.

Proud parents of Tzvia, Atara, and Harel, the Rushes have always been concerned with the future of our Jewish youth. Their entire family worships regularly at B'nai David-Judea Congregation. They have participated in numerous Torah study classes and have been active in the Elitzur Sports League, of which Jordan Rush was a founder.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mina and Jordan Rush for receiving the prestigious Service Award of B'nai David-Judea Congregation and in expressing appreciation for their many contributions to our community. I extend to them great thanks and wish them every happiness and success in all future endeavors.