

service work. They also earn living allowances of about \$7,400 a year and health care and child day care benefits.

About 90,000 people have served in the program since it started in 1993. More than \$1.7 billion has been spent on or committed to the program so far, including \$400 million set aside for education awards.

This year, Illinois has about 500 Americorps workers. About 450 are expected next year.

According to the Corporation for National Service, Americorps workers last year tutored more than 500,000 youth, mentored 95,000 more, created 3,100 safety patrols, built or rehabilitated 5,600 homes, placed 32,000 homeless people in permanent housing and recruited more than 300,000 volunteers.

Many Republicans, including House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Ga.), oppose the national service program. Gingrich told Newsweek magazine in 1995 that he was "totally, unequivocally opposed to national service. . . . It is coerced volunteerism. It's a gimmick."

Critics also question whether the program is worth the expense, but officials at the corporation say they try to fund programs that get the most bang for the buck. The program uses strict standards to ensure funded programs produce results that can be measured—say, the number of children tutored or the number of homes rehabilitated.

And they argue that the program represents a way for Washington to help communities help themselves—an argument tailor-made for Republicans who advocate decentralizing government.

"Right now there is a consensus in Washington that Washington cannot solve every problem and that we have to look at ways to strengthen local communities so they can take on the needs that are specific to their communities," said Tara Murphy, the director of public affairs for the corporation. "That's exactly what this program does." Two-thirds of the funds go straight to state commissions, made up of members appointed by the governors, she said. Those commissions decide which agencies get the money, and the agencies recruit and deploy the workers, she said.

Agencies that were awarded grants this week to hire Americorps workers don't question whether the program is worth the expense.

"It's definitely worth it," said Pat Clay, the director of the program at the Aunt Martha's Youth Services Center of Park Forest, where 10 Americorps workers teach low-income parents how to instruct their preschool children.

"To see the smile on a child's face, to hear a parent say, 'My child tested very well in a preschool screening test'—that makes it worthwhile. You are investing in a child's future for life.

Aunt Martha's hires its Americorps workers from the communities the program serves—in this case, Ford Heights and Chicago Heights.

The Uptown-based Asian Human Services agency, which will hire about 14 workers to aid Asian refugees and immigrants this year, does the same.

Ralph Hardy, the director of programs at Asian Human Services, said he believes the program is inspiring Americorps workers to a career in public service.

"The outcome of the program will be best seen down the road, say 10 or 15 years from now, after a whole generation has gone through it," he said. "We've seen it here—we have workers who will go into some sort of community-based career."

That's what Trina Poole, 25, plans to do. Poole, one of six Americorps workers at Family Rescue, a community service agency

in South Shore for victims of domestic violence, answers the agency's crisis line and helps arrange services for callers.

A victim of domestic violence herself, Poole said she hopes to be hired for a permanent position to continue providing to women and children the services she never received.

"It's a healing process for me to help as many women as possible," she said. "I'm not doing this for the money. I'm doing it to help the community."

Becky Nieves, 21, of Hanover Park, an Americorps worker for City Year who helped run an after-school program on gardening and environment, said she learned how much she meant to her students at the end of the year.

"When it's over and you say your good-byes, and the kids tell you what they learned, that's when you know you've made a difference," she said.♦

CBO COST ESTIMATE ON S. 1283

♦ Mr. D'AMATO. Mr. President, the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs reported S. 1283, the "Little Rock Nine Congressional Gold Medal Act" on Friday, June 26, 1998. The Committee report, S. 105-245, was filed on Friday, July 10, 1998.

The Congressional Budget Office cost estimate required by Senate Rule XXVI, section 11(b) of the Standing Rules of the Senate and section 403 of the Congressional Budget Impoundment and Control Act, was not available at the time of filing and, therefore, was not included in the Committee Report. Instead, the Committee indicated the Congressional Budget Office cost estimate would be published in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD when it became available.

Mr. President, I ask that the full statement and cover letter from the Congressional Budget Office regarding S. 1283 be printed in the RECORD.

The material follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, July 23, 1998.

Hon. ALFONSE M. D'AMATO,
Chairman, Committee on Banking, Housing,
and Urban Affairs, U.S. Senate, Wash-
ington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 1283, an act to award congressional gold medals to the "Little Rock Nine" on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the integration of the Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is John R. Righter.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL, *Director*.

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST
ESTIMATE

S. 1283—An act to award congressional gold medals to the "Little Rock Nine" on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the integration of the Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas

S. 1283 would authorize the President to present gold medals to Jean Brown Trickey, Carlotta Walls LaNier, Melba Pattillo Beals, Terrence Roberts, Gloria Ray Karlmark, Thelma Mothershed Wair, Ernest Green, Elizabeth Eckford, and Jefferson Thomas, re-

ferred to as the "Little Rock Nine," on behalf of the Congress. To help recover the costs of the gold medals, the legislation would authorize the U.S. Mint to strike and sell bronze duplicates of the medals at a price that covers production costs for both the medals and the duplicates.

Based on the costs of recent medals produced by the Mint, CBO estimates that authorizing the gold medals would increase direct spending from the U.S. Mint Public Enterprise Fund by about \$65,000 in fiscal year 1999, largely to cover the cost of the gold for each medal. The Mint could recoup some of those costs by selling bronze duplicates to the public; however, based on the sales of duplicates in previous cases, we expect that the proceeds from the duplicates would not cover the cost of the medals.

In addition to authorizing the gold medals, the legislation would allow the Mint to continue selling coins commemorating Jackie Robinson through the end of this calendar year. CBO estimates that extending the time by which the Mint can sell these coins would increase collections to the Mint by about \$1 million over fiscal years 1998 and 1999. (The Mint's authority to sell the coins expired on July 1.) According to the Mint, it has close to 80,000 coins in its inventory. If the Mint were to sell all of its remaining inventory, it would generate between \$3 million and \$5 million in additional collections, net of surcharges that must be paid to the Jackie Robinson Foundation, a nonprofit organization. That range depends on whether the Mint would sell some or all of the coins in bulk at a discounted price. Based on the sales of previous commemorative coin programs and because the coins were available already for purchase by the public, CBO expects that the Mint would sell far less than the amount of its remaining inventory. In any event, because the Mint can retain and spend the additional collections on other commercial activities, CBO estimates that the provision would have no net budgetary impact over time.

S. 1283 would affect direct spending, so pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. S. 1283 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would not affect the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

The CBO staff contact is John R. Righter. This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.♦

CHEYENNE RIVER SIOUX TRIBE EQUITABLE COMPENSATION ACT OF 1998

♦ Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I rise today to express my support as a co-sponsor of S. 1905, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act of 1998. This extremely important issue is the highest priority for the Cheyenne River Sioux tribe and will have a positive and lasting impact on the Cheyenne River reservation community and the entire State of South Dakota. I have worked closely with the Indian Affairs Committee to insure that this legislation protects the future interests of tribal members, and I am pleased that the bill reported by the Committee reflects these concerns. I am committed to seeing that the bill receive strong Senate support, and look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure that the bill moves forward for approval by the full Senate.

The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act would establish a trust fund within the Department of the Treasury for the development of certain tribal infrastructure projects for the Cheyenne River Tribe as compensation for lands lost to federal public works projects. The trust fund would be capitalized from a small percentage of hydropower revenues and would be capped at \$290 million. Independent research has concluded that the economic loss to the tribe justifies such a compensation fund. The tribe would then receive the interest from the fund to be used according to a development plan based on legislation previously passed by Congress, and prepared in conjunction with the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Indian Health Service.

This type of funding mechanism has seen unanimous support in the Congress though recent passage of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe Infrastructure Development Trust Fund Act as well as the Crow Creek legislation passed last Congress. Precedent for these infrastructure development trust funds capitalized through hydro-power revenue was established with the Three Affiliated Tribes and Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act of 1992, which set up a recovery fund financed entirely from a percentage of Pick-Sloan power revenues to compensate the tribes for lands lost to Pick-Sloan.

I believe it is important for the Senate to understand the historic context of this proposed compensation. As you may know, the Flood Control Act of 1944 created five massive earthen dams along the Missouri River. Known as the Pick-Sloan Plan, this public works project has since provided much-needed flood control, irrigation, and hydro-power for communities along the Missouri. Four of the Pick-Sloan dams are located in South Dakota and the benefits of the project have proven indispensable to the people of my State.

Unfortunately, construction of the Big Bend and Fort Randall dams was severely detrimental to economic and agricultural development for several of South Dakota's tribes, including Cheyenne River. Over 100,000 acres of the tribe's most fertile and productive land, the basis for the tribal economy, were inundated, forcing the relocation of roughly 30 percent of the tribe's population, including four entire communities.

The Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Equitable Compensation Act of 1998 will enable the Cheyenne River Tribe to address and improve their infrastructure and will provide the needed resources for further economic development within the Cheyenne River reservation community. However, the damage caused by the Pick-Sloan projects touched every aspect of life in South Dakota, on and off reservation. The economic development goal targeted in this approach is a pressing issue for surrounding communities off reserva-

tion as well, because every effort toward healthy local economies in rural South Dakota resonates throughout the State.

Language included in this bill would prohibit any increase in power rates in connection with the trust fund. This legislation has broad support in South Dakota. South Dakota Governor Bill Janklow has endorsed this type of funding mechanism for the compensation of South Dakota tribes, and fully supports S. 1905.

Mr. President, the tribes in my State experience some of the most extreme poverty and unemployment in this country. Under the current Chairman, Gregg Bourland, the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe has been a leader in economic development initiatives within the reservation community and I believe this bill will reinforce and further the economic development successes of the tribe. I look forward to educating my colleagues about the importance of this bill to the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe and I encourage swift Senate action on this bill.●

PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE'S LEASE PROCUREMENT

● Mr. WARNER. Mr. President, I rise today to set the record straight about the Patent and Trademark Office's lease procurement for a new or remodeled facility. There is a continuing misinformation campaign being waged to delay the Patent and Trademark Office's lease procurement or put it back to square one.

Allegations are being made that, to the taxpayer's detriment, the new facility is vastly overpriced and that a new federal construction option has not been considered.

The fact is that the procurement has been conducted by the book and has undergone several, impartial reviews, all of which conclude that the project is on the right track, competitively sound and should continue.

Mr. President, we all know that funding is not available to support the federal construction of a new headquarters for PTO because of the limitations of the Balanced Budget Act. We also know that the new lease, authorized by the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee in Fall of 1995, will result in cost savings of \$72 million over the life of the lease. That cost savings will accrue in spite of moving costs, an upgraded work environment, new furniture and other improvements designed to enable the PTO to more effectively do its job.

The PTO is fully fee funded and does not receive any taxpayer support. All lease and moving costs will be borne by PTO's customers in the normal course of business.

The Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure intends to have a hearing on this matter in September. In the meantime, I am submitting a number of points regarding the procurement, in addition to a letter

sent to me by Bruce A. Lehman, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks.

I urge you to take time to hear the real story of the PTO project. The clear facts are that failure to take action to consolidate PTO space will result in wasteful use of funds and prevents PTO from modernizing services for its customers.

The material follows:

THE FACTS ON THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE PROCUREMENT

No taxpayer funds are being spent on the project. PTO is fully user fee funded.

PTO's largest user groups support the project. The American Intellectual Property Law Association, the Intellectual Property Owner's Association and the Intellectual Property Section of the ABA have all expressed strong support in numerous Congressional letters for continuation of the ongoing procurement.

Federal construction is not a viable option. The Administration and PTO's Appropriations Committees agree that a competitive lease is the only viable option since neither user fees nor taxpayer funding are available to construct or purchase a facility for PTO.

Consolidated project will save the PTO at least \$72 million. Whether the project proceeds or the PTO remains at its current leased, unconsolidated locations, the PTO will spend approximately \$1.3 billion in lease costs over the next 20 years to house the agency. Delaying consolidation will prevent PTO from passing this \$72 million in savings on to its fee-paying customers.

Senate Bill already caps build-out costs. The Senate Appropriations Bill (S. 2260), as passed, would cap interior office build-out at \$36.69 per square foot, the Government-wide standard rate. Moreover, these costs are included in the new rent amount.

PTO's projected moving costs are reasonable. All moving costs were taken into account in computing the \$72 million in savings. PTO's projected costs are comparable to those spent by other recently consolidated agencies.

PTO will not purchase \$250 shower curtains, etc. Estimates for \$250 shower curtains for the fitness facility, \$750 cribs for the child care center, \$309 ash cans for smoking rooms, and \$1,000 coat racks for training facilities were intentionally "worst case" estimates used for the purpose of calculating the cost savings that would result from consolidation. Standardization, mass buys and competitive furniture purchases will generate lower actual costs. PTO has not yet made any requested appropriations of user fees for furniture purchases. Proceeding with the procurement and applying a sharp pencil to PTO's future appropriations requests for furniture can only enhance the \$72 million in savings.

Any environmental costs will be totally funded by the developer. All three sites competing for PTO's lease already house Federal employees. The Government just constructed a federal courthouse on the Carlyle site, the Defense Department has occupied the Eisenhower site for over 20 years, and the PTO has occupied the Crystal City site for over 25 years. There is no evidence that developers cannot accomplish any environmental work that may be required to further develop these sites.

DOC's IG concluded that the project should proceed. The IG's key conclusion was that PTO will benefit from the project and will realize long-term cost savings. Both the IG and an independent consultant to the DOC Secretary (Jefferson Solutions) found that