this provision on consumers will be disastrous. Moreover, granting such an extension in the dark of night is not the way to legislate.

So all of my colleagues have a letter announcing my intent to challenge this provision on a point of order. I am also considering a concurrent resolution to delete this provision from the conference report. My hope is that we can get bipartisan support for this effort, in which case, one way or the other, we can knock this special interest provision on out of conference committee report.

I want to state to my colleagues that this patent extension that we see before us for the manufacturer of Lodine essentially means that for a period of 2 years, and in effect over a period of 5 years because of the way the provision is written, cheaper versions of the prescription drug will not be made available to consumers. People who are suffering from arthritis and are not able to buy a cheaper drug will pay millions of dollars that they should not have to.

This is really outrageous.

When I was a college professor, I talked about conference committees, and I knew they were kind of the third House of the Congress, but I had no idea that this type of thing happened all the time, or some of the time. But it should not happen any of the time.

What we have here is a company that sells over a quarter of a billion dollars worth of a drug, willing to pay the Government $10 billion a year for the additional costs that the patent extension will cost the Government in increased Medicaid and health care costs, but not willing to do anything for consumers and seniors. And quite frankly, the payments to the Government are nothing compared to the ripoff of seniors and consumers. And quite frankly, but not willing to do anything for consumers and seniors. And quite frankly, increased Medicaid and health care costs, but not willing to do anything for consumers and seniors.

I hope that we may be able to do something about this situation together, in a bipartisan way. I believe that Senator KENNEDY, Senator KASSEBAUM, and many other Senators will be interested in doing that one way or the other. We discussed this in a conference yesterday when I realized that, in the dark of night, this provision had been inserted, and one way or the other I am going to take action as a Senator from Minnesota to do everything I can to knock this provision out.

This provision represents a giveaway to a special interest at the expense of patients and senior citizens, and, quite frankly, the mysterious manner in which it was added to the conference report late at night is not the way we ought to be conducting our affairs here. This is a perfect example of the kind of practice that makes people lose confidence in our political process. Therefore, I hope all Senators, Republicans and Democrats alike, will join me in my effort to knock this provision out.

Mr. DeWINE addressed the Chair.
THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Ohio is recognized.

FAMILY HOUR PROGRAMMING
Mr. DeWINE. Mr. President, earlier this week, the President of the United States gathered the TV networks together to work out a much-trumpeted agreement on quality TV programming for children. I certainly applaud the President’s efforts, and I am pleased that the media at least spotlight this important issue. But the sad fact remains that this new and improved agreement to bring quality programming to our children is really nothing more than a ratification of the status quo. In fact, the status quo of the major networks announced they already met this agreement. Another said that it is just barely short of compliance now.

So, essentially, the President has come out and said he approves of what the networks are already doing about quality programming; the status quo is OK.

Mr. President, as the father of eight children, and now the grandfather of three, let me just say that I do not approve of what they are doing. In fact, I find that some of what you see on television during the so-called family hour, from 8 to 9 o’clock at night, is absolutely outrageous today. I do not approve of it. I can say with assurance that parents I have talked to are clearly frustrated with television programming today. The last thing we want to say to the networks is, “Just keep on doing what you are doing.”

Parents do not want a measure that has a lot of fanfare and no substance. They want to do something real. Personally, I would like to be able to sit down after dinner with my 13-year-old daughter, Alice, or my 9-year-old son, Mark, or my 4-year-old daughter, Anna, and watch a half an hour or an hour of TV without having to always be in some sort of high state of alert for things that might not be appropriate for any one of them to see.

You know, Mr. President, it was not that many years ago that we did not have this problem. We could all watch TV with our children between 8 and 9 o’clock at night without having to worry about them. While every show between 8 and 9 wasn’t a great show, at least you could find one show between 8 and 9 o’clock at night that was appropriate for a child to watch with a parent.

Mr. President, I think we should take advantage of the attention that the White House has focused on this issue, and I think we should use it to call for some measures that really would make a difference.

Our distinguished colleague from Connecticut, Senator LIEBERMAN, has recently proposed a resolution that I think would do a great deal to accomplish this goal. His resolution would call upon the networks, on a strictly voluntary basis, to restore the idea of family hour programming. That, Mr. President, would make a real difference in the lives of America’s families. I would guess that, on this issue, my experience is not unique or unusual. Who among us—among all the parents in this country—has not been very worried about what their children might suddenly be exposed to on TV?

Just a few years ago, during the family hour, you did not have to do that. I am not talking about just the 1950’s or the 1960’s; I am talking about as recently as less than a decade ago. I think many of us in politics do not fully realize how much and how fast TV has changed just in the last few years. That is why I think my colleagues will be interested about seeing a comparison of the TV Guide listings for the hour between 8 and 9 o’clock as they have changed over the years.

I ask unanimous consent that this very interesting document be printed in the RECORD at the conclusion of my remarks, and I recommend it to the attention of my colleagues.

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

(See Exhibit 1.)

Mr. DeWINE. This was put together by Dan Wewers, a young man who interned in my office. He researched the TV Guides going back to 1954 and looked at a typical week. We take it every so many years, in 1954, in 1960, all the way up through July 14 through the 20th of 1996. People are not going to approve or like every program on here. They weren’t all great shows. But the point is, I think there were very few times where you could not at least find one program between 8 and 9 o’clock that was suitable to watch with your children.

Mr. President, the networks recognize, at least in principle, that they have a responsibility to the public. As parents and citizens, we have both the right and the duty to tell the networks what we think they should do—the little changes they can make that we believe will make a positive difference in the lives of our children and our families.

Scheduling 1 hour of programming in the early evening that is appropriate for parents to watch with their children would be a very big positive step, and it would be a great change from the status quo. That is why I support the Lieberman initiative, and I think my colleagues, if they look at the document I am submitting today, which I asked be printed in the RECORD, they will come to the same conclusion.

I think the President should talk to Senator LIEBERMAN about this idea. It is a good idea, and it would make a real difference.

I yield the floor.

EXHIBIT 1
FAMILY HOUR PROGRAMMING
(8:30-9:30 p.m.)
TV GUIDE LISTINGS
New York Metropolitan Area 1
Major Network Stations
(GBS, NBC, ABC, and FOX)
For the dates of:
APRIL 2-8, 1994

1 Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area
CBS Adventure
NBC High Chaparral
ABC Tales From Muppetland (Regularly, the Brady Bunch)
8:30 p.m.
CBS Hogan's Heroes
NBC Name of the Game
ABC Ghost/Mrs. Muir

WEEK OF APRIL 5-11, 1975
TV GUIDE
New York Metropolitan Area
Saturday, April 5, 1975
8:00 p.m.
CBS All in the Family
NBC Emergency!
ABC Kung Fu
8:30 p.m.
CBS The Jeffersons
Sunday, April 6, 1975
8:00 p.m.
CBS Cher—Variety
NBC World of Disney
ABC Jacques Cousteau—Documentary
8:30 p.m.
CBS Kojak—Crime Drama
NBC McCloud
ABC Movie—"Man in the Wilderness"—Ad-venture
Monday, April 7, 1975
8:00 p.m.
CBS Gunsmoke
NBC Carl Sandburg's Lincoln
ABC Rookies
Tuesday, April 8, 1975
8:00 p.m.
CBS Good Times—Comedy
NBC Adam-12
ABC Happy Days—Comedy
8:30 p.m.
CBS M*A*S*H
NBC Cavalcade of Champions Awards
ABC Movie—"Guess Who's Sleeping in My Bed?"
Wednesday, April 9, 1975
8:00 p.m.
CBS Tony Orlando and Dawn—Variety
NBC Little House on the Prairie—Drama
ABC That's My Mama—Comedy
8:30 p.m.
ABC Movie—"The Story of Pretty Boy Floyd"—Drama
Thursday, April 10, 1975
8:00 p.m.
CBS The Waltons
NBC Movie—"Conspiracy of Terror"—Comedy-Drama
ABC Barney Miller—Comedy
8:30 p.m.
ABC Karen—Comedy
Friday, April 11, 1975
8:00 p.m.
CBS Comedy Special—"Rosenthal and Jones"
NBC Sanford and Son
ABC Night Stalker—Drama
8:30 p.m.
CBS We'll Get By
NBC Chico and the Man—Comedy

WEEK OF APRIL 5-11,1980
TV GUIDE
New York Metropolitan Area
Saturday, April 5, 1980
8:00 p.m.
CBS Tim Conway—Variety
NBC B.J. and the Bear
ABC Easter Bunny is Comin to Town—Cartoon
Sunday, April 6, 1980
8:00 p.m.
CBS Archie Bunker's Place

NBC Chips—Crime Drama
ABC Movie—"The Ten Commandments"—Biography
8:30 p.m.
CBS One Day at a Time
Monday, April 7, 1980
8:00 p.m.
CBS WKRP in Cincinnati
NBC Little House on the Prairie
ABC That's Incredible
8:30 p.m.
CBS Stockard Channing
Tuesday, April 8, 1980
8:00 p.m.
CBS White Shadow
NBC Misadventures of Sheriff Lobo
ABC Happy Days
8:30 p.m.
ABC Laverne & Shirley
Wednesday, April 9, 1980
8:00 p.m.
CBS Movie—"A Boy Named Charlie Brown"—Cartoon
NBC Real People
ABC Eight is Enough
Thursday, April 10, 1980
8:00 p.m.
CBS Palmerstown, U.S.A.—Drama
NBC Buck Rogers in the 25th Century—Sci Fi
ABC Mork & Mindy
8:30 p.m.
CBS Benson—Comedy
Friday, April 11, 1980
8:00 p.m.
CBS Incredible Hulk
NBC Here's Boomer—Adventure
ABC When the Whistle Blows—Comedy
8:30 p.m.
ABC The Facts of Life

WEEK OF APRIL 6-12, 1985
TV GUIDE
New York Metropolitan Area
Saturday, April 6, 1985
8:00 p.m.
CBS Dafy Duck—Cartoon
NBC Diff'rent Strokes
ABC T.J. Hooker—Crime Drama
8:30 p.m.
CBS Bugs Bunny—Cartoon
NBC Gimme a Break!
Sunday, April 7, 1985
8:00 p.m.
CBS Murder, She Wrote—Mystery
NBC Movie—"Florence Nightingale"—Drama
ABC Movie—"Superman II"—Fantasy
Monday, April 8, 1985
8:00 p.m.
CBS Scarecrow and Mrs. King
NBC TV's Bloopers and Practical Jokes
ABC Hardcastle and McCormick—Crime Drama
Tuesday, April 9, 1985
8:00 p.m.
CBS Lucie Arnaz—Comedy
NBC A-Team
ABC Three's a Crowd
8:30 p.m.
CBS Movie—"Coal Miner's Daughter"—Biography
ABC Foul-ups, Bleeps & Blunders
Wednesday, April 10, 1985
8:00 p.m.
CBS Double Dare—Crime Drama
NBC Highway to Heaven—Drama
ABC Fall Guy
Thursday, April 11, 1985
8:00 p.m.
CBS Magnum, P.I.—Crime Drama
NBC Cosby Show

ABC Wildside—Western
8:30 p.m.
NBC Family Ties
Friday, April 12, 1985
8:00 p.m.
CBS Detective in the House—Mystery
NBC Knight Rider
ABC Webster
8:30 p.m.
ABC Mr. Belvedere—Comedy

WEEK OF APRIL 4-10, 1992
TV GUIDE
New York Metropolitan Area
Saturday, April 4, 1992
8:00 p.m.
CBS NCAA Basketball
NBC Golden Girls
FOX Cops
ABC Who's the Boss?
8:30 p.m.
NBC Powers That Be
FOX Cops
ABC Billy—Comedy

Sunday, April 5, 1992
8:00 p.m.
CBS Murder, She Wrote
NBC Man & Machine—Crime Drama
FOX ROC—Comedy
ABC Funniest Home Videos
8:30 p.m.
FOX In Living Color
ABC America's Funniest People
Monday, April 6, 1992
8:00 p.m.
CBS Evening Shade
NBC Fresh Prince
FOX Movie—"Night of the Comet"—Science Fiction
ABC FBI—The Untold Stories
8:30 p.m.
CBS Major Dad
NBC Blossom
ABC American Detective

Tuesday, April 7, 1992
8:00 p.m.
CBS Rescue 911
NBC In the Heat of the Night—Crime Drama
FOX Movie—"Tough Enough"—Drama
ABC Full House
8:30 p.m.
ABC Home Improvement

Wednesday, April 8, 1992
8:00 p.m.
CBS Royal Family
NBC Unsolved Mysteries
FOX Movie—"All the Right Moves"—Drama
ABC Wonder Years
8:30 p.m.
CBS Davis Rules
ABC Doogie Howser
Thursday, April 9, 1992
8:00 p.m.
CBS Top Cops
NBC Cosby Show
FOX Simpsons
ABC Columbo
8:30 p.m.
ABC Different World
FOX Drexel's Class

Friday, April 10, 1992
8:00 p.m.
CBS Tequila and Bonetti—Crime Drama
NBC Matlock
FOX America's Most Wanted
ABC Family Matters
8:30 p.m.
ABC Step by Step

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE August 2, 1996
HEALTH CARE REFORM

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I rise today to discuss for a few moments what will, hopefully, be before the Senate before too long. Also, I will make some comments with respect to the antiarthritic drug, Lodine. I am particularly pleased that the Senate will have a chance to vote shortly on the Kassebaum-Kennedy legislation, because breaking this political logjam on health care reform means that millions of Americans who are stuck in jobs because they have a preexisting health problem will have a new margin of health security and economic freedom.

This legislation is good for American families. It is good for our workers and our business. What it means is that fear of losing critical health insurance coverage would be a roadblock on the road to a better job and a better life. I want to applaud the bipartisan efforts of the Senate conferences, particularly Senator KENNEDY, Senator KASSEBAUM, and Senator BREAUx, who put long and hard service into this legislation, and it will be an important step forward when adopted.

Besides guaranteeing portability of health insurance coverage, this legislation contains little-noticed provisions that I think are going to make a great difference with respect to expanding health insurance coverage. This legislation, to the bipartisan credit of those Senate leaders, protects State flexibility with respect to State health insurance reforms. States like mine are going to have an important role in health care reform, and it is essential that we not turn out the laboratories at the State level with unnecessary Federal restrictions.

Senators KASSEBAUM and KENNEDY worked very closely with me so that the exemption language in this legislation will allow Oregon’s humane, rational, and far-reaching health insurance reforms. States like mine are laboratories for health care reform, and we are going to have an important role to play.

And it is essential that we not turn out the laboratories at the State level with unnecessary Federal restrictions. Senators KASSEBAUM and KENNEDY worked very closely with me so that the exemption language in this legislation will allow Oregon’s humane, rational, and far-reaching health insurance reforms. States like mine are laboratories for health care reform, and we are going to have an important role to play.

Mr. President, there are features of this bill and provisions that were not included that I think are unfortunate. During this debate, I have expressed concern about the possibility of some vulnerable Americans being left behind if medical savings accounts become widespread. Every Senator should want to oppose the balkanization of medicine, where the young, the healthy, and the wealthy get good affordable health coverage at the expense of the sickest, the young and the elderly. It is appropriate to test out the MSA concept, however, and I do believe this conference report offers a reasonable compromise in the form of a limited MSA demonstration project.

I join Senator DOMENICI and Senator wellstone and many of my colleagues in mourning the loss of mental health parity in this legislation. Parity, in my view, is not just fair, it is good health care policy that saves health care dollars in the long run by assuring quality medical care to the elderly. I do not intend to vote against a good, bipartisan bill because of the loss of one provision, but I intend to join with colleagues of both parties to make sure that mental health parity is an issue revisited early in the next Congress.

Finally, as happens often in large conference reports, a few stray cats and dogs find some homes. This bill is no exception. I am going to spend a moment about a mongrel in this bill that seems to have a pretty bad case of fleas. There is a provision in this legislation that would give the antiarthritic prescription drug Lodine a 2-year patent extension. Supporters of this idea first tried to maneuver it into the 1997 agriculture appropriations bill in the House. It is now in this legislation, page 76, subittle H.

This is a bad idea, in my view, and it certainly should not be a part of an important bipartisan health reform bill. Lodine has already received one extension under the terms of the 1984 Hatch-Waxman amendments allowing for additional patent life on drugs which become involved in long regulatory approval delays. With that extension, the drug’s manufacturers have built sales of $274 million. Many of these purchasers are seniors. Many of those who buy this anti-inflammatory drug are elderly people on a tightrope, balancing their food costs against their fuel costs, their fuel costs against their medical bills, and they are paying for this drug, many of them, out of their pocket.

Mr. President, if Lodine’s current extension is allowed to run out in 1997, this drug likely would get a generic competitor, and those consumers, those vulnerable older people would get a price break as a result of the competition. They are not going to get that break with this extension. I think it is unwise for the Senate to take more money out of the pockets of older people in this fashion. There have not been any congressional hearings, have not been any deliberations to look at any public purpose served by another 2-year extension of the Lodine patent. I think granting this extension creates a poor precedent. I am sorry to see this provision in this bill. It is a good bill, a bipartisan bill that needs to be enacted, but it is wrong to have this special-interest provision in this legislation.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. BAUCUS addressed the Chair.

THE PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Montana.

MISSOURI WATER RAID OF 1996

Mr. BAUCUS. Mr. President, in the past 2 years, the House of Representatives has made some good decisions, but I must say they have also made some rather questionable ones that is, from the two Government shutdowns not too long ago to the attempted cuts in school lunches, Medicare, and college loans. I think it left a lot of us not only in the Senate but across the country shaking our heads. But the great water raid they pulled off under...