

We suspect that the new method for ratable reduction is the reason Hawaii will face this enormous loss. The Learning Opportunity Threshold (LOT) method places a higher priority on those school districts with high percentages of Impact Aid students and a high percentage of impact aid funds in their budget. During the reauthorization last year, we knew the LOT would adversely impact Hawaii because of the fact that our whole state is one school district. Therefore, even though certain areas of the state have high concentrations of military A children, when looking at the whole state Impact Aid children make up a much smaller percentage of our total student population and the Impact Aid funds make up a smaller percentage of our state budget.

To compensate for this situation (large school districts with large number of A students) it was proposed that an extra "weight" in the initial formula be given to Hawaii and San Diego to minimize the impact of the LOT. Formula runs that were produced at the time of reauthorization showed that Hawaii would receive about \$25 million under this scheme.

Now that the actual allocations are being made by the Department of Education, this has not held true. In fact, Hawaii stands to lose over half of its impact aid payment once the two year hold-harmless ends. This was clearly not the intention of the Committee, as it proposed to minimize the impact of the LOT on Hawaii.

I believe there is a simple remedy to this situation. Hawaii's seven administrative districts within our single LEA are often treated as separate LEA's for the purposes of calculating federal formulas. This is true for Title I and was true of the impact Aid formula prior to this reauthorization. We believe if this language is reinserted in the impact Aid formula and each of our seven administrative districts are treated as separate LEA's this unintended impact of the LOT formula will be mitigated.

My staff is working with our school district to ensure that the school district possesses the necessary data in order for the U.S. Department of Education to calculate Hawaii's allocation based on seven districts rather than one. We are also conferring with the Department to assure that this remedy would indeed fix Hawaii's situation.

I appreciate your consideration, and look forward to working with you to resolve this unforeseen consequence of the new Impact Aid formula.

Very truly yours,

PATSY T. MINK,
Member of Congress.

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

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. GOODLING], the chairman of the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

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

Mr. GOODLING. Mr. Speaker, today we are witnessing a love-in and a marriage between San Diego and Hawaii, and I would assure the gentleman from Ohio that everything in the legislation was made in America.

Mr. Speaker, during the 103d Congress, we enacted major changes to the impact aid law. These changes focused the program on those school districts in greatest need and eliminated all the various exemptions, exceptions, et cetera which had been made to the pro-

gram over the years. Before the enactment of these reforms, this program was losing its base of support in Congress and was the subject of a fair amount of criticism.

At that time, I vowed that the only changes made to this program in the future would be those with broad, national application, or to clarify current law. The changes reported by my committee, and outlined by Chairman DUKE CUNNINGHAM are just that.

The Impact Aid program serves an important purpose. It assists those school districts whose ability to educate their student population is adversely impacted by a Federal presence.

The legislation before you today, H.R. 3269, insures that the program will continue to effectively address the needs of those school districts. I urge your support of this measure.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. BATEMAN], who has been a leader.

Mr. BATEMAN. Mr. Speaker, let me begin by thanking Mr. CUNNINGHAM, Mr. GOODLING, Mr. KILDEE, and Mr. CLAY for bringing this bipartisan impact aid technical corrections package to the floor. All four gentlemen have been good friends to the Impact Aid program over the years.

I am particularly pleased by the committee's decision to include two provisions that address military housing and the section 8002 land payment program. On military housing, I believe the committee has drafted a sensible plan that preserves Impact Aid payments to schools when children and their parents are temporarily moved off-base because of Department of Defense housing renovations.

I also would like to praise the committee for including a hold harmless provision for the section 8002 land payment program, which helps localities where the Federal Government has taken a significant portion of local land off the tax rolls. By phasing in the impact of changes made to the land payment program, we are giving local schools time to adjust their budgets without jeopardizing the education of federally connected children.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this worthy piece of legislation.

Mrs. MINK of Hawaii. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for H.R. 3269, the impact aid technical amendments bill. Hawaii is, in many cases, an exception to the rule in the United States. With regard to the impact aid program, Hawaii is the only State in the Union with one school district. However, the U.S. Department of Education, routinely treats the seven administrative agencies within Hawaii's single school district as separate when calculating Federal formula grants. This is true of title I and was true of the impact aid formula prior to the last reauthorization. When the impact aid reauthorization was considered in the 103d Congress, it was not expressly

stated that Hawaii's one school district should be regarded as seven for administrative purposes. H.R. 3269 clarifies such congressional intent with the technical amendments and effectively increases Federal impact aid contributions to Hawaii by approximately a half. H.R. 3269 would finally allow Hawaii a fair allocation under the impact aid program.

Throughout my congressional career, I have strongly supported impact aid and the principle that States should be compensated for the use of State property for Federal activities. Without impact aid, the burden of educating federally supported families would become an unfunded mandate for local education agencies. As a member of the Impact Aid Coalition Steering Committee, I will continue to advocate for the military families and all children who benefit from the impact aid program.

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I have no other requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. CUNNINGHAM] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3269.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3269, the Impact Aid Technical Amendments Act of 1996.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

MEGAN'S LAW

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2137) to amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 to require the release of relevant information to protect the public from sexually violent offenders.

The Clerk read as follows:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as "Megan's Law".

SEC. 2. RELEASE OF INFORMATION AND CLARIFICATION OF PUBLIC NATURE OF INFORMATION.

Section 170101(d) of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 14071(d)) is amended to read as follows:

"(d) RELEASE OF INFORMATION.—

"(1) The information collected under a State registration program may be disclosed for any purpose permitted under the laws of the State.

"(2) The designated State law enforcement agency and any local law enforcement agency authorized by the State agency shall release relevant information that is necessary to protect the public concerning a specific person required to register under this section, except that the identity of a victim of an offense that requires registration under this section shall not be released."