

S. RES. 305

Whereas Stuttgart, Arkansas, with its flooded rice and soybean fields, is located in the heart of the Mississippi River flyway for migratory birds;

Whereas for the past 60 years, the World's Championship Duck Calling Contest and the Wings Over the Prairie Festival have attracted waterfowl enthusiasts from around the world to come to Stuttgart, Arkansas, on Thanksgiving Day weekend;

Whereas the first national duck calling contest was held on November 24, 1936, as part of the traditional Rice Carnival in downtown Stuttgart;

Whereas Thomas E. Walsh of Greenville, Mississippi, was the first national duck calling contest champion, and was awarded a hunting coat valued at \$6.60 for his achievement;

Whereas today, the World's Championship Duck Calling Contest draws contestants from throughout the United States and Canada, with a first place prize package valued at over \$15,000;

Whereas in order to enter the World's Championship Duck Calling Contest a contestant must qualify by winning a World's Championship Duck Calling Contest sanctioned calling contest, which are held in 29 states;

Whereas over the history of the World's Championship Duck Calling Contest attendance at the event has steadily grown; the number of participants has jumped from 10,000 in 1954, to 50,000 in 1992, to 65,000 in 1995; Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate designates Saturday, November 30, 1996, as "National Duck Calling Day". The President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe such day with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

#### AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

#### THE AMOS F. LONGORIA POST OFFICE BUILDING DESIGNATION ACT OF 1996

##### PRYOR AMENDMENT NO. 5413

Mr. GREGG (for Mr. PRYOR) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 2700) to designate the United States Post Office building located at 7980 FM 327, Elmen-dorf, Texas, as the "Amos F. Longoria Post Office Building"; as follows:

On page 2, insert after line 9 the following new section:

##### SEC. 2. INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Paragraph (3) of section 3626(b) of title 39, United States Code, is amended by striking the period and inserting ", and includes a nonprofit organization that coordinates a network of college-level courses that is sponsored primarily by nonprofit educational institutions for an older adult constituency."

#### THE VETERANS' HEALTH CARE ELIGIBILITY REFORM ACT OF 1996

##### SIMPSON (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 5414

Mr. NICKLES (for Mr. SIMPSON, for himself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. MURKOWSKI, and Mr. WELLSTONE) proposed an

amendment to the bill (H.R. 3118) to amend title 38, United States Code, to reform eligibility for health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs; as follows:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

##### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Veterans' Health Care Eligibility Reform Act of 1996".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. References to title 38, United States Code.

##### TITLE I—ELIGIBILITY REFORM

Sec. 101. Eligibility for hospital care and medical services.

Sec. 102. Revision in authorities for provision of priority health care for certain veterans exposed to specified toxic substances.

Sec. 103. Prosthetics and preventive care.

Sec. 104. Management of health care.

Sec. 105. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 106. Assessment of implementation and operation.

##### TITLE II—CONSTRUCTION AUTHORIZATION

Sec. 201. Authorization of major medical facility projects.

Sec. 202. Authorization of major medical facility leases.

Sec. 203. Authorization of appropriations.

Sec. 204. Strategic planning.

Sec. 205. Revision to prospectus requirements.

Sec. 206. Construction authorization requirements.

Sec. 207. Terminology changes.

##### TITLE III—HEALTH CARE AND ADMINISTRATION

###### Subtitle A—Health Care Sharing and Administration

Sec. 301. Revision of authority to share medical facilities, equipment, and information.

Sec. 302. Improved efficiency in health care resource management.

Sec. 303. Personnel furnishing shared resources.

Sec. 304. Waiting period for administrative reorganizations.

Sec. 305. Repeal of limitations on contracts for conversion of performance of activities of Department health-care facilities and revised annual reporting requirement.

###### Subtitle B—Care of Women Veterans

Sec. 321. Mammography quality standards.

Sec. 322. Patient privacy for women patients.

Sec. 323. Assessment of use by women veterans of Department health services.

Sec. 324. Reporting requirements.

###### Subtitle C—Readjustment Counseling and Mental Health Care

Sec. 331. Expansion of eligibility for readjustment counseling and certain related counseling services.

Sec. 332. Reports relating to Vet Centers.

Sec. 333. Advisory Committee on the Readjustment of Veterans.

Sec. 334. Centers for mental illness research, education, and clinical activities.

Sec. 335. Committee on Care of Severely Chronically Mentally Ill Veterans.

###### Subtitle D—Other Provisions

Sec. 341. Hospice care study.

Sec. 342. Payment to States of per diem for veterans receiving adult day health care.

Sec. 343. Research corporations.

Sec. 344. Veterans Health Administration headquarters.

Sec. 345. Disbursement agreements relating to medical residents and interns.

Sec. 346. Authority to suspend special pay agreements for physicians and dentists who enter residency training programs.

Sec. 347. Remunerated outside professional activities by Veterans Health Administration personnel.

Sec. 348. Modification of restrictions on real property, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin.

Sec. 349. Modification of restrictions on real property, Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Sec. 350. Name of Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Johnson City, Tennessee.

Sec. 351. Report on health care needs of veterans in east central Florida.

Sec. 352. Evaluation of health status of spouses and children of Persian Gulf War veterans.

##### SEC. 2. REFERENCES TO TITLE 38, UNITED STATES CODE.

Except as otherwise expressly provided, whenever in this Act an amendment or repeal is expressed in terms of an amendment to or repeal of a section or other provision, the reference shall be considered to be made to a section or other provision of title 38, United States Code.

##### TITLE I—ELIGIBILITY REFORM

##### SEC. 101. ELIGIBILITY FOR HOSPITAL CARE AND MEDICAL SERVICES.

(a) NEW CRITERIA FOR ELIGIBILITY FOR CARE.—Section 1710(a) is amended to read as follows:

"(a)(1) The Secretary (subject to paragraph (4)) shall furnish hospital care and medical services, and may furnish nursing home care, which the Secretary determines to be needed—

"(A) to any veteran for a service-connected disability; and

"(B) to any veteran who has a service-connected disability rated at 50 percent or more.

"(2) The Secretary (subject to paragraph (4)) shall furnish hospital care and medical services, and may furnish nursing home care, which the Secretary determines to be needed to any veteran—

"(A) who has a compensable service-connected disability rated less than 50 percent;

"(B) whose discharge or release from active military, naval, or air service was for a compensable disability that was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty;

"(C) who is in receipt of, or who, but for a suspension pursuant to section 1151 of this title (or both a suspension and the receipt of retired pay), would be entitled to disability compensation, but only to the extent that such veteran's continuing eligibility for such care is provided for in the judgment or settlement provided for in such section;

"(D) who is a former prisoner of war;

"(E) who is a veteran of the Mexican border period or of World War I;

"(F) who was exposed to a toxic substance, radiation, or environmental hazard, as provided in subsection (e); or

"(G) who is unable to defray the expenses of necessary care as determined under section 1722(a) of this title.

"(3) In the case of a veteran who is not described in paragraphs (1) and (2), the Secretary may, to the extent resources and facilities are available and subject to the provisions of subsections (f) and (g), furnish hospital care, medical services, and nursing