

this bill with other non-defense reductions, designating only the \$2.8 billion in must-pay defense funding as emergency spending. This defense and disaster supplemental appropriations bill will cost the American taxpayer only \$3.6 billion.

Now that is not to say, Mr. President, that this bill is pork-free. In fact, this bill contains \$52.3 million in low-priority, wasteful, and unnecessary spending. Even though the bill is a step in the right direction, it still wastes millions of taxpayer dollars.

Eliminating pork-barrel spending is key to realizing the federal budget surpluses that are projected for the next several years. Paying down our national debt is vital to our nation's long-term economic health, and providing greater tax relief to all Americans will improve their quality of life and help sustain our robust economy. In addition, a balanced federal budget coupled with a sustained strong economy will enable us to protect Social Security and Medicare for current and future generations.

If we do not curb pork-barrel spending, future anticipated budget surpluses will not occur, and this historic opportunity to reduce our federal debt will pass us by.

Mr. President, again, the amount of wasteful spending in this bill is less onerous than in most other bills I have seen. However, I still must object strenuously to the inclusion of \$52.3 million in earmarks and add-ons in conference agreement. We cannot afford pork-barrel spending, even in the amount contained in this bill, because the cumulative effect of each million wasted is a million dollars in debt on which we must pay interest.

Some of the more egregious items earmarked in this bill include:

\$14 million for a tree assistance program. This amount is an increase of \$9.3 million and \$5.3 million over what was proposed by the House and Senate respectively.

\$1 million to conduct "transit investment analysis" in Hawaii.

\$4 million for maple sugar producers.
\$222,000 for boll weevil eradication loans.

\$20 million for the implementation of the Capitol Square perimeter security plan.

\$7.5 million for repairs to the Capital Dome.

\$1 million to increase the emergency preparedness of the State of Alabama.

\$1.5 million for the Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD at this point a list of the projects contained in this measure that meet at least one of the five objective criteria which I have used for many years to evaluate spending bills.

On Friday, May 1, I sent a letter to the President urging him to use his line-item veto authority to eliminate these low-priority, unnecessary, and wasteful programs from the bill.

Mr. President, even the relatively small amount of pork-barrel spending in this bill undercuts our efforts to keep the federal budget in balance and ensure we are spending the taxpayers dollars wisely, as they have entrusted us to do. Pork-barrel spending robs funds from other worthwhile programs and prevents us from further reducing taxes and paying down our national debt.

In the upcoming FY 1999 appropriations season, I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Appropriations Committee to ensure that we do not waste taxpayers dollars on projects that are low-priority, wasteful, or unnecessary, and that have not been evaluated in the appropriate merit-based review process. ●

RECOGNITION OF BOB LENT

● Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend of mine and of the working men and women of Michigan, Bob Lent. Bob is retiring at the end of June, 1998, from his position as Director of UAW Region 1.

Bob Lent has been a UAW member for nearly 50 years, when he began working in 1949 at the Dodge Main plant in Hamtramck, Michigan. After serving in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953, Bob went to work as a millwright apprentice and skilled tradesman at the Chrysler 9 Mile Road Press Plant. It was here, as a member of UAW Local 869, that he began his rise into the leadership of the UAW. He served in a number of leadership positions in Local 869, including alternative chief steward, trustee chairman, vice president and president. From here he was appointed to the Region 1B staff, where he rose to the position of assistant director in 1982. In 1983, Bob was elected Regional Director at the UAW's 27th Constitutional Convention in Dallas, Texas.

Bob is something of a legend in labor circles for his commitment to the working men and women of Region 1. But he is almost equally well-known for his remarkable ability to remember the most minute details of events that happened years before. Of course, in his line of work, a memory like that can be an incredible asset to bring to the bargaining table. But it can also be the source of amusement, and occasionally embarrassment, when Bob relates who said what to whom at a dinner which took place ten or fifteen years ago.

Knowing Bob as I do, I have no doubt that retirement will not slow him down, and that he will continue to serve his community in a number of ways. I am sure that his wife, Earline, will keep him at least as busy as his commitments to the United Way of Pontiac-Oakland County, the Detroit-area United Foundation, the NAACP and the Wayne State University Labor Advisory Committee. And I also know that the men and women of the UAW can count on Bob to continue to stand

with them in their ongoing efforts on behalf of the working people of our nation.

Mr. President, I know my colleagues join me in extending congratulations and best wishes to Bob Lent, Director of UAW Region 1, on the occasion of his retirement. ●

TRIBUTE TO ANNIE MALONE CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICE CENTER

● Mr. BOND. Mr. President, every year in St. Louis, Missouri, May Day is especially important in paying tribute to what can be achieved through collective action. This year, the Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center, as well as, the St. Louis African American community will celebrate May Day on May 17. The first of these celebrations occurred more than eighty years ago and since that time they have continually grown. The celebration serves as a reminder of all that has been endured and the prosperity that it now reflects.

Annie Malone Children and Family Service Center began its service more than 100 years ago. Its predecessor was the St. Louis Colored Orphans' Home and was established in 1888 by a group of prominent women concerned about the welfare of neglected and orphaned children. The president of the Board of Directors from 1919 to 1943 was Annie Malone. In honor of her loyalty and dedication to the goals of the institution, it was renamed for her in 1946. Through the years, the Center has continued to expand its services and programs to meet the needs of a changing society, but the mission, "to improve the quality of life for children, families, and the community utilizing education, social services, and developing positive values and self esteem," has remained the same.

Annie M's has several programs including residential treatment, therapeutic services/family crisis center and its evaluation and diagnostic services. The programs have helped to make the quality of life more complete, fulfilling and successful for African Americans in the St. Louis Community. I salute the contributions made by Annie M's beneficial programs and join the community in paying tribute to the woman that helped in their growth and success, Annie Malone. ●

ISRAEL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

● Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, on April 30th the people of Israel celebrated their nation's fiftieth anniversary and people around the world commemorated the realization of a dream of a Jewish state first envisioned by Theodor Herzl in 1897. Today, with characteristic courage, intelligence and determination, Israelis face the many challenges that lie ahead.

With the collapse of the former Soviet Union and the ethnic violence that has rocked parts of Europe and Africa,