

as impairments to those medical specialists who are reported to be making or wishing to make an unlimited income above \$50,000 or \$100,000 a year. I do not make this charge, but I feel privileged to at least raise the question because of the bitter opposition to my amendment which is difficult to explain. There will be those who will properly wonder where the added millions of dollars which now must be paid by aged people will end up.

It seems to me a continuing study of this matter by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, by the House Ways and Means Committee, and by the Senate Finance Committee will be very much in order, to see exactly what does happen.

As the debate of July 9 made very clear, the effects of the decision of the conferees will be drastic, widely felt, and injurious to the public interest. It will contribute to the disruption of the procedures which have been made in this matter by such States as Iowa. It will make the administration of this law much more complex, and it will present the aged beneficiaries with a perplexing quantity of separate billings. It will probably require the wide renegotiation of existing contracts between hospitals and specialists and between hospitals and third party agencies.

While this amendment may appear minor in contrast to the great achievement of this legislation taken as a whole, the decision of the conferees is a most serious error.

For all of these reasons, I believe that a thorough investigation of this matter should be immediately started.

Section 1867 of this legislation, as I understand it, provides that the Secretary shall appoint a Health Insurance Benefits Advisory Council of 16 persons to advise the Secretary on matters of general policy in the administration of the hospital and medical care title of this legislation.

In view of the importance of this question, I believe that an investigation of it in depth, going into such questions as whether there may be an unwarranted increase in administrative difficulties and costs to the public, should be made the first order of business for this Advisory Council.

I hope that this Advisory Council will be appointed as soon as possible so that it can look into this question and make recommendations to the Congress on this matter by January of next year, so that we may have time to consider such recommendations prior to the effective date of the medicare plan on July 1, 1966.

IV. WE SHALL BEGIN TO ACT

May I say it is my intention, in conjunction with the senior Senator from New Mexico [Mr. ANDERSON] and the Senator from Alaska [Mr. GROENING],

to introduce, in the next few days, a bill which will put the services of these specialists under plan A, if, as, and when voluntary agreements on this part are reached between hospitals and these specialists. This amendment will continue to be neutral, so far as the services of specialists are concerned, as to whether they are under such a plan or not. It will merely provide that if the specialists and the hospitals agree that the billing should be carried through the hospital, as is the case now in, I suppose, the majority of cases, then it would be included under plan A. Where such an agreement is not reached, then it could be included under plan B.

I hope the President will take account of this problem when he signs the bill, which I anticipate will be in a few days, so that the public may be apprised of the issue, and our colleagues in the Senate and House may take due notice. In any event, I do not accept the decision of the conference committee on this point as final. I know that the Senate members of the conference committee did their best to retain this feature. I have no criticism to make of the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. LONG], who ably and fearlessly represented us in that conference, nor have I of his colleagues. It is somewhat extraordinary that at the last minute the House conferees suddenly held a pistol to the head of the Senate conferees and demanded immediate and unconditional surrender on this point.

But such are the ways of the legislative process. I serve notice politely, but firmly, however, that this is only a temporary victory, and that we intend to continue the struggle. We believe that the facts and the situation as it develops will bear out the truth of that for which we are contending.

It is highly important, if this change is made, as I believe it should be, that it be cleared within the next year, before the plan goes into operation, because once the medical specialists separate themselves from plan A and make their individual charges to their patients and jack up their prices, they will be reluctant to surrender such a lucrative practice to hospital supervision and scrutiny. It would then be difficult to make any later changes in the act, because we would have built up a whole set of vested interests, deeply devoted to getting as high an income from the system as possible, even though it disrupted the administrative arrangements of the hospitals, and even though it resulted in greatly increased costs for the patients. Let us act soon.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

TRANSACTION OF ROUTINE BUSINESS

By unanimous consent, the following routine business was transacted:

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

The VICE PRESIDENT announced that on today, July 28, 1965, he signed the enrolled bill (S. 1321) to amend section 501(e) of title 16 of the District of Columbia Code relating to bond requirements in connection with attachment before judgment, which had previously been signed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. JORDAN of North Carolina, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

H.J. Res. 481. Joint resolution to amend the joint resolution of March 25, 1963, to expand the types of equipment furnished Members of the House of Representatives (Rept. No. 518);

H. Con. Res. 364. Concurrent resolution authorizing the printing as a House document of a revised edition of "The Capitol"; and providing for additional copies (Rept. No. 520);

S. Res. 120. Resolution to provide additional funds for the Committee on the Judiciary (Rept. No. 518);

S. Res. 129. Resolution to print as a Senate document a study entitled "U.S. International Space Programs With Texts of Executive Agreements, Memorandums of Understanding, and Other International Arrangements, 1959-1965" (Rept. No. 522); and

S. Res. 130. Resolution providing additional funds for the Committee on Labor and Public Welfare (Rept. No. 519).

By Mr. JORDAN of North Carolina, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, with amendments:

S.J. Res. 89. Joint resolution extending for 1 year the existing authority for the erection in the District of Columbia of a memorial to Mary McLeod Bethune (Rept. No. 517); and

S. Con. Res. 11. Concurrent resolution to print 4,000 copies of a compilation of the hearings, staff reports, and studies of the Subcommittee on National Security Staffing and Operations (Rept. No. 521).

By Mr. PELL, from the Committee on Rules and Administration, without amendment:

H.J. Res. 324. Joint resolution to provide for the reappointment of Robert V. Fleming as Citizen Regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution (Rept. No. 523).

By Mr. PASTORE, from the Committee on Commerce, without amendment:

S. 903. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, with respect to painting, illumination, and dismantlement of radio towers (Rept. No. 524);

S. 1554. A bill to amend subsection (b) of section 214 and subsection (c) (1) of section 222 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, in order to substitute the Secretary of Defense (rather than the Secretaries of the Army and the Navy) as the person entitled to receive official notice of the filing of certain applications in the common carrier service (Rept. No. 525); and

H.R. 7954. An act to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to conform to the Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, London (1960) (Rept. No. 526).

By Mr. PASTORE, from the Committee on Commerce, with amendments: