

SENATE RESOLUTION 276—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE CONFEREES ON THE VIOLENT AND REPEAT JUVENILE OFFENDER ACCOUNTABILITY AND REHABILITATION ACT SHOULD SUBMIT THE CONFERENCE REPORT ON THE BILL BEFORE APRIL 20, 2000, AND INCLUDE THE GUN SAFETY AMENDMENTS PASSED BY THE SENATE

Mr. REED (for himself, Mr. DASCHLE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. DURBIN, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. KOHL, Mr. TORRICELLI, Mr. LEVIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. ROBB, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. BYRD, Mr. KERRY, Mr. REID, Mr. INOUE, Mr. BRYAN, and Mr. BINGAMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 276

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the conferees on H.R. 1501, the Violent and Repeat Juvenile Offender Accountability and Rehabilitation Act, should complete and submit the conference report before April 20, 2000, and include in the conference report the amendments passed by the Senate seeking to limit access to firearms by juveniles, convicted felons, and other persons prohibited by law from purchasing or possessing firearms.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

SENIOR CITIZENS' FREEDOM TO WORK ACT OF 1999

KERREY AMENDMENT NO. 2885

Mr. KERREY proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 5) to amend title II of the Social Security Act to eliminate the earnings test for individuals who have attained retirement age; as follows:

At the end add the following:

SEC. ____ REDESIGNATION OF TERM FOR AGE AT WHICH AN INDIVIDUAL IS ELIGIBLE FOR FULL, UNREDUCED OLD-AGE BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 401 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by striking “retirement age” each place it appears and inserting “the age of eligibility for full, unreduced old-age benefits”;

(2) by striking “early retirement age” each place it appears and inserting “the age of earliest eligibility for old-age benefits”;

(3) by striking “delayed retirement” each place it appears and inserting “delayed entitlement for old-age benefits”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 202(q)(9) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 402(q)(9)) is amended by striking “early retirement” and inserting “early entitlement for old-age benefits”.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

ROTH (AND MOYNIHAN)
AMENDMENT NO. 2886

Mr. ROTH (for himself and Mr. MOYNIHAN) proposed an amendment to the bill, H.R. 5, supra; as follows:

Strike all after the first word and insert the following:

SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Senior Citizens’ Freedom to Work Act of 2000”.

SEC. 2. ELIMINATION OF EARNINGS TEST FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ATTAINED RETIREMENT AGE.

Section 203 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c)(1), by striking “the age of seventy” and inserting “retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))”;

(2) in paragraphs (1)(A) and (2) of subsection (d), by striking “the age of seventy” each place it appears and inserting “retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))”;

(3) in subsection (f)(1)(B), by striking “was age seventy or over” and inserting “was at or above retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))”;

(4) in subsection (f)(3), by striking “age 70” and inserting “retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))”;

(5) in subsection (h)(1)(A), by striking “age 70” each place it appears and inserting “retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))”; and

(6) in subsection (j)—
(A) in the heading, by striking “Age Seventy” and inserting “Retirement Age”; and

(B) by striking “seventy years of age” and inserting “having attained retirement age (as defined in section 216(1))”.

SEC. 3. NONAPPLICATION OF RULES FOR COMPUTATION OF EXEMPT AMOUNT FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE ATTAINED RETIREMENT AGE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 203(f)(8) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403(f)(8)) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

“(E) Notwithstanding subparagraph (D), no deductions in benefits shall be made under subsection (b) with respect to the earnings of any individual in any month beginning with the month in which the individual attains retirement age (as defined in section 216(1)).”

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 203(f)(9) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403(f)(9)) is amended by striking “and (8)(D),” and inserting “(8)(D), and (8)(E).”

SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

(a) ELIMINATION OF REDUNDANT REFERENCES TO RETIREMENT AGE.—Section 203 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 403) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), in the last sentence, by striking “nor shall any deduction” and all that follows and inserting “nor shall any deduction be made under this subsection from any widow’s or widower’s insurance benefit if the widow, surviving divorced wife, widower, or surviving divorced husband involved became entitled to such benefit prior to attaining age 60.”; and

(2) in subsection (f)(1), by striking clause (D) and inserting the following: “(D) for which such individual is entitled to widow’s or widower’s insurance benefits if such individual became so entitled prior to attaining age 60.”.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT TO PROVISIONS FOR DETERMINING AMOUNT OF INCREASE ON ACCOUNT OF DELAYED RETIREMENT.—Section 202(w)(2)(B)(ii) of the Social Security Act (42

U.S.C. 402(w)(2)(B)(ii)) is amended by striking “or suffered deductions under section 203(b) or 203(c) in amounts equal to the amount of such benefit” and inserting “or, if so entitled, did not receive benefits pursuant to a request by such individual that benefits not be paid”.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendments made by this Act shall apply with respect to taxable years ending after December 31, 1999.

NOTICES OF HEARINGS

PERMANENT SUBCOMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATIONS

Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations of the Committee on Governmental Affairs, will hold a hearing entitled “Oversight of HCFA’s Settlement Policies: Did HCFA Give Favored Providers Sweetheart Deals?” This hearing is part of the Subcommittee’s continuing examination of the Medicare program and will examine settlements between the Health Care Financing Administration (“HCFA”) and certain Medicare providers and whether these settlements conform to HCFA regulations.

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, March 28, 2000, at 9:30 a.m., in room 342 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. For further information, please contact K. Lee Blalack II of the subcommittee staff at 224-3721.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, HISTORIC PRESERVATION, AND RECREATION

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that the hearing originally scheduled for Tuesday, March 28, 2000 at 2:30 p.m. before the Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation of the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources has been rescheduled for Thursday, April 6, 2000 at 2:30 p.m. in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in Washington, DC. The purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on the incinerator component at the proposed Advanced Waste Treatment Facility at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory and its potential impact on the adjacent Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks.

For further information, please contact Jim O’Toole or Kevin Clark of the committee staff at (202) 224-6969.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, I would like to announce for the information of the Senate and the public that a joint hearing has been scheduled before the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources and the Committee on Foreign Relations. The hearing is titled: “America at Risk: U.S. Dependence on Foreign Oil.”

The hearing will take place on Tuesday, March 28, 2000 at 3:00 p.m. in room