

such requirement is consistent with terms and conditions applicable to other inpatient benefits under the plan, except that the provision of such inpatient stay benefits shall not be contingent upon such notification.

“(e) PROHIBITIONS.—A group health plan, and a health insurance issuer offering group health insurance coverage in connection with a group health plan, may not—

“(1) deny to a woman eligibility, or continued eligibility, to enroll or to renew coverage under the terms of the plan, solely for the purpose of avoiding the requirements of this section;

“(2) provide monetary payments or rebates to individuals to encourage such individuals to accept less than the minimum protections available under this section;

“(3) penalize or otherwise reduce or limit the reimbursement of an attending provider because such provider provided care to an individual participant or beneficiary in accordance with this section;

“(4) provide incentives (monetary or otherwise) to an attending provider to induce such provider to provide care to an individual participant or beneficiary in a manner inconsistent with this section;

“(5) provide financial or other incentives to a physician or specialist to induce the physician or specialist to refrain from referring a participant or beneficiary for a secondary consultation that would otherwise be covered by the plan or coverage involved; and

“(6) subject to subsection (f)(3), restrict benefits for any portion of a period within a hospital length of stay required under subsection (a) in a manner which is less favorable than the benefits provided for any preceding portion of such stay.

“(f) RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a woman who is a participant or beneficiary—

“(A) to undergo a mastectomy or lymph node dissection in a hospital; or

“(B) to stay in the hospital for a fixed period of time following a mastectomy or lymph node dissection.

“(2) LIMITATION.—This section shall not apply with respect to any group health plan, or any group health insurance coverage offered by a health insurance issuer, which does not provide benefits for hospital lengths of stay in connection with a mastectomy or lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer.

“(3) COST SHARING.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing a group health plan or issuer from imposing deductibles, coinsurance, or other cost-sharing in relation to benefits for hospital lengths of stay in connection with a mastectomy or lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer under the plan (or under health insurance coverage offered in connection with a group health plan), except that such coinsurance or other cost-sharing for any portion of a period within a hospital length of stay required under subsection (a) may not be greater than such coinsurance or cost-sharing for any preceding portion of such stay.

“(4) LEVEL AND TYPE OF REIMBURSEMENTS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent a group health plan or a health insurance issuer offering group health insurance coverage from negotiating the level and type of reimbursement with a provider for care provided in accordance with this section.

“(g) SAFE HARBORS.—The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to any group health plan or health insurance issuer in connection with a group health plan for any plan year for which such plan has voluntarily sought and received certification from

the National Cancer Institute, or any similar entity authorized by the Secretary, that such plan provides appropriate coverage, consistent with the objectives of this section, for mastectomies, lumpectomies and lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer.

“(h) PREEMPTION, RELATION TO STATE LAWS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section may be construed to prohibit a State from establishing, implementing or continuing in effect any standard or requirement not prohibited by this section unless such standard or requirement is inconsistent with, in conflict with, or prevents the application of a standard or requirement of this section. With respect to a standard or requirement that is directly or indirectly prohibited by this section, a State may not establish, implement or continue in effect any requirement or standard that is different from or in addition to, or that is not otherwise identical with, or does not provide patient protections similar to, the standards or requirements established under this section.

“(2) PREEMPTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect or modify the provisions of section 514 of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 with respect to group health plans.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Sections 9801(c)(1), 9805(b) (as redesignated by subsection (a)), 9805(c) (as so redesignated), 4980D(c)(3)(B)(i)(1), 4980D(d)(3), and 4980D(f)(1) of such Code are each amended by striking “9805” each place it appears and inserting “9806”.

(2) The heading for subtitle K of such Code is amended to read as follows:

“**Subtitle K—Group Health Plan Portability, Access, Renewability, and Other Requirements**”.

(3) The heading for chapter 100 of such Code is amended to read as follows:

“**CHAPTER 100—GROUP HEALTH PLAN PORTABILITY, ACCESS, RENEWABILITY, AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS**”.

(4) Section 4980D(a) of such Code is amended by striking “and renewability” and inserting “renewability, and other”.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The table of contents for chapter 100 of such Code is amended by redesignating the items relating to sections 9804, 9805, and 9806 as items relating to sections 9805, 9806, and 9807, and by inserting after the item relating to section 9803 the following new item:

“Sec. 9804. Required coverage for minimum hospital stay for mastectomies and lymph node dissections for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for reconstructive surgery following mastectomies.”.

(2) The item relating to subtitle K in the table of subtitles for such Code is amended by striking “and renewability” and inserting “renewability, and other”.

(3) The item relating to chapter 100 in the table of chapters for subtitle K of such Code is amended by striking “and renewability” and inserting “renewability, and other”.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to plan years beginning on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS.—In the case of a group health plan maintained pursuant to 1 or more collective bargaining agreements between employee representatives and 1 or more employers ratified before the date of enactment of this Act, the amendments made by this section shall not apply to plan years beginning before the later of—

(A) the date on which the last collective bargaining agreements relating to the plan terminates (determined without regard to any extension thereof agreed to after the date of enactment of this Act), or

(B) January 1, 1999.

For purposes of subparagraph (A), any plan amendment made pursuant to a collective bargaining agreement relating to the plan which amends the plan solely to conform to any requirement added by this section shall not be treated as a termination of such collective bargaining agreement.

## NOTICES OF HEARINGS

### SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, April 30, 1998 at 2 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on title IV of S. 1693, a bill to renew, reform, reinvigorate, and protect the National Park System, and S. 624, a bill to establish a competitive process for the awarding of concession contracts in units of the National Park System, and for other purposes.

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 should send two copies of their testimony to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the subcommittee staff at (202) 224-5161 or Shawn Taylor at (202) 224-6969.

### SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

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The hearing will take place on Thursday, April 30, 1998 at 2 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on titles VI, VII, VIII, and XI of S. 1693, a bill to renew, reform, reinvigorate, and protect the National Park System.

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 should send two copies of their testimony to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a hearing has been scheduled before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation.

The hearing will take place on Thursday, May 14, 1998 at 2 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive testimony on titles IX and X of S. 1693, a bill to renew, reform, reinvigorate, and protect the National Park System, and S. 1614, a bill to require a permit for the making of motion picture, television program, or other forms of commercial visual depiction in a unit of the National Park System or National Wildlife Refuge System.

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 should send two copies of their testimony to the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation and Recreation, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, United States Senate, 364 Dirksen Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20510-6150.

For further information, please contact Jim O'Toole of the subcommittee staff at (202) 224-5161 or Shawn Taylor at (202) 224-6969.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Committee to meet on Wednesday, March 18, 1998, at 10 a.m. for a hearing on the topic of "oversight of the Implementation of the Vacancies Act."

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

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 18, 1998 at 10:30 a.m. in room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building to hold a hearing on "Judicial Nominations."

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

COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Rules and Administration be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 18, 1998 beginning at 9:30 a.m. until business is completed, to conduct an oversight hearing on the fiscal year 1999 budget and operations of the Smithso-

nian Institution, the Kennedy Center, and the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

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

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate for a hearing entitled "The President's Fiscal Year 1999 Budget Request for the Small Business Administration." The hearing will begin at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 1998, in room 428A Russell Senate Office Building.

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

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs would like to request unanimous consent to hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to receive the legislative presentation of the Disabled American Veterans. The hearing will be held on March 18, 1998, at 9:30 a.m., in room 345 of the Cannon House Office Building.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ACQUISITION AND TECHNOLOGY

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Acquisition and Technology of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 1998, in open session, to review the status of acquisition reform in the Department of Defense.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Communications of the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee be authorized to meet on Wednesday, March 18, 1998, on Wall Street view of Telecommunications Act.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL SERVICES AND TECHNOLOGY

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Financial Services and Technology of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 18, 1998, to conduct a hearing on the Office of Thrift Supervision's Year 2000 preparedness.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY, EXPORT AND TRADE PROMOTION

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Wednesday, March 18, 1998, at 10 a.m. to hold a hearing.

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY, PROLIFERATION, AND FEDERAL SERVICES

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent on behalf of the Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation, and Federal Services to meet on Wednesday, March 18, 1998 at 2 p.m. for a hearing on "The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and Nuclear Nonproliferation".

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

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PERSONNEL

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Subcommittee on Personnel of the Committee on Armed Services be authorized to meet on Wednesday, March 18, 1998, at 2 p.m. in open session, to receive testimony on active and reserve military and civilian personnel programs and the service safety programs in review of the Defense authorization request for fiscal year 1999 and the Future Years Defense Program.

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

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

THE RETIREMENT OF CIA INSPECTOR GENERAL FRED HITZ

● Mr. GLENN. Mr. President, I rise to pay tribute to Fred Hitz, who will soon be retiring from his position as CIA Inspector General. I have known Fred since he worked in the Department of Energy's congressional affairs' office in the 1970's, and I have gotten to know Fred particularly well since he became the first statutory CIA Inspector General in November of 1990. As Fred heads off to teach at Princeton University—his alma mater, I would simply note that the CIA's loss will be Princeton's gain.

As the first statutory CIA IG, all of Fred's moves have been relentlessly scrutinized as his mission was often met with a great deal of apprehension. Fred was faced with the significant challenge of establishing an internal, yet independent, oversight mechanism within the CIA that served the DCI, and had certain responsibilities to the Congressional oversight committees. Over seven years later, because of Fred Hitz's tenacity, integrity, and respect for the Central Intelligence Agency, the CIA Office of Inspector General has matured, and today provides the effective, professional oversight that Congress intended when the CIA IG Act was passed in 1989. This has been no small achievement.

In over 7 years of service as the CIA IG, Fred Hitz and his office have generated hundreds of quality products, and have advanced the national security of the United States by demonstrably improving the efficiency and effectiveness of this important agency. Fred has overseen the conduct of increasingly sophisticated and highly