

US FORUM CONNECTION #81, SEPTEMBER 2010

This free newsletter is sponsored by the United States Forum of The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International. The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International is an organization of leading women educators with over 100,000 members. Delta Kappa Gamma members wishing to subscribe to this FREE newsletter should send a request to Angela.Bedenbaugh@usm.edu. We urge you to share this newsletter with other interested individuals who are not members of Delta Kappa Gamma or members who do not subscribe to this publication.

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

SUMMARY OF NEW HEALTH CARE BILL EFFECTS IN 2010

LAURA BUSH STARTS TRAINING EFFORT FOR SCHOOL PRINCIPALS PROGRAM RESOURCE

PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

URGENT – ACT NOW OR WAIT YEARS FOR THIS TO PASS

Please call 877-667-6650 which is a toll free line dedicated to calls about the Paycheck Fairness Act. Contact your senators and urge them to vote for The Paycheck Fairness Act. At the very least ask them to vote for cloture on the Paycheck Fairness Act. Currently the bill number in question is S.3772. It is probably best to ask them to vote for cloture on The Paycheck Fairness Act without mentioning any specific bill number. You can call multiple times to express your opinion about the importance of getting this bill passed.

SUMMARY OF NEW HEALTH CARE BILL EFFECTS IN 2010

In the year 2010, there would be three major changes to health care. 1) Insurance companies would no longer be allowed to deny coverage to children with pre-existing illnesses. 2) children would be able to stay on their parent's insurance policies until they turn 26 years old. 3) Medicare recipients who fall into the "doughnut hole" coverage gap will get a \$250 rebate.

Other changes include an excise tax on indoor tanning, which will increase the cost of that service. Also, individuals that have not had health insurance for 6 months will receive a subsidy to enroll in high-risk insurance pools run by the states. All new insurance plans sold must exempt preventative care and screenings from deductibles. Finally, small businesses with fewer than 25 employees would receive up to a 35 percent tax credit for providing health insurance to their employees.

LAURA BUSH STARTS TRAINING EFFORT FOR SCHOOL PRINCIPALS

Laura Bush Is Unveiling a Bold Principal-Training Effort. In the first year, an estimated 200 aspiring principals will take part in the programs across the country, with plans to build up, said James W. Guthrie, a senior fellow and director of education policy studies for the Bush Institute. The initial cities committed to the initiative are Dallas: Fort Worth, Texas; Indianapolis; St. Louis; Denver; and Plano, Texas. Other cities and participating organizations will be announced later. The initiative, called the Alliance to Reform Education Leadership, includes partnerships with business schools and with nontraditional providers, such as Teach For America and New Leaders for New Schools, as part of the Institute's goal to "augment the pipeline" of people pursuing the principalship, Guthrie said. One example is already underway at Indianapolis' Marian University, where the initiative is working with the college of education. The Marian University Academy for Teaching and Learning Leadership has recruited 31 members for its inaugural cohort, not only educators who have come through traditional programs, but some who were trained via Teach For America and career-changers from the business field.

PROGRAM RESOURCE

A listing of 50 people who were in the forefront of changes in American society are profiled at <http://www.thenation.com/50progressives>. There are 12 women listed among those cited. The site also asks for input on individuals who might have been overlooked in compiling the list. The site which contains three slide shows

LOCAL JOBS FOR AMERICA ACT

For on-line information on specific bills go to <http://thomas.loc.gov/>

CONTACT ADDRESSES FOR GOVERNMENT INFORMATION

U.S. GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION can be obtained through Congressional Switchboard 1-866-327-8670 (this is a toll free number). You can contact your Congressman and Senator through this number without paying long distance charges.

<http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House of Representatives <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the U.S. Senate

STATE GOVERNMENT CONTACT INFORMATION can be obtained through <http://www.emailyourgovernor.com/> Information available at this site allows contact with governors, members of the state legislature, state supreme court, congressional delegation and state agencies such as the Education Department, Attorney General, Motor Vehicles Department and Voter Registration.

INFORMATION ON HOW YOUR CONGRESSMAN VOTED ON KEY BILLS

<http://projects.washingtonpost.com/congress/111/bills/>

FIVE CONSTITUENT CONTACTS WILL CAUSE A LEGISLATOR TO PAY SERIOUS ATTENTION TO A GIVEN ISSUE.

Archival copies of the U.S. Forum Connection can be found at

<http://ocean.otr.usm.edu/~w305514/HomePage.htm>

Dr. Angela O. Bedenbaugh
The University of Southern Mississippi
118 College Drive #8466
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
Office: (601) 266-5718, (800) 814-4673
Fax: (601) 266-5718
Answering machine (601) 266-5716