

TRIBUTE TO JOHN TALLMAN

• Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I rise today to pay special tribute to an exceptional hometown hero, John Tallman, who is retiring as president of the Bourbonnais, IL, Fire Protection District after 48 years of distinguished service.

On June 7, 1997 colleagues, friends, and family gathered to celebrate John's retirement after a lifelong commitment to the fire department and the community of Bourbonnais. He certainly deserves such recognition.

Although a farmer by profession, at age 28, John began his service with the volunteer-operated fire protection district as an appointed trustee and was then elected president. As testimony to his commitment and integrity, John has remained the only president in the fire protection district's 49-year history.

Over the years, John guided the fire protection district through remarkable periods of growth and modernization. Under John Tallman's tenure, the Bourbonnais Fire Protection District distinguished itself as one of the outstanding all-volunteer fire departments in the State. Improvements to the fire department facilities, equipment, and service instituted under John's direction enabled the department to better respond to the growing number of emergencies and helped save lives and property.

In addition to his duties with the fire protection district, John has also been a dedicated husband and father, an 18-year member of the Bourbonnais Elementary School Board, a farmer, and a 19-year member of the Kankakee County Board of School Trustees.

John is a role model for all Americans and I commend him for his selfless service and effective leadership to the citizens of Bourbonnais and of our State. A fellow firefighter once described John as being one of a kind. John Tallman leaves behind big shoes to fill, and his leadership and vision as fire protection district president will be missed.●

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JOHN SENGSTACKE

• Ms. MOSELEY-BRAUN. Mr. President, today I would like to offer my most heartfelt condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of John Sengstacke, Chicago Defender publisher and owner, a Chicago native.

Mr. Sengstacke was a man of vision, who promoted and created opportunities through his words and his actions. He was a person who valued commitment, always urging others to follow through. Under his tutelage, the Chicago Defender became one of the most widely read, informative, and important, independent newspapers for countless Chicagoans.

His was a courageous life, and he always took a stand against segregation and discrimination, always fought to

give a voice to the voiceless. Most notable are his efforts as a member of Truman's committee to desegregate the military and his vigilant effort to get the first African-American correspondent into the White House.

He was clear that his role was not only to inform but to educate, by both his personal and professional actions.

John Sengstacke knew the power of the pen was one of the strongest weapons available to African-Americans. He worked tirelessly to get the National Newspaper Publisher's Association established, and it became an organization that would help more than 200 African-American-owned newspapers provide a voice for the African-American community.

We have truly lost one of our finest freedom fighters, but he left a legacy of tenacity and resilience that will endure.

We have much to celebrate in remembering the life of John Sengstacke. I thank John for his friendship, and thank him for blessing us with his legacy.●

WEST VALLEY DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

• Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, I rise to note that May 28 was a significant day in West Valley, NY, and in the field of nuclear waste disposal. In 1982 we authorized the West Valley demonstration project, in which we would learn to take liquid nuclear waste and mix it with glass. The process is called vitrification, and yields ten foot high glass logs that can be stored safely. After 14 years of preparation, research, and testing, vitrification began last July. On May 28th the 100th glass log was produced.

The success of the vitrification process developed at West Valley and at the Savannah River in Georgia led the Department of Energy to select it as the preferred method of disposal for such wastes. This is an accomplishment that the many hundreds of people in western New York who worked on the project can be most proud of.

They have another 110 logs to go at West Valley, but it is clear that the technology works. It can and will be replicated at other sites around the country, helping to solve one of our most vexing and serious waste disposal problems. Moreover, vitrification can be used to store other types of hazardous waste without fear of leaking. I congratulate all those at Westinghouse and the many agencies involved with the West Valley project for achieving this milestone.●

CBO COST ESTIMATES—S. 430 AND S. 210

• Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, when the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources filed its reports on S. 430, the New Mexico Statehood and Enabling Act Amendments of 1997 and S. 210, a bill to amend the Organic Act

of Guam, the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, and the Compact of Free Association Act, and for other purposes, the estimates from the Congressional Budget Office were not available. Those reports have now been received and I ask that copies be printed in the RECORD for the information of the Senate and the public.

The material follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, May 21, 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. 430, the New Mexico Statehood and Enabling Act Amendments of 1997.

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

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEIL,
Director.

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

S. 430—New Mexico Statehood and Enabling Act Amendments of 1997

S. 430 would amend the New Mexico Statehood and Enabling Act of 1910 and would consent to amendments to the constitution of the state of New Mexico approved by the voters on November 5, 1996. These amendments generally concern the administration of the state's permanent trust funds. Congressional consent to the amendments to the constitution of the state of New Mexico is required before they can be implemented by the state government.

CBO estimates the enacting S. 430 would have no effect on the federal budget. Because the bill would not affect direct spending or receipts, pay-as-you-go procedures would not apply. S. 430 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments. Enactment of this bill would give New Mexico state officials greater flexibility in investing and distributing the assets of the state's permanent funds.

The estimate was prepared by Marjorie A. Miller (for the state and local impact), and Victoria V. Heid (for federal costs). This estimate was approved by Paul N. Van de Water, Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, June 2, 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. 210, a bill to amend the Organic Act of Guam, the revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, and the Compact of Free Association Act, and for other purposes.

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

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL,
Director.

Enclosure.

CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

S. 210—A bill to amend the Organic Act of Guam, the Revised Organic Act of the Virgin Islands, and the Compact of Free Association Act, and for other purposes

Summary: S. 210 would make several changes to existing laws governing the relationship between the United States and the insular areas, which include Guam, the Virgin Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and others. In addition, the bill would establish the Commission on the Economic Future of the Virgin Islands and the Commission on the Economic Future of American Samoa to recommend policies and programs to assist the Virgin Islands and American Samoa in developing secure and self-sustaining economies.

Subject to appropriation of the necessary funds, CBO estimates that implementing S. 210 would cost the federal government about \$6 million over the 1997–2002 period. In addition, the Joint Committee on Taxation (JCT) estimates that this bill would decrease federal revenues by about \$14 million over the 2003–2007 period. Enacting this legislation also could affect direct spending by reducing the amount of offsetting receipts from the sale of federal property. Hence, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply to the bill. CBO estimates, however, that any potential loss of such receipts would not be significant.

S. 210 contains no private-sector or intergovernmental mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA) and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

Estimated cost to the Federal Government: The estimated budgetary impact of S. 210 is shown in the following table. Assuming appropriation of the amounts specified in the bill for the costs of the proposed commissions and amounts estimated for other costs, CBO estimates that implementing S. 210 would cost about \$6 million over the 1997–2002 period.

	By fiscal years, in millions of dollars					
	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION						
Estimated authorization level	1	2	2	1	1	(1)
Estimated outlays	(1)	2	2	1	1	(1)

¹ Less than \$500,000.

The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 800 (general government).

Basis of estimate

Spending subject to appropriation

S. 210 would extend the Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) authority to continue shipping excess food commodities to the Marshall Islands through fiscal year 2001. According to the department, \$581,000 was appropriated in fiscal year 1997 for the program. Of that amount, about \$525,000 is for food commodities and about \$55,000 is for administrative expenses. In addition, the bill would require that the amount of commodities provided to the Marshall Islands reflect changes in its population that have occurred since the enactment of the Compact of Free Association in fiscal year 1986. The amount provided to the program has varied since it began in fiscal year 1987. According to USDA, the program received about \$1.6 million in 1987. Between 1988 and 1992, the program received, on average, about \$465,000 a year. Since fiscal year 1993, \$581,000 has been appropriated each year for the program. S. 210 only specifies a base year from which to calculate changes in the islands' population but not a base level of funding. The estimate adjusts the level of funding received in fiscal year 1988—\$501,000—for changes in the price level and for changes in the population since

fiscal year 1986. (CBO estimates that the population will have increased by about 60 percent between fiscal years 1986 and 1998.) Under these assumptions, extending the program would cost about \$5 million over the 1998–2001 period.

The bill also would establish the Commission on the Economic Future of the Virgin Islands and the Commission on the Economic Future of American Samoa to recommend policies and programs to assist the Virgin Islands and American Samoa in developing secure and self-sustaining economies. Both commissions would have six members, and the bill would require that each commission file its report by June 30, 1999. The bill would authorize an average of \$300,000 a year for fiscal years 1997 through 1999 for the costs of each commission. Assuming the bill would not be enacted until later this year, CBO estimates that outlays for the two commissions would total about \$1.2 million over fiscal years 1998 and 1999.

S. 210 also would require, subject to availability of appropriated funds, that the Department of the Interior (DOI) take a census of Micronesia within five years of the decennial census of the United States population. A census of Micronesia would thus be required by fiscal year 2005. The bill would limit expenditures on the census to no more than \$300,000. In addition, the bill would repeal a requirement that the Administration report annually to the Congress on the impact of the Compact of Free Association on the territories and the state of Hawaii. According to DOI, it has prepared three such reports since 1986. CBO estimates that savings from repealing this requirement would not be significant.

Direct spending and receipts

By granting the government of Guam the right of first refusal on any federal property declared excess on Guam, S. 210 could reduce the amount of offsetting receipts from the sale of surplus federal property. However, according to the General Services Administration (GSA) and DOI, a sale of federal property has never occurred on Guam. Also, the bill would require Guam to pay fair market value for any property transferred for private use. Therefore, CBO estimates that the provision would have no significant impact on federal receipts. In most or all cases, CBO expects the federal government would transfer the property anyway to the government of Guam under one of its public purpose programs.

Under current law, the Virgin Islands is required to secure its bonds with a priority first lien claim on specified revenue streams, rather than being permitted to secure multiple bond issues on a parity basis with a common pool of revenues. JCT estimates that if the priority lien requirement is repealed, the Virgin Islands would issue more tax-exempt bonds beginning in fiscal year 2003 than under current law. (Fiscal year 2003 is the earliest that the Virgin Islands can refund outstanding revenue bonds issued on a priority basis.) The increase in tax-exempt bonds, which would lower federal revenues, would occur because the Virgin Islands could secure a greater volume of bonds with the same amount of revenues if a parity approach were permitted. JCT estimates that repealing the priority lien requirement for revenue bonds would decrease federal revenues by \$14 million over the 2003–2007 period.

If the Virgin Islands were also to receive the authority under separate legislation to refund the outstanding revenue bonds prior to their redemption date in fiscal year 2003, JCT estimates that this provision would decrease revenues by an additional \$21 million over the 1998–2002 period and by an additional \$2 million over the 2003–2007 period.

These estimates assume that the Virgin Islands would refund the priority bonds in fiscal year 1998 and thus increase the volume of outstanding tax-exempt bonds. Thus, if S. 210 were enacted after the enactment of separate legislation authorizing the additional advance refunding by the Virgin Islands, JCT estimates that federal receipts would decrease by about \$21 million over the 1998–2002 period and by about \$37 million over the 1998–2007 period.

Pay-as-you-go considerations: Section 252 of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 sets up pay-as-you-go procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or receipts through 1998. While H.R. 210 could affect direct spending in fiscal year 1998 by reducing the amount of offsetting receipts from the sale of federal property, CBO estimates that any such effect would not be significant.

Estimated impact on State, local, and tribal governments: S. 210 contains no intergovernmental mandates as defined in UMRA and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

Some of the amendments included in this bill would benefit the affected governments—territories and freely associated states of the United States. Generally, the impact of these changes would be small. For example, the bill would give the government of Guam greater access to excess federal property. It would also give the government of the Virgin Islands additional options for issuing bonds and short-term notes.

Estimated impact on the private sector: This bill would impose no new private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA.

Estimate prepared by: Federal Costs: John R. Righter; Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Marjorie Miller.

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

Mr. LOTT addressed the Chair.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader.

Mr. LOTT. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The absence of a quorum has been suggested. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS-CONSENT REQUEST— S. 419

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Labor Committee now be discharged from further consideration of S. 419, a bill to prevent birth defects by developing and implementing new prevention and surveillance strategies and the Senate now proceed to its immediate consideration under the following limitation: One substitute amendment in order to be offered by Senator BOND, no other amendments be in order to the bill, and there be 30 minutes equally divided for debate with Senator BOND in control of 15 minutes, and the ranking member in control of 15 minutes, and further, following the disposition of the amendment, and the expiration or yielding back of time, the bill be read a third