

“(I) the public health officer shall, on behalf of the designated officer involved, resubmit the request to the medical facility; and

“(II) the medical facility shall provide to the designated officer the appropriate response under subsection (c).

“SEC. 2695C. PROCEDURES FOR NOTIFICATION OF EXPOSURE.

“(a) CONTENTS OF NOTIFICATION TO OFFICER.—In making a notification required under section 2695A or section 2695B(d)(2), a medical facility shall provide—

“(1) the name of the infectious disease involved; and

“(2) the date on which the victim of the emergency involved was transported by emergency response employees to the medical facility involved.

“(b) MANNER OF NOTIFICATION.—If a notification under section 2695A or section 2695B(d)(2) is mailed or otherwise indirectly made—

“(1) the medical facility sending the notification shall, upon sending the notification, inform the designated officer to whom the notification is sent of the fact that the notification has been sent; and

“(2) such designated officer shall, not later than 10 days after being informed by the medical facility that the notification has been sent, inform such medical facility whether the designated officer has received the notification.

“SEC. 2695D. NOTIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—After receiving a notification for purposes of section 2695A or 2695B(d)(2), a designated officer of emergency response employees shall, to the extent practicable, immediately notify each of such employees who—

“(1) responded to the emergency involved; and

“(2) as indicated by guidelines developed by the Secretary, may have been exposed to an infectious disease.

“(b) CERTAIN CONTENTS OF NOTIFICATION TO EMPLOYEE.—A notification under this subsection to an emergency response employee shall inform the employee of—

“(1) the fact that the employee may have been exposed to an infectious disease and the name of the disease involved;

“(2) any action by the employee that, as indicated by guidelines developed by the Secretary, is medically appropriate; and

“(3) if medically appropriate under such criteria, the date of such emergency.

“(c) RESPONSES OTHER THAN NOTIFICATION OF EXPOSURE.—After receiving a response under paragraph (3) or (4) of subsection (d) of section 2695B, or a response under subsection (g)(1) of such section, the designated officer for the employee shall, to the extent practicable, immediately inform the employee of the response.

“SEC. 2695E. SELECTION OF DESIGNATED OFFICERS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—For the purposes of receiving notifications and responses and making requests under this part on behalf of emergency response employees, the public health officer of each State shall designate 1 official or officer of each employer of emergency response employees in the State.

“(b) PREFERENCE IN MAKING DESIGNATIONS.—In making the designations required in subsection (a), a public health officer shall give preference to individuals who are trained in the provision of health care or in the control of infectious diseases.

“SEC. 2695F. LIMITATION WITH RESPECT TO DUTIES OF MEDICAL FACILITIES.

“The duties established in this part for a medical facility—

“(1) shall apply only to medical information possessed by the facility during the period in which the facility is treating the vic-

tim for conditions arising from the emergency, or during the 60-day period beginning on the date on which the victim is transported by emergency response employees to the facility, whichever period expires first; and

“(2) shall not apply to any extent after the expiration of the 30-day period beginning on the expiration of the applicable period referred to in paragraph (1), except that such duties shall apply with respect to any request under section 2695B(c) received by a medical facility before the expiration of such 30-day period.

“SEC. 2695G. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS.

“(a) LIABILITY OF MEDICAL FACILITIES, DESIGNATED OFFICERS, PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS, AND GOVERNING ENTITIES.—This part may not be construed to authorize any cause of action for damages or any civil penalty against any medical facility, any designated officer, any other public health officer, or any governing entity of such facility or officer for failure to comply with the duties established in this part.

“(b) TESTING.—This part may not, with respect to victims of emergencies, be construed to authorize or require a medical facility to test any such victim for any infectious disease.

“(c) CONFIDENTIALITY.—This part may not be construed to authorize or require any medical facility, any designated officer of emergency response employees, or any such employee, to disclose identifying information with respect to a victim of an emergency or with respect to an emergency response employee.

“(d) FAILURE TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY SERVICES.—This part may not be construed to authorize any emergency response employee to fail to respond, or to deny services, to any victim of an emergency.

“(e) NOTIFICATION AND REPORTING DEADLINES.—In any case in which the Secretary determines that, wholly or partially as a result of a public health emergency that has been determined pursuant to section 319(a), individuals or public or private entities are unable to comply with the requirements of this part, the Secretary may, notwithstanding any other provision of law, temporarily suspend, in whole or in part, the requirements of this part as the circumstances reasonably require. Before or promptly after such a suspension, the Secretary shall notify the Congress of such action and publish in the Federal Register a notice of the suspension.

“(f) CONTINUED APPLICATION OF STATE AND LOCAL LAW.—Nothing in this part shall be construed to limit the application of State or local laws that require the provision of data to public health authorities.

“SEC. 2695H. INJUNCTIONS REGARDING VIOLATION OF PROHIBITION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, in any court of competent jurisdiction, commence a civil action for the purpose of obtaining temporary or permanent injunctive relief with respect to any violation of this part.

“(b) FACILITATION OF INFORMATION ON VIOLATIONS.—The Secretary shall establish an administrative process for encouraging emergency response employees to provide information to the Secretary regarding violations of this part. As appropriate, the Secretary shall investigate alleged such violations and seek appropriate injunctive relief.

“SEC. 2695I. APPLICABILITY OF PART.

“This part shall not apply in a State if the chief executive officer of the State certifies to the Secretary that the law of the State is substantially consistent with this part.”.

**GIRL SCOUTS USA CENTENNIAL
COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT**

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of H.R. 621, which was received from the House.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the bill by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 621) to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the centennial of the establishment of the Girl Scouts of the United States of America.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the bill be read three times and passed, the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table, with no intervening action or debate, and that any statements relating to the bill be printed in the RECORD.

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

The bill (H.R. 621) was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

**NATIONAL CHARACTER COUNTS
WEEK**

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of S. Res. 314, submitted earlier today.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 314) designating the week beginning October 18, 2009, as “National Character Counts Week.”

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today Senator GRASSLEY and I have submitted a resolution designating the third week of October as National Character Counts Week. In the past, my good friend Senator Domenici and I worked together on the issue of character education, and I am pleased to be joined by my colleague Senator GRASSLEY in continuing to designate a special week to this cause. I hope that with this resolution we may highlight the importance of character building activities in schools not only this week but all year long.

Since 1994, when the Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Project was first established, I have worked to commemorate National Character Counts Week. Character Counts was founded on a simple notion: our core ethical values aren't just important to us as individuals—they form the very foundation of democratic society. We know that in order to face our challenges as communities and as a Nation, we need our children to be both well-educated and trained—and that begins with instilling character in our children.

Trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring, and citizenship—these are the six pillars of character. Character education provides