

Stevens Cosponsors Health Center Bill

Senator Ted Stevens announced last Friday that he has joined Senator Charles Percy of Illinois in co-sponsoring the Neighborhood Health Center Act, S.2037.

"This bill would allow the expenditure of Federal funds to provide financial assistance to the states for the benefit of our neediest people," Stevens said.

"The major goal of the bill is provision of the best possible medical care for all. Priority is given to areas with low physician accessibility. The bill attempts to stop the fragmentation of health services and points to a

comprehensive and efficient health program.

"This bill will bring together comprehensive services in easily accessible facilities.

"I envision that in the long run this program will result in substantial savings to the American taxpayer," Stevens said. "By switching the emphasis from treating disease to promoting health, this program can avoid the high incidence of disease and hospitalization."

Stevens said that he hoped for early passage of the measure.