

inflation, and the bill's stated goal of achieving 250,000 participants by 2014.

For this estimate, CBO assumes the bill will be enacted by October 1, 2009, and that outlays will follow historical patterns for those programs.

Programs funded under NCSA and DVSA received appropriations of \$1.1 billion for fiscal year 2009, including \$200 million in funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5).

Specified Authorizations: Under H.R. 1388, specified authorizations for 2010 would total \$472 million. Specifically, the bill would authorize the appropriation of the following amounts for 2010:

Foster Grandparent Program (\$115 million),

VISTA (\$100 million),

Learn and Serve America (\$97 million),

Retire and Senior Volunteer Program (\$70 million),

Senior Companion Program (\$55 million), and

National Civilian Community Corps (\$35 million).

CBO estimates that implementing those programs would cost \$1.9 billion over the 2010-2014 period, assuming appropriation of the specified amounts for 2010 and adjusting those amounts for anticipated inflation for 2011 through 2014.

Indefinite Authorizations: The bill also would authorize the appropriation of such sums as may be necessary for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 for other programs, including AmeriCorps and education awards funded through the National Service Trust. CBO estimates those indefinite authorizations would total \$840 million in fiscal year 2010 and would rise to nearly \$2 billion by 2014.

H.R. 1388 includes a stated goal that participation in all AmeriCorps programs (including the National Civilian Community Corps and VISTA) should increase to 250,000 people by 2014 (participation in those programs was about 75,000 in 2008). For this estimate, CBO assumes that sufficient funds would be provided to meet that goal—\$3.6 billion over the 2010-2014 period, CBO estimates. Those funds would be used primarily to provide grants to states, territories, tribes, and nonprofit organizations to operate volunteer service programs. CBO estimates that outlays for those programs would total \$2.7 billion over the 2010-2014 period.

Most participants in AmeriCorps programs (and some VISTA participants) earn education awards for completing specific terms of service that can be used to repay certain student loans or to pay for future education expenses. In 2009, the maximum award is \$4,725. Beginning in 2010, the maximum full-time education award would be pegged to the amount authorized for Pell grants under the Higher Education Act of 1965. Those amounts are \$6,400 in 2010; \$6,800 in 2011; \$7,200 in 2012; \$7,600 in 2013; and \$8,000 in 2014. CBO estimates that over the 2010-2014 period another \$2.4 billion would be needed to fund education awards for AmeriCorps participants. Assuming the appropriation of those sums, CBO estimates outlays would increase by \$0.5 billion over the five-year period (with significant additional outlays in subsequent years).

CBO also estimates that over the 2010-2014 period, the bill would authorize the appropriation of funds for:

Administrative expenses, including support to state service commissions and evaluation of programs (\$0.6 billion),

Various demonstration programs (\$0.2 billion),

Training and technical assistance programs (\$150 million), and

A new Congressional Commission on Civic Service (\$1 million).

In total, CBO estimates that outlays would rise by \$0.8 billion over the next five years, assuming appropriation of the estimated amounts.

Intergovernmental and private-sector impact: H.R. 1388 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA. The bill would authorize grants to state, local, and tribal governments to support national service programs including AmeriCorps, VISTA, and the National Senior Service Corps. CBO estimates state, local, and tribal governments could receive grants totaling more than \$4 billion over the next five years. Any costs to those governments would be incurred voluntarily as a condition of receiving federal assistance.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: Christina Hawley Anthony; Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Burke Doherty; Impact on the Private Sector: Patrick Bernhardt.

Estimate approved by: Peter H. Fontaine, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

## SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 17, 2009*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand here before you not only as a Member of the United States Congress, but as a woman. I fully support H. Res. 211, "Supporting the goals and ideals of National Women's History Month", this is an issue that I hold dear to my heart. This bill will increase awareness and knowledge of women's involvement in history.

Women's history is a vital part of American history, however it is not public knowledge; mostly in part to the lack of women's history education in the schools. I thank my colleague Representative WOOLSEY for introducing this valuable piece of legislation.

As Susan B. Anthony said "It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens; nor yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union" and "There never will be complete equality until women themselves help to make laws and elect lawmakers."

This national celebration and recognition of women's historic achievements began in 1980 when National Women's History Week was proclaimed by Presidential Proclamation. In 1987, this national celebration was expanded by Congressional Resolution to an entire month by declaring March as National Women's History Month.

National Women's History Month provides an opportunity to educate the general public about the significant role of women in American history and contemporary society. Establishing this focal celebration has encouraged schools to introduce new curriculum, and communities to recognize women who have been pivotal in their own communities.

The knowledge of women's history provides a more expansive vision of what a woman can do. This perspective can encourage girls and women to think larger and bolder and can give boys and men a fuller understanding of the female experience.

Today, women account for 51% of the world's population and throughout "woman's-

kind" we have had countless sisters whose brilliance, bravery and power changed the course of history. H. Res. 211 recognizes and honors the women and organizations in the United States that have fought for and continue to promote the teaching of women's history.

While we have come a long way from the early nineteenth century, when women were considered second class citizens whose existence was limited to the interior life of the home and care of the children, we have yet to achieve equality. It is a shame that a decade into the new millennium we are still fighting for women's equality and the right to be respected for our contributions both in and out of the workplace.

This bill will bring awareness to all of those women who have broken barriers and glass ceilings for the rest of us. Women such as the Honorable Speaker PELOSI, the Honorable Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Susan B. Anthony, the Honorable Barbara Jordan, Sojourner Truth, Sacagawea, Rosa Parks, Amelia Earhart, Joan of Arc, and the list could go on for miles.

However, this month is not only about the well known women of history. It is also about those less renowned, such as Belva Ann Lockwood, who fought for admittance into law school. She fought to practice before the Supreme Court and even ran two full campaigns to run for President of the United States, although she could not vote. Texas is home to a multitude of women. The women of Texas are strong, and National Women's History Month is the perfect time to celebrate the diverse population of women that reside in the great state of Texas. I am a proud Texan, and today, I want to bring attention to several women from Texas who deserve recognition and praise for their influence in the continuing fight for women's equality.

One of my personal heroes is Barbara Jordan. Barbara Jordan was born in the Fifth Ward of Houston to a Baptist minister and a domestic worker. She grew up a native Houstonian, attended Houston public school, and attended Texas Southern University in Houston. In 1966, Barbara Jordan was elected as State Senator becoming the first woman to serve since 1883. Her political career continued to grow when she was elected to Federal Representative in 1972. As a Congresswoman, Barbara Jordan sponsored the cause of the poor, black, and disadvantaged people. She is truly a strong woman from Texas that is more than deserving of our recognition during National Women's History Month.

A native Texan, Ann Richards was politically motivated from a young age. Through the 1950s and 60s, she volunteered on several Democratic Governor campaigns, and by 1976, she won her first political position as a Commissioner in Travis County. Beginning in 1982, she became the first woman elected to statewide office in 50 years as state Treasurer, and in 1990, a Democrat turned the typically red state of Texas blue. Ann Richards worked hard to champion for all of her constituents while she was in office and continued this fight even after she was out of office. In 2006, Ms. Richards passed away, but she will always be remembered for her kind heart and determined demeanor. She was an advocate for women everywhere. I want to make sure that her Texas memory is not forgotten.

Alongside Barbara Jordan and Ann Richards there are many Texas women that have

championed to represent strong, Texas women. Throughout Texas, there are women that have paved their individual paths independently and with dignity. Texas Railroad Commissioner Lena Guerrero was also a Hispanic legend in Texas. She was the youngest ever President of the Young Democrats of Texas at 21 years of age and was elected as a state representative in 1984. She was the first Hispanic and first woman on the Texas Railroad commission. Tragically, Lena met her demise at the age of 50. However, in her short time, Lena was someone to be admired and who made many contributions as a Texas citizen.

Dr. Polly Turner, an Associate Professor of Health Administration at Texas Southern University is another outstanding woman I would like to direct attention to. In 2007, she was awarded the Outstanding Texan Honoree in Education by State Representative Garnet Coleman.

Vanessa Diane Gilmore is a judge on the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas. She was appointed to this position by President Clinton in 1994. At that time, she was the youngest sitting federal judge in the United States. She was also the first graduate of the University of Houston to be appointed to the federal bench.

Hazel Hainsworth Young is another Texan deserving of our respect. In 1926, Hazel Young was named the first Latin teacher at the brand-new Jack Yates High School. In 2008, HISD honored Ms. Young and her contributions as a teacher at her 103rd birthday.

I would also like to direct attention to Faye B. Bryant, the 21st International President of Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) Sorority, Inc. Faye

B. Bryant was born in Houston in 1957. Since then, Ms. Bryant has worked as a teacher and administrator of Houston Independent School District (HISD). Along with her education focus, she stayed a strong supporter of her sorority, and as President of AKA, she has reached out to other nations and developed programs such as the African Village Development Program.

Mattelia B. Grays, the 18th International President of AKA, was also a native born Houstonian. After her education in Michigan and California, Ms. Grays returned to Houston to teach for public schools. Under her leadership the Rodgers Educational Enrichment Center was named one of "One of Six Super Schools" by Texas Monthly magazine. Like Ms. Bryant, Ms. Grays held positions of influence in HISD and championed for children's rights.

Aside the plethora of minority women that have made a name and established a foothold in the state of Texas, there are Caucasian women such as Patricia Lykos who is currently the District Attorney of Harris County. A graduate of the University of Houston and South Texas College of Law, Patricia has dedicated her career to the administration of justice. In 1980, she was the first Republican elected to the Harrison County criminal court bench.

Melissa Noriega is also a woman to be admired. She is a 27 year veteran of the HISD, a community activist, and a former member of the Texas House of representatives. Melissa's actions demonstrate her belief in public service and her ability to set aside her personal agendas for the greater good.

Furthermore, Rosanna Osterman was a Texas pioneer, American Civil War nurse and philanthropist. She lived in Galveston, and during the 1853 yellow fever epidemic, she erected a temporary hospital on her family premises in order to nurse the sick and the dying. Osterman also chose to stay in Galveston during the civil war and opened her home as a hospital, first to Union soldiers, then to Confederate soldiers.

I am proud to stand here today as a female member of Congress and champion for the unending fights for the rights and equality of women, and I am proud that I am able to bring recognition to these truly amazing women from Texas.

Women have a distinct place in American history as well as world history. Women had to fight uphill battles in order to free themselves from their cages. For example, women had to prove that intense physical or intellectual activity would not in fact be injurious to the "delicate" female biology, and to be seen as individuals and not property and objects of beauty.

As Susan B. Anthony said "It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens; nor yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union" and "There never will be complete equality until women themselves help to make laws and elect lawmakers". Women face discrimination and prejudice everyday, yet women all over the world continue to work hard to make a difference—to alter their lives and the lives of others. I believe that women have always had the power to change the world and we will. I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution.