

## SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development should— (1) fully comply with the requirements of section 561(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 3616a(d)) to establish, design, and maintain a national education and outreach program to provide a centralized, coordinated effort for the development and dissemination of the fair housing rights of individuals who seek to rent,

purchase, sell, or facilitate the sale of a home;

(2) utilize all amounts appropriated for such education and outreach program under section 561(g) of such Act; and

(3) promulgate regulations regarding the fair housing obligations of each recipient of Federal housing funds to affirmatively further fair housing, as that term is defined under title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.).

## SEC. 5. GRANTS TO PRIVATE ENTITIES TO STUDY HOUSING DISCRIMINATION.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall carry out a competitive matching grant program to assist private nonprofit organizations in—

(1) conducting comprehensive studies that examine—

(A) the causes of housing discrimination and segregation; and (B) the effects of housing discrimination and segregation on education, poverty, and economic development; and (2) implementing pilot projects that test solutions that will help prevent or alleviate housing discrimination and segregation. (b) ELIGIBILITY.—

To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a private nonprofit organization shall— (1) submit an application to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, containing such information as the Secretary shall require; and (2) agree to provide matching non-Federal funds for 25 percent of the total amount of the grant, such funds may include items donated on an in-kind contribution basis.

(c) PREFERENCE.—In awarding any grant under this section, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall give preference to any applicant who is— (1) a qualified fair housing enforcement organization, as such organization is defined under subsection (h) of section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987 (42 U.S.C. 616a(h)); or (2) a partner of any such organization.

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.— There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out the provisions of this section \$5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

By Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. KERRY):

S. 1734. A bill to provide for prostate cancer imaging research and education; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, today I rise to introduce the Prostate Research, Imaging, and Men's Education Act. This important legislation addresses the urgent need for the development of new technologies to detect and diagnose prostate cancer, and for the education of the dangers of this deadly disease.

I thank my colleagues, Senator FRANK LAUTENBERG and Senator JOHN KERRY, for joining me as original cosponsors of this important legislation.

Prostate cancer is the second most common cancer in the United States, and the second leading cause of cancer related deaths in men. This cancer strikes one in every six men, making it even more prevalent than breast cancer, which strikes one in every seven women. In 2007, more than 218,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, and more than 27,000 men will die from the disease. One new case occurs every 2.5 minutes and a man dies from prostate cancer every 19 minutes. The Prostate Research, Imaging, and Men's Education Act, also known as the PRIME Act, will mirror the investment the Federal Government made in advanced imaging technologies, which led to life-saving breakthroughs in detection, diagnosis and treatment of breast cancer. This bill directs the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services, HHS, to expand research on prostate cancer, and provides the resources to develop innovative advanced imaging technologies for prostate cancer detection, diagnosis, and treatment.

The Prostate Research, Imaging, and Men's Education Act would also create a national campaign conducted through HHS to increase awareness about the need for prostate cancer screening, and the development of better screening techniques. Since African American men are 56 percent more likely to develop prostate cancer compared with Caucasian men and nearly 2.5 times as likely to die from the disease, this campaign will work with the Offices of Minority Health at HHS and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to ensure that this effort will reach the men most at risk from this disease.

The Prostate Research, Imaging and Men's Education Act will also promote research that improves prostate cancer screening blood tests. According to a recent National Cancer Institute study, current blood tests result in false-negative reassurances and numerous false-positive alarms. Some 15 percent of men with normal blood test levels actually have prostate cancer. Even when levels are abnormal, some 88 percent of men end up not having prostate cancer but undergoing unnecessary biopsies. Furthermore, the prostate is one of the last organs in a human body where biopsies are performed blindly, which can miss cancer even when multiple samples are taken.

Government initiative in research and education can be the key to diagnosing prostate cancer earlier and more accurately. This legislation would strengthen our efforts to fight this disease. As June is Men's Health Month, this is an ideal time to draw attention to the issue affecting so many men across the Nation. I ask all my fellow Senators to join with me in ensuring the health of our husbands, brothers, sons, and friends against this disease.

By Mr. DODD:

S. 1736. A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act to provide that the eligibility requirements for disability insurance benefits under which an individual must have 20 quarters of Social Security coverage in the 40 quarters preceding a disability shall not be applicable in the case of a disabled individual suffering from a covered terminal disease; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today I am introducing the Claire Collier Social Security Disability Insurance Fairness Act. This legislation will ensure that individuals suffering from certain terminal diseases are entitled to receive Social Security disability benefits.

Under current law, an individual who contracts a covered terminal illness, and who has not been part of the workforce for a period of time, may not qualify for Social Security disability benefits they would otherwise be entitled to.

This bill is named after Claire Collier, a Stamford, Connecticut mother of three, who I first met a few years ago after she was diagnosed with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ALS, in 2003. ALS, commonly known as Lou Gehrig's disease, first strikes the nerve cells, then weakens the muscles, causes paralysis and tragically leads to death.

Three years ago, Claire applied for Social Security disability benefits. However, she was denied the benefits because she did not have enough work credits. Ms. Collier, who worked for more than 15 years as an events planner, does not qualify for Social Security disability benefits, even though she paid Social Security and Medicare taxes for more than 15 years. The reason is the Social Security Act mandates that an individual earn 20 quarters of Social Security earnings during the 10 years preceding a disability to collect benefits. This discriminates against people who have earned the required number of credits outside of the time period prescribed under current law.

Under the present system, hardworking Americans, such as Claire Collier, are being denied benefits at a time when they need them most. In Claire's case, the rules are especially unfair since she has been penalized for choosing to stay at home with her children prior to being diagnosed with ALS.

The bill I am sponsoring will change the eligibility standard. The Claire Collier legislation will amend the Social Security Act to provide that the eligibility standard for disability insurance benefits not be applicable in the case of a disabled individual suffering from a terminal illness. Passage of this important legislation will simply ensure fairness. We should reward individuals who contribute to Social Security, not punish them. The Claire Collier Social Security Disability Insurance Fairness Act will eliminate inequity in the current system.

I look forward to working with...