

contracting process and managing the stockpile. Funding for those costs would come from appropriated funds. Based on current spending for program support services for bioterrorism-related activities (including the SNS) at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CBO estimates that administrative costs would be about \$10 million a year. Subject to the appropriation of necessary amounts, CBO estimates that discretionary spending for such costs would increase by \$7 million in 2004 and \$0.1 billion over the 2004-2013 period.

Research and Development Into Qualified Countermeasures

H.R. 2122 would authorize the Secretary of HHS to expedite procurement and peer review for research related to qualified countermeasures. The bill also would allow the Secretary to secure the services of experts or consultants with relevant expertise. Implementation of these measures could increase the resources required by the agency, accelerate spending, or both. CBO does not have sufficient information to estimate the additional resources that might be required by the agency or the rate at which spending might accelerate under the bill. Such spending would come from appropriated funds.

Authorization for Medical Products for Use in Emergencies

The FDA's regulatory process allows for expedited approval of security countermeasures under current law. Pursuant to the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002, the FDA may allow certain drugs, devices, and biologics defined as priority countermeasures to move more quickly through the agency's regulatory process. To further expedite the development of security countermeasures, the FDA has implemented a rule that allows approval of certain drugs based on tests in animals.

H.R. 2122 would allow the Secretary of HHS to authorize the FDA to approve the use of certain drugs or devices for use during periods designated as emergencies by the Secretary of HHS, DHS, or Defense. The authorization would remain in effect for no more than one year, unless the Secretary determines otherwise based on the nature of the emergency. When the Secretary authorizes the emergency use of a product that is an unapproved use of an approved product, the bill would provide some flexibility to manufacturers in carrying out activities under the emergency use authorization.

Based on information from Administration officials, CBO expects that implementing this provision in H.R. 2122 would not increase costs to the FAA. Over the past year, the FDA has hired about 100 people to review drug applications and provide assistance to companies engaged in research and development into security countermeasures. Thus, the agency already has the infrastructure to handle the additional authority related to the proposed emergency-use authorization and would not require additional resources. Therefore, CBO estimates that this provision of H.R. 2122 would have no budgetary effect.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATES

S. 15, the Project BioShield Act of 2003, as reported by the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions on March 25, 2003, would amend the PHS Act to create permanent, indefinite funding authority for the procurement of certain biomedical countermeasures. In its cost estimate dated May 7, 2003, CBO estimated that enacting S. 15 would increase direct spending by \$270 million in 2004 and \$8.1 billion over the 2004-2013 period.

Although both H.R. 2122 and S. 15 would authorize programs to procure counter-

measures to protect the public health against terrorism, H.R. 2122 would not affect direct spending; instead, the bill would authorize appropriations of up to \$5.6 billion over the 2004-2013 period. Estimated spending under H.R. 2122 is less than under S. 15 because the House bill would authorize a set amount of appropriations, whereas the Senate bill would provide unlimited direct spending authority.

In several areas, H.R. 2122 would allow the Secretary more flexibility regarding what products could be procured and how contracts would be structured. H.R. 2122 would allow the procurement of countermeasures even if they have a significant commercial application, while S. 15 would restrict the procurement authority to those without such applications. While S. 15 would require the Secretary to determine that a countermeasure is likely to be approved by the FDA within five years as a condition of procurement, H.R. 2122 would require only that the Secretary consider whether a five-year limit is feasible. H.R. 2122 would provide additional flexibility in contracting by permitting the Secretary to extend first-time contracts to eight years (versus five in S. 15) and would allow the Secretary discretion to provide a 10 percent advance to companies developing new products. Those provisions would accelerate spending relative to S. 15.

On June 6, 2003, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 2122 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce on May 15, 2003. On the same date, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for H.R. 2122 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Government Reform on May 22, 2003. Those versions of H.R. 2122 are nearly identical to the version of H.R. 2122 approved by the Select Committee on Homeland Security. However, H.R. 2122 as approved by the Select Committee on Homeland Security contains two additional authorizations—an estimated \$15 million over the 2004-2006 period for hiring analysts and such sums as may be necessary over the 2003-2006 period for the construction of secure installations.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 2122 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Jeanne De Sa (226-9010) and Sam Papenfuss (226-2840); Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Leo Lex (225-3220); and Impact on the Private Sector: Samuel Kina (226-2666).

Estimate approved by: Robert A. Sunshine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMPACT IMPACT REIMBURSEMENT ACT

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today, along with my colleagues, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. CASE, and Mr. FALCOMA, I am introducing a bill to amend the Compact of Free Association Act of 1985 to provide for adequate Compact-impact aid and to continue authority for valuable U.S. assistance for citizens of the Freely Associated States. Compact-impact aid is assistance that has been provided by the Federal Government from time to time over the past seventeen years to Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Is-

lands, and more recently, the State of Hawaii, to mitigate the impact and adverse financial consequences arising from immigration permitted under the Compacts of Free Association with the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau. These three island states are all former Trust Territories of the United Nations that were administered by the United States from 1946 to 1986.

In 1985, Congress passed legislation affording these islands the opportunity to become sovereign states in free association with the United States. In enacting the Compact of Free Association Act (Public Law 99-239), Congress authorized unrestricted migration from the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau to the United States, including its territories. Since the implementation of the Compacts in 1986, many citizens of the Freely Associated States (FAS) have availed themselves of the immigration provisions and traveled to Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the State of Hawaii for work and residence. These FAS citizens have entered our classrooms, utilized our hospitals, and availed themselves of other social services, to a significant degree. The General Accounting Office has documented the impact of this migration (GAO-02-40). One of the major concerns for Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the State of Hawaii remains the reimbursement of costs incurred by our jurisdictions due to the Compacts.

As Congress prepares to reauthorize the Compacts, we must ensure that the issue of Compact-impact is adequately and comprehensively addressed. Our bill proposes that more accountable and reliable means be utilized on the part of the Federal Government to help Guam, the State of Hawaii, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa, recoup the costs of providing critical education, medical and other social services for citizens of the Freely Associated States who migrate to our islands. Our bill proposes to utilize Medicaid to reimburse the costs of medical services furnished to FAS citizens. Clearly, Medicaid is a preferred option as it is an existing means-tested program with its own accountability controls and eligibility standards. Our bill would also grant FAS citizens eligibility for food stamps. Additionally, our bill proposes to extend authority for grants to the governments of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Republic of Palau, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and the State of Hawaii, to control and prevent the spread of communicable diseases. Current law simply authorizes this assistance for the Federated States of Micronesia. The bill also proposes to extend referral authority for medical facilities of the Department of Defense to the Republic of Palau, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, American Samoa, and the State of Hawaii. Current law restricts referral authority to the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. Lastly, our bill would make available to the governments of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau funds needed to pay obligations incurred for the use of medical facilities in the United States prior to

October 1, 2003. Under current law, such authorization applies to debt accrued before September 1, 1985.

The governments of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the State of Hawaii, have provided health, educational, and other social services to the citizens of these Freely Associated States in good faith with the expectation that such incurred costs would be reimbursed by the United States Government. We have before us an opportunity to address this most important issue within the context of the reauthorization of the Compacts of Free Association. It is my sincere desire to work with my colleagues to ensure that the provisions proposed by this bill are seriously considered in the reauthorization process.

REMOVAL OF NAME AS A
COSPONSOR OF H.R. 20

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor of H.R. 20. While the bill's stated purpose is to authorize appropriations for state water revolving funds (which I fully support), I regret that it has been transformed into an attempt to expand the Davis-Bacon Act.

I believe that adding Davis-Bacon to this important debate is entirely inappropriate. The fact that the two debates have become inextricably linked is irresponsible and unfair to Americans who rely on Congress to act to ensure their water is clean and safe.

In my state of California, the reauthorization of this program would translate into over \$1 billion in additional funds to address the state's clean water needs. As such, I remain steadfast in my commitment to the passage of a water infrastructure bill this year.

INTRODUCING THE GREAT LAKES
RESTORATION FINANCING ACT
OF 2003

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, today along with Congressman REYNOLDS and a bipartisan coalition of members from the Great Lakes states, I am proud to introduce the Great Lakes Restoration Financing Act of 2003.

Holding one-fifth of the world's fresh surface water supply and nine-tenths of the U.S. supply, the Great Lakes and their connecting channels form the largest freshwater system on Earth. Thirty years after passage of the U.S. Clean Water Act, Great Lakes water quality has improved, but the Lakes remain unhealthy for wildlife and people and there is clear and convincing evidence that the ecosystem is deteriorating.

For example, bacteria from sewage overflows led to a record 897 beach closings in 2002 on Lake Michigan alone. Additionally, twenty percent of the Great Lakes shoreline

contains polluted sediments. Further, state and local authorities have issued more than 1,500 fish consumption advisories in the Great Lakes.

Clearly in crisis, the Great Lakes are the source of drinking water for 28 million people. The Everglades, the source of freshwater for much of the state of Florida, faced a similar threat in the mid-1990's. Congress responded with the creation of a massive restoration effort. Building on that successful national model, the Great Lakes Restoration Fund would establish a funding source for Lakes restoration and revitalization based upon President Bush's Great Lakes plan.

Following the President's "Great Lakes Strategy 2002" as its guide, the Great Lakes Restoration Fund would provide states with significant funds for Lakes restoration. Specifically, the Fund would ensure the economic and ecologic sustainability of the Lakes, clean up toxic hot spots, combat invasive species, control pollution from urban and agricultural runoff, restore and conserve wetlands and critical coastal habitat, and increase public education of Great Lakes issues.

The United States is blessed with tremendous natural resources. The Great Lakes undoubtedly rank among the most treasured of these resources, but if this body allows them to deteriorate further—if we can no longer drink the water, and no longer swim at our beaches—we will have failed American families.

Mr. Speaker, we refuse to let this happen. This bill will begin to heal the damage done over the years. I strongly encourage my colleagues to support us in this important endeavor by cosponsoring the Great Lakes Restoration Financing Act of 2003.

TRIBUTE TO NOEL HARLAN

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this body of Congress and this nation today to pay tribute to a dedicated educator from my district. Noel Harlan of Alamosa, Colorado is a role model for his students both in and out of the classroom. Noel, a teacher and bus driver in the Alamosa School District, is this year's recipient of the Driver of the Year Award given by the Colorado State Pupil Transportation Association. I join with my colleagues in offering him our congratulations.

Noel began working for the Alamosa school district in 1965 and soon found that working for a small school provided him the opportunity to expand his duties. While primarily a science teacher, he often taught other subjects, such as English Literature and Archaeology. Noel enjoyed working with children, so when a position as the school's bus driver became available he seized the opportunity. The new job provided Noel with extra income, as well as increased interaction with his students. Noel excelled behind the wheel, driving over 750,000 miles without an accident. With enthusiasm and diligence, Noel helped the morning commute become an enjoyable, safe ride.

Mr. Speaker, Noel Harlan's commitment to the students of Alamosa is certainly deserving

of praise before this body of Congress and this nation. I am proud knowing that Noel has had an impact on so many of today's youth and I wish him many more years of safe driving and teaching. Thank you, Noel, for the service that you have provided to our community.

RECOGNIZING DR. KRISHNA
REDDY

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great community leader and President of the Indian American Friendship Council, Dr. Krishna Reddy, for his commitment to the advancement of the U.S.-India relationship and the Indian-American community.

Dr. Reddy has a remarkable record of advocating on behalf of the Indian-American community. As Founder and President of the Indian American Friendship Council, Dr. Reddy has demonstrated his tremendous dedication to improving U.S.-India relations. His expertise and service has undoubtedly led to increased dialogue and solidarity between these two democracies.

Dr. Reddy's commitment to engaging the Indian-American community in the political process and ensuring that Indian-Americans have a voice in our government is also commendable. His organized efforts have helped educate Congress about issues important to India and the Indian-American community and fostered relationships between Members of Congress and Indian-Americans nationwide.

It is a great honor to pay tribute to Dr. Krishna Reddy and the Indian American Friendship Council.

TRIBUTE TO GENE RIZZI

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Gene Rizzi and thank him for his many contributions to Pueblo, Colorado. Gene has spent over 33 years helping grow and improve Lake Pueblo and its facilities as a member of the Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation. As he plans his retirement, I am honored to recognize Gene and his many contributions before this body of Congress today.

Gene began his service at Lake Pueblo in 1977 when the lake first opened. As Assistant Park Manager, he has helped improve the facilities at the lake, including the creation of a new swimming beach and a variety of campgrounds. His hard work has helped make Lake Pueblo a fun, safe place to enjoy the outdoors. His co-workers note that Gene will do whatever it takes to make the park work most effectively. While at Lake Pueblo, Gene has done everything from rescuing boats to fighting fires. His hard work and dedication has made Gene one of the many exemplary employees of the Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, one whose impact will forever show in the operation of Lake Pueblo.