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September 20, 1994

**BACKGROUND BRIEFING FOR CAROL MURPHY,
HOUSE AGRICULTURE APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE**

From: Joel Berg, Director of National Service
Subject: THE USDA AmeriCorps National Service Program

AmeriCorps is the President's national service initiative that is engaging diverse groups of Americans in providing community service in exchange for educational benefits to be used for college, job training, graduate school, or loan forgiveness.

USDA is running the largest single AmeriCorps program and will have projects to fight hunger and improve nutrition, improve the qualities of life and economies in rural communities, protect public lands and preserve the environment, and provide flood relief. Illinois will have environmental programs in Chicago and East St. Louis, as well as flood relief programs in downstate Illinois, including Congressman Durbin's District. Many USDA/AmeriCorps projects started September 12.

HOW USDA WAS GRANTED AMERICORPS PROGRAMS

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) --- headed by Chief Executive Officer Eli Segal who was nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate --- is the new Federal agency responsible for providing most funds for AmeriCorps. Yet the vast majority of AmeriCorps programs will not be "run" directly by the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) --- they will be run by non-profit organizations, state and local governments, and Federal government agencies to whom CNCS makes competitive grant awards. CNCS grants are broken down into two different types: **direct grants** and **state commission grants**.

State commission grants, which will be announced in a few weeks, comprise two-thirds of the total funding for AmeriCorps programs. These grants are funnelled through commissions in each state that are appointed by each state's governor. **Direct grants**, the first year of which are being announced today, comprise the other one third of the AmeriCorps funding. Of that one-third, no more than a third of that (11% of the total) may be awarded to Federal agencies. Based on the funds appropriated in FY94, that formula allowed for \$17.6 million in grants to Federal agencies, not including the additional cost of the educational benefits. The remainder of the direct grants will go to non-profit organizations that will run AmeriCorps projects that cross state lines.

In this competitive process, USDA fared extremely well:

* Out of the approximately 2,500 AmeriCorps slots awarded to Federal agencies, USDA received 1,200 -- almost half. USDA will have 42 different projects operating in 32 different states.

* The USDA program will have over twice as many participants as the next largest program in the Federal government. Additionally, USDA has taken the extraordinary step of running three distinctly different national programs in three distinctly different mission areas.

* In addition to allotting funds for 1,200 educational awards, CNCS is awarding \$2.6 million in operating funds to USDA. This monetary award is also the largest awarded to a Federal agency. The remainder of funds for these projects will come directly from the USDA budget. (Funding breakdown attached).

* The USDA program will not only be the largest Federal agency program, but will be the largest single AmeriCorps program of any kind. The largest grant to a non-profit organization will be for 1,000 participants. In addition, the National Civilian Community Corps, the one AmeriCorps program actually run directly by CNCS, will have 1,000 participants.

* Federal agencies, including USDA, have engaged in comprehensive planning efforts for over a year. USDA's final application exceeded 300 pages.

* This grant process is proof positive that the Clinton Administration is not just talking about reinventing government, we're getting concrete results. Today's announcement culminates a highly unusual process in which Federal agencies had to actually submit a detailed and comprehensive application to another federal entity in order to be considered for a grant. In other words, USDA and other Cabinet agencies were required to go through a process similar to those we require of others. (In fact, our application to CNCS required a strategic plan similar to the types of strategic plans that USDA and HUD are requiring in Empowerment Zone/Enterprise Community applications). Unlike the way government usually operates, no one agency was guaranteed funding by a set formula. As a consequence of this open competition, Federal agencies were forced to work harder and more creatively to develop quality programs in their applications. The grants to 15 different Federal agencies announced today prove that this new process of competition boosts excellence and innovation in government.

WHY AMERICORPS IS CENTRAL TO THE PRESIDENT'S AGENDA

* AmeriCorps rebuilds the sense of community that made America great. By bringing together Americans of all races, classes, genders, religions, sexual orientations, and physical abilities to work side-by-side, AmeriCorps will strengthen the cords that bind us together as a people. The "sweat equity" created by AmeriCorps can play an important role in healing the nation's wounds and bridging our divisions. AmeriCorps will fundamentally change the country because it creates a new civic compact in which any citizen can be tied to the nation by the simple virtue of making a difference in the lives of others.

* AmeriCorps promotes personal responsibility. AmeriCorps gives all Americans a new way of giving something back to the country. It reminds us that, along with rights we enjoy as citizens, we all have certain obligations to protecting those rights and aiding our own communities. Furthermore, AmeriCorps gives young people a tangible way to take charge of their own lives.

* AmeriCorps expands educational and economic opportunity. Participants in the program will receive a living stipend and will also receive an educational award worth \$4,725 for each year of service successfully performed. AmeriCorps is one of the major Administration initiatives aimed at making post-secondary education once again affordable for most Americans.

* AmeriCorps reunites the interests of the middle class and the poor. There is NO economic needs test to participate in this program -- the only requirement to participate is a desire to serve the country. This program will greatly boost students from the previously forgotten middle class, who now are told their families "make too much money" to qualify for existing Federal aid programs. Yet the program will also help poor families for whom aid programs are clearly insufficient.

HOW THE AMERICORPS PROGRAM WILL WORK GENERALLY

* Most AmeriCorps projects will begin this September, placing 20,000 participants in projects throughout the country. All USDA programs will begin shortly after Labor Day, with the exception of our DC and Chicago programs which will begin this summer and the New Hampshire, program which will begin January 1995. While the 20,000 number may seem modest, it is larger than the highest-ever yearly number of people in the Peace Corps. Furthermore, the number of participants will grow dramatically each year. This Administration doesn't just talk about problems, we get

results.

* Service will be focused on meeting unmet human, environmental, public safety, and educational needs. The slogan of CNCS is "Getting Things Done" and AmeriCorps will continually focus on accomplishing useful and measurable work of high quality. AmeriCorps is NOT a jobs program, it is a service program.

* Individuals may apply for the program either through CNCS or through the individual projects at each location. Both CNCS and USDA will have their own toll-free 800, lines for recruitment. Recruitment will start immediately for the fall programs.

* AmeriCorps will recruit a socio-economically diverse group of Americans. AmeriCorps will bring together Americans of all races, classes, genders, and physical abilities. Participants must be age 17 or older, but there is no upper age limit for participation; while we expect that some senior citizens and middle age citizens will participate in the program, it is likely that most participants will be 18-26. Participants can be high school graduates, vocational school students, college students, college graduates, or professional school graduates. Participants can also be high school dropouts if they agree to work towards their GED while in the program.

* Participants will earn a living stipend of at least \$7,500 and will earn an educational benefit of \$4,725 in exchange for each year of service successfully performed. The stipend is provided because this Administration understands that citizens still have to pay for food, transportation, and housing for the year in which they provide full-time service. The educational benefit can be used to pay for college or graduate school in advance, or to repay student loans. It can also be used to pay for vocational school or job training programs approved by the Departments of Labor or Education.

HOW ALL USDA AMERICORPS PROJECTS WILL WORK

Starting today, USDA is running three nationwide AmeriCorps Teams: an Anti-Hunger Team; a Public Lands and Environment Team; and a Rural Development Team. USDA will also run special disaster-relief programs in the nine Midwest states most impacted by last year's record flooding.

The Teams will engage a total of 1,200 socio-economically diverse participants in human, environmental, and educational work in 42 different pilot projects located in 32 different states covering over 100 Congressional districts. The projects will be spread across rural and urban areas in every region of the country.

Both the Anti-Hunger and the Public Lands and Environment Teams will share the same corps-type model of service, engaging a mix of high school dropouts, high school graduates, college students, and college graduates to perform service in work crews -- usually ten participants each -- at pilot locations with no less than 20 participants. Both the Anti-Hunger and Public Lands and Environment Teams will have an educational component in which participants will run environmental or nutrition education programs in local schools.

In the Anti-Hunger, Nutrition, and Empowerment Team, participants will work in five pilot locations -- three urban and two rural -- to help thousands of low-income families and individuals improve their diets and move toward self-sufficiency. Each pilot location will be run by a unique partnership consisting of an existing youth service corps, a local anti-hunger group, and USDA. While most of this Team will focus on expanding the use of Federal anti-hunger programs and increasing access to nutrition information, the Team will eventually work to implement new empowerment programs such as Earned Income Tax Credits, microenterprise projects, community development banks, assets development projects, and farmers' markets. These programs will meet President Clinton's goal of reforming welfare and breaking the cycle of persistent poverty.

In the Public Lands and Environment Team, participants will work in 18 pilot locations -- seven urban and 11 rural -- to perform service helping communities reduce environmental hazards and working on public lands to conserve, restore, and sustain natural habitats. Some of these pilot locations will be run directly by USDA and some will be run in partnership with existing youth service corps. Participants will renovate urban and rural parks, plant trees, perform conservation work in National Forests, teach environmental education, promote urban farming, test water quality, boost sustainable agriculture, clean-up rivers and lakes, help in disaster recovery, and restore wetlands.

The Rural Development Team will be similar to the professional corps model of service. The Team would establish 10 regional sites of at least 20 professional and paraprofessional participants who assist rural communities in identifying needs and resources necessary for economic, human, and environmental well-being. The participants would have highly varied educations and training and would be matched up with individual communities or regions with unmet needs that can be filled by someone with that specific background. Participants will be mostly college graduates or professional school graduates and will provide service improving local economic planning, boosting sustainable agriculture, bringing the running water to areas now without it, increasing the success of Enterprise Zones and Enterprise Communities, protecting watersheds, improving rural housing, aiding disaster relief, and supporting

existing youth volunteer programs.

Special disaster-relief projects will also be run in the nine Midwest states most impacted by last summer's record flooding to help ongoing long-term recovery efforts.

Each USDA Team will receive significant financial and technical support from USDA agencies, reflecting Secretary Espy's focus on inter-agency cooperation as a keystone of "TEAM USDA." The Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), the Farmer's Home Administration (FmHA), the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS), the Forest Service (FS), the Rural Development Administration (RDA), the Rural Electrification Administration (REA), and the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) all will play significant roles in funding and managing this program.

Recruitment for USDA programs has already begun. The Public Service Announcement that Secretary Espy taped is already running on some television stations throughout the country. Our toll-free number, 1-800-880-4183, has already received calls from such divergent areas as Maine and Utah.

ANTI-HUNGER SITES AND PROJECT EXAMPLES

Vermont, state-wide
 District of Columbia
 Milwaukee, Wisconsin
 Mississippi Delta, Mississippi
 Los Angeles, California

Anti-Hunger Team Example #1 - District of Columbia:

Run in partnership between the DC Service Corps, DC Hunger Action, and USDA, this project will focus on performing outreach on food assistance programs, teaching about nutrition and food safety, providing transportation assistance, creating urban gardens and farmers' markets, and helping homeless people. One of the goals of the program will be to reach 5,000 students through a nutrition education program developed jointly by Team members and the faculty of the University of the District of Columbia.

Anti-Hunger Team Example #2 - Vermont, state-wide:

Run in partnership between the Vermont Office of Economic Opportunity, the Vermont Youth Conservation Corps, and USDA, this program will operate out of five regional hubs in every section of Vermont. The program will aim to increase food stamp utilization by 5% statewide, increase the number of Summer Food Service Program sites by 15% statewide, increase the availability of School Breakfast Program sites by 5% statewide, and increase participation in the Women, Infants, and Children's program by 5% statewide.

PUBLIC LANDS AND ENVIRONMENT SITES AND PROJECT EXAMPLES

Western Kansas
 Western Oklahoma
 Texas Coast
 Atlanta, Georgia
 Boston, Massachusetts
 East St. Louis, Illinois
 New Jersey, state-wide
 District of Columbia
 Chicago, Illinois
 Portland, Oregon
 San Bernadino National Forest, Southern California
 Six Rivers National Forest, Northern California
 Olympic National Forest Washington State
 Rogue River National Forest, Southern Oregon
 Arizona, state-wide National Forests
 Bienville National Forest, Mississippi
 Green Mountain National Forest, Vermont
 White Mountain National Forest, New Hampshire

Public Lands and Environment Example # 1 - Texas Coast:

Participants will work to reduce shoreline erosion by 25% along one mile of the Texas gulf coast by establishing wave barriers intended to protect this unique and fragile ecosystem. The goal is to create more permanent vegetation and an increase in the fin fish population of the area.

Public Lands and Environment Example #2 - Boston, Massachusetts:

Participants will revitalize neighborhoods by identifying and eliminating environmental hazards and by creating and maintaining recreation areas and green spaces. Participants will clean up 25 vacant lots and renovate 10 greenspace parcels. They will also test soils at 300 vacant parcels to determine levels of lead and other public health hazards in soils, test water quality, and trace nonpoint source water pollutants through 50 storm drain systems. Additionally, they will translate materials about this project into Spanish, Vietnamese, or various Creole languages for non-English speaking citizens.

Public Lands and Environment Example # 3 - Rogue River N.F., S. Oregon:

Participants will enhance spotted owl ecosystems at 10 locations in the Forest. They will replace 10 trail bridges at 10 specific stream crossings on the Rogue River. They will also maintain 100 miles of hiking trails at high elevation sites determined to be priority maintenance locations, meeting regional hiking trail standards.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT SITES AND PROJECT EXAMPLES

New England (Maine, Vermont, Northwestern New York)

Appalachia (Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia)

South Carolina, state-wide

Mississippi Delta (Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi)

Great Lakes (Michigan, Ohio)

Minnesota, state-wide

Texas Colonias

Four Corners (Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Utah)

Pacific Northwest (Oregon, Washington)

California, state-wide

Rural Development Example #1 - New England:

In Maine, participants will work with cranberry growers to develop more environmentally-sensitive farming operations, and will improve the quality of water on local lakes, assist four communities with the development of a railroad bed for community hiking, biking and snowmobiling trails, and engage in a wide variety of other projects. In Vermont, they will work to protect the Winooski River Watershed and to provide skills and technical information to help 40 rural fire departments in Vermont develop comprehensive fire protection plans. In New York, participants will work to increase soil and water conservation measures throughout Erie County.

Rural Development Example #2 - Mississippi Delta:

Participants will work on a wide variety of economic development and environmental protection projects. Some examples include: installing 1,575 dry fire hydrants to increase fire protection in 45 parishes of Louisiana; moving 250 residents out of a floodplain in Arkansas; improving livestock waste treatment in 13 counties in southwest Mississippi; assisting elderly and limited resource farmers with routine animal husbandry practices; writing and producing environmental educational materials for teachers; and developing arboretums for on-site environmental education.

Rural Development Example #3 - Texas Colonias:

Participants will work on a wide variety of economic development and environmental protection projects. Some examples include: increasing the number of citizens whose homes are hooked up to running water by facilitating community applications for USDA rural water and waste programs; increasing knowledge among socially and economically disadvantaged individuals of the availability of loans for rural housing ownership, housing repair, and water hook-up services; and working with local residents to facilitate the creation of at least one local non-profit agency which will address a critical local need.

FLOOD RELIEF SITES AND PROJECT EXAMPLES

Illinois
Iowa
Kansas
Minnesota
Missouri
Nebraska
North Dakota
South Dakota
Wisconsin

Flood Relief Example # 1 - All Midwest Flood States:

Participants will inspect river systems by canoe and stream walks to prepare damage assessment plans on 25 miles of streams. They will also restore wetlands in 84 damaged areas to their original condition, benefiting 420 landowners. Additionally, the participants will restore flood control facilities according to already established plans in 49 counties:

Flood Relief Example # 2 - All Midwest Flood States:

Participants will work on a wide variety of flood relief, economic development, and environmental protection projects. Some examples include: determining and delineating 200 wetlands and incorporating this information into the flood-relief planning process; directly explaining the impact of the wetlands delineation to a minimum of 200 affected landowners; creating 420 wetlands plans to restore farmable areas back to original wetlands conditions; and planning and implementing the improvement of 420 animal waste systems in order to reduce groundwater pollution.

ESTIMATED USDA NATIONAL SERVICE FUNDING
(SAMPLE)

AGENCY	FY	Agency Funds ¹	AmeriCorps Funds ²	Program Description
FNS	94	\$350,000	\$2,200,000	Summer Feeding Program, Food Stamp and Nutrition Outreach
	95			
	96		Note ³	
		Agencies: please note that when completing this form, all your projects for any given FY should be combined and reported as one entry for the FY.		

¹ Agency funds are shown in the year in which they are obligated although they may be funding projects for the FY 95 project year.

² AmeriCorps funds are shown as being received in FY 95 because that is the project year for which they are to be used. In addition, these funds do NOT include the amount of any post service education award granted by the Corporation for National and Community Service to participants in USDA programs. The amount of such awards granted for the FY 95 project year is \$5,670,000. This money is not under USDA control.

³ AmeriCorps funds for FY 96 can not be estimated because we have not submitted a proposal to the Corporation for National and Community Service for that year.

ESTIMATED USDA NATIONAL SERVICE FUNDING

AGENCY	FY	Agency Funds ¹	AmeriCorps Funds ²	Program Description
ACS	94-96	0	0	
AMS	94	20,000	0	Assist in establishment of urban farmer's markets.
	95-96	0		
APHIS	94-96	0	0	
ARS	94 ³	71,220	0	Participants work at the National Arboretum doing environmental work and community outreach.
	95	100,000	1,500	"
	96	100,000		"
ASCS ⁴	94	29,132	0	Detaillees assist in developing and managing USDA AmeriCorps programs especially rural development programs.
	95	254,653	0	"
	96	254,653	0	"

AGENCY	FY	Agency Funds ¹	AmeriCorps Funds ²	Program Description
BCA	94-96	0	0	
CCC	94-96	0	0	
CRS	94-96	0	0	
CSRS	94-96	0	0	
EAS	94-96	0	0	
EMS	94-96	0	0	
ERS	94-96	0	0	
ES	94-96	0	0	
FAS	94-96	0	0	
FCIC	94-96	0	0	
FGIS	94-96	0	0	
FmHA/ RDA ⁵	94	2,000,000	19,800	Rural development programs, especially in the areas of water, community development, and housing.
	95	2,000,000	19,800	
	96			

AGENCY	FY	Agency Funds ¹	AmeriCorps Funds ²	Program Description
FNS	94	350,000	2,230,000	Summer Feeding program, Food Stamp and nutrition outreach.
	95	0		
	96	0		
FS	94	640,000	0	A combination of recreation, environmental, and rural development programs.
	95	9,612,696	79,785	"
	96	10,000,000	100,000	"
FSIS	94-96	0	0	
HNIS	94-96	0	0	
NAL	94-96	0	0	
NASS	94-96	0	0	
OC ⁶	94	200,000	0	
	96	200,000	0	
	97	200,000	0	
PSA	94-96	0	0	

AGENCY	FY	Agency Funds ¹	AmeriCorps Funds ²	Program Description
RDA [See FmHA]				
SCS	94	500,000		Watershed, windbreak, and other water and soil related environmental and rural development projects.
	95	8,000,000	174,300	
	96	12,000,000		
WAOB	94-95	0	0	
TOTAL		46,532,355.00	2,625,187.00	

- ¹ Agency funds are shown in the year in which they are obligated although they may be funding projects for the FY 95 project year.
- ² AmeriCorps funds are shown as being received in FY 95 because that is the project year for which they are to be used. In addition, these funds do NOT include the amount of any post service education award granted by the Corporation for National and Community Service to participants in USDA programs. The amount of such awards granted for the FY 95 project year is \$5,670,000. This money is not under USDA control.
- ³ The Secretary's D.C. Summer Program which is not officially an AmeriCorps program but modeled after the AmeriCorps Summer of Service programs.
- ⁴ The ASCS dollar amounts represent the cost of personnel detailed to assist the USDA AmeriCorps effort.
- ⁵ A decision memo is being present to the Secretary by Under Secretary Nash to seek a legislative remedy to restrictions on the use of the designated funding. If the remedy is not approved the funds identified may only be used by FmHA projects otherwise they will be split between FmHA and RDA. In addition, note that the FY 94 funds are for FY 95 AmeriCorps projects; the FY 95 funds are for FY 96 AmeriCorps projects and the FY 96 funds for FY 97 AmeriCorps projects.
- ⁶ Funds represent a combination of the salaries of personnel dedicated to national service, printing, phone, postage, etc.

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USDA/AMERICORPS MEMBERS JOIN NATIONWIDE LAUNCH OF NATIONAL SERVICE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 12--The U.S. Department of Agriculture inaugurated its AmeriCorps national service program--the largest in the federal government -- as part of ceremonies nationwide on Sept. 12 to launch President Clinton's domestic Peace Corps.

"AmeriCorps is a unique new type of federal program that is locally driven and focused on achieving concrete results," said Secretary of Agriculture Mike Espy. The USDA/AmeriCorps program "will join in our efforts to decrease hunger and improve nutrition, enhance the economies and quality of life of rural communities, and clean up our environment and protect our public lands."

Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Richard Rominger is participating in the AmeriCorps ceremonies in Bangor, Maine.

USDA/AmeriCorps members will join other AmeriCorps participants in sites across the country and at the White House to be sworn in. They will perform a year of full-time service to meet environmental and human needs in return for an educational voucher that may be used for college or vocational school. Members in the 42 urban and rural programs to be run by USDA will be part of anti-hunger, public lands and environment, and rural development teams in 32 states.

The anti-hunger projects will be at five sites--two rural and three urban--whose residents have high levels of hunger, poverty and malnutrition. The projects will work to reduce the number of citizens suffering from hunger, improve the nutritional content of family diets and give poor citizens necessary empowerment tools to help lift themselves out of poverty. Designed and run in a unique partnership between USDA, youth service corps and local anti-hunger groups, this program will be a model of reinventing government.

The environmental projects will occur at 32 rural and urban sites in 21 states. The projects will help solve local environmental problems, protect local watersheds, repair and upgrade community facilities, promote sustainable agriculture, conduct environmental education seminars, and preserve and restore national forests.

The rural development projects will operate in 11 pilot regions throughout the country. Participants in these projects are generally college and professional school graduates who will help communities protect watersheds, improve housing, promote economic development, boost sustainable agriculture, and aid the Clinton administration's empowerment zone and enterprise community initiative. Special disaster-relief projects will also be run in the eight Midwest states most damaged by record flooding during the summer of 1993.

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SECTION: CAPITOL HILL HEARING TESTIMONY

LENGTH: 2503 words

HEADLINE: TESTIMONY May 18, 1995 JOHN P. WALTERS PRESIDENT NEW CITIZENSHIP
PROJECT HOUSE GOVERNMENT REFORM HUMAN RESOURCES AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS OVERSIGHT

BODY:

TESTIMONY BY JOHN P. WALTERS

PRESIDENT OF THE NEW CITIZENSHIP PROJECT

BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON HUMAN RESOURCES AND

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENTAL REFORM AND OVERSIGHT,

UNITED STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 18, 1995

Amidst the national debate over the proper role of government, a remarkable bipartisan consensus has emerged. Liberals and conservatives stand united in the belief that public policy, first and foremost, should protect and revitalize America's basic institutions -- those rooted in the family and community life. Beneath this consensus, however, a stark contrast has appeared.

Conservatives argue that government must be re-limited in order to revitalize civil society. Although liberals acknowledge that big government has become inefficient and even destructive, they believe that it cannot be dismantled. Instead, they claim that the government can be expanded or reinvented to serve as an instrument of community and individual empowerment. This argument has been forcefully made in support of the newest extension of big government into the civic sphere, President Clinton's national service program, AmeriCorps. And nowhere are the problems with this top-down approach to revitalizing civil society more apparent. My interest in AmeriCorps, and that of my organization, arose because AmeriCorps was presented as a model for reinvigorating federal activity. We believe this notion of the proper role for the federal government is misguided. We have worked to explain why we think it is misguide and sought to examine what AmeriCorps can teach about the proper direction of government reform.

No one doubts that some AmeriCorps members are doing worthwhile things in local communities. But the brief against AmeriCorps does not rest on the motives of its members. It essentially boils down to this: Can a federal program that pays "volunteers" really reinvigorate local communities and

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non-governmental institutions?

First, AmeriCorps is simply not necessary. Voluntarism in America is booming despite the fact that government social welfare programs have crowded out the traditional efforts of charitable institutions to feed the hungry and shelter the homeless. According to Independent Sector, a philanthropic monitoring organization, in 1993, 89.2 million Americans offered unpaid voluntary service. Though this marks a slight decline from 1981 when 93.1 million volunteered, the number of hours volunteered has increased by more than 50% - from 12.7 billion to 19.5 billion hours today.

Real voluntary service in communities is alive and flourishing; indeed, AmeriCorps' 20,000 members hardly comprise a significant element of the voluntary sector. Unpaid volunteers, who comprise more than one-third of the population, serve especially through religious organizations, which have long been the backbone of community service. The Labor Department, moreover, estimates that nearly three million Americans from ages 18 to 25 (the principal age cohort for AmeriCorps) already serve as unpaid volunteers. And many organizations have expanded night and weekend volunteer opportunities to better enlist the energies of working people and students.

Second, paid "voluntarism" will have a corrupting effect on genuine charity. AmeriCorps' effort to bolster a successful private activity -- voluntary community service - with an infusion of federal tax dollars will further encourage community organizations to become dependent on the federal government. Charitable organizations already receive one-fourth of their funding from government sources. As a result, local control often takes a backseat to government grant-seeking.

Third, though AmeriCorps was designed to aid community-based voluntarism, over one-quarter of its personnel are assigned to assist in the work of government bureaucracies. Nearly 2,800 of AmeriCorps' first 20,000 members are assigned to federal agencies, including Agriculture (1,200), Interior (525), the Environmental Protection Agency (135) and the National Endowment for the Arts (60). Nearly 3,000 other members are assigned to state government or state-funded agencies.

Fourth, like all government bureaucracies, AmeriCorps costs too much. For 1,700 hours of work, AmeriCorps "volunteers" receive annual stipends of \$7,400, plus up to \$9,450 over two years toward payment of higher education debts. That works out to more than \$7 per hour per "volunteer." And this does not include the program's automatic health and childcare benefits, the cost of its Washington-based bureaucrats, or the \$1.7 million AmeriCorps national ad campaign, which cost twice what the Inspector General recommended.

In this vein, NBC Nightly News' Lisa Myers uncovered numerous questionable grants made by the Corporation for National Service, including an environmental project in Alaska that costs taxpayers \$42,000 annually per member and a \$140,000 seed grant which, rather than funding community service, went to pay officials at Northeastern University to develop "a plan to compete for more AmeriCorps money next year." Similar questionable planning grants include \$100,000 for a "volunteer corps" in the Virgin Islands and \$200,000 to the Council of Great City Schools (CGCS). Like Northeastern U., the CGCS doesn't have a single volunteer; according to AmeriCorps' own literature, the CGCS is devoted to the "advancement of education in inner-city public schools through

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public and legislative advocacy."

Moreover, even under less controversial grants, there is reason to believe that AmeriCorps is not spending taxpayers' dollars effectively. Though the program's motto is "it getting things done," AmeriCorps members spend one-fifth of their time in "training, education, and other non-direct service activities." These activities run the gamut from self-esteem classes to GED training. When not in "training," these "volunteers" provide "gang resistance presentations" in Mesa, Arizona and condom education to youngsters in Baltimore; offer "non-traditional career opportunities to young women" in Pittsfield, Massachusetts; and "prevent juvenile delinquency and uplift community pride using arts as a medium" in Puerto Rico. I do not believe these are an appropriate expenditure of taxpayer resources, particularly with the current state of federal finances. And AmeriCorps expenditures, as this committee is aware, come in addition to the \$1.3 billion that the federal government doles out each year in twenty-three other service programs.

For all these reasons and more, I applaud the House for rescinding the 55 percent budget increase that had been awarded the Corporation for National and Community Service this year. The 104th Congress realizes that to tame the federal deficit, it can no longer fund programs, which, however well-intentioned, have inherent pernicious effects. But this step is a necessary lesson on the road to reinvigorating citizenship and challenging apathy. Citizens and the institutions that they control should become self-reliant.

Voluntary community service is not the business of government. And overpaid, Washington-created "volunteers" are destructive of genuine charity. Abolishing AmeriCorps, the newest extension of welfare-state liberalism, will be an important step in rolling back big-government liberalism and opening the way to truly reinvigorating citizenship.

Thank you.

John P. Walters

John P. Walters is President of the New Citizenship Project, an organization created to advance a renewal of American institutions and greater citizen control over our national life.

During 1993 he was a visiting fellow at the Hudson Institute, writing and speaking about antidrug policy. Prior to that, Mr. Walters was appointed by President Bush and confirmed by the Senate as Deputy Director for Supply Reduction in the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Mr. Walters was responsible for developing enforcement policy and coordinating efforts to reduce the supply of illegal drugs. He also served as the senior advisor on national security matters related to drug control and senior liaison to the White House and all executive departments.

Prior to his appointment as Deputy Director, Mr. Walters served as Chief of Staff and National Security Advisor to the Director of ONDCP from the Office's inception in 1989. And from November 1990 to March 1991, Mr. Walters served as Acting Director of ONDCP, overseeing both the international and domestic anti-drug functions of all Executive Branch agencies.

FDCH Congressional Testimony, May 18, 1995

Mr. Walters was a creator of the Madison Center, a public policy organization devoted to advancing improvements in education and related fields, including early childhood education and drug abuse prevention. Mr. Walters served as Executive Director from September 1988 to January 1989.

Between 1985 and 1988, Mr. Walters worked at the U.S. Department of Education, serving as Assistant to the Secretary and Secretary's Representative to the National Drug Policy Board and the Domestic Policy Council's Health Policy Working Group, and was appointed Chief of Staff and Counselor to the Secretary in 1988. Mr. Walters also served as Acting Assistant Director and Program Officer in the Division of Education Programs at the National Endowment for the Humanities from 1982 to 1985.

Mr. Walters has taught political science at Michigan State University's James Madison College and at Boston College.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE-MDC: May 19, 1995

To: Secretary Espy

From: Joel Berg

Date: June 7, 1993

Re: Testimony and Background Materials for Tuesday's National Service Hearing

Attached is a draft of your testimony on national service for Tuesday's hearing of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee. The testimony is intended to accomplish four things:

1) Make an impassioned case that national service is proof that President Clinton is a principled, unwavering "New Democrat" committed to community, opportunity, and responsibility.

2) Defend national service as a universal benefit for diverse participants and implicitly criticize amendments in the House that would target service programs to disadvantaged youths or needs-test the educational benefit.

3) Outline steps USDA will take to incorporate into the President's plan.

I have also attached a set of potential questions from the Senators and suggested responses, as well as the White House's three page summary of the bill.

FACT SHEET

NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST ACT OF 1993

The "National Service Trust Act of 1993" is innovative public policy founded on traditional American values: offering educational opportunity, demanding personal responsibility, and building the American community. In affirming these values, the initiative also rejects big bureaucracy -- reinventing government to unleash the initiative of the American people.

The President's support for service extends from the youngest elementary school students to our oldest citizens, and includes everything from part-time volunteer activities to full-time public service jobs.

The President's initiative will:

- Build the American community through a new domestic Peace Corps that brings Americans together to tackle pressing national problems.
- Offer educational opportunity and reward individual responsibility by providing educational awards to hundreds of thousands of Americans who serve our country.
- Reinvent government by streamlining Federal bureaucracies, relying on locally driven initiatives, and creating flexibility for students and competition among programs.

The Act will establish a Corporation for National Service that will offer Americans who do vital work in the national service initiative an educational award.

The Corporation will establish quality criteria and require measurable impacts, but within these bounds, communities will be able to design programs that meet their own pressing needs. Programs will be expected to educate their participants both in the particular skills their service demands and in the civic responsibility that our democracy requires. In all respects, the Act is designed to build partnerships -- among Federal Government, State governments, and the private sector; and within communities, among the schools, businesses, and civic organizations that seek to fight common problems. Assistance will be distributed on a competitive basis and no program will have a right to funding, but a wide variety of organizations will have a chance to establish programs that serve our country.

Definition of National Service

- Meets unmet educational, environmental, human, or public safety needs.
- Improves the life of the participant, through citizenship education and training.
- Does not displace or duplicate the functions of existing workers.

Organization

- To reduce waste and promote an entrepreneurial government culture, a new government Corporation for National Service will be established, combining the Commission on National and Community Service and ACTION.
- While maintaining existing programs such as VISTA, the new program makes investments in new initiatives; neither the Corporation nor the State commissions will operate them.
- A small bipartisan Board will share power with a Chairperson.
- Flexible and quality-driven personnel policies will include pay-for-performance and a 7-year limit on most tenures.
- The Corporation may solicit and accept private contributions.
- At the state level, commissions on national service will be established to mirror and cooperate with the Federal Corporation.
- Like the Corporation Board, commissions will be composed of bipartisan members from a variety of fields. To ensure a genuine Federal/State partnership, a representative of the Corporation will sit on the State commissions, and a State representative will sit on the Corporation Board.
- All programs will have to compete for support; none will be guaranteed funding.
- One-third of funds will be allocated by population-based formula to State commissions with approved plans for competitive distribution of funds; at least one-third to State commissions on a competitive basis for competitive distribution; and up to one-third will be reserved to the Corporation for allocation on a competitive basis.

Programs

- National quality criteria for programming will be developed for every type of program in conjunction with experts in the field.
- Performance goals and independent evaluations will be required in every program.

- An Inspector General will police fraud and abuse and perform oversight of funded programs.
- To encourage public/private partnership, programs must provide a 15 percent cash match on stipends and health care and a 25 percent match for other program support.
- Entities ranging from small community organizations to Federal agencies will be eligible to operate service programs.
- A broad array of possible programs will be eligible for funding: from youth corps for at-risk youth, to specialized service programs for college graduates, to diverse community corps for Americans of all backgrounds. Many other models are possible, and venture capital will be available for new efforts.

Participants

- To encourage wide and diverse participation, individuals aged 17 and over may serve before, during, or after post-secondary education.
- To target program participation to participant interests and community needs, participants will be recruited and selected by approved local programs. A national or State recruitment system will also be established to disseminate information and help interested individuals locate placements in local programs. Information about available positions will be widely disseminated through high schools, colleges, and other placement offices.
- To earn an educational award, a participant must complete at least 1 year of full-time or 2 years of part-time service in an approved program. An individual may serve up to two terms and earn up to two educational awards.
- Educational awards of \$5,000 will be provided for each term of service. Awards may be used for past, present or future expenses, including 2- and 4-year colleges, training programs, and graduate or professional programs.
- Programs will set stipends within a limited range based at minimum wage. Health and child care will be provided to those who need them.

Encouraging Service by All

- The Act enhances the Serve-America program for school-age youth.
- The Act extends and improves the VISTA and Older Americans Volunteer Programs.
- The Act reauthorizes support for the Civilian Community Corps.
- The Act reauthorizes support for the Points of Light Foundation.

To: Secretary Espy

From: Joel Berg

Date: June 7, 1993

Re: Potential Questions from Senators at National Service Hearing

Background on the Senators Likely to Attend

Democrats:

The Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee is chaired by Edward Kennedy, who is not expected to attend the hearing. Kennedy was responsible for brokering the compromise between Sam Nunn, himself, and the White House that led to the passage of the National and Community Service Act of 1990, which you co-sponsored in the House. Kennedy's prime area of interest is service-learning, also known as experiential learning, in which students from kindergarten through college perform community service as part of their regular school curriculum.

The hearing will be chaired by Harris Wofford, who helped President Kennedy found the Peace Corps. Immediately before entering the Senate, Wofford served as Commissioner of Commerce in Pennsylvania under Governor Casey; under his direction, the Commerce Department pioneered ground-breaking volunteer and youth service programs. A staunch supporter of national service, Wofford entered the Senate **after** the passage of the 1990 act.

Barbara Mikulski is the member of the Committee whose position on national service most closely resembles the original proposal of the DLC. She was an original co-sponsor of the Nunn-McCurdy bill. She also proposed her own bill that would promote national service, modeled on the ROTC, which would allow part-time service on weekends and during summers; parts of this proposal were incorporated into the National and Community Service Act of 1990.

Claiborne Pell sponsored one of the earliest bills to create a type of national service. He is also the creator of the Pell Grant and may be hesitant to support major changes in the current system which would downplay needs-based grants.

Paul Simon is the leading advocate of a direct lending system which would cut both banks and Sallie Mae out of the student loan system. While those changes are contained in a separate administration bill, on which you will NOT be testifying, Simon is supportive of national service to a large degree because he sees it as a vehicle to cut banks out of student aid funds.

Howard Metzenbaum, Christopher Dodd (a former Peace Corps volunteer), Tom Harkin, Jeff Bingaman, and Paul Wellstone are also on the Committee.

Republicans:

James Jeffords of Vermont and Dave Durenberger of Minnesota are the two Republicans on the Committee that have co-sponsored the bill. Their support will likely mean that the President's bill -- in some version -- will pass the House.

Orrin Hatch of Utah, who is personally lukewarm about national service, played a key role in getting the Bush White House to agree to a compromise on the 1990 national service bill.

Nancy Kassebaum of Kansas is one of the Committee's strongest opponents of national service. She believes the government should not pay people to volunteer and that any government initiative will duplicate and harm existing private volunteer efforts.

Dan Coats of Indiana, Judd Gregg of New Hampshire, and Strom Thurmond of South Carolina are also on the Committee.

Possible Questions and Suggested Answers:

I AM CURRENTLY ATTEMPTING TO OBTAIN FROM WOFFORD'S STAFF AND THE COMMITTEE STAFF THE EXACT QUESTIONS THAT THE DEMOCRATS ON THE COMMITTEE PLAN TO ASK YOU. IF I CAN OBTAIN THEM, I WILL IMMEDIATELY PROVIDE THEM TO YOU, ALONG WITH SUGGESTED ANSWERS. IN THE MEANTIME, HERE ARE SOME QUESTIONS THAT I BELIEVE YOU MAY BE ASKED:

Question #1: Isn't it really an oxymoron to have "paid volunteers?" Why should our government pay people to do work they are already volunteering to do for free.

Answer #1: Volunteer work is critical to this nation. One of President Bush's greatest contributions was to use his high office to continually promote volunteerism with his "Points of Light Awards." This Administration will continue to promote volunteerism. In fact, I have directed my own Department to seek ways to expand its own employee volunteer programs. But volunteerism is NOT national service -- they are two different things. National service is a targeted, systematic approach to

fill unmet social needs. National service is mostly full-time, year-round work. Without compensating servers, it is unlikely that many people other than the rich would be able to donate a full year of their time to work for free. If Cabinet Secretaries and Senators and career civil servants get paid for full-time service to their nation, it is only fitting to compensate youth service with a minimal subsistence wage. Moreover, there is a greater point to be made; national service is not a giveaway, but a civic compact made between participants and their society. The G.I. Bill did not dilute the meaning of citizenship -- it enhanced it. National service will enhance citizenship. So we need both volunteerism and national service.

Question #2: Isn't national service really just a cover for yet another traditional liberal big-spending, big-government, big-bureaucracy program?

Answer #2: Absolutely not. National service represents an entirely new approach to reinventing government that is neither right nor left, neither liberal nor conservative. It combines the traditionally liberal concern with opportunity with the traditionally conservative concern for responsibility. It is a way of moving beyond established student aid programs, which do not work very well. It will create virtually no Washington bureaucracy. Almost all the national service projects will likely be managed by existing youth service groups, state and local governments, community groups, entrepreneurs, and non-profit agencies. Any program run by my agency will be entrepreneurial. We will try to obtain matching funds from private sources. We will measure performance based on actual outcomes, not on how well program managers fill out forms. Our bottom line will be that any service program must be providing valuable service to communities.

Question #3: This program would give large college scholarships to young people who might be from rich families. Wouldn't our scarce resources be better spent on targeting aid to students who couldn't get to college without it?

Answer #3: This Administration is maintaining current aid programs, such as the Pell Grant program, which are intended to help low-income students. National service educational benefits can be utilized by low-income students in addition to existing aid programs. Therefore, such youths will benefit even more through national service. Yet, national service also works towards another ideal, that of equal benefits for equal contribution to our society. Programs based on this principle, such as Social Security, receive wide-spread support from the American people beyond the span of individual Administrations.

Question #4: Won't national service discriminate against low-income students by creating a two-tiered society in which poor students work to perform service to pay for college but rich students do not?

Answer #4: Nothing discriminates against low-income students more than the failing status quo. Low-income and middle-class students **already** have to work for college, and many are still saddled with a huge debt after graduating. Under a program of national service, these students could teach reading instead of flipping burgers, and their subsequent debt would be greatly reduced. In addition, low-income citizens would be the beneficiaries of much of the work performed by the participants of national service.

Question #5: How will the President meet his pledge of making national service available for all Americans?

Answer #5: The President's plan calls for placing 25,000 participants in the field in the Fall of 1994 and moving up to 150,000 by the end of his first four years in office. It would be almost impossible to move faster and create a program that meets all our quality objectives. Not only is the budget deficit a major concern, but we simply do not want to move so fast that we displace the work of the wonderful service programs in all fifty states. We want to move as quickly as possible to build upon the successes of the current system. Our ultimate goal is to make our program so effective and popular that it continues to expand no matter who is in office five, ten, or twenty years down the road.

Question #6: What is your position on Congressional Amendments that would add to this bill provisions that would require the Departments of Agriculture and Interior to run youth corps of public lands?

Answer #6: My Department is already making very serious plans to run corps on National Forests on public lands. I have no position on such an amendment that would require me to do what I am already planning to do.

Question #7: Will the programs run by your department be targeted just for college students.

Answer #7: No, our programs will be open to all Americans who either have a high school degree or agree to receive a G.E.D. We do hope, however, that our programs will inspire, and help pay for, young people to attend college, trade schools, or apprenticeship programs, even if they had not previously planned to do so. We will allow service to be performed before, after, or during post-secondary education.

Question #8: Won't the President's proposal wipe out the ACTION agency?

Answer #8: Not at all. By merging ACTION with the new Corporation for National Service, similar to the existing Commission on National and Community Service, we will be able to utilize the best of both models. The Administration's plan will, in fact, greatly expand upon the original mission of ACTION.

Mr. Screen

6

Americorps

Lynda
Maria
OC

1. The Department was one of several Federal agencies selected to receive a direct grant from the Corporation for National and Community Service to operate an Americorps program. The Department spent \$3.1 million of appropriated dollars in fiscal year 1994. This amount was estimated to increase to \$18.1 million in fiscal year 1995. Is that the correct amount that was spent in 1995?

S-24

S-25 2. What was the number of participants in the program in 1995?

S-26 3. How many hours or days a week do these participants work?

S-27(A) 4. Do they work for an entire year? What is the average length of time of
S-27(b) service?

S-28 5. How much of a stipend do they receive for their service?

S-29 6. Update the table that appears on page 439 of last year's hearing record on Americorps activities.

Under Secretary/Assistant Secretary Offices

Amey

1. Provide a table that shows a breakout of the number of executive, confidential, and special assistants each Under and Assistant Secretary has working for them. Also include in this table the grade level and pay costs associated with each assistant.

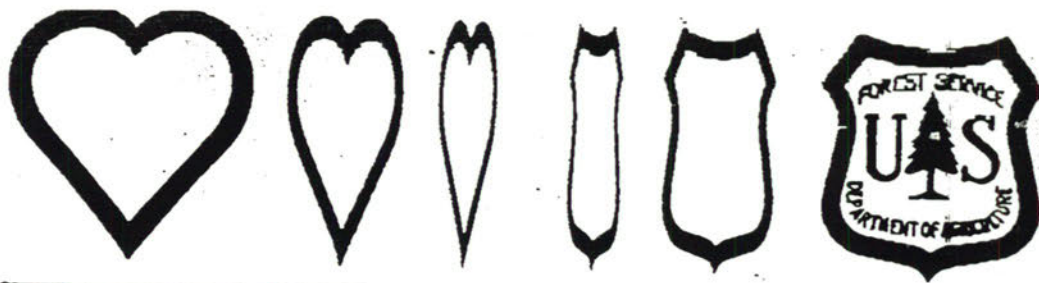
S-30

From: Joel Berg
To: GFRAZIER,MPHIPPS,SSHEARER,SHAGUE,ISMULKSTYS
Date: 10/5/95 10:07am
Subject: Congressional Calls on AmeriCorps

FYI, in the last few days, I have received calls from the state and district offices of Senator Domenici, Congressman Skeen, and Congressman Richardson lobbying on behalf of specific RECD AmeriCorps projects being considered in New Mexico. Congressman Murtha's office called to lobby for a project in Western Pennsylvania. I informed all of them that we would be able to meet their requests. Congressman Murtha's office then issued a press release praising the program.

Senator Bob Smith's State Director called me to inquire about a proposed NRCS/ RC&D Council AmeriCorps project in New Hampshire. I informed him that the proposed project would directly benefit for profit entities and was therefore, by law, ineligible to use AmeriCorps Members. He understood and accepted this explanation. I then informed him that my office was providing technical assistance to the RC&D Council to help them apply for VISTA volunteers, who can legally aid for profit entities. This staffer indicated that he believed that AmeriCorps was performing useful service in his state, even though his boss just once again voted against it. He all but admitted to me his boss was wrong on this issue.

These calls indicate to me that, despite the continued public political posturing intended to embarrass the President, AmeriCorps is here to stay because it is successful meeting local needs.



HUMAN RESOURCE PROGRAMS

The "Heart" of the Forest Service • Building a Better Tomorrow

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION/RESEARCH STATION

PLEASE DELIVER 3 PAGE(S) (INCLUDING COVER SHEET)

To: Brian Mc Guire - Coop Forestry

FAX # 202-205-1610 Date: May 20

File Designation: 1800

Subject: Hearing on National Service
Trust Act of 1993

REMARKS: Bill Basl works for the
State of Washington Employment
Security. Handles the State Youth
Conservation Corps

From: is well connected

Patetically
FAX # (503)326-5255

FTS 423-5255

[Signature]



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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

518 HOUSE ANNEX 1

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6107

SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT EDUCATION AND CIVIL RIGHTS

May 17, 1993

Mr. William C. Basl, Director
Washington Service Corps
P.O. Box 9046
Olympia, Washington 98507-9046

Dear Mr. Basl:

We are requesting that you testify at a joint hearing on the administration's national service initiative (H.R. 2010, the National Service Trust Act). The hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 25, 1993, at 10 a.m. in Room 2261, Rayburn House Office Building.

Based on the outstanding recommendation offered by Congresswoman Jolene Unsoeld, we would like to learn more about the Washington Service Corps. We would also find it useful if you would discuss the role of service corps and their interaction with local non-profit organizations and disadvantaged youth in an expanded national service program. Please provide comments and recommendations regarding the proposed legislation.

We ask that you fax a copy of your testimony to our office (202/225-3675) as soon as possible and that you provide 75 copies by 12 noon, Friday, May 21, 1993. Please have these copies delivered to Ms. Wanser R. Green, Subcommittee on Select Education and Civil Rights, 518 O'Neill House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515. Your entire written testimony will be submitted for the record. Therefore, we request that you limit your oral presentation to between five and seven minutes.

Should you have any questions regarding the hearing, please feel free to contact Sylvia Macaj of the Subcommittee staff at (202) 226-7532. We look forward to your testimony.

Sincerely yours,

MAJOR R. OWENS
Chairperson

ID:

MAY 17 '93

16:11 No.009 P.01

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PHONE NO: 202-226-7532 FAX NO: 202-225-3675

FAX TRANSMITTAL

TO:

Bill Bass

FAX NO:

(206) 459-6022

FROM:

Sylvia Hertz

DATE:

5/17/93

NUMBER OF PAGES (INCLUDING THIS COVER) SHEET: 2

COMMENTS:

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2181 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
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MEMORANDUM

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MAJORITY—(202) 226-4627
(TTY)—(202) 226-3372
MINORITY—(202) 226-3726
(TTY)—(202) 226-3112

TO: Chairman Ford
FROM: Gene Sofer
DATE: June 14, 1993
SUBJECT: Possible Amendments

(1) Mr. Goodling will offer an amendment to means test the post-service educational benefit. The effect would be to limit the receipt of the award to those who qualify for subsidized student loans (income cut off between \$75,000-\$100,000).

(2) Mr. Boehner will offer an amendment to include the stipend in the calculation of welfare benefits. The bill currently excludes them to avoid the possibility that the stipend will push poor families over the limit and discourage the participation of low income people.

(3) Mr. Owens will offer an amendment to establish a minimum living allowance for all programs authorized in the Act. Because programs pay stipends, rather than wages, these living allowances are often quite modest. Owens would set a floor of \$7,300, the equivalent of the VISTA stipend.

(4) Mrs. Mink may offer an amendment that would limit use of the educational award to loan repayment, including unsubsidized loans.

(5) Mr. Martinez will offer an amendment, similar to the Miller proposal included in the substitute, to create a structure through which DOT and HUD could carry out national service projects if they received funds from the Corporation.

(6) Mr. Gunderson may offer an amendment to change the way evaluations are treated in the application process. Currently, the applicant suggests the criteria by which it wants to be evaluated and the Corporation approves the criteria. Gunderson wants the Corporation to set criteria and have the applicant ask to be evaluated on a different basis.

Defeated in 29-12 votes but will be offered on floor
Not offered
Tabled
Amendments defeated
Passed without DOT & HUD reference
Passed

DOT & HUD removed due to jurisdiction concerns

June 14 Memorandum - Page 2

(7) Mr. Gunderson will offer an amendment suspending the eligibility of individuals who have been convicted of drug related offenses unless the person has successfully completed a drug rehab program. If after a first conviction the individual sought to enroll in a qualified program he/she could resume eligibility.

(8) Mr. Gunderson will have an amendment adding a business person to the National Corporation.

(9) Mr. Becerra may offer an amendment that would add "programs or projects which serve a significant percentage of low income or under served populations" to the list of priorities the Corporation should consider in evaluating state plans.

(10) Mr. Becerra may offer an amendment to the evaluation of state efforts to recruit participants from distressed areas. If states are found to be deficient, he may suggest a probationary period, followed by punitive measures.

(11) Mr. Becerra may offer an amendment to increase diversity on state commissions.

(12) Mr. Becerra may offer an amendment to allow VISTA volunteers to work in the area of naturalization and citizenship.

(13) Depending on the resolution of the civil service issues, Mr. Owens may have amendments on the protections offered to ACTION employees.

(14) Mr. Owens may offer an amendment that would incorporate the Congressional Awards Program into the Act after the Presidential Awards Section (198B) on pages 128-129.

(15) Ms. Molinari will offer an amendment to eliminate the federal stipend and child care and health care for program participants and award only the education benefit. She also proposes to increase the flexibility participants will have by reducing the hours of the service requirement and giving them more time in which to do it.

(16) Ms. Molinari will offer an amendment to create a trigger that national service cannot be funded until campus based and programs are funded at their current services level and until the maximum Pell Grants award has been increased by \$100.

(17) Mr. Ballenger will propose guidelines to govern potential conflicts of interest between Corporation board members and applicants with which they are, or were, affiliated.

Unfinished
outcome: no
vote taken

Passed

Not
offered
had
offered

Not
offered

Defeated
on
voice
vote

Defeated
26-17
not in
official
roll

June 14 Memorandum - Page 3

(18) Mr. Ballenger will propose to eliminate the union concurrence language from the bill.

(19) Mr. Ballenger will propose to eliminate the provisions allowing VISTA volunteers to work on voter registration activities.

(20) Mr. Cunningham will offer an amendment to designate Cal Serve as the recipient of funds rather than to have applications.

(21) Mrs. Roukema will offer an amendment to have participants chosen by lottery.

(22) Mrs. Roukema will have an amendment that will make National Service a component of College Work Study and eliminate the pre-college portion of the program.

(23) Mr. Petri will offer an amendment to turn the \$1,000 educational award into a supplemental hourly wage.

(24) Mr. Strickland will add areas of high unemployment to the areas of economic distress.

(25) Mr. Roemer will offer an amendment to provide for early release from national service for compelling reasons and describe conditions for readmission.

unclear about
this - no vote
but "amended
where applicable"

Not
offered
not offered

Defeated
voice
vote

not
offered
not
offered
not
offered

Passed

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Legislative Affairs Staff

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Please deliver to:

Name:

Katherine Gifney

Organization:

USDA Nat'l Service Task Force

Phone Number:

720-7033

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Pages w/Cover Sheet:

3

Date & Time Sent:

Date:

5/21/93

Time Sent:

1:35 pm.

Sender's Comments:

Witness list for Nat'l Sew House hearing
next week.

Sender's Name:

Thelma Strong
205-1225

USDA/Forest Service
P.O. Box 96090
Legislative Affairs Staff
5 SW Auditors
Washington, DC 20090-6090

Telephone: (202) 205-1636
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-8107
SUBCOMMITTEE ON SELECT EDUCATION AND CIVIL RIGHTS

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: Members and Staff
FROM: Major R. Owens, Chairman
RE: Subcommittee Hearing Schedule
DATE: May 18, 1993

The Subcommittee on Select Education and Civil Rights and the Subcommittee on Human Rights have scheduled a joint legislative hearing on H.R. 2010, the National Service Trust Act on Tuesday, May 25, 1993, at 10 a.m. in Room 2173, Rayburn House Office Building. Tentative witnesses include:

PANEL I

Ms. Kim Diana Connelly
Former VISTA Project Supervisor
Arlington, Virginia

Mr. Dwight Rasmussen, President
National Association of Senior
Companion Project Directors
Salt Lake City, Utah

Mr. Joe Williams, Executive Director
Fresno County Equal Opportunity
Commission
Fresno, California

Mr. William C. Basl, Director
Washington Service Corps
Olympia, Washington

PANEL II

ACTION Employee

Member, Board of Directors
Commission on National and Community Service

05/21/93 12:40

FOREST SERVICE

--- USDA INT GOV AFF

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Mr. Joseph Madison, Co-Chair
Massachusetts Commission on Community Service

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HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR
HEARING ON NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST ACT (H.R. 2010)

MAY 19, 1993

AS OF MAY 19, THE BILL HAS 187 COSPONSORS. 19 ORIGINAL COSPONSORS ARE REPUBLICANS.

TESTIFYING: SECRETARY OF INTERIOR BRUCE BABBITT, REP. DAVE MCCURDY (D-OKL.), REP. CHRIS SHAYS (R-CT.)

Committee Members Present: William Ford, (D-Chairman), William Goodling (R-PA.), George Miller (D-CA.), Matthew Martinez (D-CA), Thomas Sawyer (D-OH.), Jolene Unsoeld (D-WA.), Lynn Woolsey (D-CA.), Carlos A. Romero-Barcelo (D-PR.), Thomas Petri (R-WI.), Steve Gunderson (R-WI.), Richard K. Armey (R-TX.), Pual Henry (R-MI.), Susan Molinari (R-NY.), Peter Hoekstra (R-MI), Ted Strickland (D-OH), Major Owens (D-NY), Robert Scott (D-VA.), Gene Green (D-TX.), Tim Roemer (D-IN.), and Marge Roukema (D-NJ.).

McCurdy - National Service lies at the heart of the American tradition. It is not volunteerism -- it is to help communities with unmet needs. G. I. Bill is prototype for NS. For every \$1 spent on veterans, \$10 is returned to the economy. Germany is very reliant on its national service -- it is part of the national reality in Germany. NS could create a new spirit of community. Has bipartisan support. Hope it moves quickly through Congress.

Shays - Was 14 years old when Kennedy spoke of the Peace Corps. Shays and his wife were Peace Corps volunteers. With regard to NS, there is the same sense of anticipation of 60s. NS provides the same ability to harness enthusiasm of youth. Peace Corps changed my life. There is something magical and inspirational about serving others. The bill can appeal to Republicans because there is no large, central bureaucracy, state autonomy, and capitalizes on "vast array of existing" organizations. Wisest and least costly investment we can make. Doesn't authorize specific levels of funding for future years. Program will establish goals and means to evaluate. Provides strong measures against fraud and abuse. Goals are not Republican or Democratic or liberal or conservative.

Goodling - the concept is as old as the hills. The problem is you talk about \$15,000-\$20,000 per person for 25,000 kids. No way to determine if needy getting money. Would rather have program where people in inner cities clean up inner city. Slap in the face to G.I.s because NS will give more money than G.I. bill gave to veterans. (This was disputed by Chairman Ford, who said that Rep. Montgomery, chair of Veterans Committee, was a cosponsor.

"I know it's motherhood, ice cream, and apple pie and I realize that you don't go against

motherhood, ice cream, and apple pie."

McCurdy- distinguished from CETA program because management at local level. Core principle is that it will only succeed when there is meaningful work. This is for pre and post college. What about the 50 percent who don't go to college in this country? What about them? What do we offer them? I'm not worried about some participants being wealthy, because they also will learn. People gain more than they give in service. That's something we can't quantify.

Shays - There is an untapped source of individuals wanting to serve. I worked on a domestic Marshall Plan, one goal of which was to establish NS. Point is to lift us above cynicism. You have rich people in the military also. Don't can the whole idea - make amendments. Don't give up on this program. It's going to make a difference in this nation.

Petri - We already have buffer sector of volunteers. Worried we might subvert this with NS getting money. Isn't this more money than allotted the Peace Corps and VISTA?

Shays - People will join to serve - not just for a \$5,000 stipend. not a bureaucratic program.

McCurdy - We are not talking about volunteers. We are talking about service.

Ford - This committee will have oversight. I will blow the whistle the first time that I see a CETA-type job.

Miller - How can \$5,000 stipend crowd out volunteerism? The genius of the program is that it attracts people from across the American experience. Previous administration tried to kill VISTA but they couldn't dispute what VISTA volunteers did. Borrow success from people in communities who cared enough to work in communities. We will have ambassadors from one community to another. Mr. chair, let's move this quickly.

McCurdy - value of this bill is that it has bipartisan support.

Gunderson - \$30 billion is being cut in the military. Why can't we afford \$400 million for NS?" It is a very Republican idea. Non-bureaucratic nature, having youth work for their education. All these are Republican ideas.

McCurdy - Reduction of post-service award created anger. As evolved, much tighter, not a flat sum in the budget, must come back annually and justify.

Martinez - We visited sites during hearing on pilot programs. We found people whose lives were changed. Goes beyond Jobs Corps which is limited.

roukema - doesn't disagree with concept. Opposes because 1)laying groundwork for capped entitlement program; 2) don't understand why we're putting up new program that looks like CETA. Should use work/study program as groundwork.

Shays - Simply not an entitlement program. Goes to appropriations, sums must be voted out. No individual has a right to be part of this program. How can anyone make analogy to CETA? Not for people who have lack of skills. Does bill a disservice to think of it as CETA.

Roukema - to the extent that extraordinary latitude on local level, potential for political patronage.

(BABBITT WAS ASKED TO BEGIN HIS TESTIMONY.)

I have been asked to represent the Administration because of my personal experience. Spent time in 1966 in Venezuela with ACTION. Spent several years with VISTA. Volunteers (after service) are never quite the same with regard to community and ethic of service.

It is this way with all such programs, VISTA, Peace Corps, Work/Study, etc.

Facts of legislation: \$394 million in 1994 for 25,000 participants. Builds on local initiatives, must meet unmet needs, improve lives of participants. CETA was a job-creation bill. NS not about this. Service focused. Who may participate - designed to involve without regard to race, age. On or two terms - \$5,000 at completion of service. Lower limit of 17 years of age. Stipends will vary across program. Federal government will pay 85 percent. Participants will receive health and child care benefits. Programs will be able to recruit own people. Legislation establishes Corporation of National Service, a new approach to reinventing government. Corps will be able to solicit private funds. Two-thirds of funds allocated to state based on population and competitive base. Seven-to-thirteen member State commission appointed by the Governor. State commission will select the programs.

Owens - Wise to move and move rapidly.

Babbitt - NS says an applicant that wants to be sponsoring agency that wants to use volunteers may do so.

Henry - The way the bill is written with regard to competitive grants to programs, isn't unfair advantage with unions which will have input and be calling shots.

Sawyer - was a member of the National Teacher Corps. Was a defining time in my life.

Molinari - endorse concept but one point causes me trouble. No means testing for minimum wage. Wealthy would receive aid.

Babbitt - not an entitlement program and means testing is about entitlements. This is not about a benefit. It's about service. Stipend barely covers living expenses. Doesn't lead up career ladder. It's sort of a timeout. Not bankable income.

Molinari - if formula could be devised, that those more deserving could receive more. . . (She indicated that she is seriously considering an amendment to this effect.)

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Unsoeld - Said husband had been Peace Corps country director and her entire family had benefitted, particularly her children. "The greatest benefit is to those doing service."

Ms. English - "There are things within this program that money cannot buy: service, values, may make education more valuable." Shouldn't be considered from just an economic point of view.

Goodling - concern that program sold on basis that college will be affordable and therefore for those most in need. Wants those to receive stipend to be means-tested.

Petri - Concerned about these jobs displacing state and local workers, that there may be "makework", and that participants be distributed evenly among states.

Babbitt - Encountered "makework" in CETA. NS wants to stay away from this. Incentives of the program are for those interested in service. On-third slots will be allocated to states on rigid, per capita basis.

DRAFT

To: Ron Blackley

From: Joel Berg

Date: June 2, 1993

Re: USDA's Long-Term Role in the Clinton National Service Plan

PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING PROPOSAL AND THEN DISCUSS IT WITH ME BEFORE I PRESENT IT TO THE SECRETARY.

Background

Whether or not USDA helps funds youth service programs for **this** Summer, the Department will likely play a large role in the President's long-term initiative. The Administration's bill, which should pass Congress in the next few months, would place the participants in the field starting in the Fall of 1994.

Under the proposed legislation, most of the service participants will be managed by state and local governments and by local non-profit organizations. Through Extension Service and other USDA agencies, **we can play a vital role in providing technical assistance to organizations and institutions that want to apply for national service grants** from the new Corporation for National Service. For instance, we could work very closely with the Council of 1890's Presidents/Chancellors to help in developing its proposed "Rural Community Service Program.

The legislation will also give USDA and other government agencies additional funds to allow us to design and manage our own youth service programs. In recent testimony on the Hill, Secretary Babbitt pledged that his Department would submit a service proposal the day after the President signs the bill. I have convened a working group with USDA employees from Extension Service, SCS, Forest Service, RDA, and FNS to develop specific proposals for corps we can run. At the Secretary's direction, I have worked with the task force to develop two very specific proposals:

1) Anti-Hunger and Empowerment Corps

2) Environmental Corps

The working group also developed another idea, which I have discussed with Bob Nash:

3) Rural Development Corps

Common Characteristics of All the Proposed USDA Service Programs

All the USDA national service programs should:

- * Reinvent government by promoting opportunity, responsibility, and community.
- * Reunite the interests of the middle class and the poor by allowing young people from all types of families to earn their way through college.
- * Provide models for how the federal government can run national service programs.
- * Expand dramatically as the President phases-in a full-scale national program.
- * Recruit groups of participants that are geographically, racially, religiously, and socioeconomically diverse.
- * Provide valuable service to the community by systematically filling unmet social needs.
- * Allow young people to perform service either before **or** after attending post-secondary education.
- * Forge links to youth apprenticeship programs run by USDA and other Cabinet agencies.
- * Give the participants at least a minimum wage living expense, as well as adequate supervision and training.
- * Limit the work performed to tasks that fulfill significant missions of USDA and are supported by our major constituency groups (farming, consumer, commodity, environmental, etc.).
- * Encourage the leveraging funds from states, localities, non-profit organizations, and corporations.
- * Build a new form of entrepreneurial and non-bureaucratic government.
- * Create its staff out of existing USDA personnel.
- * Be managed across traditional USDA agency lines.

Proposal for National Empowerment Corps

I. SUMMARY:

Corps members would work in urban and rural areas to help-low income families and individuals move towards self-sufficiency. The main focus of the Corps would be fighting domestic hunger; it would be similar to EFNEP but would have a greatly expanded mission. Corps members would help individuals apply for food stamps, WIC, and the school breakfast program; overhaul their diets; learn to prevent foodborne illnesses; obtain the expanded Earned Income Tax Credits, microenterprise loans, and help from community development banks. In short, this Corps would help put into effect the entire empowerment agenda promoted by you and President Clinton. A full-scale program could eventually provide a big boost to your efforts to eradicate domestic hunger.

II. USDA EMPLOYEES CONSULTED ON THE PROPOSAL:

John Webster of FNS; Katherine Gibney of FSIS; Alma Hobbs, Jon Irby and Edith Thomas of Extension Service

III. HOW PROGRAM WOULD WORK:

Participants would provide outreach and access services, build the anti-hunger and anti-poverty infrastructures, and run innovative new empowerment programs:

A) Provide outreach/access services (educating eligible people about program availability and helping make benefits accessible)

- o Outreach Workers Inform target populations about program availability (all programs)
- o Drivers Help eligible people apply for and receive program benefits (WIC, CACFP, TEFAP, NPE, CSFP)

- o Delivery
 Aides Deliver program benefits to homebound elderly, physically disadvantaged, and homeless people (TEFAP, CSFP, FDPIR)

- o Bilingual
 Aides Provide program information, help with applications, etc. to eligible non-English-speaking people (all programs)

- o Service
 Facilitator Conduct telephone follow-up with people who don't keep appointments, direct people to related health and welfare services (WIC, CSFP)

B) Bolster the infrastructure (providing the human capital necessary to deliver the programs according to congressional intent):

- o Food
 Handlers Stock, warehouse, manage, distribute food products (TEFAP, Charitable Institutions, NPE, CSFP, school programs, FDPIR)

- o Day Care
 Workers Provide child/adult care services to allow eligible people to apply for and receive program benefits (WIC, TEFAP, FDPIR)

- o Bilingual
 Case Assistants Assist case manager with non-English-speaking clients (WIC)

- o Kitchen/Cafeteria Aides Help with meal preparation and serving, maintenance, monitoring lunchrooms, and sanitation (school food, CACFP, and commodity programs)
- o Nutrition Assistants Help with nutrition education, cooking demonstrations (WIC, school food programs)
- o CACFC Assistant Improve supervision ratio of provider to participants in child care/meal preparation functions (CACFP)

C) Boost innovative new empowerment programs

- o EITC Help families obtain the newly expanded Earned Income Tax Credit
- o Microenterprise Teach people how to start small businesses
- o Community Develop. Banks Inform families on how to apply for loans from community development banks
- o Assets Building Work with families to develop savings plans
- o Tenant management Help public housing tenants to develop organizations for self-management
- o Apprenticeship Work with local schools and businesses to develop new school-to-work transition programs

Proposal for a National Environmental Youth Corps

I. SUMMARY:

The Department of Agriculture, in conjunction with Interior and EPA, would establish an Environmental Youth Corps with urban and rural components. The urban component would be mostly non-residential and members would work on conservation projects on public and private lands in cities of various sizes. The rural component would be both residential and non-residential and would perform conservation-related work projects on private and public lands in rural America. The programs would be linked, with Corps members having the option of transferring between the rural and urban settings. For example, a Corps member could work in a rural environment for six months and then in an urban environment for another six months.

II. USDA EMPLOYEES CONSULTED:

Brian McGuire and Katherine Allen of the Forest Service; Jim Fuller of SCS; Andy Fisher of the National Forest Foundation

III. HOW THE PROGRAM WILL WORK:

There are currently an estimated 8 million tree-planting sites in communities across America with the current replacement rate being one tree planted for every four removed. Thousands of water quality projects nationwide are awaiting manpower in our communities and our rural areas, as are riparian area restoration, erosion control, stream improvement, road bank stabilization, and wildlife habitat projects.

The objectives of the program would be:

- o to accomplish needed conservation work on public and private lands;
- o to give youth sense of community and self-discipline
- o to teach the environmental/biological/ecological and educational skills necessary to accomplish the conservation work;

Approach:

Urban: More than 80 percent of the American population now lives in cities of varying size. Currently, the Forest Service, with 620 Ranger Districts across the country, and the Soil Conservation Service, with more than 2,000 offices nationwide, have existing local partnerships and delivery systems in many urban areas.

The program would take the Corps to where the people are, operating in any urban community with an existing network of Forest Service/Soil Conservation Service programs in partnerships with local governments or non-profit organizations.

The non-residential program would focus on urban conservation projects in the areas of water quality, waste disposal, erosion control, road bank and stream bank stabilization, the creation of urban buffers, rehabilitation and maintenance of deteriorating community infrastructure, urban forestry, and the recycling and reuse of resources. Corps members would live in the community or already be a community member.

While the Forest Service has authority over public lands or lands owned by non-profit organizations, the Soil Conservation Service has authority to perform work on private lands as well, allowing for a broad range of work projects.

Rural: Corps members would live in a residential setting in a rural area. The program would provide full-time logistical support for Corps members. As in the urban program, the Corps members would be expected to pay for living expenses from their wages.

Work projects could be in erosion control, fire prevention, fire suppression, building or improving recreation areas, restoration of infrastructure such as buildings and bridges, watershed protection, and other similar conservation projects. The land base of the National Forests would be available for projects as well as the privately held land in partnerships with the Soil Conservation Service.

Corps members could also focus on teaching sustainable agriculture, helping small farmers stay on the land, building rural housing, and engaging in rural development projects.

Participants and Clientele:

The participants would be post-secondary education youth. They could perform the work either before, after, or during their career development education.

The Corps could provide an opportunity for non-paid service for volunteers from the senior citizen community, non-profit conservation organizations, and the public in general.

Potential Pilot Locations:

Currently the Forest Service, in partnership with the National Forest Foundation, is operating three residential summer camps in Virginia, Oregon, and Washington. Through grants, Forest Service and National Forest Foundation also are sponsoring urban programs in the southern California area. These could serve as initial sites.

Anticipated Results:

The Corps would provide much needed manpower for nationwide conservation projects. The work of the Corps could reduce the backlog of conservation-related work across the country.

With the shift from a rural population to an urban one, Americans are losing the ability to learn first hand about natural resources. We currently have a relatively uneducated and uninformed citizenry with regard to natural resources and conservation issues. The Corps would provide an opportunity to learn about America's natural resources, their uses, and the need to protect them. The end result would be a citizenry better informed on national conservation issues.

Besides developing new skills, Corps members would have the opportunity to be exposed to a variety of career options in the conservation field through hands-on experience. The Corps would provide a broad span of time to explore options and plan for the future while also providing for food and shelter.

Potential Partners:

I am meeting next week with representatives from Interior and EPA to discuss how we can plan together.

Association of Conservation Districts
 Department of Defense, including such agencies as the Army Corps of Engineers
 Land Grant universities
 National Recreation Coalition
 National Association of State Foresters
 National Parks Foundation
 National Trust for Historic Preservation
 National Tree Trust
 Telephone Pioneers of America

Proposal for Rural Community Self Development Corps

I. SUMMARY:

The Department of Agriculture would establish a Corps of "professional" and "paraprofessional" members who could assist communities in identifying needs and resources necessary for economic well being. This group of individuals would be able to assist communities of all sizes facing economic recovery and local leadership development issues to plan and prioritize efforts combining formal and non formal education to work locally. The Corps will then assist the community to locate financial resources, prepare proposals, design educational programs, and implement strategies necessary for revitalization. The entire focus would be on the community generating its own vision for the future and the USDA corps assisting the community in creating and attaining that vision. **This Corps, consisting of participants older and more highly educated than the other two Corps, could be funded by a special section of the Administration's proposed bill that would fund special professional corps such as "Teachers Corps" or "Police Corps."**

II. USDA EMPLOYEES CONSULTED:

Bob Nash; Ruth McWilliams and Brian McGuire of the Forest Service; Norm Reed of RDA; Carl Bouchard of SCS; Steve Mullen and Randy Williams of Extension Service; and Joe Binder of REA

III. HOW THE PROGRAM WILL WORK:

This program could give a significant boost to our overall rural development efforts.

The objectives of the program would be:

- o accomplish much needed community planning activities necessary to assure the economic vitality and productivity of our rural and mid-sized communities
- o teach specific skills in community building, coalition building, strategic planning and visioning, and leadership development
- o develop skills in working with units of local government encountered by community members in everyday living

Approach:

Most states have local Planning and Development Districts which provide for the overall strategic and project planning efforts for a multi-jurisdictional area. Some of these cover several counties, and some cover multiple communities within a county or township. They are staffed by local citizens and all have one thing in common. They are understaffed.

Bob Nash has suggested strongly that our Corps participants be physically located within the offices of local districts, so that they work with the districts and do not pose the threat of competition over turf.

Many rural communities now pay high-priced consultants to advise them on development; right now the Forest Service even gives grants to some communities to hire such consultants. With proper training, our Corps members could take the place of these consultants and help communities develop their tourism, high-tech industries, recreation sites, etc. The Corps members would work with each community to create an economic development action plan that makes sense for that particular community.

This Corps would also provide trained people with community involvement skills to begin to go into the communities and build from the bottom up the kind of plans that will be able to assure local support for the needed economic changes to occur through development of local leadership, especially among older youth, and the multiplier effect where teams work with preadolescent. These youth would explore with local governments possible avenues to serve as entrepreneurs within local government.

The participants would training before being assigned to the local districts. They would then live and work in the communities for which they are providing the assistance.

To support these Corps members, there already exists an information data base at the National Agriculture Library called the National Rural Information Center. This information center maintains a data base of organizations which provide financial support to communities on a national, regional, and local basis. This data base is available to the Corps members for assisting the community in developing its own action plan and applying for funding. Curriculum for teaching leadership and volunteer development and program management would be necessary along with basic life skills and understanding of basic business principles.

Participants and Clientele:

Participants of this program would hold either bachelor's degrees or graduate degrees and use the benefits to pay back student loans. Unfortunately, only two graduate schools in the country now specifically teach rural development; perhaps we could form partnerships with others to do so. Participants could also be trained in public administration, civil engineering, or agricultural science.

The communities themselves would be clients. As active participants in the revitalization of their community, they will have an increased commitment to maintaining the new economic path they have chosen. There will be considerable economic incentives for them to participate.

Potential Pilot Locations:

Thirty-two states currently have economic development councils or rural development councils so early pilot programs would be easy. Pilot programs could quickly be established in five areas of our country:

- Oregon and Washington
- Four Corners: Utah, Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona
- Tennessee and Kentucky
- East Texas and Louisiana
- North Carolina, Texas, Missouri
- The Mississippi Delta

These areas already have an existing multi-agency coordination group functioning well and communities that are in dire need of assistance.

Anticipated results:

There would be multiple outcomes and benefits derived from this program. The outcomes would be local and national at the same time. First, there would be the learning while earning of the Corps members themselves and those with whom they work. While the objectives of that learning have been chronicled elsewhere, it is necessary here to again emphasize its critical importance to our country and to the communities that will come to benefit from these skilled citizens.

The increased economic viability of our rural communities and small towns would be another major benefit. With the assistance of the Corps, communities will be better able to develop a sound economic base that will take them into the next century. Results such as increased agricultural production, a viable pollution-free light industry, increased local tourism, and many other benefits are possible through planning and implementation of long range strategies as well as developing a community leadership core for the future.

Through a mentoring program with current community leaders new leaders would be developed. These practical skills would assist in passing on not only the usual skills, but allow for the passing on of the vital local cultural nuances as community spirit. The older leadership in the community would feel a greater sense of pride in being able to pass on its legacy to a new generation.

Potential Partners:

Monday Management Group (17 federal agencies involved in rural development)
 National Association of Counties
 National Association of Development Organizations
 National Governors Organization
 National Association of Towns and Townships
 National League of Cities
 State Rural Development Councils
 State Economic Development Councils or Agencies
 Local Planning and Development entities both private and public
 National Association of State Foresters
 Department of Defense Agencies such as Corps of Engineers, Air Force. etc/
 1890's Institutions

Issues to be Resolved for All Three Proposals:

1. How are Corps applicants selected, matched with suitable assignments, and trained? Will there be any age range set for the participants?
2. Would applicants be assigned anywhere they are needed, or only within their communities of origin? The former requires a higher degree of national organization; the latter would reduce re-location costs and might enhance cultural acceptance of the applicant.
3. Who supervises the Corps member? There will be a need to judge performance, initiate additional training when needed, and even perhaps to terminate or initiate re-assignment when necessary. Would workers be evaluated by NEC on quality as well as quantity (for quantity, productivity as well as hours contributed)?
4. What is a suitable assignment? Should local or county government agencies or community organizations have free rein in assigning Corps members wherever they wish, or should the assignments be limited to augmenting the functional capability of the agency - for example, providing tutoring services where none existed before. Would assignment as a file clerk, for example, be acceptable on the grounds that it frees up a staff member who can provide higher-level services to recipients, or would that assignment be viewed as supplanting efforts already underway and of no particular value to the Corps member?
5. How would this initiative relate to existing volunteer organizations?
6. What kind of structure will the initiative have? How will it interact with state and local governments?
7. How many USDA personnel will be required to manage the program?
8. How much will the program cost in total and per server?
9. What states, localities, non-profit organizations, and corporations can help fund this program?
10. How will locations be selected and the sizes of the pilot program be determined?
11. How many participants can we place in workable pilot programs? What will be the ultimate capacity of these programs?

Timeline for Suggested Action:

I recommend that the Secretary approve the following steps:

By June 10, 1993: Brief the Deputy Secretary, the Under Secretaries, the Assistant Secretaries, and Agency Administrators on the National Service plan and enlist their full cooperation in helping us develop the Empowerment Corps, the Environmental Corps, and the Rural Development Corps.

By June 17, 1993: Include in the agenda for our Hunger Summit a very brief discussion of how national service can be used to help alleviate hunger.

By July 1, 1993: Detail from appropriate agencies staff to serve on a USDA working group to hammer out specific details of each proposal.

By August 1, 1993: Identify possible pilot project locations and partnerships.

By September 1, 1993: Sign a memorandum of understanding with Interior, EPA, and other agencies with whom we will jointly makes proposals.

By October 1, 1993: Complete preliminary proposal for submission to Corporation for National Service.

By March 1994: Finalize start-up plans for projects approved by the Corporation for National Service.

By July 1994: Interview and place project personnel.

By September 1, 1994: Begin pilot project.

I sincerely thank you for your continuing commitment to making national service a reality. Please let me know how you would like me to proceed.

**AMERICORPS Q & A'S FOR CONFIRMATION HEARING
OF AGRICULTURE SECRETARY-DESIGNATE**

Q: What is the Department doing in terms of the AmeriCorps national service program?

A: USDA is currently sponsoring 1,200 AmeriCorps Members serving in Anti-Hunger, Environmental and Public Lands, and Rural Development Teams in 38 states. While USDA-sponsored Members are only a small fraction of the more than 20,000 Members in the overall AmeriCorps program, the USDA portion is the largest-single component of AmeriCorps run by a Federal agency. All USDA AmeriCorps Members are "getting things done" in their communities meeting critical unmet environmental and human needs, while promoting community, responsibility, and opportunity.

Q. How much is the Department spending on AmeriCorps?

A. In fiscal year 1995, USDA funding for AmeriCorps programs is estimated to be approximately \$24 million. Despite the fact that this is a complex program operating in 38 states, only three full-time employees are working directly on coordinating the program for the Department, with the help of other employees on rotating details from different USDA agencies. However, it is necessary to study not only the costs of the program, but its benefits as well, since the USDA AmeriCorps program serves multiple purposes that benefit taxpayers. For instance, some USDA Forest Service projects are using some funding from existing trail repair budgets. Not only are the AmeriCorps Members repairing more miles of trails than would be repaired through regular means, but they are also bringing communities together, promoting personal responsibility, and helping earn their own way through college --- all for the same budget that normally would just fund the trail repair. Given that many USDA AmeriCorps Members are from middle class families and would otherwise not be able to obtain most forms of Federal financial aid, AmeriCorps provides them a big boost in exchange for serving their country. Like the original G.I. Bill, AmeriCorps is an important investment in our nation's future.

Q. What are some specific tasks that have been performed by USDA AmeriCorps Members?

A. In the first two months of full operation, USDA AmeriCorps projects maintained 61.3 miles of hiking and horseback riding trails, cooked and prepared meals for over 6,000 people at soup kitchens and sorted over 93,000 pounds of commodities at food banks, repaired and restored dozens of flood-damaged areas, helped farmers and ranchers in six different states find economical ways to decrease their run-off, saved a company with 600 employees from having to re-locate to Mexico, and helped communities in three states improve their efforts to prevent and combat fires.

Q: Is AmeriCorps taking money away from existing USDA programs and thus forcing you to serve fewer citizens with those programs?

A: No, AmeriCorps is helping us more effectively deliver the programs we already have and helping us provide outreach that has resulted in more citizens benefiting from our programs --- without an overall increase in our spending.

Q: If AmeriCorps is supposed to be a community-based, non-bureaucratic initiative, than why are you using the program to create 1,200 more bureaucrats for your agencies?

A: AmeriCorps Members are not Federal employees and they are not performing tasks that are routinely performed by Federal employees. Rather, AmeriCorps Members are performing service that meets critical community needs, but which our agency does not now have the resources to meet. In many cases, our Members are not even working directly in Federal offices, but are working for county and state agencies and local non-profit organizations. Moreover, the service projects were not designed or implemented in Washington -- all our projects are locally-proposed and locally-administered. Each project is filling needs determined as most critical by each individual community. Consequently, most of our projects have received broad-based bi-partisan support from local leaders.

BACKGROUND: In September 1993, the Congress passed the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, which authorizes Federal agencies to manage national service programs individually or in partnership with others. The Act establishes the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS), whose purpose is to administer national service programs and provide funding on a competitive basis for national service programs. In 1994, CNCS awarded USDA 1,200 AmeriCorps slots and \$2.6 million in operating funds to supplement the Department's own funding. AmeriCorps Members service for a year and earn a living stipend of at least \$7,500 in the Anti-Hunger Team and the Public Lands and Environment Team, and \$12,000 in the Rural Development Team. Upon successful completion of 1,700 of service, Members receive an educational voucher worth \$4,725.

(File)

Testimony

**POTENTIAL COMMITTEE QUESTIONS TO MR. DUNN
ABOUT THE RECD AMERICORPS PROGRAM**

Q: Explain how your agencies are involved in the AmeriCorps national service program?

A: RECD is sponsoring 122 AmeriCorps Members serving in rural areas, including in newly-designated Empowerment Zones and Enterprise Communities, in 15 states. The Members are mostly college graduates and professional school graduates and are working on a wide-range of issues related to our mission areas, such as: running water and indoor plumbing, community improvement and personal responsibility development, and outreach for rural housing grant and loan and farm assistance programs. After only a few months of service, we can report that the Members are already "getting things done" meeting critical local needs, while boosting community, opportunity, and responsibility.

Some examples:

- * A Member in Marion, Arkansas helped provide outreach for aid to build a rural water line that furnished seven households -- with 22 residents -- with running water for the first time.

- * A Member in Gallup, New Mexico conducted training on loan packaging for 19 community residents including representatives from local non-profit groups, church leaders, and Native American Community leaders.

- * A Member in Holmes County, Mississippi devised a plan to reduce employee turnover at the Durant Electric Corporation, the largest employer in the county --- with 600 employees and a payroll of \$8 million. The plan not only convinced the company to reverse its plans to move to Mexico, but allowed the company to plan to hire 400 new employees. Thus, the one USDA AmeriCorps Member directly saved or created 1,000 jobs.

- * In Boone, North Carolina, a Member is working with the local Enterprise Community (EC) applicant to implement their strategic plan for economic development. Working in cooperation with the Boone Housing Authority, the Member is organizing and making functional a Community Development Corporation (CDC) to assist the low-income residents of Boone. To date, over \$1.8 million has been awarded for water and sewer infrastructure and housing assistance as a result of her help.

- * In Texas, one Member has begun grant applications to start a revolving loan fund providing seed money to create new small businesses locally.
- * In Allendale/Blackville, South Carolina, a Member established a downtown redevelopment effort concentrating on an historical abandoned hotel. In Penn Center, South Carolina, a Member is completing a survey of community land ownership to stabilize development and establish a plan for a cooperative effort for agriculture processing and development.
- * A Member in Natchez, Mississippi is working to reduce teenage pregnancy; she spoke personally about her efforts with Senate Majority Whip Trent Lott who "promised to support (her) efforts in Natchez and declared he would be in Natchez in any events that take place if his schedule permits." The Member has also formed a task force to work on reestablishing a YMCA center in Natchez.
- * In Pendleton, Oregon, a Member helped two low-income individuals receive a loan and one individual to receive a grant to repair their homes. In Elgin, Oregon, Member assisted HELP, inc. in obtaining a Housing Preservation Grant that allowed 11 low income and very low income families to repair and rehabilitate their homes. The Member verified eligibility, determined preservation needs, identified environmental effects, and awarded bids to housing contractors.
- * A Member in Arkansas helped improve the standard of living for 950 low income families by the end of this quarter in obtaining Home Energy Assistance (HEAP) and to provide assistance through the Crisis Intervention Program (CIP).
- * In Williamson, West Virginia, a Member helped 30 families apply for rental housing assistance.
- * In Webb, Mississippi, a Member helped six low-income citizens join the section 523 self help housing program. Member has also provided counseling to the families that have homes under construction to acquaint them with the responsibilities that go along with home ownership.
- * In Baker City, New Mexico, a Member has recruited three property owners who have agreed to use their properties as pilot locations for historic renovations.

* Members in El Centro, California have been conducting outreach to expand usage of the 504 program to provided grants and loans for low income families to repair their homes; by the end of the first quarter, two applications for repair had been approved and the work completed, two more had just been approved, and four more were in the process of being approved.

* In Kentucky, Members developed an infrastructure database, served as project manager for a historic building renovation, and administered the Folk Life Study on historical buildings, people, and local folklore.

Q: How much money is RECD spending on this program?

A: For the 1994 - 1995 AmeriCorps program year, RECD is spending \$2.1 out of our Salaries and Expenses account to support 122 AmeriCorps positions. This small investment --- equalling only about \$17,000 a year in RECD spending --- is very cost-effective way to deliver critical services to communities while allowing Americans of all backgrounds -- including many from middle class families --- to earn their way through post-secondary education.

Q: Is AmeriCorps taking money away from existing RECD programs and thus forcing you to serve fewer citizens with those programs?

A: No, AmeriCorps is helping us more effectively deliver the programs we already have and helping us provide outreach that has resulted in more citizens benefiting from our programs --- without an overall increase in our spending.

Q: If AmeriCorps is supposed to be a community-based, non-bureaucratic initiative, than why are you using the program to create 122 more bureaucrats for your agencies?

A: AmeriCorps Members are not Federal employees and they are not performing tasks that are routinely performed by Federal employees. Rather, AmeriCorps Members are performing service that meets critical community needs, but which our agency does not now have the resources to meet. In many cases, our Members are not even working directly in Federal offices, but are working for county agencies and local non-profit organizations. Moreover, the service projects were not designed or implemented in Washington -- all our projects are locally-proposed and locally-administered.

United States Department of Agriculture
Forest Service

Legislative Affairs Staff

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET

Please deliver to:

Name:

Katherine Hibney

Organization:

USDA National Service

Phone Number:

720-7033

FAX Number:

720-8098

Pages w/Cover Sheet:

7

Date & Time Sent:

Date: 6/7/93

Time Sent: 1:20 p.m.

Sender's Comments:

Katherine, here is FS input for page 7 of Secretary Espy's testimony. This has been forwarded to Glen Rushing in OCR, so I hope it gets included. Pls call me if you have questions.

Sender's Name:

Thelma J Strong
205-0580

USDA/Forest Service
P.O. Box 96090
Legislative Affairs Staff
5 SW Auditors
Washington, DC 20090-6090

Telephone: (202) 205-1636

Fax: (202) 205-1225

JUNE 7, 1993

[FOREST SERVICE INPUT INTO USDA NATIONAL SERVICE TESTIMONY.
INCLUDE ON PAGE 7 AS FIRST PARAGRAPH UNDER "HOW USDA IS PLANNING
TO PARTICIPATE"].

USDA is pleased that President Clinton has made national service one of the top priorities of his administration and has proposed a conservation corps as a way to restore infrastructure on public lands, while inspiring civic pride and service values in America's youth.

Such a conservation corps would complement the numerous conservation work programs already provided by the agencies of the Department. The Forest Service, particularly, has a long history of managing conservation work programs. These include the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930's, Job Corps, Young Adult Conservation Corps, Youth Conservation Corps, Senior Community Service Employment Program (Older American Program), Opportunity LA, and a number of volunteer and hosted programs. Refer to the supplemental statement for a description of each of these programs.

President Clinton....

JUNE 7, 1993

**[USDA SUPPLEMENTAL STATEMENT TO SECRETARY ESPY'S NATIONAL
SERVICE TESTIMONY]**

USDA is pleased that President Clinton has made national service one of the top priorities of his administration and has incorporated a conservation corps as a way to restore infrastructure on public lands, while inspiring civic pride and service values in America's youth.

Such a conservation corps would complement the numerous conservation work programs already provided by the agencies of the Department. The Forest Service, particularly, has a long history of managing conservation work programs. I will briefly highlight our involvement in several of these programs:

Civilian Conservation Corps: The Forest Service was one of the leading agencies in the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) that employed thousands of workers from 1933 to 1942. In 1935, over 225,000 people were working in 1,800 camps administered by the Forest Service. Many of the office and work buildings, trails, recreation areas, and roads on our National Forests were constructed by the CCC.

Job Corps: Since 1964, the Forest Service has operated Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers. We currently operate 18 centers in 11 states. The centers provide comprehensive educational, vocational, and social training, and work

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experience for high-risk youth between the ages of 16 and 22 years old. In fiscal year 1992, the Forest Service Job Corps Centers performed approximately \$23 million worth of work on the national forests.

Youth Conservation Corps: The Forest Service has participated in the the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program for 22 years--since its inception in 1971. The YCC is a seasonal employment program for young men and women ages 15 through 18 years old from all segments of society. Patterned after the Civilian Conservation Corps of the 1930's, the program provides teenage employment and environmental education, and accomplishes conservation work on public lands. In FY 1992, 1,185 participants worked on projects such as trail maintenance and improvement, sign painting, campground maintenance, slash treatment, and livestock corral construction. Their work was valued at more than \$3 million to the Government.

Senior Community Service Employment Program: The Senior Citizens also have opportunities to participate in conservation work through the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP). Known as the Older American program, SCSEP is designed to provide community service employment for low-income persons who are at least 55 years old. The Forest Service has operated this program for over 20 years throughout 38 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The Forest Service is the only Federal agency that implements this program on behalf of the

Department of Labor. In FY 1992, over 5,600 participated in the Older American program, with work valued at \$41 million.

Volunteers in the National Forests: The Forest Service had 109,000 volunteers assisting in natural resource protection, contributing over \$41 million worth of work during fiscal year 1992. The program offers individuals, sponsored groups, and organizations the opportunity to donate their talents and services to help manage the Nation's natural resources. Volunteers participate in a wide range of activities, including cooperative forestry, research, and natural resource management and protection. One component of the program, Touch America Project (TAP), is directed to youth between the ages of 14 and 17 years, to gain work experience and provide environmental awareness while working on public lands. Private sector organizations sponsored over 4,600 youths working on projects on national forest lands in fiscal year 1992.

Hosted Programs: Hosted programs provide conservation training and work opportunities for individuals from all walks of life. Programs are administered through agreements with State and county agencies, colleges, universities, Indian tribes, and private nonprofit organizations. Most workers represent very little to no direct costs to the Forest Service while contributing work valued at \$17.9 million. Hosted programs in fiscal year 1992 included over 16,700 participants.

Other volunteer programs include Take Pride in America and Keep America Beautiful, which are specifically designed to promote national and community service and to instill a sense of responsibility for the protection of our Nation's natural resources.

Opportunity LA: This special program was created after the Los Angeles disturbances in 1992. It provided temporary employment to over 500 disadvantaged individuals between the ages of 18 and 60 years old, while increasing the participants' skills to find other jobs. Federal, state, and local government agencies, private groups, individuals, and community leaders from Los Angeles were involved in funding this program.

There is an abundance of work that can be performed on national forest lands. Projects include restoration and improvement activities in ecosystem management, recreation, fish and wildlife, range and forage, timber, and infrastructure and facility enhancement. College and post college-level students would be provided excellent opportunities to "work and pay off" school loans; senior citizens could serve as crew leaders to young adult conservation crews; and partnership arrangements with state and local agencies, organizations, and private individuals, similar to the National Forest Foundation, could be designed to bring in youth from a mix of social and economic backgrounds in order to gain a sense of environmental and natural resource protection and civic pride.

The National Forest Foundation (NFF) mentioned above is a charitable, non-profit corporation. The NFF will sponsor and fund three pilot Youth Forest Camps patterned after the YCC this summer. The National Forest Foundation received \$500,000 in startup funds for fiscal year 1993. It will establish youth forest camps to provide self-confidence, social skills, discipline, and job training for at-risk youth. These camps will also increase environmental awareness, self-confidence, and social skills, and also emphasize math, science, and analytical skills.

We are excited about National Service because it provides work experience, training, and education for youth, young adults and senior citizens while addressing the escalating inventory of needed resource work on our national forests. We also look forward to new partnerships between the Forest Service, the private sector, and community leaders, that would be developed because of the National Service Trust Act.

4

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SUBSTITUTE FOR REBECCA R. MEDVED

US/KNO

REQUEST, AUTHORIZATION, AGREEMENT, CERTIFICATION OF TRAINING AND REIMBURSEMENT (Automated)										
A. Agency code and subelement, and submitting office no. (xx-xx-xxx)		B. Standard document number (Org identifier/PT, Doc/Type code/Serial No.)		C. Request Status or Process Code (x one)		D. Amendment No.				
WIO		W13FKK2TGO1482		(1) Initial (2) Resubmission (3) Correction (4) Cancellation						
Section A - TRAINEE / APPLICANT INFORMATION										
1. Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)		2. 1st 5 letters of last name		4. Ed. level		5. Cont. Fed. Svc. a. Yrs b. Mths				
SCHOTKA KATHLEEN A		SCHOT								
6. Home Addr (Street/City/St/ZIP) (optional)		7. Phone Nos (Include area code)		8. Position title						
		a. Home b. Office		ACCOUNTANT						
11. Organization Name		(1) Comm 816-926-7133 (2) AV 465-7133		a. Executive		10. Pay Plan/Series/Grade Step (Rank/MOS/AFSC/ Navy Designator)				
DFAS-KC				b. Manager		GS/0510/11/08				
12. Organization Mailing Addr (Include ZIP)		13. Org UIC		c. Supervisory		14. Type of Appt		15. No. prior non-govt trng days		
1500 E. 95TH STREET		16. Are you handicapped or disabled? (x one)		d. Non-supervisory		C				
KANSAS CITY, MO 64197-0001		Yes X No		e. Other (Specify)						
Section B - TRAINING COURSE DATA										
17. Course Title STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES FOR ECONOMY & EFFICIENCY AUDITING										
18. Training Objectives (Benefits to be derived by the Government)					19. Recommended Training Source, School or Facility					
TO DETECT WASTE & INEFFICIENCIES IN GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND OFFER WAYS OF MINIMIZING THEM, DETECT POSSIBLE FRAUD OR ABUSE, IMPROVE ECONOMY & EFFICIENCY AUDITING AIMED AT MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT, MEASURE EXTENT OF WASTE DUE TO NON PRODUCTION TIME.					a. Name USDA					
					b. Mailing address (Include ZIP)					
					600 MARYLAND AVE, S.W. ROOM 135					
					WASHINGTON, DC 20024-2520					
					c. Location of training site (if other than 19b)					
					RADISSON SUITES, KANSAS CITY					
20. Course Codes					21. Course hours (4 digits)		22. Course Identifiers			
a. Purpose 4		f. Security Clearance		k. Training Program		a. Duty 32		a. SAID		
b. Type 5		g. Allocation Status		l. Reason for Selection 3		b. Non-duty 0		b. Catalog/Course No.		
c. Source 2		h. Priority		23. Training Period (YYMMDD)		c. TOTAL 32		c. Offering/TLN		
d. Special Interest 0		i. Training Level		3a. Start 930511						
e. Trng Vendor		j. Method of Training		3b. Complete 930514						
Section C - COST INFORMATION (Costs incurred and billed are not to exceed amount in item 30.)										
24. If training does not involve expenditure of funds other than salary, pay or compensation, skip rest of Sec. C and X here										
25. Direct Costs					26. Indirect Costs (For info only)					
a. Tuition cost 385.00					a. Travel cost 0.00					
b. Books, matl., etc. 0.00					b. Per diem/other costs 0.00					
c. Total direct costs 385.00					c. Total indirect costs 0.00					
d. Funding source					28. Labor Costs 0.00					
31. Job Order No. KC-93-W-76 SUB FOR R. MEDVED					29. Signature of Fiscal Officer (Follow local procedure)					
					30. Total of Direct & Indirect Costs 385.00					
Section D - APPROVAL / CONCURRENCE / CERTIFICATION										
32. Supervisor: I certify training is job related and nominee meets prerequisites. (if not, attach waiver.)					33. Training Officer: I certify this training meets regulatory requirements.					
a. Typed Name (Last, First, M.I.)		b. Ph No (Incl area code)		a. Typed Name (Last, First, M.I.)		b. Ph No (Incl area code)				
LISRA, JEAN E.		816-926-7133		LAMB, JAMES R.		816-926-5973				
c. Signature & Title		d. Date		c. Signature & Title		d. Date				
SUPERVISOR SYS MGRAL ASST ANALYST				TRAINING OFFICER						
34. Authorizing Official					35. Course Acceptance (To be completed by school official)					
a. Action (x one)		(1) Approved (2) Disapproved		a. Accepted		c. School Official Signature		d. Date		
b. Typed Name (Last, First, M.I.)		c. Ph No (Incl area code)		b. Not Accepted						
KLEPPNER, KENNETH L.		816-926-7145								
d. Signature & Title		e. Date								
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER										
37. Billing Instructions (Identify discount terms 0.00 % 0 days.)					36. Course Completion (To be completed by school official)					
Furnish original invoice and 3 copies to:					a. Course not completed, x here, leave section blank & return form with an explanation memo		b. Actual completion Date (YYMMDD)		c. Grade	
DFAS-KC					d. Signature & Title				e. Date	
DRM-CHL										
1500 EAST 95TH STREET										
KANSAS CITY, MO 64197-0001										
					38. Certifying Government Official					
					a. I certify that this account is correct and proper for payment in the amount of: \$					
					b. Signature					
					c. Date Signed					
					d. DSSN Number					
					e. Check Number					
					f. Voucher No.					
TRAINING FACILITY: Send invoice to address in item 37. Refer to standard document no., item B at top of page, for prompt payment.										

SUBSTITUTE FOR DONNA B. BROOKSHIER

REQUEST, AUTHORIZATION, AGREEMENT, CERTIFICATION OF TRAINING AND REIMBURSEMENT (Automated)									
A. Agency code and subelement, and submitting office no. (xx-xx-xxx)		B. Standard document number (Org identifier/FY, Doc/type code/Serial No.)		C. Request Status or Process Code (x one)			D. Amendment No.		
WED				(1) Initial			(2) Resubmission		
				(3) Correction			(4) Cancellation		
WISCONSIN STATE / APPLICANT INFORMATION									
1. Name (Last, First, Middle Initial)		2. 1st 5 letters of last name		4. Ed. level		5. Cont. Fed. Svc.			
HILL JANICE L		HILL				a. Yrs		b. Mths	
6. Home Addr (Street/City/St/ZIP) (optional)		7. Phone Nos (Include area code)		8. Position Title					
		a. Home		ACCOUNTANT					
		b. Office							
11. Organization Name		(1) Com 816-926-2969		9. Pos. Level (x one)		10. Pay Plan/Series/Grade Step (Rank/MOS/AFSC/ Navy Designator)			
DFAS-KC		(2) AV 465-2969		a. Executive		GS/0510/11/01			
12. Organization Mailing Addr (Include ZIP)		13. Org UIC		b. Manager		14. Type of Appt		15. No. prior non-govt trng days	
1500 E. 95TH STREET				c. Supervisory		C			
KANSAS CITY, MO 64197-0001		16. Are you handicapped or disabled? (x one)		d. Non-supervisory					
		Yes		e. Other (Specify)					
		No							
		X							
Section B - TRAINING COURSE DATA									
17. Course Title STATISTICAL TECHNIQUES FOR ECONOMY & EFFICIENCY AUDITING									
18. Training Objectives (Benefits to be derived by the Government)					19. Recommended Training Source, School or Facility				
TO DETECT WASTE & INEFFICIENCIES IN GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS AND OFFER WAYS OF MINIMIZING THEM, DETECT POSSIBLE FRAUD OR ABUSE, IMPROVE ECONOMY & EFFICIENCY AUDITING AIMED AT MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT, MEASURE EXTENT OF WASTE DUE TO NON PRODUCTION TIME.					a. Name USDA				
					b. Mailing address (Include ZIP)				
					600 MARYLAND AVE, S.W.				
					ROOM 135				
					WASHINGTON, DC 20024-2520				
					c. Location of training site (If other than 19b)				
					RADISSON SUITES, KANSAS CITY				
20. Course Codes					21. Course hours (4 digits)		22. Course Identifiers		
a. Purpose	4	f. Security Clearance	0	k. Training Program		a. Duty	32	a. SAID	
b. Type	5	g. Allocation Status	1	l. Reason for Selection	3	b. Non-duty	0	b. Catalog/Course No.	TSTAT730
c. Source	2	h. Priority	1	23. Training Period (YYMMDD)		c. TOTAL	32	c. Offering/TLN	
d. Special Interest	0	i. Training Level	3	a. Start	930511				
e. Trng Vendor		j. Method of Training	3	b. Complete	930514				
Section C - COST INFORMATION (Costs incurred and billed are not to exceed amount in item 30.)									
24. If training does not involve expenditure of funds other than salary, pay or compensation, skip rest of Sec. C and X here									
25. Direct Costs		26. Indirect Costs (For info only)		27. Accounting Classification					
a. Tuition cost	385.00	a. Travel cost	0.00						
b. Books, matl., etc.	0.00	b. Per diem/other costs	0.00						
c. Total direct costs	385.00	c. Total indirect costs	0.00						
d. Funding source		28. Labor Costs	0.00						
31. Job Order No.	KC-93-W-75 SUB FOR BROOKSHIER								
Section D - APPROVAL / CONCURRENCE / CERTIFICATION									
32. Supervisor: I certify training is job related and nominee meets prerequisites. (If not, attach waiver.)					33. Training Officer: I certify this training meets regulatory requirements.				
a. Typed Name (Last, First, M.I.)		b. Ph No (Incl area code)		a. Typed Name (Last, First, M.I.)		b. Ph No (Incl area code)			
JOHNSON, LINDA L.		816-926-2971		LAMB, JAMES R.		816-926-5973			
c. Signature & Title		d. Date		c. Signature & Title		d. Date			
[Signature]		5/6/93		[Signature]		5/7/93			
FISCAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER				TRAINING OFFICER					
34. Authorizing Official					35. Course Acceptance (To be completed by school official)				
a. Action (x one)		(1) Approved		(2) Disapproved		a. Accepted		c. School Official Signature	
b. Typed Name (Last, First, M.I.)		c. Ph No (Incl area code)				b. Not Accepted		d. Date	
KLEFFNER, KENNETH L.		816-926-7145							
d. Signature & Title		e. Date							
FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OFFICER									
37. Billing Instructions (Identify discount terms 0.00 % 0 days.)					38. Certifying Government Official				
Furnish original invoice and 3 copies to:					a. I certify that this account is correct and proper for payment in the amount of: \$				
DFAS-KC					b. Signature				
DEM-CEL					c. Date Signed				
1500 EAST 95TH STREET					d. DSSN Number				
KANSAS CITY, MO 64197-0001					e. Check Number				
					f. Voucher No.				
TRAINING FACILITY: Send invoice to address in item 37. Refer to standard document no., item 8 at top of page, for prompt payment.									

TO: DEPUTY SECRETARY RICHARD ROMINGER

FROM: JOEL BERG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

DATE: MAY 26, 1993

RE: TESTIFYING AT SENATE HEARING ON THE NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST
ACT OF 1993

As you may know, Secretary Espy is committed to creating National Service pilot programs at USDA that will serve as models for how other Departments and Federal agencies can incorporate into the President's initiative. At the Secretary's direction, I have been chairing a USDA/National Service Working Group, which has written three concept proposals in the areas of the environment, empowerment and hunger, and rural development.

The National Service Trust Act of 1993, which would fund our proposals, is currently winding its way through Congress. Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt has been the Administration point person on this legislation and has testified at two previous hearings. Because of the Department's commitment to National Service, I think USDA representation during these Congressional hearings is important. The final hearing is scheduled for June 8 before the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources. Sen. Harris Wofford (D.-Pa.) will chair. The Committee is currently deciding whether to invite witnesses from the Administration. I would like to invite you to testify on behalf of the Department if the Committee decides it would like our representation.

If you are unable to attend, whom would you recommend to testify: Assistant Secretaries Ellen Haas or Jim Lyons, Undersecretary Bob Nash, or myself?

Thanks in advance for your consideration of this matter.

TO: BOB NASH, UNDER SECRETARY
SMALL COMMUNITY & RURAL DEVELOPMENT

FROM: JOEL BERG
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

DATE: JUNE 1, 1993

RE: TESTIFYING AT SENATE HEARING ON THE NATIONAL SERVICE TRUST
ACT OF 1993

As you may know, Secretary Espy is committed to creating National Service pilot programs at USDA that will serve as models for how other Departments and Federal agencies can incorporate into the President's initiative. At his direction, I have been chairing a USDA/National Service Working Group, which has written three concept proposals in the areas of the environment, empowerment and hunger, and, as we discussed, rural development.

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Thanks in advance for your consideration of this matter.



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

force, work group or special assignment for the purpose of implementing the reorganization.

In addition, the Committee is concerned that the Service has been creating an excess of special assistants and other positions that may not be completely necessary for the efficient functioning of the Service. It is the sense of the Committee that there should be as few such positions as possible, and these positions should not impact on the limited resources that are available to operate the Service, particularly the parks themselves. The Committee directs the Service to report in its fiscal year 1997 budget on the history of funding and staffing associated with the reorganization plan and the current and future costs associated with task forces, work groups and special assistants.

While the Committee was unable to earmark funds for the Little River Canyon Field School, the Committee notes that significant long-term savings, projected at \$4 million over 20 years, can be achieved through an innovative cooperative agreement between the National Park Service and the Little River Canyon Field School to share facilities and personnel. The Committee encourages the National Park Service to actively seek such an arrangement.

The Construction budget is \$114,868,000 which is \$65,015,000 below the 1996 request and \$52,820,000 below the enacted level. Similarly, the land acquisition budget is \$14,300,000, reflecting a decrease of \$68,396,000 below the request and \$73,073,000 below the 1995 level. New program funds are not provided for State Assistance Programs, however, \$1.5 million remains available for Administrative Expenses. Authority is granted to the Secretary of the Interior to enable funds to be transferred from Interior land acquisition accounts in order to fund the highest priority projects. The Committee urges the Department to continue funding the South Florida Restoration project.

The Service should also carefully note the section in the front of the report entitled Improving Efficiencies through Consolidation and Procedural Restructuring of Land Management Agencies. The recommendations and directions aimed at achieving the greatest possible savings and efficiencies through close coordination with the other federal land and resource management agencies will hopefully result in a federal land management structure that works better and costs less. The Committee's allocation over the next several years will necessitate a broad and bold rethinking of how best to manage our nation's public land into the next century.

Bill language has been included in Title III which transfers lands, including open spaces, plazas and sidewalks, currently under the jurisdiction of the District of Columbia to the National Park Service.

The National Park Service currently performs basic maintenance along Pennsylvania Avenue and the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation has used its funds to enhance maintenance and fund special events. The National Park Service will now be solely responsible for providing these functions with the exception of maintaining Pennsylvania Avenue itself which continues to be the responsibility of the District of Columbia.

The Service should also note that there is a provision in Title III of the bill which states that none of the funds appropriated in this



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bill may be used to implement the Americorps program. Specifically, the Committee has denied the \$1,750,000 request for funding of Americorps projects at National Park Service sites. Given the size of the federal deficit and the recent mandate from the American people to downsize the government, the Committee believes that all activities not central to the basic operation of the National Parks should be discontinued.

The General Provisions, Department of the Interior section contains a provision relating to the Presidio. The language states that any funds appropriated in this bill which are not obligated as of the date on which the Presidio Trust is established by an Act of Congress shall be transferred immediately to and available only for the Presidio Trust.

The Committee has retained only \$1 for expenditure of funds for the Mojave National Preserve and has transferred \$600,000 and 12 FTE's to BLM to continue operations.

The Committee is concerned about reports of fee inequities charged to users of the Blue Ridge Parkway and encourages the Superintendent to resolve any bias in this area. The Committee expects fees charged to be distributed fairly and equitably among all users of the Parkway.

The Committee has provided funding for the National Council on Traditional Arts at the 1995 funding level of \$175,000.

The Committee is aware that the National Park Service has under consideration a proposal with a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and a private entity to build the National Museum of the American Civil War, which Congress designated Gettysburg as the official site in 1989. The Committee further understands that this will be the first private-public partnership with the Park Service on constructing a national museum. The Committee supports and encourages efforts to involve the private sector in these efforts, with appropriate Park supervision of the project. As federal discretionary funding continues to decrease, the Committee realizes that these types of private-public partnerships become more important to enable these projects to be undertaken.

Funding for the Urban Parks Program is not provided. As stated in H.R. 1158, this program is a state or local responsibility. The Committee strongly urges the Service not to consider funding for this program in the fiscal year 1997 budget.

In order to provide for an increase in the parks operating budget an overall reduction of 9.3% to the remaining Park Service accounts was necessary. The specifics are provided under each heading.

Bill language is included in Title III, General Provisions, establishing a recreational fee test program that allows fees to be charged at 10 to 30 sites or areas and provides for the use of a portion of those fees, without further appropriation, for facility or habitat enhancement, operation, or interpretation, with a focus on reducing the backlog of repair and maintenance. This fee demonstration program is explained in more detail in the front of this report.

Resources stewardship.—The committee recommends an appropriation of \$172,225,000 for this activity. All programs should con-



General administration.—The Committee recommends \$274,775,000 general administration, which is \$18,368,000 below the request, and \$22,815,000 below the 1995 funding level. The Committee does not object to the use of up to \$2,000,000 to maintain core international functions and coordinating activities.

General.—The Committee considers any restructuring or reorganization related to the reinvention proposal to be subject to the Committee's review pursuant to the reprogramming guidelines. The Committee expresses its support for maintaining the Northeastern Area Headquarters and Forest Experimental Station in Radnor, PA.

The Committee was very disturbed to learn that the Forest Service has reprogrammed \$10,000,000 to initiate an AmeriCorps program without advance notification to the Committee. This is a clear abuse of the funding flexibility the Committee has provided through the establishment of reprogramming guidelines, and circumvents the role of the Congress to oversee and approve the funding of the executive branch. The Committee takes this violation of the reprogramming process very seriously, and has included section 312 in Title III, General Provisions, which prohibits the use of any funds in the bill for the AmeriCorps program in 1996. The Committee will closely review the need for continued funding for this program, as well as the Forest Service's internal controls for reprogrammings, during the 1997 hearings.

The Committee urges the Forest Service to maintain the 1995 funding level for the Pacific Northwest Forest plan.

The Committee is concerned that some of the money provided for the "Jobs in the Woods" program has not been used for its intended purpose. The Forest Service is directed to take appropriate actions to use project dollars to hire dislocated timber and forest workers from forest dependent communities and to provide job training in support of those workers.

The Committee is aware of the old growth and roadless inventory being conducted as part of the Southern Appalachian Assessment. The Committee encourages the continuation of planned or existing timber sales during the period of the inventory, and believes that the assessment should not encourage the withdrawal of these lands from timber production. The Committee expects that no new lands should be granted designation as "roadless" or other similar designation that might preclude the development or enhancement of transportation systems designed for use by motor vehicles until the Forest Service has completed a thorough review during the individual forest plan revision of the potential impacts of such designations on the following: forest-dependent communities; forest resource management initiatives designed to enhance forest health; local and national supplies of forest resource commodities; and the establishment of recreational facilities.

Administrative provisions.—Under the administrative provisions section of the bill, the Committee has retained language requiring advance submission of proposals to change boundaries, close offices, change the appropriations structure, or use transfer authority.

The Committee has continued language limiting clearcutting in the Wayne NF, OH. Language has been included prohibiting

Ken Hammond

Clean

jacket
shirt } please
sweater
white shirt
red sweaters

black shirt
black shirt
red sandals

jeans
Russian T-shirt

sweater
jacket
jeans

bath suit

blue silk dress

red sweater

jeans
white jacket

blue shirt

blue

~~clean~~
~~good~~

pink shirt
& shorts
jellies

Buy — dress & shoes



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Committee recommends continuing several provisions carried in previous bills as follows. Section 301 provides for public availability of information on consulting services contracts. Section 302 limits non-competitive leasing of oil and natural gas on the Shawnee National Forest, Illinois. Section 303 prohibits activities to promote public support or opposition to legislative proposals. Section 304 provides for annual appropriations unless expressly provided otherwise in this Act. Section 305 limits the use of personal cooks, chauffeurs or servants. Section 306 limits assessments against programs without Committee approval. Section 307 contains Buy American procedures and requirements. Section 308 limits the sale of giant sequoia trees by the Forest Service. Section 309 prohibits the use of funds by the National Park Service to enter into a contract requiring the removal of the underground lunchroom at Carlsbad Caverns NP.

Section 310 allows the Secretary to determine the use of certain construction funds after consultation with tribes.

Section 311 provides that quarterly payments to tribes may be made on the first business day following the first day of a fiscal year.

Section 312 provides that no funds can be used for Americorps. Section 313 provides for the dissolution of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation on April 1, 1996, and for the transfer of certain PADC responsibilities to other agencies.

Section 314 relates to the Columbia River Basin Ecoregion Assessment.

The Committee believes that the Interior Columbia Basin Ecoregion Management Project has collected important scientific information on forest health conditions which is particularly relevant to forest management opportunities and needs. Despite this accomplishment, the Project has grown too large and too costly to sustain in a time of fiscal constraints and is drawing away personnel and funding that should be employed for on the ground management. Consequently, the section halts all funding of the Project, with one exception. It makes funds available to the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management to publish the data collected and the analysis accomplished by the Project, specifically as this Project relates to forest health and management needs, prior to the date of enactment of the Act. The deadline for this publication is January 1, 1996. The section makes clear that the publication is to be submitted both to peer review and public comment. The Committee expects the Forest Service to provide \$430,000 and the Bureau of Land Management to provide \$170,000 of the \$600,000 allocated for this purpose. Of the remaining \$6,100,000 requested in the budget for the Project a sum of \$3,000,000 was allocated to the Forest Service, National Forest System, to conduct site-specific watershed and environmental analyses in the area encompassed by the Project where necessary to resume multiple use programs. The remaining \$3,100,000 was not appropriated so as to contribute to the deficit reduction effort.

The Committee does not wish the termination of the Project to be a justification for the continued development and implementation of broadly applicable interim forest management guidelines such as the Eastside Screens, PACFISH, and INFISH. These guide-

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Greenspan—also last week's projection—now 2 weeks—of the balanced budget amendment by the Senate with the latest troubles facing our dollar.

The Secretary of the Treasury has gone before the world to try to strengthen the dollar, and the world did not pay any attention. The Chairman of the Federal Reserve said our dollar has suffered from the failure to pass the balanced budget amendment and it is destabilizing our currency.

In deference to time, Mr. President, I am not going to read from the seven different economists who are defining the problem with our currency as being directly related, as the Reuter's story acknowledged, to our budget deficits; more importantly, to our unwillingness to do anything about it, to the defeat of the balanced budget amendment and to spiraling trade deficits.

Last week, in front of Emory University students in Atlanta, my home city and State, the President and this same Secretary tried to tell those students and America that we really are operating an operational surplus. I said at the time that was not factual and, more important, it was harmful because by telling the Nation we have an operational surplus, you are sapping the will of this country to do the things it needs to do.

Mr. President, in light of these reports about the falling dollar today, I would like to call on the President of the United States to change his mind and call on the Congress to pass a balanced budget amendment. That is one of the strongest actions; these statements before the world are not having an effect. The world saw us defeat the balanced budget amendment. The world saw the President's budgets with \$200 billion deficits as far as the eye can see. The world is watching us argue about these minimal cuts right here today. Mr. President, the President should call on the six Senators on the other side of the aisle that voted for a balanced budget amendment 1 year ago who changed their mind this year, who participated in what is now happening to our currency worldwide. And the best short-term signal we could send to this world about our currency is that we are going to stand up and pass a balanced budget amendment and send it to the States for ratification.

The Senators from New Mexico, North Dakota, California, Kentucky, and South Carolina decided to vote against it this year. They voted for it last year. The President said he was for a balanced budget "but." And I would suggest to you, Mr. President, that the world has taken more notice of the word "but" than any of the other things that are emanating from the administration such as we really have an operational surplus.

For Heaven's sake. By the way, the reason they calculated that was they said you would not have to add in our

interest on debt and then we would have a surplus.

I was speaking to a group of business people today, and I said:

You remember when you went before the loan officer and the loan officer said, "I am sorry; I can't loan you any more money because of your financial statement." And you turned to the loan officer and said, "Well, if you just forget the interest payments I am making to you, I would have a great financial statement." You know what the reaction of that loan officer would be.

Mr. President, the world has taken note of the, "I'm for a balanced budget but I am going to oppose a balanced budget amendment. I am going to submit budgets to the Congress and to the people with huge and unending deficits." And the quickest way we could turn this around would be for the President to call the leaders of this Senate and say, "Pass it."

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the senior Senator from Missouri.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I thank the Chair. I would like to get back to what I believe is the business before us. Are we on the Daschle amendment as amended by the Dole amendment?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Yes, that is correct.

Mr. BOND. I thank the Chair. It seems as if we have been at this for some time, and we have had some very enlightening discussions in other areas, but this bill, which the distinguished Senator from South Dakota seeks to amend, is an extremely important one. I spent some time last week presenting the details of this measure and talking about reasons why it was necessary for us to rescind budget authority and outlays for the coming year. Having made those points, I do not want to make them again. I wish to instead focus on some of the basic underlying assumptions in the Daschle amendment.

You will recall that this bill as we reported it out of the Appropriations Committee provides in the current year and next year about \$6.7 billion for the California disaster relief effort. The Daschle amendment cuts \$1.3 billion out of that.

Mr. President, I would have to say what a difference a week makes, because last week we heard from our colleagues on the other side of the aisle that what we needed was an across-the-board cut in all Federal agencies as an emergency step in order to pay for the terrible natural disasters which have afflicted the country this past year. In particular, we heard a very compelling argument from the Senator from California about the tragedies in her State and the need to provide the money so that the residents of California would get their lives and communities back together. Thus, they offered an amendment to provide \$6.7 billion in disaster funding and cut elsewhere across the board.

Today, it appears maybe they do not need all that money. Today, just a few

days later, the terrible California disaster described so eloquently is not going to require the \$6.7 billion it did last week. Now they only require \$5.4 billion. Never have I seen \$1 billion saved quite so quickly.

I had to ask myself why. Well, I soon discovered it is not that they really want to save that money. Instead they want to spend it on some of their and the President's favorite programs. Today, instead of setting the money aside to help disaster victims, they want to raid a rainy day fund and spend it on so-called volunteers or throw more money at HUD, an agency in the midst of its own financial and management disaster. It is no wonder that many of my colleagues agree with the Congressional Budget Office's analysis of what happens when a rainy day fund for disasters is set up. I believe we ought to set money aside, but there are some questions I have about setting it up.

Let me quote from the disaster task force report which was issued only 3 weeks ago. I had the pleasure of serving with the distinguished Senator, Mr. GLASS, from Ohio as co-chair of that disaster task force. We brought together all of the information on disasters and asked the agencies—CBO, GAO, CRS—about what we might do. In that disaster task force report prepared by the agencies there was a very prophetic statement. Our report said:

A tendency to spend accumulated funds might be a problem unless the law restricted the types of disasters that would qualify. Policymakers could become tempted to be more generous in relieving small disasters or to raid the fund for spending in other programs.

Well, Mr. President, that kind of looks to me like what we had. Only 3 weeks from the report and days from the discussion of the rainy day fund the first raid is being attempted on disaster relief.

So let me tell my colleagues, if this is what we can expect, regular, systematic raids on the disaster relief fund to pay for political goals, then I for one, this Senator, is not going to support any sort of rainy day fund.

What kind of discipline does this show to the American people, that just days after arguing for a \$6.7 billion rainy day disaster fund, the same people now want to raid the fund for other purposes? How many families set aside funds for emergencies and then successfully resist the temptation to raid them? How many communities and small businesses set aside funds and then successfully resist the temptation to just dip in a little more for some reason? But not our colleagues here today. They view the disaster relief fund as a honey pot which lets them avoid tough choices of where else to cut in order to spend more on the programs they like.

Instead of standing up and saying, "We don't like your proposed spending cuts; here are ours to replace them," our friends on the other side of the

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also, once again show their colors on spending cuts. They say, "We want to spend first and worry about the deficit and the debt later on".

Again, I go back to the prophetic words of the disaster relief task force. In that report the agency said:

Requiring the Congress to cut spending and other programs would raise the political cost of providing disaster relief. Now, increases in disaster relief increase the budget deficit, which may impede economic growth over the long term. But the effects on the standard of living of future generations have far less direct influence on political decisions than having to cut programs this year or next year.

No wonder our debt is nearly \$3 trillion. No wonder the President's budget thought it would be OK to leave the deficit at \$200 billion a year for the next 5 years, adding another \$1 trillion to our national debt. This is a debt, Mr. President, that threatens our economic stability.

Our distinguished colleague from Georgia has already spoken about what judgment the international financial markets are passing on the value of the dollar. And it is because we just do not seem to be too concerned about adding another little \$1 trillion to our national debt.

Well, Mr. President, I think it is very serious for our economy and it is very serious for our children and grandchildren who are going to be carrying the burden of that debt on their credit card.

Let me speak about one particular aspect of the Daschle amendment. I want to focus on that for, I hope, the enlightenment, perhaps, of my colleagues. But maybe they all know it.

I want to focus on the proposal to restore national service funding. I believe this issue highlights the fundamental differences between those who would shrink Government and those who still believe in business as usual.

The bill before us proposed a cut of \$210 million to bring AmeriCorps and other new programs authorized by the 1993 National and Community Service Act back to the fiscal year 1994 level. The fiscal year 1995 appropriation for this year was \$575 million; the rescission currently in the bill would bring that funding level back to \$365 million. The National Service Corporation had hoped to have 33,000 volunteers enrolled by the end of fiscal year 1995. The bill before us, as reported out of committee, would keep the number of volunteers—and I say "volunteers" in quotes—at about 20,000. I urge my colleagues to vote against the Daschle amendment for the additional reason because I do not believe the increase in funds for AmeriCorps is justified.

The cut we have proposed is legitimate. We are not gutting the program, as some have suggested. The corporation actually received a huge increase for the current fiscal year over the fiscal year 1994 level. They had \$365 million in fiscal year 1994 for AmeriCorps grants, education awards, technical as-

sistance, and related activities. They received \$575 million in last year's appropriation for the current fiscal year. That is a 58-percent increase for an untested program. I have not seen any increase of that level in any other discretionary program. At a time when we are running budget deficits of hundreds of billions of dollars each year on top of a debt load of \$4.8 trillion, we just cannot afford the increase.

This rescission will not affect any programs now in operation. The fiscal year 1995 funds are not scheduled to be spent until the start of the school year in September 1995. So we will not have to stop work that is now going on. We are simply proposing that the amount available to the programs scheduled to begin this fall be the same as for those that began last fall.

Under the Senate bill, none of the volunteers—or, actually, employees—currently serving will be affected. The program would remain at the same level. The corporation could still increase the number of those it hires and chooses to fund in State and local programs next year by reallocating the money provided.

For instance, the corporation is now spending \$32 million on innovation, demonstration and assistance activities, which includes training and technical assistance for AmeriCorps programs. Presumably, most not-for-profits that receive funds are already experienced themselves in training new employees and providing services. And many of them are working with true volunteers.

The corporation also spent \$3 million this year on planning grants. Now, those do not fund a single new position, but simply allow an organization to plan how they will use volunteers in the future. And, both the National Service Corporation and the State commissions spend a good deal of money on public relations and recruitment of volunteers—read "employees." I would argue that we can do less of that since the program is now well established, if it is continued, and it is well known.

In addition, the corporation awarded more than \$14 million to Federal agencies this year, nearly 10 percent of the total amount available for AmeriCorps grants. Why are we padding the Federal payroll with paid, they call them, volunteers—I call them employees—at the same time the administration claims it is downsizing the civil service?

We cut it on one hand, but we call them volunteers and we spend \$14 million hiring them on the other hand. I think there is a good deal of room to make cuts in these areas if the corporation wants to increase the number of those serving in State and local programs, under the bill.

I remain a great skeptic of the program. I am looking forward to conducting oversight hearings, which we will have in our subcommittee during the next few months, to determine exactly

where our money is going. And, in particular, I am concerned about the money going to AmeriCorps national direct programs.

Under the act, in 1993, there are three different ways that you can receive funds. One-third of the funds are available to States according to a population-based formula. The States then choose which programs receive funds. Another third of the funds are distributed to programs that are first selected by the States and then submitted to the corporation for competitive consideration. The final third of the funds for AmeriCorps are distributed directly to the National Service Corporation to programs operated by national non-profit organizations, programs operating in more than one State, and to Federal agencies. I would like to focus the attention of my colleagues on some of these programs.

I think America would be surprised to learn where fully one-third of the funds for AmeriCorps is actually going. I venture to guess that most Americans believe that money in this pot is going to help support the efforts of some well-established, reputable, mainstream volunteer organizations that we have all come to know and rely on. We would expect, Mr. President, the funding would go to the Red Cross, the Girl Scouts, Boys and Girls Clubs, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, and the 4-H; that they would be the ones receiving funds from that source. That certainly was my expectation.

Needless to say, I was surprised to learn that is not where the money is going. So I asked, and the Corporation for National Service provided me, with a list of all applicants in the "National Direct" program for 1994, as well as a list of those groups that receive funding.

I have made a chart of some of the examples that we have found. I think they will be illustrative.

All of these groups applied for "AmeriCorps Direct" awards for fiscal year 1994, as well as many other groups. This is not the exclusive list.

Here is the list of who was funded and this is a partial list of those who were not funded. Many well-established, reputable, and noncontroversial voluntary organizations did not receive funds. But look at the list of those who did receive funds, in addition to those that are Federal agencies. Can you say "politically correct"?

Take a look at what we funded. This was our volunteer money. We are downsizing the civil service, cutting the Federal Government, getting rid of employees.

So why is the money going to hire people in the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Energy, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Justice, the Department of Labor, the Department of Transportation, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Department of Veterans Affairs?

John H. ...

April 3, 1995

Sounds like a good way to cut the civil service. If you get a program, call it a "volunteer" program and use it to fund these.

And then there are others, ACORN Housing, Legal Services Corporation, National Endowment for the Arts, National Community AIDS Partnership.

These are the programs being funded by the AmeriCorps direct funding program.

These are some of the ones that are not funded, and somehow it strikes me as passing curious that they chose not to fund the Future Farmers of America, the National 4-H Council, the Girl Scouts of America, the American Red Cross, Big Brother/Big Sisters, Boys and Girls Clubs, National Audubon Society, Appalachian Mountain Club, American Library Association, United Negro College Fund, United Way of America, and United Cerebral Palsy Association.

I have had an opportunity to work with many of these fine organizations, and when you are talking about volunteers, this is where I think you need support, if you need support, to get people who are actually doing volunteer work.

Mr. SANTORUM. Will the Senator yield?

Mr. BOND. Yes.

Mr. SANTORUM. Are those not funded? Did they apply for grants and were refused?

Mr. BOND. These are agencies all of which applied. "Funded" are the ones which were funded by the AmeriCorps direct program. The ones "Not Funded" are the ones I just read, beginning with the Future Farmers of America.

Mr. SANTORUM. That is amazing.

Mr. BOND. That is exactly my point. I do not believe that the priorities chosen by the National Service Corps are the priorities of the American people. Americans do choose where they give their time voluntarily. We know where people want to give and work as volunteers. Over 80 million Americans choose to donate unpaid time to charitable volunteer work each week and they choose their churches, their schools, their hospitals, the Red Cross, the Girl Scouts, the Big Brother/Big Sisters. They do not choose to donate their time to the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Transportation, or the Department of Labor.

I think the American people might well be shocked to learn that these Federal agencies were chosen over other well-known, well-established and much respected volunteer organizations which were turned down.

I am sure that if you go back to the State programs, my colleagues will undoubtedly show me examples of Girl Scouts and Red Cross programs funded through the State commissions, one of two sources of funding, but that is not the area of national priorities. The corporation has clearly chosen not to fund those groups. The further away from States and local communities where

the volunteer work is actually being done, where people volunteer their time and their resources, that the decisionmaking occurs, that is where decisions to fund the Federal Departments and those agencies which carry out the politically correct goals happen.

I suggest that the funding decisions of the national corporation may not reflect the priorities of American people. I have not examined the decision of the State commissions sufficiently to be able to comment on those. We will explore those in the VA, HUD Appropriations Subcommittee during our fiscal 1996 oversight hearings.

But for the purposes of the discussion of the Daschle amendment, I absolutely do not believe we should restore funding for the Corporation for National Service. In fact, considering some of the other tough decisions we have made, there is room for further cuts. We are only bringing the program back to the 1994 level. Based on what I described, I believe that is overly generous.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to turn down the Daschle amendment. The Daschle amendment has one provision which has been called to our attention by Senator INOUYE: the problem with funding for Indian housing. I have been working with Senator INOUYE and his staff. I believe we can accommodate the needs of Senator INOUYE for the Indian housing.

I think we need to take special recognition of the problems which may arise there at a later time in the discussion of this bill when we have an amendment, however we work it out with Senator INOUYE, who has been a leader on this, and Senator MCCAIN.

We will attempt to work out a good compromise to make sure that the cuts do not fall unnecessarily heavily on our native Americans. I will discuss the particular needs of that program. That, too, is included in the Daschle amendment.

But the main point of the Daschle amendment is to cut \$1.3 billion from what was described last week by my colleagues on the other side of the aisle as "critically needed, vitally important, let's-do-it-now emergency relief" so we can go back and spend money on HUD, which is already spending too much money, on the National Service Corporation, the AmeriCorps direct dollars, which are keeping all those wonderful people employed at Federal agencies.

Mr. President, I just do not believe we need to restore those cuts. So I urge my colleagues not to accept the Daschle amendment.

I yield the floor.

Mr. ASHCROFT addressed the Chair. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the junior Senator from Missouri.

Mr. ASHCROFT. **Mr. President,** I want to commend the senior Senator from Missouri for an outstanding presentation. The juxtaposition of the funded agencies and the volunteer

agencies is a stark and compelling contrast. To think that the Future Farmers of America applied and were turned down when the Department of Agriculture was funded; to think that the 4-H Council applied and was turned down while the Department of Energy was funded; to think that the Departments of Interior, Justice, and Labor were successful applicants when no "volunteers" were provided to the Girl Scouts or the American Red Cross. In my mind, and I think my good friend would agree, this reflects very poorly on the character and quality of the AmeriCorp Program.

Mr. President, we are not talking about rescinding Federal money in a vacuum. I believe this entire debate must be placed in the context of America's financial condition. The American people are alarmed at a \$4.8 trillion debt. Last November, they said "It is time to stop this out of control spending, and put our fiscal house in order."

In family budgeting, what father or mother would say, "Even though we are \$72,000 in debt, business as usual will suffice." Despite our massive debt and rising deficits, Bill Clinton has suggested just that. The President has projected \$200-billion-a-year deficits for as far as the eye can see. **Mr. President,** this type of unrestrained spending must stop.

So, I rise today in support of the majority leader's amendment. If enacted, this package would significantly decrease discretionary spending for this fiscal year. More importantly, it would achieve that end by attacking non-essential government services. AmeriCorp, which I discussed earlier, is a perfect example. This so-called volunteer program, which costs \$30,400 per participant per year, is not a volunteer program at all. It is a way of paying individuals to do things that people already do.

Mr. President, out of the \$30,000 used to support each volunteer in this program, \$15,000 goes to administration and overhead costs. That means that this is really just a program to support the Federal bureaucracy. Then, when you think of the rest of the money—the \$15,400 that is left over for the volunteer after you have paid the \$15,000 for overhead and costs—you have to understand that 20 percent of all of those volunteers are working in the Departments of Agriculture, Energy, Labor, the Environmental Protection Agency, or the National Endowment for the Arts.

AmeriCorps. It sounds like you ought to stand up and salute. The truth is that the American people ought to stand up and grab their wallets because it represents a raid on their resources. And not just the American people, but also the yet unearned wages of generations to come.

Mr. President, we hear over and over again from the Democrat party that we have to save the children. Well, let us save them from bankruptcy. Let us practice a little responsibility. The

4 15,000 overhead — someone should point out that the \$15,000 overhead is not a cost by itself, it's a cost of the program — including the program — in 2000

RESERVATION

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CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—SENATE

S 5053

Senator from California earlier today said, "Say goodbye to Big Bird," as if we were to curtail funding for public broadcasting there wouldn't be any worthwhile children's programming. This is nonsense and the American people know it. In fact, a recent Lou Harris poll found that public broadcasting is third on a list of Federal programs that should be abolished.

Only \$7.5 million of the \$300 million spent on PBS goes directly to children's programming. Where does the money go? It goes to purchase and develop programming for wealthy adults. According to one of its own member stations, WNET, "one out of eight contributors to PBS is a millionaire. One out of seven has a wine cellar, and one out of every three has spent time in Europe in the last three years." This is not a social welfare program, it is welfare for the rich. Mr. President, these are the types of people taking advantage of PBS, and taking advantage of the American taxpayer. As my friend Senator PRESSLER noted, the wealthy donors to public broadcasting could easily make up the 14 percent of Federal funding that CPB receives if they simply gave an additional \$55 a year.

Mr. President, I believe we also need to look carefully at the foreign operations budget. The House suggested rescinding \$191.6 million. The Senate cut only \$100 million. Well, I think we ought to be rescinding what the House proposed. The additional \$91.6 million would bring our total Federal foreign operations reduction to 1.4 percent. If we are serious about balancing the budget, and if we really care about kids, we must at the very minimum do that.

So, we have an opportunity to say to the American people that we heard the message of November 3. We understand that it is important for us to make serious cuts. The Senate has a \$13 billion rescission package. The House was at \$17 billion. Thus, we can add the \$1.3 billion in this amendment and still not make it to the House level.

Mr. President, during the debate on the balanced budget amendment, member after member who opposed the bill talked about making tough choices. Furthermore, they all indicated that they were ready to move toward a balanced budget. Let me suggest that now is the time to begin. It is time because that is what the American people sent us here to do. Unfortunately, the President continues to take us down a different road, a road of increased deficits and debt. Let this Chamber be different. Let this Chamber fundamentally alter the way Washington works. We should rescind the funds which were proposed by the committee and add to it what the majority leader has suggested. If we do, we will begin to demonstrate responsibility, and that brings me to my last point.

I think what Government does is teaches. We all talk about the value of education. The most important lesson we can learn is the lesson of respon-

sibility. Are we or are we not people who pay our bills? Do we live with the consequences of the decisions we make? Are we willing to accept responsibility for what we do? If our citizens make that kind of commitment, the coming era can once again be called the American century. Regrettably, as a Government, we have yet to make that commitment. Some of us are concerned that as citizens we have not made that kind of commitment either. Maybe our Government is not teaching responsibility the way it ought to. Maybe our example speaks so loudly to young people that they believe they are not responsible for the actions that they take. After all, when we continue to appropriate and spend, when we continue to obfuscate and mislabel, government fails in its obligation to the citizenry.

Mr. President, let us instruct the young people of this Nation properly. Let us show them that we have the willingness to exercise the discipline necessary to succeed in balancing the budget. In my mind, this means not only having a rescission bill, but also supporting the majority leader's amendment. It is my sincere hope that the Senate will do just that.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Chair recognizes the Senator from New Mexico.

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise to support the amendment by Senator DASCHLE, and I am doing so primarily because of my belief that we should not make as drastic cuts in the education accounts as the majority leader would have the Senate make.

Let me put this in context, Mr. President. I know there is a lot of talk about, are you in favor of deficit reduction, or are you not in favor of deficit reduction? I honestly believe that all Members are in favor of deficit reduction here in the Senate. We want to find an appropriate way to accomplish that.

In my opinion, the test of whether we are serious about deficit reduction will come in two areas. First, our willingness to curtail spending in a whole range of areas—not just the areas being addressed by this bill, but all areas—defense, intelligence, community funding, agricultural subsidy funding, foreign aid funding, as well as the domestic accounts. Entitlements are a key part, when we are serious about constraining spending.

The second area in the test of whether we are serious is whether or not we will reject the siren call to cut taxes. There is a major effort, on the other side of the Hill this week to try to go ahead and cut everybody's taxes, particularly the taxes of the wealthy. In my view, that is not a responsible action if we are serious about deficit reduction. It does not make any sense to give speech after speech after speech here in the Congress about our concern about the deficit and then turn around and cut taxes and reduce the revenue

that the Government is receiving to keep that deficit from escalating. Those are the real issues.

Now I want to talk for a few moments about the impact of the proposed rescissions on education, because I believe very strongly that not only should we try to maintain funding in education but wherever possible we should try to increase funding.

As I travel around my State, Mr. President, and ask people in town hall meetings, "What percentage of the Federal budget do you believe is committed to improving education?" Some say maybe 5 percent, others say, maybe 10 percent, and we get into discussions over how much money is spent on education. I respond, "Let me tell you, it is 1.7 percent of the Federal budget that is committed to improving education in this country."

That is a figure which is down substantially from what it was a decade ago. In 1985 we committed 2.6 percent of our Federal outlays to improving education. This last year, it was 1.7 percent.

Mr. President, education is not the cause of our large Federal deficit. It has been taking its share of cuts all along and, in fact, even if the amendment of Senator DASCHLE is approved, there will be substantial cuts in education as part of this rescission bill. We are willing to accept that.

There are 19 different programs that the Department of Education operates dealing with education. The proposed amendment of Senator DASCHLE would try to restore funding to the level we appropriated and authorized last year in 7 of the 19—not in all of them—but in 7 of the 19.

Programs such as the title I grants which go to schools with disadvantaged children; the school-to-work opportunities, which help students to transition from school into employment; the Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program; and the Immigrant Education Program aimed at those people who are legally here in the United States legally working with green cards and their children need to be educated.

The Head Start Program. Mr. President, there are many students, many children in my State who would like to participate in the Head Start Program. However, there is inadequate funding for them to do that. In most cases, these are children of very low-income families. I think that the Head Start Program is a good investment for our country. I think we can legitimately be for deficit reduction without cutting back on the funding for the Head Start Program.

I want to urge my colleagues to think about priorities as we go about this cutting exercise. It does not do any good to rush ahead with cuts in all areas. The American people want Members of Congress to be very selective in the cuts that we make. The Wall Street Journal and NBC News did a poll recently that said that 79 percent of Americans believe that cutting Federal

FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF MARCH 19, 1996

Senate Consideration of H.R. 3019, Balanced Budget Downpayment
Act, II

AMENDMENT 3533 (Bond/Mikulski)
(EPA & NATIONAL SERVICE) --

Pages S 2277 - S 2278

VOTE ON AMENDMENT 3533

Page S 2278

MODIFIED AMENDMENT 3511 (Simon)
Section 109 of DVSA -- Voice Vote

Page 2280

Colloquy on AMERICORPS/FEDERAL AGENCIES
Remarks by Senators Leahy, Bond,
& Mikulski

Page S 2290

Vote on Final Passage and Appointment
of Senate Conferees

Page S 2309

NOTE: Names of Senate Conferees also
appear in the Digest which
is right after this sheet

Pages D 225 & D 226

Daily Digest

HIGHLIGHTS

Senate passed Continuing Appropriations, 1996, and Small Business Regulatory Reform.

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S2261-S2340

Measures Introduced: Three bills were introduced, as follows: S. 1624-1626. Page S2327

Measures Passed:

Greens Creek Land Exchange: Senate passed H.R. 1266, to provide for the exchange of lands within Admiralty Island National Monument, clearing the bill for the President. Page S2267

Saccharin Notice Requirement: Committee on Labor and Human Resources was discharged from further consideration of H.R. 1787, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to repeal the saccharin notice requirement, and the bill was then passed, clearing the bill for the President.

Pages S2267-68

Continuing Appropriations: By 79 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. 42), Senate passed H.R. 3019, making appropriations for fiscal year 1996 to make a further downpayment toward a balanced budget, after taking action on amendments proposed thereto, as follows: Pages S2261-S2300, S2302-09, S2340

Adopted:

(1) Hatfield Modified Amendment No. 3466, in the nature of a substitute. Pages S2261-S2300, S2302-09, S2340

(2) Lautenberg Amendment No. 3482 (to Amendment No. 3466), to provide funding for programs necessary to maintain essential environmental protection. Page S2279

(3) By 81 yeas to 19 nays (Vote No. 37), Bond/Mikulski Amendment No. 3533 (to Amendment No. 3482), to increase appropriations for EPA water infrastructure financing, Superfund toxic waste site cleanups, operating programs, and to increase funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service (AmeriCorps). Pages S2277-78

D224

(4) By 63 yeas to 37 nays (Vote No. 39), Coats Modified Amendment No. 3513 (to Amendment No. 3466), to amend the Public Health Service Act to prohibit governmental discrimination in the training and licensing of health professionals on the basis of the refusal to undergo or provide training in the performance of induced abortions. Pages S2262-66, S2268-76, S2280

(5) Simon Modified Amendment No. 3511 (to Amendment No. 3466), to provide funding to carry out title VI of the National Literary Act of 1991, title VI of the Library Services and Construction Act, and section 109 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973. Page S2280

(6) By 77 yeas to 23 nays (Vote No. 41), Wellstone Amendment No. 3520 (to Amendment No. 3466), to urge the President to release already-appropriated fiscal year 1996 emergency funding for home heating and other energy assistance, and to express the sense of the Senate on advance-appropriated funding for FY 1997. Pages S2281-83

(7) Murkowski/Stevens Modified Amendment No. 3524 (to Amendment No. 3466), to reconcile seafood inspection requirements for agricultural commodity programs with those in use for general public consumers. Pages S2283-84

(8) Murkowski Amendment No. 3525 (to Amendment No. 3466), to provide for the approval of an exchange of lands within Admiralty Island National Monument. Pages S2276-77, S2284

(9) Warner (for Thurmond) Modified Amendment No. 3526 (to Amendment No. 3466), to delay the exercise of authority to enter into multiyear procurement contracts for C-17 aircraft. Page S2284

(10) Hatfield Amendment No. 3553 (to Amendment No. 3466), to include funds for certain further programs and improve the bill. Pages S2285-S2300, S2302-03, S2340

Rejected:

(1) By 45 yeas to 55 nays (Vote No. 38), Boxer/Murray Amendment No. 3508 (to Amendment No.

3466), to permit the District of Columbia to use local funds for certain activities. Pages S2266–70, S2279

(2) By 33 yeas to 67 nays (Vote No. 40), Gramm Amendment No. 3519 (to Amendment No. 3466), to make the availability of obligations and expenditures contingent upon the enactment of a subsequent act incorporating an agreement between the President and Congress relative to Federal expenditures.

Pages S2280–81

(3) McCain Amendment No. 3554 (to Amendment No. 3553), to provide that funds available for a grant for the construction of wastewater treatment facilities may be expended.

Pages S2302–03

Withdrawn:

Gorton Amendment No. 3496 (to Amendment No. 3466), to designate the "Jonathan M. Wainwright Memorial VA Medical Center", located in Walla Walla, Washington.

Pages S2279–80

Santorum Amendment No. 3484 (to Amendment No. 3466), expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the budget treatment of Federal disaster assistance.

Page S2279

Santorum Amendment No. 3485 (to Amendment No. 3466), expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the budget treatment of Federal disaster assistance.

Page S2262

Santorum Amendment No. 3486 (to Amendment No. 3466), to require that disaster relief provided under this Act be funded through amounts previously made available to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to be reimbursed through regular annual appropriations Acts.

Page S2262

Santorum Amendment No. 3487 (to Amendment No. 3466), to reduce all Title I discretionary spending by the appropriate percentage (.367%) to offset Federal disaster assistance.

Page S2262

Santorum Amendment No. 3488 (to Amendment No. 3466), to reduce all Title I "Salary and Expense" and "Administrative Expense" accounts by the appropriate percentage (3.5%) to offset Federal disaster assistance.

Page S2279

Bond (for Pressler) Amendment No. 3514 (to Amendment No. 3466), to provide funding for a Radar Satellite project at NASA.

Page S2279

Bond Amendment No. 3515 (to Amendment No. 3466), to clarify rent setting requirements of law regarding housing assisted under section 236 of the National Housing Act to limit rents charged moderate income families to that charged for comparable, non-assisted housing, and clarify permissible uses of rental income in such projects, in excess of operating costs and debt service.

Page S2279

Bond Amendment No. 3516 (to Amendment No. 3466), to increase in amount available under the HUD Drug Elimination Grant Program for drug elimination activities in and around federally-assisted

low-income housing developments by \$30 million, to be derived from carry-over HOPE program balances.

Page S2279

Bond Amendment No. 3517 (to Amendment No. 3466), to establish a special fund dedicated to enable the Department of Housing and Urban Development to meet crucial milestones in restructuring its administrative organization and more effectively address housing and community development needs of States and local units of government and to clarify and reaffirm provisions of current law with respect to the disbursement of HOME and CDBG funds allocated to the State of New York.

Page S2279

Bond (for McCain) Modified Amendment No. 3521 (to Amendment No. 3466), to require that disaster funds made available to certain agencies be allocated in accordance with the established prioritization processes of the agencies.

Pages S2275–76, S2284

Bond (for McCain) Amendment No. 3522 (to Amendment No. 3466), to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to develop a plan for the allocation of health care resources of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Page S2284

Warner Amendment No. 3523 (to Amendment No. 3466), to prohibit the District of Columbia from enforcing any rule or ordinance that would terminate taxicab service reciprocity agreements with the States of Virginia and Maryland.

Pages S2279, S2303

Burns Amendment No. 3528 (to Amendment No. 3466), to allow the refurbishment and continued operation of a small hydroelectric facility in central Montana by adjusting the amount of charges to be paid to the United States under the Federal Power Act.

Page S2284

Coats (for Dole/Lieberman) Amendment No. 3531 (to Amendment No. 3466), to provide for low-income scholarships in the District of Columbia.

Page S2279

Also, the following amendments fell when an appeal of the ruling of the chair that Amendment No. 3551, listed below, was not relevant to Amendment No. 3466 was withdrawn:

Hatfield (for Burns) Amendment No. 3551 (to Amendment No. 3466), to divide the ninth judicial circuit of the United States into two circuits.

Page S2262

Burns Amendment No. 3552 (to Amendment No. 3551), to establish a Commission on restructuring the circuits of the United States Courts of Appeals.

Page S2262

Senate insisted on its amendment, requested a conference with the House thereon, and the Chair appointed the following conferees: Senators Hatfield, Stevens, Cochran, Specter, Domenici, Bond, Gorton,



good deal for the taxpayers of America. That is what we ought to be doing around here. But that is not what we are doing.

Mr. President, when I took this issue on 7 years ago, 7 long years ago, the price of gold in this country was \$300 an ounce. Every time I have attempted to stop the giveaway of Federal lands for \$2.50 an acre, I got my brains beat out. Fortunately, I have been successful in gaining passage of a moratorium on the processing of new mining patent applications.

The small progress I have made has been glacial. The mining companies want the taxpayers of this country to deed them Federal lands that belong to all of us for \$2.50 an acre, \$5 max, mine the gold, silver, copper, platinum, and other minerals off of this land and then, oftentimes, leave an unmitigated environmental disaster for the taxpayers to clean up—and not pay one thin dime.

When I first took this issue on, gold was \$300 an ounce. And the mining industry said, "Well, if you put a 3- or 4-percent royalty on us, we will go broke. We will have to shut down, and all of these poor miners will be out of a job." Today gold is \$400 an ounce. And what do you think their argument is? "We will lose money. We will have to shut down and put all of those poor miners out of work." And like Pavlov's dog, Senators in the U.S. Senate grab it like a raw piece of meat and think that is the most wonderful thing they ever heard—"Keep all of these people working, if we will just not put a royalty on it."

We charge people 12.5 percent for every ounce of coal they take off Federal lands—12.5 percent. We make people who mine underground coal—a very expensive undertaking—pay 8 percent for every ounce of coal they mine. We make the natural gas companies and the oil companies pay 12.5 percent for every dollar's worth of oil and gas they take off Federal lands. And here is what we get for gold—zip. Here is what we get for silver—zip. And here is what we get for platinum—zip.

Do you know what platinum is selling for as of this moment? It is \$413 an ounce. We have given billions and billions of dollars worth of platinum and palladium away in Montana in the process of doing it, and we will not get one thin dime out of it.

Just look at this chart: "Miners Get the Gold and the Taxpayers Get the Shaft." Here is Barrick Gold Co., the stock of which has climbed in accordance with the price of gold. About a year and a half ago Secretary Babbitt was required by law to give Barrick Resources 11 billion dollars' worth of gold. Do you know what the Secretary and the taxpayers of the United States got for that \$11 billion? Yes, \$9,000. Ask Senators who own land with gold or silver or platinum or palladium: How many of you are willing to give the gold companies that kind of a deal? You know the answer to that question.

Then just recently the Secretary was required by law to give a Danish company—Faxe Kalk—1 billion dollars' worth of travertine. Travertine converts into a powder which has very special uses. What do you think the taxpayers of the United States got for that \$1 billion? Why, they got a whopping \$700—enough to take your family out to dinner about five times.

Do you think I am making this up? If you think I am making it up, invite all Senators who think this is just such a wonderful thing to come to the floor and refute it.

In the past year, we gave Asarco, a copper and silver company, lands that have underneath them—who cares about the value of the surface? We just gave Asarco 3 billion dollars' worth of copper and silver. What did the taxpayers get for their \$3 billion? Yes, \$1,745. We are going to be required—we have not done it yet, but under the law, because of the 1872 law that Ulysses Grant signed when he was President, we are going to be required to give the Stillwater Mining Co. 44 billion dollars' worth of platinum and palladium. Mr. President, this is their figure, not mine. You want to go and find out where I got that figure? Look at their prospectus. And the taxpayers of this country in exchange for their \$44 billion are going to get the whopping sum of \$10,000.

We are trying to balance the budget. It makes a mockery of it. It makes an absolute mockery of it. You talk about corporate welfare. That is the reason I applaud the Kennecott Co. At least in the land exchange, the grant we are going to give Kennecott in the Murkowski bill, they had the decency to say, "We will give you a 3-percent net smelter return for all the copper we mine." That is still less than private property owners charge, but it is at least reasonable. If the taxpayers of this country were getting a severance tax or a net smelter return royalty over the next 7-year period when we are trying to balance the budget, it is a big piece of money.

When we look at some of the things we are doing to the environment, even after the add-back in the amendment we are going to vote on here in about 2 hours, even after we add that back into the environmental fund, EPA is still going to be cut significantly. Mr. President. When I came to the Senate, 65 percent of the streams and lakes of this country were not swimmable and not fishable. Today, in 1996, that figure has been reversed; 65 percent of the streams and lakes are fishable, are swimmable. And I do not care where you go. If you go to Main Street America—you pick the town—and you ask people: Do you think we are doing enough for the environment? Seventy percent of the people say, no. Do you want to reverse that figure to 35 percent of the streams and lakes not being fishable and swimmable from the point that 65 percent of them are? No. Nobody wants to turn the clock back on the environment.

The air we breathe, the water we drink goes to the very heart of our existence, and we are cutting the Environmental Protection Agency's budget. Too much regulation, they say. That may be true. Cut the regulations back, but do not cut back the quality of water and air.

Here is an opportunity to find an awful lot of money that we have been giving away since 1872, originally to encourage people to move west. You think about the rationale for the 1872 law—to encourage people to move west—124 years ago. What is the rationale now? Corporate greed. Political campaign contributions. That is it, pure and simple. People will not vote to impose a royalty on mining companies because they give away a lot of money around here. Until we straighten that out, this is not going to be straightened out.

Mr. President, I have made the same speech on this floor many times. The figures keep changing. The companies that are benefiting from it keep changing. I do not know how much longer I am going to be in the Senate, but I promise you one thing: The last day I serve here I will be standing right here, unless this is rectified, making the same speech.

I yield the floor.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will now stand in recess until 2:15 p.m..

Thereupon, the Senate, at 12:48 p.m., recessed until 2:15 p.m.; whereupon, the Senate reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. FRIST).

BALANCED BUDGET DOWNPAYMENT ACT, II

The Senate continued with the consideration of the bill.

AMENDMENT NO. 333

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, I will vote to support the Bond amendment to the underlying Lautenberg-Kerry amendment only because it provides some additional funding for environmental programs that are critical to improving the health and safety of all Americans and because it is the most that Democratic negotiators could wrest from the Republicans for these purposes. Regrettably, this Bond-Mikulski compromise eliminates any opportunity to pass the Lautenberg-Kerry amendment which contains almost double the funding for environmental protection, including water infrastructure funding for the State revolving loan fund and additional funds to cleanup of Boston Harbor.

However, I hope that the overwhelming support for the Bond-Mikulski compromise amendment will demonstrate to the House conferees that the vast majority of Senators want to support increased funding for critical

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. SIMON addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is the majority leader seeking recognition? Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, as I understand the Senator from Illinois, his amendment has been cleared on both sides.

Mr. SIMON. My amendment has been agreed to by the managers on both sides.

Mr. DOLE. I was just informed maybe it had not been cleared on this side.

Mr. SIMON. I ask unanimous consent, Mr. President, that it be temporarily set aside.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Under a prior unanimous-consent agreement, the Senator from Indiana is recognized for 1 minute.

AMENDMENT NO. 3513, AS MODIFIED

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, the amendment on which we are about to vote prevents the Government from discriminating against hospitals and ob-gyn residents who choose not to perform abortions. It protects those civil rights, but it also allows those who voluntarily choose to perform abortions to receive training in that procedure. The amendment is supported by Senator FRIST. The amendment is supported by Senator SNOWE. It is supported by the American Medical Association, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists. It goes to the rights of institutions and individuals to say that they do not believe it is in their best interests to receive mandatory training for abortion procedures. It is a civil rights issue. I hope our Members would vote for it.

Mrs. BOXER addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from California is recognized for 1 minute.

Mrs. BOXER. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

I hope my colleagues understand that under current law any medical school that has any conscience objection in teaching abortion does not have to teach abortion and they still get their Federal funds. What the Coats amendment would do is say that even if an institution has no conscience objection, it can stop teaching surgical abortion and continue to receive Federal funds.

The reason why many of us on this side particularly oppose this is that we think it is dangerous for women. We think that doctors will no longer know how to perform surgical abortions. We think it is very dangerous that a woman is put in a situation where a physician does not know how to perform a surgical abortion, say, if she is brought in in an emergency situation. That is why the American Association of University Women opposes this amendment, the National Women's Law Center, the Women's Legal Defense Fund, and the Center for Reproductive Law and Policy, among others.

I hope you will vote no. Current law has a conscience clause. We all support that. I hope we can defeat the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. All time has expired. The question is on agreeing to amendment No. 3513, as modified. The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

The result was announced—yeas 63, nays 37, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 39 Leg.]

YEAS—63

Abraham	Faircloth	Lott
Ashcroft	Ford	Lugar
Bennett	Frist	Mack
Biden	Gorton	McCaill
Bond	Graham	McConnell
Breaux	Gramm	Moynihan
Brown	Grams	Murkowski
Bryan	Grassley	Nickles
Burns	Gregg	Nunn
Campbell	Hatch	Pressler
Coats	Hatfield	Roth
Cochran	Heflin	Santorum
Cohen	Helms	Shelby
Conrad	Hutchinson	Simpson
Coverdell	Inhofe	Smith
Craig	Jeffords	Snower
D'Amato	Johnston	Stevens
DeWine	Kassebaum	Thomas
Dole	Kempthorne	Thompson
Domenici	Kyl	Thurmond
Dorgan	Leahy	Warner

NAYS—37

Akaka	Glenn	Murray
Baucus	Harkin	Pell
Bingaman	Hollings	Pryor
Boxer	Inouye	Reld
Bradley	Kennedy	Robb
Bumpers	Kerrey	Rockefeller
Byrd	Kerry	Sarbanes
Chafee	Kohl	Simon
Daschle	Lautenberg	Specter
Dodd	Levin	Wellstone
Exon	Lieberman	Wyden
Feingold	Mikulski	
Feinstein	Moseley-Braun	

So the amendment (No. 3513), as modified, was agreed to.

Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to.

Mr. STEVENS. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. SIMON. May we have order, Mr. President?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will come to order.

AMENDMENT NO. 3511, AS MODIFIED

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, this is the amendment we temporarily set aside. I have modified it in line with the request of the managers. It is now acceptable on both sides, and I offer the amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Illinois [Mr. SIMON] proposes an amendment numbered 3511, as modified, to amendment No. 3466.

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment, as modified, is as follows:

On page 582, line 14, strike "\$1,257,134,000" and insert "\$1,257,888,000".

On page 582, line 16, before the semicolon insert the following: ", and of which \$5,100,000 shall be available to carry out title VI of the National Literacy Act of 1991".

On page 582, line 16, strike "\$1,254,215,000" and insert "\$1,254,969,000".

On page 591, between lines 3 and 4, insert the following:

SEC. 305. (a) Section 428(n) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1078(n)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

"(5) APPLICABILITY TO PART D LOANS.—The provisions of this subsection shall apply to institutions of higher education participating in direct lending under part D with respect to loans made under such part, and for the purposes of this paragraph, paragraph (4) shall be applied by inserting 'or part D' after 'this part'."

(b) The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on July 1, 1996.

On page 592, line 7, strike "\$196,270,000" and insert "\$201,294,000".

On page 592, line 7, before the period insert the following: ", of which \$5,024,000 shall be available to carry out section 109 of the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973".

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendment, as modified.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is on agreeing to the amendment No. 3511, as modified.

The amendment (No. 3511), as modified, was agreed to.

Mr. SIMON. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the amendment was agreed to, and I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Mr. GRAMM addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Texas.

AMENDMENT NO. 3519

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays on my amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

Mr. GRAMM. Mr. President, this bill started with a \$4.8 billion contingency fund which represented our effort to buy the President into a budget agreement where, if he would agree to a budget—any budget, not just a balanced budget—we would give him \$4.8 billion.

But it seems since we started, we were overly eager to give the money away. We have already given the President about \$3.3 billion by adding it right to spending, without even requiring a budget agreement. What I am saying here is, let us take this contingency appropriation out. If we have an agreement with the President, let us negotiate at that time. Let us not negotiate in advance. I thought we were

not be unilateral. Members of the Russian Duma will doubtless ask themselves why they should ratify START II if the United States is cutting its strategic bomber force anyway.

CONGRESSIONAL INTENT

Second, Congress has explicitly recognized the force of these START II considerations. We wrote a provision into law, section 1404 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996, forbidding the retirement of any strategic weapon system this year. We did that because we knew that we should not cut our nuclear arsenal until Russia subjects itself to the limits in START II. That is why section 1404 explicitly prohibits retiring B-52 bombers or even preparing to retire them. My amendment simply backs up section 1404 with the funding the Air Force needs to maintain the full B-52 bomber fleet. I seek to enable the Air Force to carry out the intent of Congress.

CAPABILITIES OF B-52 FLEET

Third, I would remind my colleagues that B-52 bombers are long-range force projectors. With maximum fuel load, the B-52 can fly 10,000 miles without in-air refueling, which is over 33 percent further than the B-1 or B-2 bombers. With in-air refueling, the B-52 literally has a worldwide range. The B-52 has been modified to carry up to 12 air-launched cruise missiles externally and 8 internally. Alternatively, it can carry up to 50,000 pounds of attack missiles and gravity bombs. A bomber of such range and payload is vital in order to project air power to areas where the United States lacks prepositioned equipment or bases capable of handling heavy bombers.

To take an example, Mr. President, right now we face a crisis in Southeast Asia, in the Taiwan Strait. China is firing live ammunition and testing dummy missiles in a way that is calculated to disrupt Taiwan's economy and rattle Taiwan's electorate. We have one carrier task force in the area; we are moving a second carrier task force from the Persian Gulf to Southeast Asia in order to keep the peace. Well, the B-52 has already kept the peace in the Persian Gulf. And it can keep the peace in Southeast Asia in one hop if need be. It makes no sense to retire B-52's at a moment when our ability to project force into every corner of the world is key to the peace of Southeast Asia.

BOMBER STUDY ONGOING

Last, my colleagues will recall that in February President Clinton ordered the Defense Department to study the future of our long-range bomber fleet. The Deep Attack Weapons Mix Study, which is headed by Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology Paul Kaminski and Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Joseph Ralston, will examine both the munitions and the bombers used to strike deep into enemy territory. That study includes a close look at the stra-

tegic bomber force structure. It seems to me that any retirement of B-52 bombers would prejudice the results of the Deep Attack Weapons Mix Study. I think my colleagues will agree that we should ensure that the Air Force can await the results of the study before retiring any B-52 bombers.

In conclusion, Mr. President, I am asking the Senate to approve an amendment that is paid for, that fulfills congressional intent, that maintains America's strategic forces, and that keeps a capable bomber in the air. I hope my colleagues will support this amendment.

Thank you, Mr. President. I yield the floor.

AMERICORPS

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I support the mission of AmeriCorps. I believe that engaging Americans of all ages to help communities solve their own problems is a worthy goal.

One of the greatest threats facing our cities and towns today is the loss of a sense of community responsibility. AmeriCorps invites Americans to put something back into their communities—to reestablish the local ties that have been so important to this country.

I am very concerned about the provision in this omnibus appropriations bill which terminates AmeriCorps grants through Federal agencies. Right now, about half of AmeriCorps participants in my home State run through the USDA AmeriCorps Program. This includes the Vermont Anti-Hunger Corps and a rural development team. These projects have involved nonprofit groups, and a unique partnership of Federal, State, and local organizations. All of which have contributed to their success.

I want to clarify with the Chairman that this language would not preclude these local programs currently funded through Federal agencies to continue through national direct grants or through State commissions.

Mr. BOND. Yes, the Senator is correct. If local programs currently being funded through Federal agencies are doing a good job, then I would encourage them to either work with national groups to apply for funding or work with the commission in the State in which they reside. These local programs have the experience and expertise to compete very well for AmeriCorps grants. I expect the Corporation for National and Community Service and the State commissions to take this experience into consideration when reviewing new grantees. The bottom line is that we do not want Federal agencies capitalizing on funds that should be going directly to nonprofit organizations.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank the Chairman Senator BOND. I ask Senator MIKULSKI if this is also her understanding?

Ms. MIKULSKI. I share the concern of the Senator, about the termination of the grants to Federal agencies. Unfortunately, we lost the public rela-

tions war in defining how these Federal agency grants really work. These programs are not bloated bureaucracies, but a way for small local programs to benefit from the technical expertise of Federal agencies in designing programs to meet their own local needs. I would urge any local program currently being funded through a Federal agency to apply through the national direct grants or through their own State commissions.

Mr. LEAHY. I thank Chairman BOND and Senator MIKULSKI. I plan to work closely with these Vermont programs so that they can continue to providing services through AmeriCorps. And I appreciate all of the work the Senators have done to come to a bipartisan agreement on funding for AmeriCorps. I look forward to continue working with them on this important issue.

VETERANS HEALTH CARE

Mr. MCCAIN. Mr. President, we need to take immediate steps to implement a plan to better allocate health care funding among the Department's health care facilities so that veterans, no matter where they live or what circumstances they face, have equal access to quality health care.

The amendment that I propose here today with my distinguished colleague, Senator BOB GRAHAM of Florida, will, I hope, finally direct the Department of Veterans Affairs to do the right thing. That is, to eliminate funding disparities among VA health care facilities across the country.

Mr. President, inequity in veterans' access to health care is an issue that I originally brought to Secretary Jesse Brown's attention in March 1994. The Department of Veterans Affairs is currently using an archaic and unresponsive formula to allocate health care resources. The system must be updated to account for population shifts.

The veterans population in three States, including Arizona, is growing, at the same time that it is declining in other parts of the country. Unfortunately, health care allocations have not kept up with the changes. The impact of disparate funding has been very obvious to me during my visits to many VA medical centers throughout the country, and particularly in Arizona, and was confirmed by a formal survey of the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center in Phoenix, which was conducted by the Veterans of Foreign Wars [VFW] in April 1994.

The problem has been further verified by the General Accounting Office [GAO] in a report entitled "Veterans Health Care: Facilities' Resource Allocations Could Be More Equitable." The GAO found that the Department of Veterans Affairs continues to allocate funding based on past budgets rather than current needs, and has failed to implement the Resource Planning and Management system [RPM] developed 2 years ago to help remedy funding inequity.

crime—in the first 6 months of 1995 compared to the first 6 months of 1994: murder is down by 30 percent; robbery is down by 22 percent; burglary is down by 18 percent; and car theft is down by 25 percent.

In the face of that success in fighting America's crime epidemic, it would be folly to go back on our commitment to adding 100,000 cops. "If it ain't broke, don't fix it"—as a former President used to say.

That, unfortunately, is exactly what the latest continuing resolution proposes to do—instead of fully funding the President's request for the 100,000 cops program, this latest proposal would slash the 1996 request for the cops program to \$975 million—about one-half the \$1.9 billion request.

Not only is the 100,000 cops program subject to extreme cuts—but the latest continuing resolution also takes nearly \$813 million that was supposed to go to the 100,000 cops program to fund a so-called law enforcement block grant program.

What is wrong with this approach?

First, this so-called law enforcement block grant is written so broadly that the money could be spent on everything from prosecutors to probation officers to traffic lights or parking meters—and not a single new cop.

Second, this block grant has never been authorized by the Senate. So, let's be clear on what is being done here. What this continuing resolution does is take a crime bill that has been passed only by the House, whose funds have been authorized only by the House, whose block grant idea has already been rejected by the Senate, and incorporate it into an appropriations bill so it is passed and funded—all in one fell swoop.

Mr. President, if we are going to legislate by fiat like this, then we might as well do away with committees, with hearings, with subcommittee markups, with full committee markups, and with careful consideration of authorizing legislation. We could simply do all the Senate's business on appropriations bills or continuing resolutions.

I, for one, happen to believe that's a terrible way to proceed and I believe that's reason enough to oppose this bill.

If the Republicans want to change the crime bill, they have the right to try—but let's do it the right way and then let's vote on it. Wiping out major pieces of the most significant anti-crime legislation ever passed by the Congress on an appropriations bill makes a mockery of our Senate process. The importance of the programs we are considering, not to mention the perception of our institution, demands better.

Thank you, Mr. President.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT NO. 3466, AS AMENDED

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question now is on agreeing to the substitute amendment, as amended.

The amendment (No. 3466), as amended, was agreed to.

Mr. HATFIELD. I move to reconsider the vote by which the substitute was adopted. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment of the amendments and third reading of the bill.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There is a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that following the passage of H.R. 3019, the Senate proceed to vote passage of the small business regulation bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill having been read the third time, the question is, Shall the bill pass? The yeas and nays have been ordered. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk called the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. ABRAHAM). Are there any other Senators in the Chamber who desire to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 79, nays 21, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 42 Leg.]

(YEAS—79)

Abraham	Exon	McConnell
Akaka	Feinstein	Mikulski
Baucus	Ford	Moynihan
Bennett	Frist	Murkowski
Bingaman	Glenn	Murray
Bond	Gorton	Nunn
Bradley	Graham	Pell
Breaux	Gregg	Pregler
Bryan	Harkin	Pryor
Bumpers	Hatch	Raid
Burns	Hatfield	Robb
Byrd	Heflin	Rockefeller
Campbell	Hutchison	Roth
Chafee	Inouye	Santorum
Coats	Jeffords	Sarbanes
Cochran	Johnston	Shelby
Cohen	Kassebaum	Simon
Conrad	Kempthorne	Simpson
Coverdell	Kennedy	Snowe
Craig	Kerrey	Specter
D'Amato	Kohl	Stevens
Daschle	Leahy	Thompson
DeWine	Levin	Thurmond
Dodd	Lieberman	Wellstone
Dole	Lott	Wyden
Domenici	Lugar	
Dorgan	Mack	

(NAYS—21)

Ashcroft	Grams	Lautenberg
Biden	Grassley	McCain
Boxer	Helms	Moseley-Braun
Brown	Hollings	Nickles
Faircloth	Inhofe	Smith
Feingold	Kerry	Thomas
Gramm	Kyl	Warner

So the bill (H.R. 3019), as amended, was passed.

(The text of the bill was not available for printing. It will appear in the RECORD of March 20, 1996.)

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I move to reconsider the vote by which the bill was passed.

Mr. FORD. I move to lay that motion on the table.

The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

The Senate will please come to order so the Senator from Oregon may proceed.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I move that the Senate insist upon its amendments and request a conference with the House of Representatives on the disagreeing votes thereon of the two Houses, and that the Chair be authorized to appoint the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The motion was agreed to, and the Presiding Officer (Mr. ABRAHAM) appointed Mr. HATFIELD, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. BOND, Mr. GORTON, Mr. MCCONNELL, Mr. MACK, Mr. BURNS, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. GREGG, Mr. BENNETT, Mr. CAMPBELL, Mr. BYRD, Mr. INOUE, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. BUMPERS, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. HARKIN, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. REID, Mr. KERREY of Nebraska, Mr. KOHL, Mrs. MURRAY, conferees on the part of the Senate.

Mr. HATFIELD. Mr. President, I would like to take a very brief moment to acknowledge the input of many people to make this possible. I need not, Mr. President, indicate further this has been a very difficult and intricate package to craft; and this could not have happened without the cooperation of Senator BYRD, the ranking member, and the ranking members of our committee, as well as our own Republican members. I want to commend particularly the leadership that has been so important in getting us to this particular point. I hope that all of you will say your prayers, and include the Appropriations Committee, as it now goes to conference with the House of Representatives.

SMALL BUSINESS REGULATORY FAIRNESS ACT OF 1995

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the clerk will report S. 942.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 942) to promote increased understanding of Federal regulations and increased voluntary compliance with such regulations by small entities, to provide for the designation of regional ombudsmen and oversight boards to monitor the enforcement practices of certain Federal agencies with respect to small business concerns, to provide relief from excessive and arbitrary regulatory enforcement actions against small entities, and for other purposes.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill.

RECORDED VOTE

The CHAIRMAN. A recorded vote has been demanded.

A recorded vote was ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—ayes 183, noes 240, not voting 10, as follows:

(Roll No. 276)

AYES—183

Allard	Fowler	Myers
Archer	Franks (CT)	Myrick
Army	Frelinghuysen	Nethercutt
Bachus	Frisa	Neumann
Baker (CA)	Funderburk	Ney
Ballenger	Galleghy	Norwood
Barr	Ganske	Nussle
Barrett (NE)	Gekas	Oxley
Bartlett	Gillmor	Parker
Barton	Goodlatte	Paxon
Bass	Goodling	Petri
Bateman	Graham	Pombo
Billakis	Greene (UT)	Porter
Bliley	Gutknecht	Portman
Boehner	Hancock	Radanovich
Boehner	Hansen	Ramstad
Bonilla	Hastert	Roberts
Bono	Hastings (WA)	Rogers
Brownback	Hayworth	Rohrabacher
Bryant (TN)	Hefley	Roth
Bunning	Heineman	Roukema
Burr	Heger	Royce
Burton	Hilleary	Salmon
Buyer	Hoekstra	Sanford
Callahan	Hoke	Saxton
Calvert	Hostettler	Scarborough
Camp	Hunter	Schaefer
Campbell	Hutchinson	Seastrand
Canady	Ingalls	Sensenbrenner
Chabot	Istook	Shadegg
Chamberlain	Johnson (CT)	Shaw
Chenoweth	Johnson, Sam	Shuster
Christensen	Jones	Smith (MI)
Coble	Kasich	Smith (NJ)
Coburn	Kim	Smith (TX)
Collins (GA)	King	Solomon
Combest	Kingston	Souder
Condit	Kolbe	Spence
Cooley	LaHood	Stearns
Cox	Largent	Stockman
Crane	Latham	Stump
Crapo	LaTourette	Talent
Cremins	Laughlin	Tate
Cubin	Lewis (KY)	Taylor (NC)
Cunningham	Lightfoot	Thornberry
Deal	Linder	Tiahrt
DeLay	LoBiondo	Upton
Dickey	Longley	Vucanovich
Doolittle	Lucas	Walker
Dornan	Manzullo	Wamp
Dreier	McCollum	Watts (OK)
Duncan	McHugh	Weldon (FL)
Dunn	McInnis	Weldon (PA)
Ehrlich	McIntosh	Weller
English	McKeon	White
Ensign	Metcalfe	Whitfield
Everett	Meyers	Wicker
Ewing	Mica	Young (AK)
Fawell	Miller (FL)	Young (FL)
Flanagan	Molinar	Zeliff
Foley	Moorhead	Zimmer

NOES—240

Abercrombie	Bryant (TX)	Deutsch
Ackerman	Bunn	Diaz-Balart
Andrews	Cardin	Dicks
Baesler	Castle	Dingell
Baker (LA)	Chapman	Dixon
Baldacci	Chrysler	Doggett
Barcia	Clay	Dooley
Barrett (WI)	Clayton	Doyle
Beilenson	Clement	Durbin
Bentsen	Clinger	Edwards
Bereuter	Clyburn	Ehlers
Berman	Collins (IL)	Engel
Bevill	Collins (MI)	Eshoo
Bilbray	Conyers	Evans
Bishop	Costello	Farr
Blumenauer	Coyne	Fattah
Blute	Cramer	Fazio
Bonior	Cummings	Fields (LA)
Borski	Danner	Filner
Boucher	Davis	Flake
Brewster	de la Garza	Foglietta
Brown (CA)	DeFazio	Forbes
Brown (FL)	DeLauro	Fox
Brown (OH)	Dellums	Frank (MA)

FORD

Frost
Furse
Gephardt
Geron
Gibbons
Gilchrest
Gillman
Gonzalez
Gordon
Goss
Green (TX)
Greenwood
Gunderson
Gutierrez
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Hefner
Hilliard
Hinchey
Hobson
Holden
Horn
Houghton
Hoyer
Hyde
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jacobs
Jefferson
Johnson (SD)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnston
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kelly
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kennelly
Kildee
Kleczka
Klink
Klug
Knollenberg
LaFalce
Lantos
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)

Becerra
Browder
Coleman
Fields (TX)

LIPINSKI

Livingston
Loigren
Lowey
Luther
Maloney
Manton
Markey
Martinez
Martini
Mascara
Matsui
McCarthy
McCrery
McDermott
McHale
McKinney
McNulty
Meehan
Meek
Menendez
Millender
McDonald
Miller (CA)
Minge
Mink
Moakley
Mollohan
Montgomery
Moran
Morella
Murtha
Nadler
Neal
Oberstar
Obey
Oliver
Ortiz
Orton
Owens
Packard
Pallone
Pastor
Payne (NJ)
Payne (VA)
Pelosi
Peterson (MN)
Pickett
Pomeroy
Poshard
Pryce
Quillen
Quinn
Rahall
Rangel
Reed
Regula

NOT VOTING—10

Ford
Lincoln
McDade
Peterson (FL)

RICHARDSON

Rivers
Rivers
Roemer
Ros-Lehtinen
Rush
Sabo
Sanders
Sawyer
Schiff
Schroeder
Schumer
Scott
Serrano
Shays
Siskisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (WA)
Spratt
Stark
Stenholm
Stokes
Studds
Stupak
Tanner
Tauzin
Taylor (MS)
Tejeda
Thomas
Thompson
Thornton
Thurman
Torkildsen
Torres
Torricelli
Towns
Traficant
Velasquez
Vento
Visclosky
Volkmmer
Walsh
Ward
Waters
Watt (NC)
Waxman
Williams
Wilson
Wise
Wolf
Woolsey
Wynn
Yates

Rose
Roybal-Allard

□ 1512

Mr. MOLLOHAN changed his vote from "aye" to "no."

Mr. PARKER changed his vote from "no" to "aye".

So the amendment was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

Mrs. CHENOWETH. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

Mr. Chairman, today we will conclude consideration of H.R. 3666, a bill to appropriate fiscal year 1997 funds to the Veterans' Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and other independent agencies.

□ 1515

Mr. Chairman, it is with these other independent agencies that I would like to address this issue today.

At the close of consideration of H.R. 3666, we, as Members of the House of Representatives, will be asked to cast one single vote on this entire package of funding for agencies that are wholly unrelated. This is absolutely unfair.

H.R. 3666 includes not only funds for VA and HUD, but funding for AmeriCorps and the Selective Service System, the EPA and OSTP, and CEQ, and FEMA, and GSA, and NASA, and NSF, and CDFI, and other minor agencies that sound like alphabet soup.

I want to be very clear here, Mr. Chairman, I support veterans' programs. We owe our vets a debt of gratitude that more money can never repay, and I have supported some of the other programs, too.

But it is precisely because I believe we need to keep our promises to our veterans who served so valiantly that I am supporting this bill today.

But, Mr. Chairman, I think it is a fraud on the American people to force their Representatives in Congress, Representatives who are supposed to be watching their tax dollars, to cast one single vote on all these various agencies. How can we justify including the veterans of our Armed Forces in the same measure as AmeriCorps, EPA and the like? It is fundamentally unfair to pit our veterans, whom I support, against EPA and AmeriCorps programs, of which I have serious reservations.

I want my constituents to know that when I cast my vote today in favor of H.R. 3666, it is for my veterans, not a vote for AmeriCorps and EPA.

I would suggest, Mr. Chairman, that we reexamine our appropriations process to inject more germaneness and fairness into our ability to represent our constituents.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FIELDS OF LOUISIANA

Mr. FIELDS of Louisiana. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to offer an amendment to a portion of the bill not yet read.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. FIELDS of Louisiana:

Page 61, line 14, after each of the two dollar amounts, insert the following: "(increased by \$3,500,000)".

Page 61, line 17, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$178,500,000)".

Page 61, line 22, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$89,000,000)".

Page 62, line 1, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$80,000,000)".

Page 62, line 7, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$1,000,000)".

Page 62, line 19, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$4,500,000)".

Page 62, line 24, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$11,500,000)".

Page 63, line 2, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$7,000,000)".

Page 63, line 6, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$2,000,000)".

Page 74, line 5, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$178,500,000)".

groups

Letter: May 4 at Humphrey Institute
in Minneapolis

annually
8 recipients

Gov Paul Award to ~~Ed~~ Steele, a
rural & special
for creative coll. between forest
fed., state & local gov't. for
Amer. was vehicle
Morgantown
West Va
Northeast
Area
State &
Rural
Forest

worked c. state of Minnesota in
local gov't office, in each
organ
& in non-profits and
state

good
results

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Justice Com

I think it is important for us to look at the fact that this is a bipartisan program. I think AmeriCorps takes a great deal of pride in the fact that it is bipartisan. Two-thirds of the AmeriCorps programs are chosen by governor-appointed State commissions, three-fifths of which are headed by Republicans to address local needs.

It is a program that works. An evaluation of the AmeriCorps programs found that just one-tenth of AmeriCorps members taught 23,641 students, tutored 24,867 individuals, mentored 14,878 youth, helped 2,551 homeless people find shelter, planted more than 210,000 trees, collected, organized, and distributed 974,103 pounds of food and 5,000 pounds of clothes, developed and distributed 38,546 sets of information about drug abuse, street safety, health care, and other issues.

□ 1230

They also ran violence prevention, after-school programs for 49,632 youth, performed energy audits for more than 18 million square feet of buildings, levied 69,369 hours of service by unstaffed volunteers.

In addition to it, I think one of the factors that is very important is that a recent 1995 GAO report concluded that AmeriCorps almost tripled the amount it was required to raise from noncorporate sources in its first year. Congress directed AmeriCorps programs to raise \$31 million. They raised \$91 million. Of this amount, \$41 million, a figure more than the amount required from all sources, came from the private sector alone. We think this financial support proves that leaders at the local level across the country feel that AmeriCorps is an effective way to meet the needs of their communities.

Mr. Chairman, I do not know of any greater investment that we can have than the amount of money we are putting into investing in the young people of this country. They are the future of this country. As we move into the year 2000, the 21st century, it seems to me that we ought to be doing more to equip our young people for the future leadership that we are going to give them for this country.

I would urge the Members to reject the gentleman's amendment and vote "no" on the gentleman's amendment.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

My colleagues, I must say that this is the first occasion, at least in my recollection, that I have seen the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER] present an amendment on the floor, at least on one of my bills. I must say, as I was watching him make that presentation, he reminded me of one of my brothers, and I wondered what he was doing here, a younger brother. I might mention, Mr. HOSTETTLER. Unfortunately, for that and other reasons, I rise reluctantly to oppose the amendment by my colleague.

I do realize that not all the Members of the House support the AmeriCorps program. There are a couple of other potential amendments that would impact funding of the corporation as well. I know that Members may differ as to why they do not support the AmeriCorps program.

I personally have felt from our first involvement in this program that we needed to carefully evaluate its effectiveness. We are in the midst of trying to continue to move forward on that evaluation at this very moment. I believe the program has merit and deserves a chance to prove itself. I am also very sensitive to some of the questions that have been raised by my colleague. He particularly mentioned one that involved campaign activity, which I must say, if it did actually take place, would be against the law. I am sure the corporation is not advocating that sort of activity. However, some young person could have found themselves in excess, and we want to review that sort of activity with great care.

As stated in a committee report, there is need for a further independent evaluation of this program. But lack of further evaluation does not warrant eliminating the program, at least at this point.

I also believe that Senator Wofford, who is making beneficial modifications to the program, has provided a good deal of energy and time, not just working on the program, but communicating to us about his efforts. Zeroing out the funding for the Corporation for National and Community Service simply ignores the experience of this past year. There is no way that I can see where this bill can be signed into law without funding for the corporation. I mean it made the bill veto bait doing the fiscal year 1996 debate.

So let me suggest to my colleagues that there are two points here. First, the House has been very responsive to the work of the committee dealing with a very, very difficult series of Federal responsibilities, balancing one program or agency against another. At this point in time, I don't believe that we should inject an item that would very likely lead to a veto of all this work. It does not matter to me specifically in terms of the level of funding, but indeed to zero out the program would help none of us in the final analysis.

We have been down this road before; I do not wish and do not believe the leadership wants to have last year's fight all over again. Mr. Stokes and I both want this bill to be signed. I think it is a bill the President will be able to sign when we get through the conference, and so I urge the Members on that basis and others to vote "no" on this amendment.

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Kansas [Mr. TIAHRT].

(Mr. TIAHRT asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chairman, this is a program that, I think, is a little misguided. It is a failed Government program. It does follow the liberal mantra of the need for perceived voluntarism in America. Whenever there is a problem, let us come up with a program, and once again we have done that with our Federal Government. But it sends such a confusing message.

The American College Dictionary says a volunteer is someone, and I quote, someone who does charitable work or helpful work without pay, end of quote. Well, AmeriCorps pays people even while there are 89.2 million Americans, according to the independent survey conducted in 1994, 89.2 million Americans 18 and over volunteer about 4.2 hours per week, and yet we have a program here that pays volunteers \$31,000 per year. That is \$15.65 per hour. It includes health insurance; it includes a stipend to go to college. It is not the type of voluntarism that is the American tradition.

It also takes money away from programs that could be very valuable like Pell grants or like money for volunteers. People have actually risked their lives for this country, and yet they get better benefits by being a paid volunteer. And where do these people work? Well, 1,200 of these AmeriCorps volunteers are at the Department of Ag, 525 are at the Interior Department, 210 at the Justice Department, 135 at the EPA, 60 at the National Endowment for the Arts.

Another example is the political activity during the Summer of Safety, quote unquote, program in San Francisco. They were out there campaigning against the three strikes and you're out provision in the crime bill.

This is what President Clinton called citizenship at its best. I think most taxpayers disagree.

Although I respect the goals of the young men and women who are involved in the AmeriCorps, I admire the other 89.2 million Americans who truly volunteer without pay. They volunteer their time, they volunteer their energy and their spirit. Let us not fool ourselves and the American people into believing that AmeriCorps has anything to do with true voluntarism or true citizenship.

Mr. Chairman, this amendment is a commitment to both true spirit of voluntarism and to reducing the Federal deficit. I support its adoption.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, how much time do we have remaining?

The CHAIRMAN. The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. STOKES] has 1½ minutes remaining, the gentleman from California [Mr. LEWIS] has 1½ minutes remaining, and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER] has 2½ minutes remaining.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent that we be given 10 additional minutes to be equally divided.

The CHAIRMAN. Five minutes on each side?

Mr. STOKES. That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I yield 2 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL], ranking member of the Committee on Commerce.

(Mr. DINGELL asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, the idea of terminating AmeriCorps is perhaps appealing if one does not know the issues, but it is very dangerous and unwise if the facts are analyzed which are involved here.

Thousands of young Americans have been educated and benefited by this; enormous public good has been achieved by the program. The program is cost effective. It pays back better than \$1.54 to \$3.90 for every dollar that is invested. It has generated thousands of volunteer hours by nonparticipants. It has come in well below the costs per participants, better than a thousand dollars less per participant. It raised \$41 million in the private sector during the first year alone.

This is something which appeals to Republican Governors. Governor Engler, Governor Weld, Governor Wilson, Governor Merrill all support AmeriCorps. Religious groups, the Catholic Network of Volunteer Service, the Episcopal Church, Aguda Israel of America and more support AmeriCorps. Corporations like General Motors, IBM, Microsoft, American Express, Nike, Tenneco, Bell South, U.S. Health Care, Home Depot support AmeriCorps. Even the wives of our Presidential candidates, Hillary Clinton and, to my Republican colleagues I would observe, Elizabeth Dole, support this program.

In Michigan alone it has stimulated the creation of some 13 major programs. Better than 400 participants a year are involved in this, and the work on behalf of the State of Michigan has been productive indeed.

Why then would we want to terminate a program which is showing such tremendous success on behalf of the people? Why would we want to terminate a program which has such widespread beneficial consequences and such enthusiastic support of prominent and responsible Americans? I cannot conceive of a reason. Perhaps someone can better that.

I urge rejection of the amendment.

Mr. HOSTETTER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from Nebraska [Mr. CHRISTENSEN].

Mr. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the amendment because I strongly support balancing the Federal budget by ending wasteful Government spending.

Mr. Chairman, the AmeriCorps Program is just that, a wasteful Government program. The Hostettler amend-

ment will end the boondoggle that the AmeriCorps Program has stood for, and I believe it will end it once and for all.

We have worked very hard to balance the budget these last 2 years, and I do not believe that we have a dime to spare for the feel good programs that do not really have any purpose. Ending AmeriCorps is the right thing to do.

Let us look at the facts. AmeriCorps costs the U.S. taxpayer a breathtaking \$600 million a year. That is over \$21,000 a year per volunteer, with more than half the money drained away by the bloated administrative costs.

What do grantees get out of this? Well, besides a very heartwarming experience they could do for free, they get \$5,000 toward their college education. Well, I am all in favor of encouraging college education, which is why my Republican colleagues and I voted to increase the student loan program, but AmeriCorps manages to spend \$21,000 to give young people a \$5,000 grant for college. Well, would it not make more sense just to hand over the \$5,000 without spending the other \$16,000? Instead, President Clinton, instead of cutting this program, he wants to expand it. Yes, he would like to spend \$6 billion over the next 5 years expanding this program.

Well, Mr. Chairman, the Corporation for the National Service, which oversees the AmeriCorps Program, spends millions of dollars for contracts to provide, quote, training to its grantees. Who does that training? Well, a \$400,000 contract to the AFL-CIO, the big Washington labor bosses who provide the financial management training. Well, how interesting. From this program alone our Nation is handing out \$400,000 to the labor bosses who are trying to buy Congress for themselves and the liberals that they favor. No wonder the President and his liberal followers enjoy the AmeriCorps Program so much. It doles out money to liberal groups that lobby for his reelection and for his liberal policies.

An editorial entitled "AmeriCorps Programs Should End," in my local paper, the Omaha World-Herald, put it best. It says the program will teach a new contingent of young Americans the glories of landing on the public payroll, thereby carrying on a Democratic tradition of more Government, more benefits, and more make-work jobs. That is the editorial out of the Omaha World Herald, July 18, 1995.

The article is as follows:

[From the Omaha World Herald, July 18, 1995]

AMERICORPS PROGRAM SHOULD END

Sen. Charles Grassley of Iowa has looked again at the numbers behind President Clinton's AmeriCorps program and come to an inescapable conclusion: The program should be ended.

It is a costly boondoggle. It costs an average of \$27,000 for each volunteer, Grassley said, using figures from the General Accounting Office. More than half the spending is on administration.

The five-year program consumes \$600 million a year, Grassley said, and involves 20,000

"volunteers," who are paid a salary and provided medical benefits, child care and tuition waivers. They are assigned to government agencies or nonprofit organizations. Clinton has said he wants the program to expand every year until 100,000 people are enrolled. He has estimated the cost at \$6 billion over five years.

All that to deliver a college-tuition certificate worth less than \$5,000 to each participant. If the goal were merely to hand out tuition money, it could obviously be achieved more efficiently by putting the money in an envelope and mailing it to anyone who managed to be accepted by a college or university.

As government programs go, this one is spectacularly inefficient and breathtakingly expensive.

Defenders contend that the program has much more to it than merely the distribution of tuition assistance. It is intended to "re-knit community," they contend, although exactly how the program will re-knit anything has yet to be explained. More probably, the program will teach a new contingent of young Americans the glories of landing on the public payroll, thereby carrying on the Democratic tradition of more government, more benefits and more make-work jobs.

But taxpayers seem to be getting tired of all that. Witness what happened Nov. 8 to the make-up of both the House and the Senate. So Congress may have a better idea about whether re-knitting communities with a national service corps should be among the highest priorities.

Facts such as those highlighted by Grassley provide effective ammunition against the program. It only remains for Congress to consider again the message that voters conveyed so emphatically last November—and then act on it.

Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment because it makes the right choice in ending a wasteful Government program. That is the necessary step in our fight for a balanced budget.

As my colleagues know, it would be nice to turn volunteers back into what they originally were meant to be, and that is a volunteer, and as the gentleman from Wichita, KS [Mr. TIAHRT] said, a volunteer is someone who works without pay.

□ 1245

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas [Mr. GENE GREEN].

(Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Hostettler amendment.

Mr. Chairman, my colleague's amendment is misguided and shortsighted. We should be engaged in expanding AmeriCorps, not in its elimination.

Almost 3 years ago, when Congress created the AmeriCorps Program, we expected great things from national service. The Congress expected AmeriCorps to help communities meet their public service needs with real results.

We expected AmeriCorps to unite individuals from different backgrounds in the common effort to improve our communities.

We expected AmeriCorps to encourage its members to explore and exercise their responsibilities to their communities, their families, and themselves.

Today, almost 2 years after the first 20,000 AmeriCorps members hit the field in over 1,000 communities across the country, the Corporation for National Service and its AmeriCorps Program has met every one of these expectations. And in many cases, it's exceeded them.

The essence of the Republican opposition lies in the fact that they don't want to support something so closely identified with President Clinton, especially something that's been proven as successful as AmeriCorps. Mr. HOSTETTLER, and the rest of my Republican colleagues know that the President will veto this bill if this amendment passes.

I believe that the attacks on AmeriCorps are not based on merit. In 1995, the General Accounting Office reported on the status the National Service programs.

In the GAO's year-long review of AmeriCorps the GAO confirmed the corporation's statements about its funding for each AmeriCorps member.

The GAO said that the corporation's resources total about \$17,600 per member. In testimony before the Congress earlier this year, the corporation projected its costs at approximately \$18,800 per member. This is precisely in line with what the Congress directed the program to spend. The GAO also saw accomplishments that are consistent with the purpose of the national service legislation, concluding that AmeriCorps is fulfilling the mission we gave it in all of its detail and complexity.

Finally, the GAO's figures show that the AmeriCorps programs have far exceeded anyone's expectations regarding their ability to raise nontaxpayers' dollars to support their programs. Congress told AmeriCorps that it had to meet our commitment to national service with \$31 million in locally based matching funds this year. From the private sector alone, the AmeriCorps programs raised \$41 million. Every cent of this money came from private donations—not taxpayer dollars—from individuals and over 600 companies and foundations. The decision on whether or not to continue national service will tell us a lot about ourselves. We should put partisan politics aside. Let's work together to continue to provide young people an opportunity to help themselves, as they help our communities and learn service as a way of life. AmeriCorps has kept its promise to the American people. The Congress should, too.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN], a member of the Committee on Appropriations.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to this amendment. I think it is noteworthy that this is being sponsored and spoken for primarily by the freshman Republicans in this House of Representatives. Those who have followed their agenda over the last year and a half will not be surprised that they would come out for an amendment to end AmeriCorps.

This amendment is mean-spirited. This amendment is cynical. This amendment says to young men and women who are willing to give a year or two of their lives in public service for the lowest wages, with the chance at the end of it that they will get a

\$5,000 scholarship, they are saying that this is wasteful. Wasteful. Wasteful, that these young men and women would take the personal responsibility for their own lives and futures, and be willing to give back to this country?

Mr. Chairman, this is the same spirit that motivated the Peace Corps under President Kennedy, to say to young men and women, step forward, serve your country, do something, and we will be proud of you, and you will be proud of your experience. But these freshman Republicans will hear none of that. For them, it is a liberal boondoggle. They have forgotten, many of them, how many times they have had to turn to the Government for college student loans.

We should vote against this amendment and stand up for the idealism that this program represents.

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. HOEKSTRA].

(Mr. HOEKSTRA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Mr. Chairman, the gentleman from Michigan, asked us to give one reason why AmeriCorps should be eliminated. I can think of many. Perhaps let us go back to what the President said he was going to give us when he promised us AmeriCorps: a well-run, businesslike program; a national service corporation which will run like a big venture capital outfit, not like a bureaucracy.

This year we had oversight hearings. We had oversight hearings because we asked Arthur Andersen, the auditors who took a look at AmeriCorps, to tell us what they found. Over \$300 million of taxpayer funding per year. The auditors came back and said this corporation that was going to be the benchmark for the private sector, the corporation lacks strong management controls, the corporation lacks data integrity, the corporation lacks data security, the corporation has failed to segregate accounting duties, the corporation lacks budgetary controls, the corporation could not prepare reliable financial statements. The bottom line: The benchmark of Government service is a program whose books are not auditable.

Mr. Chairman, stopping a program like that is not mean-spirited; it is realistic, and it is being good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars. The problem with AmeriCorps is, yes, those radical Republican freshmen, they have a vision for service. They know what makes America great. The authentic American spirit is, in 1993, 89.2 million American adults volunteered in this country. They gave on an average of 4.2 hours per week, or 19 billion hours of total service, with an estimated value of \$182 billion.

Americans also contributed \$126 billion in charitable causes. This is in addition to the \$324 billion the American people spent on assistance to the poor in Federal, State, and local taxes. We have a great volunteer spirit.

The problem in Washington, Mr. Chairman, is that we think Washington defines voluntarism. We believe that the bureaucracies on Independence Avenue, which is more like Dependence Avenue, that they are better equipped to define volunteers; that this faceless bureaucrat in Washington can better define what needs to happen at the local level in voluntarism; that we ask American taxpayers not to send money to charities directly, because they cannot make that decision, send it to Washington so we can make that decision for them, so we can be the bureaucrat that says, "This charity in your community deserves support. This one does not."

End this program. Move decision-making back to where it should be, back to the local citizens, back to the taxpayers. Let them decide which charities to support, not the Federal Government, which cannot even keep its own books.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. SAWYER].

(Mr. SAWYER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SAWYER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in order to offer a different perspective on the same set of hearings we just heard commented about. The amendment, which would eliminate funding for AmeriCorps, ignores the steps that have been taken to answer the concerns that have been raised and that were investigated at that series of hearings. We heard about the progress to correct the shortcomings. While I initially shared many of the concerns we have heard discussed here about cost overruns or potential political abuses, we have found that even the strongest critics from the other body have worked out a 10-point program which the director presented at these hearings to deal with the AmeriCorps Program and to strengthen its administration, based on its start-up experience.

We had hearings on the financial standards, and in fact the director came in and made a commitment to working with the inspector general, with the auditors, Arthur Andersen and Williams, Adley, to correct its financial weakness. In fact, one of the opponents to this, one of the critics of the program from the Financial Executives Institute at this hearing gave away his time and decided not to use his prepared statement after hearing the director's testimony. Instead, he offered his assistance to the Corporation for National Service, based on the trust that he had seen pledged there.

"I think there is a sincere desire to do this now," he said, to work this out, "and I will pledge whatever resources my committee and FEI has to help the organization achieve what is within reach," and that is a clean audit. But do not leave it to me to suggest this.

Let me just close by suggesting what the Governor of Massachusetts, Republican Bill Weld, said of AmeriCorps: "It

is a fine deal all the way around, and possibly one of the most intelligence uses of taxpayer dollars ever."

In the words of Republican Governor John Engler of Michigan, he said, "AmeriCorps captures the promise found in all citizens, young and old, who see the problem in their communities and work together to solve those problems." This is community-driven, community decisionmaking, and community problem-solving from the grass-roots up. We should do no less with AmeriCorps itself. I urge that we reject the amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. For clarification purposes, the Chair would like to indicate, for the dividing of time, since the unanimous-consent request for the additional 5 minutes on both sides was made by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. STOKES], the Chair granted the additional 5 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio and to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER].

That being the case, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. STOKES] has 1½ minutes remaining, the gentleman from California [Mr. LEWIS] has 1½ minutes remaining and the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER] has 1 minute remaining. The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. STOKES] has the right to close.

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to my distinguished colleague, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. UPTON].

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Chairman, a few minutes ago I met with a number of high school students out on the House steps. They had a lot of questions, particularly as it pertained to the deficit. I reminded them about my record and I told them about my priority: Education. I was a cosponsor of this bill when it first came up several years ago. It sounded like a wonderful idea.

But we have spent more than \$1 billion so far and it just has not worked. In fact, the statistics have come out and said that it is an average of about \$26,000 a student. That is not worth it. As we look at education, the needs for parents today to send their kids, sons and daughters, on to higher education, it is important that those doors are open, but not at \$26,000 a student. We can find a lot of Pentagon coffee pots to buy before we buy a pig in a poke like this program here. I would just urge my colleagues to support this amendment. We have tried it for a couple of years. It has not worked.

As I have talked to my students and families in higher education institutions, there is not a lot of love for this program. It does not work. We need to be surgeons here, particularly with the deficit we have today. We need to weed out programs that do not work. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes".

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. OLIVER].

(Mr. OLIVER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OLIVER. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the Hostettler amend-

ment. In just 2 years, AmeriCorps has made it possible for thousands of young people to realize the dream of an affordable college education. AmeriCorps participants earn part of their tuition by working in their communities.

In my district, AmeriCorps members are protecting the environment in the Berkshires, under the direction of those Berkshire County communities. They are tutoring low-income students in Gardner, and they are working with the police department on community policing and elder abuse protection, the Triad Program, in Holyoke. At a time when college costs are skyrocketing, AmeriCorps presents a good way for students to earn money to pay their tuition while working in their communities.

To quote again from the Republican Governor of my State, and I quote, "The Federal Government shouldn't pass up the opportunity national service represents to help people help themselves." I urge a no vote on the amendment.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I yield 1 minute to my colleague, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER] to close.

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, I just want to close by pointing out a few things. A vote for this amendment is not a vote against volunteerism. Let me highlight what the American Heritage College Dictionary says that a volunteer is. A volunteer is a person who performs or offers to perform a service of his or her own free will, or to do charitable or helpful work without pay.

It was alleged earlier that weaknesses have been taken care of as a result of some work done inside the corporation, but I need to point out that since that hearing, that there has only been action to take care of 9 of 33 material weaknesses in the corporation. Usually with one of those situations, any other corporation would be out of business.

It was also alleged earlier that for some reason freshmen of the House, of the Republican side of this House, have offered this initiative. The fact is that we are freshmen, and by the very nature of that term, we have been out in the real world before we came to Congress, before we came to this Capitol Hill address. We have seen real volunteerism at work. We have seen, and we know the statistics are true, that 90 million Americans every year volunteer. This is a vote for fiscal soundness and not against volunteerism.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I urge all Members of the House to defeat this amendment. Some in the well a few moments ago said we need more surgeons here. I disagree with the gentleman. We need to train more of our young people in America today to be surgeons. We need to make a greater investment in the young people in this country.

I would hope that today the Members of this House will show that they have

great faith in our young people in this country, and want to give them the chance and the opportunity by defeating this amendment. I urge a "no" vote.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I simply ask the Members for a "no" vote, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the amendment to decrease AmeriCorps funding.

The AmeriCorps National Service Program gives Americans of all backgrounds the opportunity to serve our country and defray the cost of a college education. It is not a wasteful program, as some critics contend, unless you truly believe that public service and increased educational opportunity are wasteful.

In response to Mr. HOSTETTLER's contention that the AmeriCorps Program represents coercive volunteerism, I remind him that members of the U.S. armed services are also compensated financially and are praised, as they should be, for their volunteer efforts to protect and defend our country.

AmeriCorps members increase volunteerism. Harris Wofford and the Corporation for National Service are committed to maintaining a cost-effective, productive program through public-private partnership.

This innovative program has produced impressive results in increased volunteerism and access to higher education. More than 20,000 AmeriCorps participants each year have met needs in communities while realizing the dream of a college education. This program represents a solid investment in our young people, who represent the future of America.

In a Congress determined to slash education funding, we must recognize the AmeriCorps Program as a student financial aid program that reaps significant rewards for local communities.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Chairman, here they go again. As NEWT GINGRICH and his Republican leadership team slash Federal funding in such critical areas as education, the environment, and housing, they often refer to the growing need for nonprofit charitable and religious organizations to take on more responsibility in meeting critical needs in these areas. At the same time they are calling for these institutions to shoulder a greater burden, however, they are intent on destroying one of the newest and most innovative resources such groups have to increase their capacity to handle these additional responsibilities.

The AmeriCorps Program strengthens traditional volunteering. From the Boys and Girls Clubs to the YMCA, America's largest and most respected volunteer organizations all utilize and vigorously support AmeriCorps. Habitat for Humanity, one of Speaker GINGRICH's favorite nonprofits, has become an enthusiastic partner of AmeriCorps. They've experienced first hand how the full-time sustained presence of AmeriCorps members helps them accomplish more, while at the same time teaching them to use occasional volunteers more effectively.

In my congressional district, this partnership was used to create LEAP—Leadership, Education, and Athletics in Partnership [LEAP]. LEAP was designated an AmeriCorps Program by the Corporation for National and Community Service in August. LEAP helps about 1,000 inner-city children build their

learning skills through mentoring and community support.

LEAP is best known for its summer program. During the summer, college and high school students serve as counselors in public housing developments where the kids whom they counsel live. The program has both academic and social components. The kids spend 3 days a week in a classroom environment. They learn things such as swimming, photography, and the like.

Participating college students are from New Haven area colleges. The high school students are all from New Haven public schools and, in most cases, serve their own, or nearby, neighborhoods.

With a grant from AmeriCorps, contributions from individuals, private and corporate foundation and other grants, LEAP's budget has doubled. And for every 900 hours of service to AmeriCorps, students receive \$2,300 toward their student loans or college tuition payments.

AmeriCorps enhances the work of traditional volunteer organizations, while allowing them to significantly expand their reach and enhance their accomplishments. Charities and religious institutions—the backbone of the voluntary sector in America—view AmeriCorps as a tool to increase their capacity to deal with social problems.

I urge my colleagues to vote against the tide of funding cuts to programs that help our Nation's kids. Vote against the Hostettler amendment.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Chairman, I am certain most of our colleagues remember the bruising fight waged last year in an attempt to end funding for the AmeriCorps Program.

I am equally certain that most of our colleagues remember the loud public outcry and the Presidential veto which occurred once that misguided priority was passed by the Congress.

And lastly, I am perfectly certain that most of our colleagues remember the large bipartisan majority who eventually voted to increase AmeriCorps funding. While some of my colleagues may have voted "yes" in an effort to keep the Government open, I voted "yes" because I believe AmeriCorps is a vital example of the good work Government can do.

The gentleman from Indiana has offered an amendment to reverse this bipartisan agreement to preserve AmeriCorps. It also would reverse the efforts of the VA-HUD Appropriations Subcommittee and the full Appropriations Committee to provide the funding needed to sustain this program. Both of these committees have voted in support of funding the well-run, highly popular AmeriCorps Program.

I plan on following the recommendations of the Appropriations Committee. I will vote to continue funding for AmeriCorps, with my only regret being that difficult budget circumstances make it unlikely that Congress can provide the full amount this program deserves.

I hope that, at minimum, the 399 Members who voted in favor of increasing AmeriCorps funding in last year's Omnibus Appropriations bill join me once again in support of this worthwhile program.

The question raised by the gentleman from Indiana remains: Can our country afford to reward voluntarism in this period of fiscal austerity? My answer, and the answer of the appropriators is "yes," which is why we have before us a program that will return as much as almost \$4 to the taxpayers for every dollar spent.

Investing in AmeriCorps volunteers, produces homes in poor neighborhoods, feeds the hungry, shelters the homeless, cleans the cities and towns, teaches the uneducated.

Investing in AmeriCorps volunteers, produces a core of educated youth who have learned a strong dedication to their fellow Americans with sweat and toil.

Mr. Chairman, with that education, and that volunteer ethic, AmeriCorps participants are going on to make our country a more prosperous, and more compassionate, place to live.

The CHAIRMAN. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTTLER].

The question was taken; and the chairman announced that the vote appeared to have it.

Mr. HOSTETTTLER. Mr. Chairman, I demand a recorded vote.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to House Resolution 456, further proceedings on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTTLER] will be postponed.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. DURBIN

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to offer an amendment to a portion of the bill not yet read.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment No. 12 offered by Mr. DURBIN: Page 65, line 16, after the second dollar amount, insert the following: "(reduced by \$1,500,000)".

Page 66, line 8, after the dollar amount, insert the following: "(increased by \$1,500,000)".

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

Mr. HOEKSTRA. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Chairman, may I just have an explanation? I believe my amendment was up next.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOEKSTRA. I yield to the gentleman from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Certainly, Mr. Chairman, I thought I had spoken to the chairman of the committee.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. HOEKSTRA. I yield to the gentleman from California.

Mr. LEWIS of California. Mr. Chairman, I would tell the gentleman, it is a matter of other business taking place around the Capitol that is very important now. If we have a series of votes now, that will not help that process, so we are going to delay the vote on this and the gentleman's amendment will follow.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. The agreement is my amendment will come up after the vote on the amendment offered by the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTTLER].

Mr. LEWIS of California. The logic is that if that should pass, there is not a need for a lot of other amendments.

Mr. HOEKSTRA. I withdraw my reservation of objection, Mr. Chairman.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

□ 1300

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the Committee of today, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN] will be recognized for 10 minutes, and a Member in opposition will be recognized for 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. DURBIN].

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

This amendment which I offer restores \$1.5 million for the Environmental Protection Agency for a program known as the Toxic Release Inventory. To put this in layman's terms, we are talking about chemicals. We all understand from our human experience that chemicals are very important. They are important of course in medicine, they are important of course in our commerce, and they are important in our daily lives. But we also realize that chemicals can be dangerous, and toxic chemicals by definition are dangerous in nature.

So in 1988, we said to the Environmental Protection Agency under this Toxic Release Inventory Program that they should monitor the toxic chemicals across the United States to determine whether or not they are being discharged in a way that might cause a serious public health problem.

This was a program which over the years was applauded, not only by those in government, environmental groups, and consumer groups, but even by responsible business groups who realized that they had to be good corporate citizens. They did not want to misuse toxic chemicals and cause cancer, learning disabilities, any type of deformities that might result from their misuse.

It was interesting when we passed this toxic release, community right-to-know law that many of the major chemical companies in the United States announced that they accepted the challenge from the Federal Government: They would announce the release of their toxic chemicals into the environment, and they went a step further, large companies did, and said, we are going to set out to dramatically diminish the release of toxic chemicals.

So, since this program was put in effect in 1988, it has been estimated that the release of toxic chemicals in communities and cities and locals across the United States has been reduced over 40 percent. Why? Quite simply, because many of these businesses faced with disclosure, faced with the requirement to report to the Environmental Protection Agency were much more careful.

This is a good program. It is one which major companies subscribe to and understand to be part of their responsibility as American citizens. Yet,

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The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. HOSTETTLER

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The CHAIRMAN. The Clerk will designate the amendment.

The text of the amendment is as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. HOSTETTLER: Page 64, after line 4, insert the following new item:

ELIMINATION OF FUNDING FOR CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Each amount appropriated or otherwise made available by this title for "Corporation for National and Community Service" is hereby reduced to \$0.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the committee of today, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER] will be recognized for 10 minutes, and a Member opposed will be recognized for 10 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. HOSTETTLER].

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. HOSTETTLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOSTETTLER. Mr. Chairman, first of all, I want to thank the distinguished chairman of the Subcommittee on VA, HUD, and Independent Agencies and the distinguished ranking member for allowing me to proceed out of order.

Mr. Chairman, I rise today on behalf of taxpayers and concerned citizens in my district and across the country, to appeal to my colleagues to help me defend a wasteful bureaucracy. In addition, there is an even more basic principle at issue here that I will touch on in a moment.

Mr. Chairman, I am offering an amendment to eliminate funding for AmeriCorps and its office of inspector general.

Now before I go any further in explaining my amendment, I want to remind everyone in this Chamber of a very important fact. When the VA/HUD appropriations bill came to the floor last year—it came without any funding for the AmeriCorps Program.

In fact, the VA/HUD appropriations bill also passed the Senate—without any funding for the AmeriCorps Program. It was only in the final omnibus appropriations bill, which was passed and signed into law, that we funded AmeriCorps.

Let's not allow our appropriations bills to be held captive again in order to fund a program that goes against the best interests of this country's fiscal health and our children's future.

I would also like to remind the Members in this Chamber and the American people, that when President Clinton signed into law the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993, he created one of the largest so-called volunteer service bureaucracies in history—that is, AmeriCorps.

Not only does this program compete with depression-era programs in size, it also competes with the Pentagon in examples of outrageous spending, such as \$900 hammers, and the NEA in ludicrous granting of funds.

AmeriCorps was founded upon President Clinton's idea of a new kind of public-private partnership—whereby the Government splits community service costs with the private sector. However, a 1995 GAO audit found that the agency received little support from the private sector, and instead relied heavily upon public support.

Less than 12 percent of the program's per-participant costs were leveraged from the private sector.

The remaining 88 percent, \$309 million in 1994, was funded by the taxpayers.

The same GAO report shows annual costs can range from about \$22,200 to as high as \$66,715 per participant.

It isn't surprising then that the GAO audit finds volunteers working for Federal agencies cost the public an average of \$31,000 each.

I find it quite a paradox that we are paying individuals to volunteer for the Federal Government.

I would also like to share with the rest of America what they don't always get to hear: That is, AmeriCorps promotes a politically correct agenda, earning it the name "P.C. Corps" by the Washington Monthly.

Taxpayers may be shocked to know that AmeriCorps recruits volunteers such as former gang members and ex-convicts to engage in activities such as teaching sex education to children, providing HIV courses to sixth-graders, and using methods such as a soft-core porn novel to teach character development.

Moreover, after my colleague, Mr. HOKSTRA, discovered in congressional hearings that much of AmeriCorps' books were un-auditable, the House Opportunities Committee began to investigate.

Oddly enough, the committee found a number of questionable grants, including a \$400,000 grant to the AFL-CIO to provide financial management training to AmeriCorps grantees.

And although the act which established the program clearly states that no funding or participant shall be used to directly benefit any partisan political organization, AmeriCorps has predictably funded liberal advocacy groups.

I wonder if the people know that part of a \$1.2 million grant to a local coalition in Denver was used to require AmeriCorps members to distribute campaign-related leaflets opposing a city councilman's re-election bid? Fortunately for the taxpayers, this grant was withdrawn after reports surfaced.

Such flagrant use of taxpayers' dollars does not even take into account that AmeriCorps volunteers often can be seen at administration photo-ops and media events, bearing their now familiar grey AmeriCorps T-shirts and

cheering for President Clinton and Vice President GORE. It's no wonder that the President supports this program, Mr. Chairman.

But there is a larger issue at work here, too. How long do we allow the Federal Government to wrestle away the power of the people to join together out of civic virtue in order to meet our communities' needs?

At what costs to society and liberty do we allow the Federal Government to demean the entire ideal of citizenship by paying workers to volunteer?

My friend, Balint Vazsonyi says, "The spirit of voluntarism is being choked by coercion." Mr. Chairman, I couldn't agree more. Our Government wants to replace active civic compassion with coercive community service programs.

We need to support the kind of civic virtue that promotes private voluntarism—not the kind that is bought with Federal tax dollars by a government that crushes the spirit of citizenship and undermines the value of personal and civic responsibility.

Finally, with searing budget deficits and a more than \$5 trillion national debt, I am standing up for the taxpayers who cannot support such a proposition any longer.

I believe it was Representative HOKSTRA who wrote in regard to AmeriCorps: "Like many Washington programs, good intentions and bad philosophy equal wasted money and disappointing results." Mr. Chairman, AmeriCorps boils down to nothing more than a Federal jobs program. It must be eliminated on the basis of economics and principle.

That is why I am asking all of my colleagues to support this amendment to eliminate AmeriCorps funding.

Mr. Chairman, I reserve the balance of my time.

The CHAIRMAN. Is there a Member who seeks recognition in opposition to the amendment?

The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. STOKES] is recognized for 10 minutes.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to yield half of my time to the chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from California [Mr. LEWIS].

The CHAIRMAN. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the gentleman's amendment to take all of the money out of the AmeriCorps program. I think we made substantial progress this year by putting this money in and avoiding the veto that we received last year of this legislation. This is a program that the President has initiated. It is a program that he feels is a national program to help the young people of this Nation be active in terms of the kind of jobs that they perform on behalf of the Nation, and they proceed to acquire their educations.