

Clearly, VA needs to do more in the area of long-term care. On May 22 of this year, at the request of the Senate and House Committees on Veterans Affairs, the General Accounting Office (GAO) issued the report VA Long-Term Care: Service Gaps and Facility Restrictions Limit Veterans' Access to Noninstitutional Care. GAO found that "VA's lack of emphasis on increasing access to noninstitutional long-term care services has contributed to service gaps and individual facility restrictions that limit access to care." The report made several recommendations to VA, including that they "refine current performance measures to help ensure that all VA facilities provide veterans with access to required non-institutional services."

In fiscal year 2002, VA served about 36 percent of its long-term care workload in non-institutional settings, yet, that same year, non-institutional care accounted for just 9 percent of VA's long-term care expenditures. Clearly a move from traditional institutional care is wise. The assisted living pilot program goes far in helping VA address these problems and meet the goals set out for them by GAO.

While the assisted living pilot in VISN 20 does not expire until October 2004, I am convinced that veterans in that part of the country are benefitting from the approach. The legislation I introduce today would expand the pilot program to three additional networks, for three additional years. Why should the rest of the Nation be prevented from reaping the benefits of such a practical, cost-effective program?

Both veterans and VA employees affiliated with the program have praised what it has to offer. They believe that it fills an important gap for those who require care but do not need nor want to go to a nursing home. We must expand this program that provides such deserved care to our Nation's veterans, allowing them to maintain both their health and their self-respect.

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:

S. 1572

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. EXPANSION OF PILOT PROGRAM OF DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ON ASSISTED LIVING FOR VETERANS.

Section 103(b) of the Veterans Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act (Public Law 106-117; 113 Stat. 1552; 38 U.S.C. 1710B note) is amended—

(1) by striking "LOCATION OF PILOT PROGRAM.—" and inserting "LOCATIONS OF PILOT PROGRAM.—(1)"; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(2)(A) In the addition to the health care region of the Department selected for the pilot program under paragraph (1), the Secretary may also carry out the pilot program in not more than three additional designated

health care regions of the Department selected by the Secretary for purposes of this section.

"(B) Notwithstanding subsection (f), the authority of the Secretary to provide services under the pilot program in a health care region of the Department selected under subparagraph (A) shall cease on the date that is three years after the commencement of the provision of services under the pilot program in the health care region."

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION—COM-MENDING MICHAEL J. MCGHEE, KEEPER OF THE STATIONERY, UNITED STATES SENATE

Mr. FRIST (for himself and Mr. DASCHLE) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 218

Whereas the Senate recognizes that its Keeper of the Stationery, Michael J. McGhee, retired on August 29, 2003;

Whereas Michael J. McGhee became an employee of the Senate in August 1974, and since that date has ably and faithfully upheld the high standards and traditions of the Senate for a period that included 16 Congresses;

Whereas Michael J. McGhee has served with distinction as Keeper of the Stationery, and at all times has discharged the important duties and responsibilities of his office with dedication and excellence; and

Whereas Michael J. McGhee's exceptional service and his unflinching dedication have earned him the esteem and affection of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) commends Michael J. McGhee for his exemplary service to the Senate and the Nation;

(2) wishes to express its deep appreciation for his long, faithful and outstanding service; and

(3) extends its very best wishes upon his retirement.

SEC. 2. That the Secretary of the Senate shall transmit a copy of this resolution to Michael J. McGhee.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 63—AUTHORIZING THE USE OF THE ROTUNDA OF THE CAPITOL FOR THE UNVEILING OF THE PORTRAIT BUST OF VICE PRESIDENT DAN QUAYLE ON SEPTEMBER 10, 2003

Mr. LOTT submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. CON. RES. 63

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration is authorized to use the rotunda of the Capitol for the unveiling of the portrait bust of Vice President Dan Quayle on September 10, 2003. The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board shall take such action as may be necessary with respect to physical preparations and security for the ceremony.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 1542. Mr. SPECTER proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2660, making appropria-

tions for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes.

SA 1543. Mr. BYRD proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1542 proposed by Mr. SPECTER to the bill H.R. 2660, supra.

SA 1544. Mr. AKAKA (for himself, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. CORZINE, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. DODD, and Ms. STABENOW) proposed an amendment to amendment SA 1542 proposed by Mr. SPECTER to the bill H.R. 2660, supra.

SA 1545. Mr. NELSON of Florida submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 1542 proposed by Mr. SPECTER to the bill H.R. 2660, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 1546. Mr. DeWINE (for Mr. SHELBY) proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 659, to amend section 242 of the National Housing Act regarding the requirements for mortgage insurance under such Act for hospitals.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 1542. Mr. SPECTER proposed an amendment to the bill H.R. 2660, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes; as follows:

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES

For necessary expenses of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, including the purchase and hire of passenger motor vehicles, the construction, alteration, and repair of buildings and other facilities, and the purchase of real property for training centers as authorized by the Workforce Investment Act of 1998; \$2,652,588,000 plus reimbursements, of which \$1,631,407,000 is available for obligation for the period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005; of which \$1,000,965,000 is available for obligation for the period April 1, 2004 through June 30, 2005, to carry out chapter 4 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998; and of which \$20,216,000 is available for the period July 1, 2004 through June 30, 2007 for necessary expenses of construction, rehabilitation, and acquisition of Job Corps centers: *Provided*, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, of the funds provided herein under section 137(c) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, \$276,608,000 shall be for activities described in section 132(a)(2)(A) of such Act and \$1,155,152,000 shall be for activities described in section 132(a)(2)(B) of such Act: *Provided further*, That \$9,039,000 shall be for carrying out section 172 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998: *Provided further*, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law or related regulation, \$77,330,000 shall be for carrying out section 167 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, including \$72,213,000 for formula grants, \$4,610,000 for migrant and seasonal housing, and \$507,000 for other discretionary purposes: *Provided further*, That \$4,609,840 appropriated under this heading in Public Law 108-7 for migrant and seasonal housing under section 167 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 and available for obligation for the period July 1, 2003