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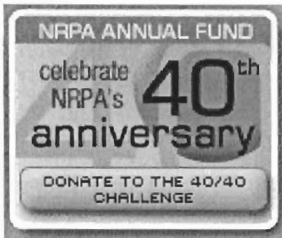
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MY PA

Frist Re-introduces the Improved Nutrition and Physical Activity Act (IMPACT)

U.S. Senator Bill Frist (R-TN) re-introduced the Improved Nutrition and Physical Activity (IMPACT) Act S.1325 on June 28.

This bill seeks to establish grants to provide health services for improved nutrition, increased physical activity, and obesity prevention. Grant recipients must work with state and local parks and recreation departments as well as local departments of transportation and city planning agencies to develop comprehensive plans that encourage healthy eating behaviors and healthy levels of physical activity. Grants may be used to support after-school and weekend community activities with entities operating recreational facilities.

NRPA endorses this bill, observing that it recognizes the crucial connection between an individual's health and their use of public parks, recreation centers, and similar resources.

NRPA is working to encourage other senators to co-sponsor this bill and to work with coalition partners to gain additional support. A similar bill, S.1172, was passed by the Senate in 2003. However, the House bill, H.R. 716, sponsored by Representative Mary Bono (D-CA), never made it out of committee.