

March 10, 1999

NURSING HOME PROTECTION
AMENDMENTS OF 1999

SPEECH OF

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 1999

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 540, The Nursing Home Resident Protection Amendments. I am an original co-sponsor of this legislation and want to thank Chairman BILIRAKIS and Chairman BLILEY for their support of this measure. In addition, I want to thank Mr. DAVIS of Florida for his hard work as well as the Democratic Ranking Members Mr. DINGELL and Mr. BROWN.

Mr. Speaker, for senior citizens a nursing home is a home. Our Nation's elderly or disabled should not have to worry that they will be evicted from their nursing homes, merely because they are on Medicaid.

This bill will prevent incidents, like the one in Florida, where a nursing home lied to the residents and their families about undertaking renovations as a pretext for evicting their Medicaid residents.

Some of my colleagues have voiced concerns during the markup in committee that since we repealed the Boren amendment, States could readjust their payments to pay nursing homes less than the cost of service. I would be very concerned if this would occur, because the Governors lobbied Congress to repeal the Boren amendment, based on a promise they would not lower rates below reasonable payments. However, I agree with my colleagues that we need to be vigilant in watching whether States lower their Medicaid payments to unreasonable levels and believe we should take action if that occurs. I urge my colleagues to vote for this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN N. HOSTETTLER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall vote No. 34, I was unavoidably detained in my congressional district due to weather constraints. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on this Journal vote.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this infor-

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

4177

mation, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 11, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 12

9 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings on President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Justice. SD-226

MARCH 16

9:30 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine education programs for the disadvantaged. SD-430

Environment and Public Works
Clean Air, Wetlands, Private Property, and Nuclear Safety Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the Environmental Protection Agency's Risk Management Plan Program of the Clean Air Act. SD-406

10 a.m.
Small Business
To hold hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for the Small Business Administration. SR-428A

2 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Forests and Public Land Management Subcommittee
To resume oversight hearings on the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for the Forest Service, Department of Agriculture. SD-366

MARCH 17

9 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-406

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S.400, to provide technical corrections to the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to improve the delivery of housing assistance to Indian tribes in a manner that recognizes the right of tribal self-governance. SR-485

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to markup S.326, to improve the access and choice of patients to quality, affordable health care, and to consider pending nominations. SD-430

10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the Disabled American Veterans. 345 Cannon Building

Governmental Affairs
To resume hearings on the future of the Independent Counsel Act. SH-216

Energy and Natural Resources
Foreign Relations
To hold joint hearings on proposals to expand Iraqi oil for food. SD-419

10:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings on loss of open space and environmental quality. SD-406

MARCH 18

Time to be announced
Finance
To resume hearings to examine spending trends in the Medicare program, the impact on those trends of Medicare savings in the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, and the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2000 for Medicare, including the fifteen-percent surplus funding proposal. SD-215

9:30 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
To resume hearings on loss of open space and environmental quality. SD-406

2 p.m.
Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
To hold hearings on the readiness of the United States Air Force and Army operating forces. SH-216

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings on pending intelligence matters. SH-219

MARCH 22

1 p.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine the quality of care in nursing homes. SH-216

MARCH 23

9 a.m.
Aging
To hold hearings on a proposal to support family care givers. SD-106

MARCH 24

9:30 a.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold hearings on S.399, to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. SR-485

10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Ex-Prisoners of War, AMVETS, Vietnam Veterans of America, and the Retired Officers Association. 345 Cannon Building

Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee
To hold hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2000 for the Department of Defense, focusing on active and reserve military and civilian personnel programs and the future years defense program. SR-222

4178

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

March 10, 1999

APRIL 14

APRIL 21

SEPTEMBER 28

9:30 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the published scandals plaguing the Olympics.
SR-253

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on the implementation of welfare reform for Indians.

SR-485

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold oversight hearings on Bureau of Indian Affairs capacity and mission.

SR-485

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to review the legislative recommendations of the American Legion.

345 Cannon Building