

of access and affordability, our bill requires an annual report to Congress on how federal programs are responding to improve the health status of Hispanic individuals with respect to diabetes, cancer, asthma, HIV infection, AIDS, substance abuse, and mental health. The bill provides \$100 million for targeted diabetes prevention, education, school-based programs, and screening activities in the Hispanic community.

In addition, the legislation specifically addresses the problems facing communities along the U.S.-Mexico border, a 2,000-mile stretch of land that contains 11 million people, 5 of the 7 poorest metropolitan statistical areas in the country, and disease rates in some areas that are extraordinary. If the region were a state, the border would rank 1st in the number of uninsured, last in terms of per capita income, and 1st in a number of diseases.

As Dr. Francisco Cigarroa, president of the University of Texas Health Sciences Center at San Antonio, noted in testimony at the hearing last year on Hispanic health, "Germs respect no INS regulations. We truly must work with our neighbors to the South if we are to avoid a major influx of new conditions and diseases. It can be seen so clearly on a map. Just as there are 'rivers of commerce' there are 'rivers of infectious disease' and though they may start at the Border, they are eventually seen all the way to the northern Border that we share with Canada."

In response, the bill provides \$200 million to border communities to improve health services and infrastructure along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The numbers I have cited thus far indicate what we do know. Almost as much of a concern is what we do not know with respect to the status of Hispanic health in this Nation. According to one study, only 22 percent of all articles published in major medical journals included non-English-speaking patients.

The bill provides funding to do additional research and work on reducing health disparities in this Nation. The various provisions include efforts to improve the recruitment and retention of Hispanic health professionals and programs that support training health professionals who can provide culturally competent and linguistically appropriate care. With respect to training more minority health professionals, Dr. Cigarroa said at last year's hearing, "We should do this because it is the smart thing to do. If we fail to take steps to address the gap between the health of the majority population and the health of the Nation's rapidly growing minority populations, we are on a court leading to a collision. We are far too great a nation to allow this to happen."

Representative CIRO RODRIGUEZ, chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, and I, have worked together on this legislation to respond to the challenge before us with regard to coverage, access, and health disparities

in the last Congress and have reintroduced the bill with the hope to move it forward this year.

Before closing, it should be noted that while the legislation puts forth a number of initiatives to address what are disproportionately Hispanic problems, each section of the bill, including those to reduce the number of uninsured and to improve access to care, would improve the overall health of our entire Nation regardless of race or ethnicity.

I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

(The bill was not available at time of printing.)

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 154—EX- PRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE SENATE OF UNITED STATES EF- FORTS IN THE WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION TO END THE UN- WARRANTED MORATORIUM IM- POSED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION ON THE APPROVAL OF AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS

Mr. TALENT (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. BOND, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BUNNING, and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 154

Whereas agricultural biotechnology is subject to the strictest Federal review in the United States, based on sound science, by the Department of Agriculture, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Food and Drug Administration prior to planting and human consumption;

Whereas agricultural biotechnology has made considerable contributions to the protection of the environment by creating an environment more hospitable to wildlife and reducing the application of pesticides by 46,000,000 pounds in 2001 alone;

Whereas agricultural biotechnology holds tremendous promise for greatly increasing the world's supply of nutritious and wholesome foods which will improve the quality of life and health in the developing world;

Whereas there is objective and experience-based consensus in the international scientific community, including the National Academy of Sciences, the American Medical Association, the Royal Society of London, the French Academy of Medicine, the French Academy of Sciences, the Brazilian Academy of Sciences, the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the Indian National Science Academy, and the Mexican Academy of Science, that agricultural biotechnology is safe;

Whereas policy decisions regarding agricultural biotechnology in the European Union are being driven by politics and not by sound science;

Whereas since the late 1990s, the European Union has pursued policies that shelter its markets from competition by opposing the use of agricultural biotechnology;

Whereas agricultural biotechnology policies of the European Union have frustrated the development of modern scientific tools

and plant technology that could expand the production of indigenous food products by addressing problems related to local pests, weather conditions, and vitamin deficiencies;

Whereas since its implementation in October 1998, the moratorium has blocked more than \$300,000,000 annually in United States corn exports to countries in the European Union;

Whereas the European Union's unjustified moratorium on agricultural biotechnology approvals has ramifications far beyond the United States and Europe, forcing a slowdown in the adoption and acceptance of beneficial biotechnology to the detriment of farmers and consumers around the world, and especially to starving people in the developing world;

Whereas in the fall of 2002, famine-stricken African countries rejected healthy, wholesome, United States humanitarian offers of food aid because of ill-informed health and environmental concerns and fears that future exports to Europe would be jeopardized; and

Whereas the 5-year moratorium on the approval of new agricultural biotechnology products entering the European market is not science based, effectively prohibits most United States corn exports to Europe, violates European Union law, and clearly breaches the rules of the World Trade Organization: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports and applauds the efforts of the Administration on behalf of the Nation's farmers challenging the long-standing, unwarranted moratorium imposed by the European Union on the approval of agricultural biotechnology products and encourages the President to continue to press this issue at the G-8 Summit in Evian, France, on June 1 through 3, 2003.

SENATE RESOLUTION 155—PRO- TECTING SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFICIARIES FROM COLA CUTS

Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLARD, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. BAUCUS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. BOND, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. BREAUX, Mr. BROWNBACK, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BURNS, Mr. BYRD, Mr. CAMPBELL, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. CARPER, Mr. CHAFEE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COLEMAN, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. CRAIG, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. DAYTON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. DODD, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ENSIGN, Mr. ENZI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. FITZGERALD, Mr. FRIST, Mr. GRAHAM of Florida, Mr. GRAHAM of South Carolina, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. GREGG, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. HATCH, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mrs. HUTCHISON, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. INOUE, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. KYL, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mrs. LINCOLN, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. MILLER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. NELSON of Nebraska, Mr. NICKLES, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. REED, Mr. REID, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. SANTORUM, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr.