

for FY 1997 does not request any funding for HVRP.

Mr. Chairman, homelessness among veterans is now a chronic problem. When we testified on this issue in 1992, it was estimated that between 150,000 and 250,000 veterans were homeless on any given night. As indicated, that number now is estimated to be between 250,000 and 280,000. We mentioned earlier in this testimony that DoD projects a reduction of approximately 250,000 active military members a year through the year 2000. Many of these individuals at best will have "soft" transferable skills. Many—particularly those trained in combat arms—will have no skills recognized by employers as transferable to the civilian labor market. How many of them will end up in the unemployment or soup kitchen line is unknown, but we believe they are at risk. Last week several economic forecasters predicted an increase in inflation. This will only add to the problem.

The HVRP program has a history of providing meaningful assistance to our nation's homeless veterans. It is a program that primarily focuses on job training and employment assistance. Perhaps the most unique thing about HVRP is that a multi-disciplinary approach is taken to solving the problems of homeless veterans. It is not enough to say DVOPs or LVERs can do the job alone, because all too often the services needed cannot be provided by that individual. Because homeless veterans require very labor-intensive services, HVRP must be continued.

We would like to commend Assistant Secretary Preston Taylor at DOL for his insight into this problem. Mr. Taylor saw the need, particularly in cold weather states, and identified \$1.3 million of discretionary monies available to him through the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). However, before he committed those monies, he received an agreement from Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development Andrew Cuomo at the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for matching funds. We would like to compliment and thank Assistant Secretary Cuomo for his interest in addressing the needs of homeless veterans.

While on the subject of Assistant Secretary Cuomo, we would like to note that the DAV has been critical of HUD in the past for its lack of attention and interest in homeless veterans. However, Mr. Chairman, we are pleased to report that in addition to the \$1.3 million targeted specifically for homeless veterans, Assistant Secretary Cuomo's office has reached out to the veterans' community in an effort to communicate with veterans' service delivery systems throughout the country to make them aware of the existence of funding availability from HUD for homeless projects. Additionally, Assistant Secretary Cuomo has:

Announced the creation of the HUD Veteran Resource Center—This center is designed to provide important information about the full range of resources and initiatives available from HUD. The Resource Center can be contacted through a toll free number (1-800-998-9999, Ext. 5475, Contact: David Schultz).

Appointed a combat-disabled veteran to head the Resource Center. The first mission will be outreach to veterans' community groups as well as veterans' service organizations regarding the "1996 Homeless Assistance SuperNOFA (Notice of Funding Availability)."

Established an outreach effort to us and is providing information on events and technical assistance to those interested in applying for HUD funding. The type of outreach is unprecedented at HUD.

Agreed in February of this year to help DOL by providing \$1.3 million for HVRP.

Mr. Chairman, we believe that HUD working together with Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) will make a significant difference in the lives of many homeless veterans. However, we believe that funding must be made available to continue the good work that has been accomplished thus far through HVRP. Since the program started in 1987, 30,000 homeless veterans have been helped in some way and 13,000 were actually placed in jobs.

Assistant Secretary Taylor should also be applauded for his efforts in contacting every state governor asking for their assistance to bridge the gap after the loss of HVRP funding.

#### SUN SETS ON HOMELESS VETS PROGRAM (By Sid Daniels, Director)

In its recent budget cutting, Congress eliminated the funding for the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Projects (HVRP) program after Sept. 30, 1995. Consequently, all 30 projects throughout the country serving homeless veterans closed down their operations on Oct. 1, 1995.

HVRP was established by the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act of 1987 and was administered by Labor's Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS). The emphasis on helping homeless veterans get and retain jobs was enhanced by linking with other providers, such as veterans affairs offices and medical facilities, Job Training Partnership Act entities and social service agencies.

They offered access to benefits, substance abuse treatment, job training, transitional housing and other services needed to stabilize the homeless veteran. And they removed such barriers to employment as lack of clothing, medical care and job skills.

HVRP used veterans who had experienced homelessness themselves to reach out to homeless veterans. They went into the streets, shelters, soup kitchens, and other places to encourage homeless veterans to take advantage of available services and advised them of the HVRP program. The goal was to get homeless veterans off the street and into gainful employment, with emphasis on long-term job retention.

An important characteristic of homeless veterans, is their underutilization of existing services, benefits, and entitlements which could help them obtain employment and reintegration into mainstream society.

A unique aspect of HVRP was the use of formerly homeless veterans who knew how to approach and win the confidence and trust of other homeless veterans.

HVRP programs provided participation data and survey information, which indicated that unemployment, not lack of affordable housing, was the chief cause of homelessness.

Now, this is all gone.●

#### ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 607

At the request of Mr. WARNER, the name of the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. BREAUX] was added as a cosponsor of S. 607, a bill to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to clarify the liability of certain recycling transactions, and for other purposes.

S. 1644

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Colorado

[Mr. CAMPBELL] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1644, a bill to authorize the extension of nondiscriminatory treatment (most-favored-nation) to the products of Romania.

S. 1701

At the request of Mr. PELL, the name of the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. LAUTENBERG] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1701, a bill to end the use of steel jaw leghold traps on animals in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1786

At the request of Mr. WELLSTONE, the name of the Senator from Montana [Mr. BAUCUS] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1786, a bill to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to carry out a demonstration project to provide the Department of Veterans Affairs with reimbursement from the medicare program for health care services provided to certain medicare-eligible veterans.

S. 1811

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Florida [Mr. GRAHAM] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1811, a bill to amend the Act entitled "An Act authorizing Federal participation in the cost of protecting the shores of publicly owned property" to confirm and clarify the authority and responsibility of the Secretary of the Army, acting through the Chief of Engineers, to promote and carry out shore protection projects, including beach nourishment projects, and for other purposes.

S. 1873

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Maine [Mr. COHEN], the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. LAUTENBERG], and the Senator from California [Mrs. FEINSTEIN] were added as cosponsors of S. 1873, a bill to amend the National Environmental Education Act to extend the programs under the Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1885

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the name of the Senator from Mississippi [Mr. COCHRAN] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1885, a bill to limit the liability of certain nonprofit organizations that are providers of prosthetic devices, and for other purposes.

S. 1892

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from New Jersey [Mr. BRADLEY] was added as a cosponsor of S. 1892, a bill to reward States for collecting Medicaid funds expended on tobacco-related illnesses, and for other purposes.

S. 1899

At the request of Mr. MURKOWSKI, the names of the Senator from Hawaii [Mr. AKAKA] and the Senator from Louisiana [Mr. JOHNSTON] were added as cosponsors of S. 1899, a bill entitled the "Mollie Beattie Alaska Wilderness Area Act".

## AMENDMENT NO. 4112

At the request of Mr. HELMS the name of the Senator from South Carolina [Mr. THURMOND] was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4112 proposed to S. 1745, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

## AMENDMENT NO. 4367

At the request of Mr. NUNN the name of the Senator from Arizona [Mr. MCCAIN] was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 4367 proposed to S. 1745, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

**SENATE RESOLUTION 275—TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE CONCERNING AFGHANISTAN**

Mr. BROWN submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations:

## S. RES. 275

Whereas, prior to 1979, Afghanistan was a peaceful, united country;

Whereas, the successful fight of the brave men and women of Afghanistan resisting the Soviet invasion and occupation of 1979–1989 was a significant element in the dissolution of the Soviet empire;

Whereas, the dissolution of the Soviet empire brought freedom to the nations of central and eastern Europe as well as to the nations of central Asia;

Whereas, although many years after the Soviet withdrawal, Afghanistan does not enjoy the peace it has earned;

Whereas, the United Nations can play a unique and important role in bringing an end to the conflict in Afghanistan;

Whereas, recent meetings between members of Congress and the representatives of the major Afghan factions indicate a significant desire on the part of all parties to achieve a peaceful resolution to the conflict in Afghanistan and the establishment of an effective government that represents the interests of the Afghan people;

Therefore, it is the sense of the Senate that—

(1) The courageous people of Afghanistan have earned the world's respect and support for their epic struggle against the forces of communism;

(2) Resolving the continuing conflict in Afghanistan and alleviating the accompanying humanitarian distress of the Afghan people should be a top priority of the United States;

(3) Outside interference and the provision of arms and military supplies to the warring parties should be halted;

(4) A unique moment in the Afghan civil war exists where all major factions are searching for a peaceful solution to the conflict;

(5) The United States should urge the United Nations to move quickly to appoint a special envoy to Afghanistan who will act

aggressively to assist the Afghans to achieve a solution to the conflict acceptable to the Afghan people;

(6) The United Nations should work to create the conditions for a continuing dialogue among the Afghan factions.

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

**THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1997**

## MCCAIN AMENDMENT NO. 4387

Mr. MCCAIN proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 1745) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 1997 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes; as follows:

At the appropriate place in the bill, insert the following new section:

SEC. . It is the sense of the Senate that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, in order to maximize the amount of equipment provided to the Government of Bosnia and Herzegovina under the authority contained in Section 540 of the Foreign Operations Act of 1996 (P.L. 104–107), the price of the transferred equipment shall not exceed the lowest level at which the same or similar equipment has been transferred to any other country under any other U.S. government program.

**FEINGOLD (AND KOHL)  
AMENDMENT NO. 4388**

Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. KOHL) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1745, supra; as follows:

At the end of subtitle B of title II, add the following:

**SEC. 223. COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF F/A-18E/F AIRCRAFT PROGRAM**

(a) REPORT ON PROGRAM.—Not later than March 30, 1997, the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report on the F/A-18E/F aircraft program.

(b) CONTENT OF REPORT.—The report shall contain the following:

(1) A review of the F/A-18E/F aircraft program.

(2) An analysis and estimate of the production costs of the program for the total number of aircraft realistically expected to be procured at each of three annual production rates as follows:

(A) 18 aircraft.

(B) 24 aircraft.

(C) 36 aircraft.

(3) A comparison of the cost and benefits of the program with the costs and benefits of the F/A-18C/D aircraft program taking into account the operational combat effectiveness of the aircraft.

(c) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS PENDING TRANSMITTAL OF REPORT.—No funds authorized to be appropriated by this Act may be obligated or expended for the procurement of F/A-18E/F aircraft before the date that is 90 days after the date on which the congressional defense committees receive the report required under subsection (a).

## EXON AMENDMENT NO. 4389

Mr. NUNN (for Mr. EXON) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1745, supra; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title III, add the following:

**SEC. 368. AUTHORITY OF AIR NATIONAL GUARD TO PROVIDE CERTAIN SERVICES AT LINCOLN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.**

(a) AUTHORITY.—Subject to subsections (b) and (c), the Nebraska Air National Guard may provide fire protection services and rescue services relating to aircraft at Lincoln Municipal Airport, Lincoln, Nebraska, on behalf of the Lincoln Municipal Airport Authority, Lincoln, Nebraska.

(b) AGREEMENT.—The Nebraska Air National Guard may not provide services under subsection (a) until the Nebraska Air National Guard and the authority enter into an agreement under which the authority reimburses the Nebraska Air National Guard for the cost of the services provided.

(c) CONDITIONS.—These services may only be provided to the extent that the provision of such services does not adversely affect the military preparedness of the Armed Forces.

## ROBB AMENDMENT NO. 4390

Mr. NUNN (for Mr. ROBB) proposed an amendment to the bill, S. 1745, supra; as follows:

At the end of subtitle A of title X, add the following:

**SEC. 1014. SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION AND APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT NOT IDENTIFIED IN THE BUDGET REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE AND FOR CERTAIN MILITARY CONSTRUCTION.**

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) to the maximum extent practicable, each House of Congress should consider the authorization of appropriation, and appropriation, of funds for the procurement of military equipment only if the procurement is included—

(A) in the budget request of the President for the Department of Defense; or

(B) in a supplemental request list provided to the congressional defense committees, upon request of such committees, by the Office of the Secretary of Defense, by the military departments, by the National Guard Bureau, or by the officials responsible for the administration of the Reserves;

(2) the recommendations for procurement in a defense authorization bill or a defense appropriations bill reported to the Senate or the House of Representatives which reflect a change from the budget request referred to in paragraph (1)(A) should be accompanied in the committee report relating to the bill by a justification of the national security interest addressed by the change;

(3) the recommendations for military construction projects in a defense authorization bill or a defense appropriations bill reported to the Senate or the House of Representatives which reflect a change from such a budget request should be accompanied by a justification in the committee report relating to the bill of the national security interest addressed by the change; and

(4) the recommendations for procurement of military equipment, or for military construction projects, in a conference report of the committee on conference to resolve the differences between the two Houses relating to a defense authorization bill or a defense appropriations bill which recommendations reflect a change from the original recommendation of the applicable committee to