INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR BAL-

cans and their actions typify the kind of com-

physicians to new medications that may reduce a

ratus that prevents hair loss. These adver-

of ibuprofen, which may be adequate to treat

of the arthritis medicine Celebrex costs $900, while the same dosage of

more emphasis on product benefits rather than risks or failing to meet Federal Food, Drug and Cos-

The bill will ensure that DTC advertisements are presented in a fair manner, balancing risks and consequences. Print ads would be re-

This increased spending correlates with in-

According to a May 2000 Business Week

Just yesterday, the Wall Street Journal

Although prescription drug advertisements are purportedly intended to educate con-

and radio ads, risk and benefit descriptions would be allotted equal airtime and volume level. Pharmaceutical companies who do not follow these guidelines will not be eligible for an advertising tax deduction.

Since the FDA relaxed restrictions on tele-

Last year, Merk-Medco cited a report that pro-

The bill will ensure that DTC advertisements are presented in a fair manner, balancing risks and consequences. Print ads would be re-

In television and radio ads, risk and benefit descriptions would be allotted equal airtime and volume level. Pharmaceutical companies who do not follow these guidelines will not be eligible for an advertising tax deduction.

Although prescription drug advertisements are purportedly intended to educate con-

According to a May 2000 Business Week article, some drug companies claim that the increased advertising can alert hospital physi-

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CONGRATULATING THE PEPSI GI-

They changed their focus and purchased a

Although they lost the season opener to the

As an example, between its release in October of 1999, and the summer of 2000, 22 patients taking the flu drug Relenza had died. The FDA later determined that in the majority of these cases, the drug should never have been prescribed.

Doctors often find that patients are difficult to dissuade when they have heard the prom-

Before the FDA had published clinical trial re-

CONGRATULATING THE PEPSI GI-

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CONFRON
A BILL TO MAKE PERMANENT THE AUTHORITY TO REDACT FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS OF JUDICIAL EMPLOYEES AND JUDICIAL OFFICIALS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, along with the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Courts, the Internet, and Intellectual Property, Representative Berman, I rise to introduce a bill to make permanent the authority to redact financial disclosure statements of judicial employees and judicial officers.

Under the Ethics in Government Act, judges and other high-level judicial branch officials must file annual financial disclosure reports. However, due to the nature of the judicial function and the increased security risks it entails, section 7 of the “Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act of 1998” allows the Judicial Conference to redact statutorily required information in a financial disclosure report where the release of the information could endanger the filer or his or her family. This provision will sunset on December 31, 2001, in the absence of further legislative action.

The Judicial Conference Committee on Financial Disclosure recently submitted a report on section 7. The Committee monitors the release of financial disclosure reports to ensure compliance with the statute, reviews redaction requests, and approves or disapproves any request for the redaction of statutorily mandated information where the release of the information could endanger the filer. In 2000, the Committee noted that: (1) 13 financial disclosure reports were wholly redacted because the judge was under a specific, active security threat; (2) 140 judges’ reports were partially redacted (9 of which were based on specific threats); the other 81 due to general threats and the potential risk of disclosure of a family member’s unsecured workplace or a residence of a judge or a judge’s family); and (3) a total of 218 financial disclosure reports, which includes reports from previous years, were partially redacted.

The purpose of the annual financial disclosure reports required by the Ethics in Government Act is to increase public confidence in government officials and better enable the public to judge the performance of those officials. However, judicial judges should be allowed to redact certain information from financial disclosures where they or a family member is threatened. Importantly, the practice has never interfered with the release of critical information to the public.

This bill will eliminate the sunset in section 7 and permit the Judicial Conference to permanently redact information in financial disclosure reports where the information could endanger the filer or his or her family. This is a good bill, and I urge my colleagues to support it when it is brought to the House Floor for consideration.

REMARKS HONORING FORMER DALLAS COWBOYS QUARTERBACK TROY AIKMAN

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2001

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend NFL quarterback Troy Aikman on his successful football career, and extend my gratitude for his steadfast dedication to improving the lives of critically ill children.

Mr. Aikman has devoted himself to helping critically ill children. In 1992, he established The Troy Aikman Foundation to provide financial support for the physical, psychological, social, and educational needs of critically ill children whose needs are not being met by any other viable resource. Through the Foundation, Mr. Aikman created “Aikman’s End Zones” for children’s hospitals. “Aikman’s End Zones” are interactive playrooms and theaters designed to give critically ill children a place of refuge during their stays in the hospital. Depending on the space available, the facility includes an 8-foot-tall replica of Troy’s helmet, a 1,100 gallon saltwater aquarium, a theater, and an interactive computer network. Mr. Aikman established End Zones at The Children’s Hospital of Dallas, Texas and at Cook Children’s Medical Center in Fort Worth, Texas. His ultimate goal is to have Aikman’s End Zones in every NFL city.

Mr. Aikman has also teamed up with the Starbright Foundation, founded by Stephen Spielberg and General H. Norman Schwarzkopf. The Starbright Foundation’s mission is to improve the lives of critically ill children through technology and entertainment. Starbright provides the interactive computer network in “Aikman’s End Zones.”

In addition to his foundation activities, Mr. Aikman has served on the board of Stars for Children and has been honorary chairman for numerous charitable fundraisers throughout the Dallas-Fort Worth area. Mr. Aikman sponsors a scholarship at Henryetta High School for students who want to attend college but can’t afford it, and has also established a permanently endowed scholarship at the University of California, Los Angeles. In 1994, Aikman was honored for his community service when he received the Byron “Whizzer” White Humanitarian Award.

Mr. Aikman has also become a children’s book author. In 1995 he published his first book titled Things Change. The message of the book is how to use change to one’s advantage and view difficult times as learning experiences rather than as setbacks. In 1998, he published a second book called Aikman: Mind, Body & Soul which is his autobiography.

Troy Aikman continues to give unselfishly to our community, and we are grateful for the work he has done. He is the perfect example of what a terrific role model professional athletes can be if they use the fame and wealth they have been blessed with in a positive way.

Mr. Speaker, I want to once again congratulate Troy Aikman on a wonderful football career and thank him for his unwavering dedication to improving the lives of children.