

of 1961 not apply to certain countries with which the United States has bilateral agreements and other plans relating to counterdrug activities, and for other purposes.

S. 597

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 597, a bill to amend section 922 of chapter 44 of title 28, United States Code, to protect the right of citizens under the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

S. 617

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 617, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under the medicare program of insulin pumps as items of durable medical equipment.

S. 632

At the request of Mr. DEWINE, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 632, a bill to provide assistance for poison prevention and to stabilize the funding of regional poison control centers.

S. 636

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 636, a bill to amend title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act and part 7 of subtitle B of title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to establish standards for the health quality improvement of children in managed care plans and other health plans.

S. 660

At the request of Mr. BINGAMAN, the names of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), and the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 660, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage under part B of the medicare program of medical nutrition therapy services furnished by registered dietitians and nutrition professionals.

S. 668

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 668, a bill to encourage States to incarcerate individuals convicted of murder, rape, or child molestation.

S. 676

At the request of Mr. CAMPBELL, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 676, a bill to locate and secure the return of Zachary Baumel, a citizen of the United States, and other Israeli soldiers missing in action.

S. 689

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. MOYNIHAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 689, a bill to authorize appropriations for the United States Customs Service for fiscal years 2000 and 2001, and for other purposes.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 14

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Joint Resolution 14, a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing Congress to prohibit the physical desecration of the flag of the United States.

SENATE RESOLUTION 53

At the request of Mr. DODD, his name was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 53, a resolution to designate March 24, 1999, as "National School Violence Victims' Memorial Day."

SENATE RESOLUTION 54

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) was added as a cosponsor of Senate Resolution 54, a resolution condemning the escalating violence, the gross violation of human rights and attacks against civilians, and the attempt to overthrow a democratically elected government in Sierra Leone.

SENATE RESOLUTION 68

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the names of the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. FEINGOLD) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 68, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the treatment of women and girls by the Taliban in Afghanistan.

SENATE RESOLUTION 71

At the request of Mr. ABRAHAM, the names of the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 71, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate rejecting a tax increase on investment income of certain associations.

SENATE RESOLUTION 74—EXPRESSING THE SUPPORT OF THE SENATE FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHO ARE ENGAGED IN MILITARY OPERATIONS AGAINST THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

Mr. LOTT (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, and all other Senators) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 74

Whereas the President has authorized United States participation in NATO military operations against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia;

Whereas up to 22,000 members of the Armed Forces are presently involved in operations in and around the Balkans region with the active participation of NATO and other coalition forces; and

Whereas the Senate and the American people have the greatest pride in the members of the Armed Forces and strongly support them: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate supports the members of the United States Armed Forces who are engaged in military operations against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and recognizes their professionalism, dedication, patriotism, and courage.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED ON MARCH 23, 1999

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999

BINGAMAN AMENDMENT NO. 125

Mr. STEVENS (for Mr. BINGAMAN) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 544) making emergency supplemental appropriations and rescissions for recovery from natural disasters, and foreign assistance, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. \_\_\_\_ FINDINGS AND SENSE OF SENATE REGARDING SEQUENTIAL BILLING POLICY FOR HOME HEALTH PAYMENTS UNDER THE MEDICARE PROGRAM.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Senate finds the following:

(1) Section 4611 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 included a provision that transfers financial responsibility for certain home health visits under the medicare program under title XVIII of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.) from part A to part B of such program.

(2) The sole intent of the transfer described in paragraph (1) was to extend the solvency of the Federal Hospital Insurance Trust Fund under section 1817 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 1395i).

(3) The transfer described in paragraph (1) was supposed to be "seamless" so as not to disrupt the provision of home health services under the medicare program.

(4) The Health Care Financing Administration has imposed a sequential billing policy that prohibits home health agencies under the medicare program from submitting claims for reimbursement for home health services provided to a beneficiary unless all claims for reimbursement for home health services that were previously provided to such beneficiary have been completely resolved.

(5) The Health Care Financing Administration has also expanded medical reviews of claims for reimbursement submitted by home health agencies, resulting in a significant slowdown nationwide in the processing of such claims.

(6) The sequential billing policy described in paragraph (4), coupled with the slowdown in claims processing described in paragraph (5), has substantially increased the cash flow problems of home health agencies because payments are often delayed by at least 3 months.