

of price increase is justifiable or appropriate. That is a question far exceeding the scope of this study. OMB should not look at regional variations in pricing as they have little relevance to the impact of price increases in New England. OMB should not examine all the factors that affect the price of milk. The amendment offered by Senator Grams, myself and others directs OMB to examine only the impact of the Compact on consumer prices, not the price of feeds, transportation costs or other factors. In the absence of the Compact, those factors would not have changed, and have no bearing on this study. The only change in the status quo is the Compact milk price increase and that is what the study directs OMB to evaluate. The study requirement in this bill merely requires the OMB to report on what impact the inflated Compact Class I price has had on wholesale and retail prices and on consumers generally.

OMB cannot and should not, based on the directive of the study provision in this bill, compare increases in retail milk prices to consumers resulting from the Compact to benefits they might receive by using coupons, shopping at discount stores, or other methods consumers use to reduce overall food bills. Consumers should not have to utilize coupons or other methods to reduce food costs in order to offset milk price increases caused by the Compact as the Senator from Vermont has suggested.

OMB should not compare the impact of the Compact on USDA nutrition programs to the impact of the recently passed welfare reform bill on these same programs. Welfare reform is being implemented differently by each state. It would divert OMB resources to undertake a comprehensive review of the impact of welfare reform on each of these programs in each of the Compact states relative to the overall impact of the Compact on consumers. That issue is well beyond the scope of this study.

OMB should focus their evaluation on the impact of increased Compact milk prices on the purchasing power of USDA's nutrition programs, the number of recipients served, and the institutions offering the programs in terms of increased costs or financial burdens.

Lastly, OMB should not evaluate the supposed direct and indirect "positive benefits" the Compact may bring to farmers, land use patterns and tourism in participating Northeastern states. There is no mention of this in the study provision in this bill and OMB should not evaluate these issues. Presumably, the Secretary of Agriculture and policy makers in the Northeast have already examined these factors and duplicating such efforts will be a waste of taxpayer dollars.

Section 732 of FY 1998 Agriculture appropriations bill requiring OMB to study the impact of the Northeast Interstate Dairy Compact on Compact-consumers and on non-Compact dairy farmers and manufacturers is very spe-

cific. OMB should stick to the directives of this Section and provide Congress with an objective and unbiased analysis of the Northeast Dairy Compact's impact on these stakeholders.

Mr. President, there will likely be efforts to politicize this study and I will work with OMB and the analysts conducting this analysis to be sure that doesn't happen. I plan to meet with OMB Director Franklin Raines on this subject. Consumers and non-Compact farmers and manufacturers have a right to know how the Compact will impact them without interference by Compact proponents who wish to downplay the negative impacts of this price fixing scheme. This is especially critical given that farmers outside of the Compact region have suffered from extremely low milk prices throughout this year. If the Compact will further drive down milk prices nationally and increase milk supplies, farmers, consumers and taxpayers have a right to know. I, and the other cosponsors of section 732, will hold OMB accountable for the accuracy and objectivity of this study.●

PETER J. MCCLOSKEY POSTAL FACILITY LEGISLATION

● Mr. SPECTER. Mr. President, this legislation designates the U.S. Post Office in Pottsville, PA as the Peter J. McCloskey Postal Facility. This measure is cosponsored by my distinguished colleague, Senator SANTORUM. A companion measure, H.R. 2564, passed the House last week and was cosponsored by all 21 members of the Pennsylvania delegation.

Following service in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II, where he served with distinction as an aerial gunner instructor in the European Theater, Peter McCloskey worked for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. and was later appointed as the supervisor for the Pennsylvania Bureau of School Audits, where he served until 1967.

In 1968, he was appointed postmaster of the Pottsville, PA, post office and served in that capacity for 23 years until his retirement. During that time he earned the respect and admiration of not only the employees he supervised over the years, but the entire community as well. Since leaving the Postal Service, Mr. McCloskey continues to be active in his community, having served on the Pottsville Housing Authority Board of Directors.

The legislation will serve as a fitting tribute to an individual who has given so much to the cause of public service.●

IN MEMORIAM—DAVID H. KRAUS

● Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, David H. Kraus, assistant chief of the European Division of the Library of Congress, died on October 27 in Lanham, MD. In a career at the Library of Congress that spanned a quarter-century, Mr. Kraus played a pivotal role in developing the library's unparalleled Euro-

pean collections and in advising the Congress in a variety of ways, most recently in the training of parliamentarians and librarians from the newly independent, former Communist States of Europe.

A native of Minnesota, Mr. Kraus received his undergraduate education at the University of Wisconsin and did graduate work at Harvard University. A consummate bibliographer and administrator, he was also a remarkable linguist who attained reading fluency in most of the major languages of Eastern and Western Europe. Mr. Kraus was nationally prominent in library circles and ably represented the Congress at scores of professional meetings.

David Kraus was a wise and gentleman, possessed with a ready wit to go with his enormous erudition. He served the Congress long and faithfully, and he leaves many friends on Capitol Hill where he will be sorely missed.●

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

● Mr. COATS. Mr. President, I support the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 1998. I congratulate the chairman, Senator THURMOND, and the ranking member, Senator LEVIN, for their leadership in the bipartisan effort which attained this substantive and far reaching conference agreement. And they reached this agreement with the unanimous support of the Senate Armed Services Committee, all 18 committee members signed the conference report. Most importantly, this agreement was able to produce significant compromise in policy on key issues related to Bosnia, the B-2 bomber, and depot provisions.

DEPOT PROVISIONS

I would like to take a few moments to elaborate on the great accomplishment of this depot compromise. This is a compromise that was very difficult to achieve and I appreciate the very strong views of Senators on both sides of this issue. Earlier in this authorization conference process, I opposed the depot provisions which were originally recommended by the readiness panel because they explicitly precluded competition for the resolution of workloads at Kelly and McClellan Air Logistics Center. So we went back to work and through the significant efforts of many members with key interests in this depot issue, we were able to develop a substantive set of provisions that promote competition, and I support them. This compromise protects the integrity of the BRAC process and will serve the best interests of the Department of Defense and the U.S. taxpayer.

First, this bill provides for an open and fair competition for the workloads at Kelly and McClellan Air Force Base by ensuring that consistent practices are used to value the bids of private and public sector entities. Furthermore, we have been able to incorporate a major initiative in public-private

partnerships. This provision enables the Department of Defense to leverage the core competencies of our public sector depots with those of private industry in building the most effective and the most efficient team for maintaining our military's equipment. And it does so in a way that keeps competitive pressures on both the private and the public sector that will ensure that the Pentagon and the U.S. taxpayer continue to get the best value for their defense dollar. The Pentagon has indicated that this is a workable approach to resolving the highly charged issue surrounding Kelly and McClellan Air Logistics Centers.

Second, the depot package amends the 60-40 public-private workload split to 50-50. This provision, in addition to codifying the definition of depot maintenance in a way that protects procurement of upgrades and major modifications for private industry while retaining a core public sector capability, gives the Department of Defense much more flexibility in undertaking maintenance functions. In short, it allows them a significant increase in headroom to prudently shift depot workloads across the private and the public sectors to achieve efficiencies.

Most importantly, this depot provision gives us a window of opportunity to get defense infrastructure reform on track. From my perspective as chairman of the Airland Subcommittee, I see the impact of the Pentagon's procurement shortfall which measures approximately \$10 to \$15 billion per year. This shortfall is due to this administration's spending too much on defense infrastructure and operations, and too little on vital modernization. I see it in terms of dozens and dozens of broken programs which are not funded at sustainable rates. Consequently, contractors are required to start and stop development and production of major assemblies, if not final products such as in digital communications, ballistic missile defense, tactical vehicles, and the list goes on and on. I also see it in areas where key Pentagon requirements simply are not being addressed because funding is unavailable such as in the Comanche armed reconnaissance helicopter or the Marine Corps advanced amphibious armored vehicle.

In conclusion, I am encouraged that this depot compromise sets the stage for gaining efficiencies in our infrastructure so that we can retain the readiness levels required in the near term, while at the same time providing the means to boost our procurement programs to help ensure the preparedness of our future forces to dominate the uncertain threats of the 21st Century.

AIRLAND

And now I would like to provide a few comments on the Airland aspects of this bill. First, this National Defense Authorization supports the Army's commendable Force XXI effort which significantly enhances the situational awareness and combat effectiveness of

our land forces through information technology. Yet, we need to do much more to get the spectrum of digitization efforts which were strongly endorsed by the Pentagon's Quadrennial Defense Review adequately funded. But at least this is a fair start. We also were able to provide significant enhancements in the military's tactical and operational mobility through increases in tactical trucks, the establishment of multi-year procurement for the Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles [FMTV], and increases in V-22 procurement. We also added increases for tactical air and missile defense capabilities such as with the Sentinel Radar, the Avenger Slew-to-Cue modifications, and enhancements to Stinger missile modifications and the Patriot anticruise missile program.

I spoke at length about my concerns with F-22 cost overruns and technology risks during our deliberations over Defense Appropriations. This National Defense Authorization provides the same F-22 funding levels, but goes the very important further step to put key oversight provisions in place that will help Congress and the administration keep this program on track. First, this bill includes the Senate's total cost cap provisions which limits the level of engineering and manufacturing development to approximately \$18.7 billion, and production to \$43.4B. Second, it requires the General Accounting Office to conduct an annual F-22 review that addresses whether the program is meeting established goals in performance, cost, and schedule.

CONCLUSION

This National Defense Authorization makes great strides in supporting the defense strategy of Shape, Respond, and Prepare Now. It provides significant increases in our readiness accounts. It also takes better care of our military servicemembers and their quality of life through a 2.8 percent payraise and a reformed approach to quarters allowances. And it accelerates procurement to address shortfalls in key mission capabilities. Finally, this National Defense Authorization provides a reasonable compromise to the depot issue through a fair and open competition which serves the best interests of the military and the American taxpayer. In short, this bill provides the policy and fiscal provisions representative of the prudent oversight from our Senate authorization process. It provides the framework for setting a course which ensures U.S. military dominance into the 21st Century.

This National Defense Authorization has my full support, and I strongly encourage all members to vote for it.●

CBO ESTIMATE ON S. 967

● Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, on October 29, 1997, I filed Report 105-119 to accompany S. 967, a bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and the Alaska National Interest

Lands Conservation Act to benefit Alaska Natives and rural residents, and for other purposes. At the time the report was filed, the estimates by Congressional Budget Office were not available. The estimate is now available and concludes that enactment of S. 967 would "increase direct spending by about \$10 million over the 1998-2002 period." I ask that a complete copy of the CBO estimate be printed in the RECORD.

The estimate follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, October 29, 1997.

Hon. FRANK H. MURKOWSKI,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 967, a bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act to benefit Alaska Natives and rural residents, and for other purposes.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contacts are Victoria V. Heid (for federal costs) and Marjorie Miller (for the impact on state, local and tribal governments).

Sincerely,

JAMES L. BLUM
(For June E. O'Neill, Director).

Enclosure.

S. 967—A bill to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act and the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act to benefit Alaska Natives and rural residents, and for other purposes

Summary: CBO estimates that enacting S. 967 would increase direct spending by about \$10 million over the 1998-2002 period. Because the bill would affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. Assuming appropriation of the authorized amount, implementing S. 967 also would result in discretionary spending of about \$1 million over the next five years.

S. 967 contains at least one intergovernmental mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA), but CBO estimates that any costs imposed on state, local, and tribal governments would be minimal and would not exceed the threshold established in that act (\$50 million in 1996, adjusted annually for inflation). The bill contains no private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

Description of the bill's major provisions: S. 967 would affect the terms and conditions of various property transactions involving Alaska native corporations. Several provisions would affect the property rights of specific native corporations.

S. 967 would amend existing law by assigning a value of \$39 million to properties to be conveyed by the Calista Corporation in exchange for monetary credits to certain federal properties if the Department of the Interior (DOI) and the corporation have not agreed on the value of the exchange by January 1, 1998. The bill would allow the Doyon, Limited, native corporation to obtain the subsurface rights retained by the federal government in up to 12,000 acres of public lands surrounded by or contiguous to corporation-owned properties. Another provision would expand the entitlement of the Cook Inlet Region Incorporated (CIRI) to include subsurface rights to an additional 3,520 acres.

S. 967 would amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to allow the native