

don't destroy it." The Roosevelt theory. It is a lot different than the other theories that have come out. When we talk about this, when we talk about where we are going with the future, I have got to tell you, as long as I am in this elected office, I am going to stand as strongly as I can for Colorado and for water rights in the West. I am not just saying that. Because never in my entire career have I felt more of a challenge to the taking of Colorado water than I do today. And never in my career have I felt more of a challenge to those 35,000 jobs on the White River National Forest. Those are not indirect jobs, those are direct jobs. That is not 35,000. In fact, it is 35,000 families live off that forest.

I have never felt a larger threat in my political career to those jobs than the vision coming out of Washington, D.C., the vision that we cannot manage it, the vision that they need to protect us, to protect us from ourselves. How many of you have ever mountain biked out in Colorado? That is a relatively new sport. But if you have, you have really gotten into some of that terrain and you have been able to access it, you did not have to hike for miles, you have been able to ride in there on your bike. Minimal damage to the environment. We managed it well, despite the fact that Washington thinks they need to protect us from ourselves. We followed the Roosevelt theory: "Use it but don't abuse it."

It is the same thing with any other type of activity you can imagine, whether it is kayaking, whether it is hiking, and so on. You get my message, my drift, what I am saying here.

Now, what about some of the other issues? What about some of the other jobs? I do not think it is shameful to have a sporting goods store and sell sporting goods in Colorado. I do not think it is wrong for a small family to try and go out and harvest some timber. By the way, if you harvest timber with correct management, it is healthy for the forest, it is a renewable resource and, by the way, every one of you in this room tonight, every one of your constituents uses wood that is taken out of some forest somewhere at some time. Every chair in here. You look around. You know what I mean. Wood is everywhere. It is a renewable resource. But you have to follow the Roosevelt theory. The Roosevelt theory is: "Use it but don't abuse it."

It saddens me to think that here in Washington, D.C., frankly a lot of the national press is buying this hook, line and sinker, they are biting at it just like that, it troubles me that back here in the East, that even the administration in the West Wing, they do not go to the western United States, they make this decision in the West Wing. They have got some confusion there. It bothers me that they are using a deception upon the American people that this land out there, that we are not taking care of that land. It is public land. It is all of our land. I am telling

you, we have been on it for a long time. We have lived on it for a long time. We have worked it for a long time. We have used it for a long time. And we have not abused it for a long time.

Folks, do not be sold on this. Do not automatically assume that the West is being destroyed because of the fact that we have ski areas. Do not automatically assume that the West is being destroyed because we have mountain bikes. Do not automatically assume that the West is being destroyed because we allow people to river raft and hike and hunt. Do not automatically assume because it is not true. We do follow the Roosevelt theory: "Use it but don't abuse it."

I know that tonight my time is rapidly expiring, but I just want to reiterate a couple of things. Number one, do not forget that the pioneer spirit still exists for a lot of us. We are very proud of our heritage. We are Americans. But we also come from the West. I feel very respectful of the people of the East. But I am not an Easterner. I am a Westerner. I am not out here to destroy the life-style of the East, and I ask you people in the East, do not go out of your way to destroy our life-style in the West. We do not need the eastern United States, the bureaucracies in Washington, D.C. to protect us from ourselves. I think we, much, much better than some of my colleagues and some of the people in the East, understand that land much, much better than you ever will. We have got our hands in the soil. All of us can agree that a common-sense approach is what is reasonable. But that means that these people out here who want to clear-cut every forest, who want to put a ski area on every mountain, who want to build a house on every ridge, who want to put a highway wherever they want to, who want to build townhouses wherever they want, that means these people are going to have to be moved to the middle, and the people out here like Earth First and other hard-core groups out there who think they only have the title to the environment, who think they only have the knowledge to protect that land, who think only they have the historical background to manage that ranch for all of us, that group has also got to be brought to the middle. And here in the middle is not the leader of the United States today, the President of the United States, Bill Clinton. That is not who is here in the middle today. He is over here. What is in the middle today was what was in the middle at the turn of the century and many years ago, and, that is, Teddy Roosevelt. Teddy Roosevelt is who is in the middle.

And remember, and I will conclude with Teddy Roosevelt's comments, and I will paraphrase him: "You have the right to use it but you don't have the right to abuse it or destroy it." Teddy Roosevelt had it right. It should be Teddy Roosevelt's path that we follow. Do not be misguided down the path of

President Clinton. Follow the path of Teddy Roosevelt: "Use it and enjoy it, but don't abuse it and destroy it."

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TOOMEY). Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 27 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 2307

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DREIER) at 11 o'clock and 7 minutes p.m.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2684, DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. WALSH submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 106-379)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2684) "making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes", having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert:

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the payment of compensation benefits to or on behalf of veterans and a pilot program for disability examinations as authorized by law (38 U.S.C. 107, chapters 11, 13, 18, 51, 53, 55, and 61); pension benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by law (38 U.S.C. chapters 15, 51, 53, 55, and 61; 92 Stat. 2508); and burial benefits,

emergency and other officers' retirement pay, adjusted-service credits and certificates, payment of premiums due on commercial life insurance policies guaranteed under the provisions of Article IV of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940, as amended, and for other benefits as authorized by law (38 U.S.C. 107, 1312, 1977, and 2106, chapters 23, 51, 53, 55, and 61; 50 U.S.C. App. 540-548; 43 Stat. 122, 123; 45 Stat. 735; 76 Stat. 1198; \$21,568,364,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That not to exceed \$17,932,000 of the amount appropriated shall be reimbursed to "General operating expenses" and "Medical care" for necessary expenses in implementing those provisions authorized in the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1990, and in the Veterans' Benefits Act of 1992 (38 U.S.C. chapters 51, 53, and 55), the funding source for which is specifically provided as the "Compensation and pensions" appropriation: Provided further, That such sums as may be earned on an actual qualifying patient basis shall be reimbursed to "Medical facilities revolving fund" to augment the funding of individual medical facilities for nursing home care provided to pensioners as authorized.

READJUSTMENT BENEFITS

For the payment of readjustment and rehabilitation benefits to or on behalf of veterans as authorized by 38 U.S.C. chapters 21, 30, 31, 34, 35, 36, 39, 51, 53, 55, and 61, \$1,469,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That funds shall be available to pay any court order, court award or any compromise settlement arising from litigation involving the vocational training program authorized by section 18 of Public Law 98-77, as amended.

VETERANS INSURANCE AND INDEMNITIES

For military and naval insurance, national service life insurance, servicemen's indemnities, service-disabled veterans insurance, and veterans mortgage life insurance as authorized by 38 U.S.C. chapter 19; 70 Stat. 887; 72 Stat. 487; \$28,670,000, to remain available until expended.

VETERANS HOUSING BENEFIT PROGRAM FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct and guaranteed loans, such sums as may be necessary to carry out the program, as authorized by 38 U.S.C. chapter 37, as amended: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That during fiscal year 2000, within the resources available, not to exceed \$300,000 in gross obligations for direct loans are authorized for specially adapted housing loans.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct and guaranteed loan programs, \$156,958,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses".

EDUCATION LOAN FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, \$1,000, as authorized by 38 U.S.C. 3698, as amended: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$3,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program, \$214,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses".

VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION LOANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, \$57,000, as authorized by 38 U.S.C. chapter 31, as amended: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in sec-

tion 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$2,531,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the direct loan program, \$415,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses".

NATIVE AMERICAN VETERAN HOUSING LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program authorized by 38 U.S.C. chapter 37, subchapter V, as amended, \$520,000, which may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses".

GUARANTEED TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LOANS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost, as defined in section 13201 of the Budget Enforcement Act of 1990, including the cost of modifying loans, of guaranteed loans as authorized by 38 U.S.C. chapter 37 subchapter VI, \$48,250,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That no more than five loans may be guaranteed under this program prior to November 11, 2001: Provided further, That no more than fifteen loans may be guaranteed under this program: Provided further, That the total principal amount of loans guaranteed under this program may not exceed \$100,000,000: Provided further, That not to exceed \$750,000 of the amounts appropriated by this Act for "General operating expenses" and "Medical care" may be expended for the administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program authorized by 38 U.S.C. chapter 37, subchapter VI.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

MEDICAL CARE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for the maintenance and operation of hospitals, nursing homes, and domiciliary facilities; for furnishing, as authorized by law, inpatient and outpatient care and treatment to beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including care and treatment in facilities not under the jurisdiction of the Department; and furnishing recreational facilities, supplies, and equipment; funeral, burial, and other expenses incidental thereto for beneficiaries receiving care in the Department; administrative expenses in support of planning, design, project management, real property acquisition and disposition, construction and renovation of any facility under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department; oversight, engineering and architectural activities not charged to project cost; repairing, altering, improving or providing facilities in the several hospitals and homes under the jurisdiction of the Department, not otherwise provided for, either by contract or by the hire of temporary employees and purchase of materials; uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; aid to State homes as authorized by 38 U.S.C. 1741; administrative and legal expenses of the Department for collecting and recovering amounts owed the Department as authorized under 38 U.S.C. chapter 17, and the Federal Medical Care Recovery Act, 42 U.S.C. 2651 et seq.; and not to exceed \$8,000,000 to fund cost comparison studies as referred to in 38 U.S.C. 8110(a)(5), \$19,006,000,000, plus reimbursements: Provided, That of the funds made available under this heading, \$900,000,000 is for the equipment and land and structures object classifications only, which amount shall not become available for obligation until August 1, 2000, and shall remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading, not to exceed \$900,000,000 shall be available until September 30, 2001: Provided further, That of the funds

made available under this heading, not to exceed \$27,907,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses": Provided further, That the Department shall conduct by contract a program of recovery audits for the fee basis and other medical services contracts with respect to payments for hospital care; and, notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302(b), amounts collected, by setoff or otherwise, as the result of such audits shall be available, without fiscal year limitation, for the purposes for which funds are appropriated under this heading and the purposes of paying a contractor a percent of the amount collected as a result of an audit carried out by the contractor: Provided further, That all amounts so collected under the preceding proviso with respect to a designated health care region (as that term is defined in 38 U.S.C. 1729A(d)(2)) shall be allocated, net of payments to the contractor, to that region.

In addition, in conformance with Public Law 105-33 establishing the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Care Collections Fund, such sums as may be deposited to such Fund pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 1729A may be transferred to this account, to remain available until expended for the purposes of this account.

MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

For necessary expenses in carrying out programs of medical and prosthetic research and development as authorized by 38 U.S.C. chapter 73, to remain available until September 30, 2001, \$321,000,000, plus reimbursements.

MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses in the administration of the medical, hospital, nursing home, domiciliary, construction, supply, and research activities, as authorized by law; administrative expenses in support of capital policy activities, \$59,703,000 plus reimbursements: Provided, That project technical and consulting services offered by the Facilities Management Service Delivery Office, including technical consulting services, project management, real property administration (including leases, site acquisition and disposal activities directly supporting projects), shall be provided to Department of Veterans Affairs components only on a reimbursable basis, and such amounts will remain available until September 30, 2000.

GENERAL POST FUND, NATIONAL HOMES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of direct loans, \$7,000, as authorized by Public Law 102-54, section 8, which shall be transferred from the "General post fund": Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$70,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan programs, \$54,000, which shall be transferred from the "General post fund", as authorized by Public Law 102-54, section 8.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary operating expenses of the Department of Veterans Affairs, not otherwise provided for, including uniforms or allowances therefor; not to exceed \$25,000 for official reception and representation expenses; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and reimbursement of the General Services Administration for security guard services, and the Department of Defense for the cost of overseas employee mail, \$912,594,000: Provided, That of the funds made available under this heading, not to exceed \$45,600,000 shall be available until September 30, 2001: Provided further, That funds under this heading shall be available to administer the Service Members Occupational Conversion and Training Act.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for the maintenance and operation of the National Cemetery Administration, not otherwise provided for, including uniforms or allowances therefor; cemetery expenses as authorized by law; purchase of two passenger motor vehicles for use in cemetery operations; and hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$97,256,000: Provided, That of the amount made available under this heading, not to exceed \$117,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses".

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$43,200,000: Provided, That of the amount made available under this heading, not to exceed \$30,000 may be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "General operating expenses".

CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending and improving any of the facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406, 8102, 8103, 8106, 8108, 8109, 8110, and 8122 of title 38, United States Code, including planning, architectural and engineering services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, where the estimated cost of a project is \$4,000,000 or more or where funds for a project were made available in a previous major project appropriation, \$65,140,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That except for advance planning of projects (including market-based assessments of health care needs which may or may not lead to capital investments) funded through the advance planning fund and the design of projects funded through the design fund, none of these funds shall be used for any project which has not been considered and approved by the Congress in the budgetary process: Provided further, That funds provided in this appropriation for fiscal year 2000, for each approved project shall be obligated: (1) by the awarding of a construction documents contract by September 30, 2000; and (2) by the awarding of a construction contract by September 30, 2001: Provided further, That the Secretary shall promptly report in writing to the Committees on Appropriations any approved major construction project in which obligations are not incurred within the time limitations established above: Provided further, That no funds from any other account except the "Parking revolving fund", may be obligated for constructing, altering, extending, or improving a project which was approved in the budget process and funded in this account until 1 year after substantial completion and beneficial occupancy by the Department of Veterans Affairs of the project or any part thereof with respect to that part only.

CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

For constructing, altering, extending, and improving any of the facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department of Veterans Affairs, including planning, architectural and engineering services, maintenance or guarantee period services costs associated with equipment guarantees provided under the project, services of claims analysts, offsite utility and storm drainage system construction costs, and site acquisition, or for any of the purposes set forth in sections 316, 2404, 2406, 8102, 8103, 8106, 8108, 8109, 8110, and 8122 of title 38, United States Code, where the estimated cost of a project is less than \$4,000,000, \$160,000,000, to remain available until expended, along with un-

obligated balances of previous "Construction, minor projects" appropriations which are hereby made available for any project where the estimated cost is less than \$4,000,000: Provided, That funds in this account shall be available for: (1) repairs to any of the nonmedical facilities under the jurisdiction or for the use of the Department which are necessary because of loss or damage caused by any natural disaster or catastrophe; and (2) temporary measures necessary to prevent or to minimize further loss by such causes.

PARKING REVOLVING FUND

For the parking revolving fund as authorized by 38 U.S.C. 8109, income from fees collected, to remain available until expended, which shall be available for all authorized expenses except operations and maintenance costs, which will be funded from "Medical care".

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

For grants to assist States to acquire or construct State nursing home and domiciliary facilities and to remodel, modify or alter existing hospital, nursing home and domiciliary facilities in State homes, for furnishing care to veterans as authorized by 38 U.S.C. 8131-8137, \$90,000,000, to remain available until expended.

GRANTS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF STATE VETERANS CEMETERIES

For grants to aid States in establishing, expanding, or improving State veteran cemeteries as authorized by 38 U.S.C. 2408, \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 101. Any appropriation for fiscal year 2000 for "Compensation and pensions", "Readjustment benefits", and "Veterans insurance and indemnities" may be transferred to any other of the mentioned appropriations.

SEC. 102. Appropriations available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2000 for salaries and expenses shall be available for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

SEC. 103. No appropriations in this Act for the Department of Veterans Affairs (except the appropriations for "Construction, major projects", "Construction, minor projects", and the "Parking revolving fund") shall be available for the purchase of any site for or toward the construction of any new hospital or home.

SEC. 104. No appropriations in this Act for the Department of Veterans Affairs shall be available for hospitalization or examination of any persons (except beneficiaries entitled under the laws bestowing such benefits to veterans, and persons receiving such treatment under 5 U.S.C. 7901-7904 or 42 U.S.C. 5141-5204), unless reimbursement of cost is made to the "Medical care" account at such rates as may be fixed by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

SEC. 105. Appropriations available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2000 for "Compensation and pensions", "Readjustment benefits", and "Veterans insurance and indemnities" shall be available for payment of prior year accrued obligations required to be recorded by law against the corresponding prior year accounts within the last quarter of fiscal year 1999.

SEC. 106. Appropriations accounts available to the Department of Veterans Affairs for fiscal year 2000 shall be available to pay prior year obligations of corresponding prior year appropriations accounts resulting from title X of the Competitive Equality Banking Act, Public Law 100-86, except that if such obligations are from trust fund accounts they shall be payable from "Compensation and pensions".

SEC. 107. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, during fiscal year 2000, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall, from the National Service Life Insurance Fund (38 U.S.C. 1920), the Veterans' Special Life Insurance Fund (38 U.S.C. 1923), and the United States Government

Life Insurance Fund (38 U.S.C. 1955), reimburse the "General operating expenses" account for the cost of administration of the insurance programs financed through those accounts: Provided, That reimbursement shall be made only from the surplus earnings accumulated in an insurance program in fiscal year 2000, that are available for dividends in that program after claims have been paid and actuarially determined reserves have been set aside: Provided further, That if the cost of administration of an insurance program exceeds the amount of surplus earnings accumulated in that program, reimbursement shall be made only to the extent of such surplus earnings: Provided further, That the Secretary shall determine the cost of administration for fiscal year 2000, which is properly allocable to the provision of each insurance program and to the provision of any total disability income insurance included in such insurance program.

SEC. 108. (a) The Congress supports efforts to implement improvements in health care services for veterans in rural areas.

(b) REPORT REQUIRED.—(1) Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs shall submit to the Committees on Veterans' Affairs of the Senate and the House of Representatives a report on the impact of the allocation of funds under the Veterans Equitable Resource Allocation (VERA) funding formula on the rural sub-regions of the health care system administered by the Veterans Health Administration.

(2) The report shall include the following:

(A) An assessment of impact of the allocation of funds under the VERA formula on—

(i) travel times to veterans health care in rural areas;

(ii) waiting periods for appointments for veterans health care in rural areas;

(iii) the cost associated with additional community-based outpatient clinics;

(iv) transportation costs; and

(v) the unique challenges that Department of Veterans Affairs medical centers in rural, low-population subregions face in attempting to increase efficiency without large economies of scale.

(B) The recommendations of the Secretary, if any, on how rural veterans' access to health care services might be enhanced.

SEC. 109. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs may carry out a major medical facility project to renovate and construct facilities at the Olin E. Teague Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Temple, Texas, for a joint venture Cardiovascular Institute, in an amount not to exceed \$11,500,000. In order to carry out that project, the amount of \$11,500,000 appropriated for fiscal year 1998 and programmed for the renovation of Building 9 at the Waco, Texas, Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center is hereby made available for that project.

SEC. 110. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act for the Medical Care appropriation of the Department of Veterans Affairs may be obligated for the realignment of the health care delivery system in VISN 12 until 60 days after the Secretary of Veterans Affairs certifies that the Department has: (1) consulted with veterans organizations, medical school affiliates, employee representatives, State veterans and health associations, and other interested parties with respect to the realignment plan to be implemented; and (2) made available to the Congress and the public information from the consultations regarding possible impacts on the accessibility of veterans health care services to affected veterans.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For activities and assistance to prevent the involuntary displacement of low-income families,

the elderly and the disabled because of the loss of affordable housing stock, expiration of subsidy contracts (other than contracts for which amounts are provided under another heading in this Act) or expiration of use restrictions, or other changes in housing assistance arrangements, and for other purposes, \$11,376,695,000 and amounts that are recaptured in this account, and recaptured under the appropriation for "Annual contributions for assisted housing", to remain available until expended: Provided, That of the total amount provided under this heading, \$10,990,135,000, of which \$6,790,135,000 shall be available on October 1, 1999 and \$4,200,000,000 shall be available on October 1, 2000, shall be for assistance under the United States Housing Act of 1937 ("the Act" herein) (42 U.S.C. 1437) for use in connection with expiring or terminating section 8 subsidy contracts, for amendments to section 8 subsidy contracts, for enhanced vouchers (including amendments and renewals) under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (47 U.S.C. 1437f(t)), as added by section 538 of title V of this Act, and contracts entered into pursuant to section 441 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act: Provided further, That amounts available under the first proviso under this heading may be available for section 8 rental assistance under the United States Housing Act of 1937: (1) to relocate residents of properties: (A) that are owned by the Secretary and being disposed of; or (B) that are discontinuing section 8 project-based assistance; (2) for relocation and replacement housing for units that are demolished or disposed of: (A) from the public housing inventory (in addition to amounts that may be available for such purposes under this and other headings); or (B) pursuant to section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 or to other authority for the revitalization of severely distressed public housing, as set forth in the Appropriations Acts for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies for fiscal years 1993, 1994, 1995, and 1997, and in the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996; (3) for the conversion of section 23 projects to assistance under section 8; (4) for funds to carry out the family unification program; (5) for the relocation of witnesses in connection with efforts to combat crime in public and assisted housing pursuant to a request from a law enforcement or prosecution agency; and (6) for the 1-year renewal of section 8 contracts for units in a project that is subject to an approved plan of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990: Provided further, That of the total amount provided under this heading, \$40,000,000 shall be made available to nonelderly disabled families affected by the designation of a public housing development under section 7 of such Act, the establishment of preferences in accordance with section 651 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 1361), or the restriction of occupancy to elderly families in accordance with section 658 of such Act, and to the extent the Secretary determines that such amount is not needed to fund applications for such affected families, to other nonelderly disabled families: Provided further, That amounts available under this heading may be made available for administrative fees and other expenses to cover the cost of administering rental assistance programs under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937: Provided further, That the fee otherwise authorized under section 8(q) of such Act shall be determined in accordance with section 8(q), as in effect immediately before the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998: Provided further, That all balances for the section 8 rental assistance, section 8 counseling, section 8 new construction, section 8 substantial

rehabilitation, relocation/replacement/demolition, section 23 conversions, rental and disaster vouchers, loan management set-aside, section 514 technical assistance, and other programs previously funded within the "Annual Contributions" account shall be transferred to this account, to be available for the purposes for which they were originally appropriated: Provided further, That all balances in the "Section 8 Reserve Preservation" account shall be transferred to this account, to be available for the purposes for which they were originally appropriated: Provided further, That the unexpended amounts previously appropriated for special purpose grants within the "Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing" account shall be recaptured and transferred to this account, to be available for assistance under the Act for use in connection with expiring or terminating section 8 subsidy contracts: Provided further, That of the amounts previously appropriated for property disposition within the "Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing" account, up to \$79,000,000 shall be transferred to this account, to be available for assistance under the Act for use in connection with expiring or terminating section 8 subsidy contracts: Provided further, That of the unexpended amounts previously appropriated for carrying out the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 and the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987, other than amounts made available for rental assistance, within the "Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing" and "Preserving Existing Housing Investments" accounts, shall be recaptured and transferred to this account, to be available for assistance under the Act for use in connection with expiring or terminating section 8 subsidy contracts: Provided further, That of the total amount provided under this heading, \$346,560,000 shall be made available for incremental vouchers under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 on a fair share basis and administered by public housing agencies: Provided further, That of the balances remaining from funds appropriated under this heading or the heading "Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing" during fiscal year 2000 and prior years, \$2,243,000,000 is rescinded: Provided further, That of the amount rescinded under the previous proviso, \$1,300,000,000 shall be from amounts recaptured and the Secretary shall have discretion to specify the amounts to be rescinded from each of the foregoing accounts, \$505,000,000 shall be from unobligated balances, and \$438,000,000 shall be from amounts that were appropriated in fiscal year 1999 and prior years for section 8 assistance including assistance to relocate residents of properties that are owned by the Secretary and being disposed of or that are discontinuing section 8 project-based assistance, for relocation and replacement housing for units that are demolished or disposed of from the public housing inventory, and for enhanced vouchers as provided under the "Preserving Existing Housing Investment" account in the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (Public Law 104-204).

PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the Public Housing Capital Fund Program to carry out capital and management activities for public housing agencies, as authorized under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1437), \$2,900,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of the total amount, up to \$75,000,000 shall be for carrying out activities under section 9(h) of such Act, and for lease adjustments to section 23 projects: Provided further, That no funds may be used under this heading for the purposes specified in section 9(k) of the United States Housing Act of 1937: Provided further, That of the total amount, up

to \$75,000,000 shall be available for the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to make grants to public housing agencies for emergency capital needs resulting from emergencies and natural disasters in fiscal year 2000: Provided further, That all balances for debt service for Public and Indian Housing and Public and Indian Housing Grants previously funded within the "Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing" account shall be transferred to this account, to be available for the purposes for which they were originally appropriated.

PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For payments to public housing agencies for the operation and management of public housing, as authorized by section 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1437g), \$3,138,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That no funds may be used under this heading for the purposes specified in section 9(k) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

DRUG ELIMINATION GRANTS FOR LOW-INCOME HOUSING

For grants to public housing agencies and Indian tribes and their tribally designated housing entities for use in eliminating crime in public housing projects authorized by 42 U.S.C. 11901-11908, for grants for federally assisted low-income housing authorized by 42 U.S.C. 11909, and for drug information clearinghouse services authorized by 42 U.S.C. 11921-11925, \$310,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of the total amount provided under this heading, up to \$4,500,000 shall be solely for technical assistance, technical assistance grants, training, and program assessment for or on behalf of public housing agencies, resident organizations, and Indian tribes and their tribally designated housing entities (including up to \$150,000 for the cost of necessary travel for participants in such training): Provided further, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$10,000,000 shall be used in connection with efforts to combat violent crime in public and assisted housing under the Operation Safe Home Program administered by the Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: Provided further, That of the amount under this heading, \$10,000,000 shall be provided to the Office of Inspector General for Operation Safe Home: Provided further, That of the amount under this heading, \$20,000,000 shall be available for a program named the New Approach Anti-Drug program which will provide competitive grants to entities managing or operating public housing developments, federally assisted multifamily housing developments, or other multifamily housing developments for low-income families supported by non-Federal governmental entities or similar housing developments supported by nonprofit private sources in order to provide or augment security (including personnel costs), to assist in the investigation and/or prosecution of drug related criminal activity in and around such developments, and to provide assistance for the development of capital improvements at such developments directly relating to the security of such developments: Provided further, That grants for the New Approach Anti-Drug program shall be made on a competitive basis as specified in section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989.

REVITALIZATION OF SEVERELY DISTRESSED PUBLIC HOUSING (HOPE VI)

For grants to public housing agencies for demolition, site revitalization, replacement housing, and tenant-based assistance grants to projects as authorized by section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, \$575,000,000 to remain available until expended of which the Secretary may use up to \$10,000,000 for technical assistance and contract expertise, to be provided directly or indirectly by grants, contracts or cooperative agreements, including training and cost

of necessary travel for participants in such training, by or to officials and employees of the Department and of public housing agencies and to residents: Provided, That none of such funds shall be used directly or indirectly by granting competitive advantage in awards to settle litigation or pay judgments, unless expressly permitted herein: Provided further, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$1,200,000 shall be contracted through the Secretary to be used by the Urban Institute to conduct an independent study on the long-term effects of the HOPE VI program on former residents of distressed public housing developments.

**NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

For the Native American Housing Block Grants program, as authorized under title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) (Public Law 104-330), \$620,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$2,000,000 shall be contracted through the Secretary as technical assistance and capacity building to be used by the National American Indian Housing Council in support of the implementation of NAHASDA and up to \$4,000,000 by the Secretary to support the inspection of Indian housing units, contract expertise, training, and technical assistance in the oversight and management of Indian housing and tenant-based assistance, including up to \$200,000 for related travel: Provided, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$6,000,000 shall be made available for the cost of guaranteed notes and other obligations, as authorized by title VI of NAHASDA: Provided further, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such notes and other obligations, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize the total principal amount of any notes and other obligations, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$54,600,000: Provided further, That for administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, up to \$200,000 from amounts in the first proviso, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Salaries and expenses", to be used only for the administrative costs of these guarantees.

**INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND
PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (106 Stat. 3739), \$6,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$71,956,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, up to \$150,000 from amounts in the first paragraph, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Salaries and expenses", to be used only for the administrative costs of these guarantees.

**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS**

For carrying out the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program, as authorized by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12901), \$232,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Secretary may use up to 0.75 percent of the funds under this heading for technical assistance.

RURAL HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

For the Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That

of the amount under this heading, up to \$3,000,000 shall be used to develop capacity at the State and local level for developing rural housing and for rural economic development and for maintaining a clearinghouse of ideas for innovative strategies for rural housing and economic development and revitalization: Provided further, That of the amount under this heading, at least \$22,000,000 shall be awarded by June 1, 2000 to Indian tribes, State housing finance agencies, State community and/or economic development agencies, local rural nonprofits and community development corporations to support innovative housing and economic development activities in rural areas: Provided further, That all grants shall be awarded on a competitive basis as specified in section 102 of the HUD Reform Act.

**AMERICA'S PRIVATE INVESTMENT COMPANIES
PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of guaranteed loans under the America's Private Investment Companies Program, \$20,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2002: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is guaranteed, not to exceed \$541,000,000: Provided further, That the funds appropriated under this heading shall not be available for obligation until the America's Private Investment Companies Program is authorized by subsequent legislation and the program is developed subject to notice and comment rulemaking: Provided further, That if the authorizing legislation is not enacted by June 30, 2000, all funds under this heading shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for the "Community development financial institutions fund program account" to be available for use as grants and loans under that account.

URBAN EMPOWERMENT ZONES

For grants in connection with a second round of the empowerment zones program in urban areas, designated by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in fiscal year 1999 pursuant to the Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997, \$55,000,000 to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for "Urban Empowerment Zones", including \$3,666,000 for each empowerment zone for use in conjunction with economic development activities consistent with the strategic plan of each empowerment zone, to remain available until expended.

RURAL EMPOWERMENT ZONES

For grants for the rural empowerment zone and enterprise communities programs, as designated by the Secretary of Agriculture, \$15,000,000 to the Secretary of Agriculture for grants for designated empowerment zones in rural areas and for grants for designated rural enterprise communities, to remain available until expended.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For grants to States and units of general local government and for related expenses, not otherwise provided for, to carry out a community development grants program as authorized by title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (the "Act" herein) (42 U.S.C. 5301), \$4,800,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2002: Provided, That \$67,000,000 shall be for grants to Indian tribes notwithstanding section 106(a)(1) of such Act, \$3,000,000 shall be available as a grant to the Housing Assistance Council, \$2,200,000 shall be available as a grant to the National American Indian Housing Council, and \$41,500,000 shall be for grants pursuant to section 107 of the Act including \$2,000,000 to support Alaska Native serving institutions and native Hawaiian serving institutions, as defined under the Higher

Education Act, as amended: Provided further, That \$20,000,000 shall be for grants pursuant to the Self Help Housing Opportunity Program: Provided further, That not to exceed 20 percent of any grant made with funds appropriated herein (other than a grant made available in this paragraph to the Housing Assistance Council or the National American Indian Housing Council, or a grant using funds under section 107(b)(3) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended) shall be expended for "Planning and Management Development" and "Administration" as defined in regulations promulgated by the Department: Provided further, That all balances for the Economic Development Initiative grants program, the John Heinz Neighborhood Development program, grants to Self Help Housing Opportunity program, and the Moving to Work Demonstration program previously funded within the "Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing" account shall be transferred to this account, to be available for the purposes for which they were originally appropriated.

Of the amount made available under this heading, \$23,750,000 shall be made available for capacity building, of which \$20,000,000 shall be made available for "Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing," for LISC and the Enterprise Foundation for activities as authorized by section 4 of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (Public Law 103-120), as in effect immediately before June 12, 1997, with not less than \$4,000,000 of the funding to be used in rural areas, including tribal areas, and of which \$3,750,000 shall be made available to Habitat for Humanity International.

Of the amount made available under this heading, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may use up to \$55,000,000 for supportive services for public housing residents, as authorized by section 34 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, and for grants for service coordinators and congregate services for the elderly and disabled residents of public and assisted housing: Provided further, That amounts made available for congregate services and service coordinators for the elderly and disabled under this heading and in prior fiscal years may be used by grantees to reimburse themselves for costs incurred in connection with providing service coordinators previously advanced by grantees out of other funds due to delays in the granting by or receipt of funds from the Secretary, and the funds so made available to grantees for congregate services or service coordinators under this heading or in prior years shall be considered as expended by the grantees upon such reimbursement. The Secretary shall not condition the availability of funding made available under this heading or in prior years for congregate services or service coordinators upon any grantee's obligation or expenditure of any prior funding.

Of the amount made available under this heading, \$30,000,000 shall be available for neighborhood initiatives that are utilized to improve the conditions of distressed and blighted areas and neighborhoods, to stimulate investment, economic diversification, and community revitalization in areas with population outmigration or a stagnating or declining economic base, or to determine whether housing benefits can be integrated more effectively with welfare reform initiatives: Provided, that any unobligated balances of amounts set aside for neighborhood initiatives in fiscal years 1998 and 1999 may be utilized for any of the foregoing purposes: Provided further, That of the amount set aside for fiscal year 2000 under this paragraph, \$23,000,000 shall be used for grants specified in the statement of the Managers of the Committee of Conference accompanying this Act.

Of the amount made available under this heading, \$30,000,000 shall be available for neighborhood initiatives.

Of the amount made available under this heading, notwithstanding any other provision

of law, \$42,500,000 shall be available for YouthBuild program activities authorized by subtitle D of title IV of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended, and such activities shall be an eligible activity with respect to any funds made available under this heading: Provided, That local YouthBuild programs that demonstrate an ability to leverage private and nonprofit funding shall be given a priority for YouthBuild funding: Provided further, That of the amount provided under this paragraph, \$2,500,000 shall be set aside and made available for a grant to YouthBuild USA for capacity building for community development and affordable housing activities as specified in section 4 of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993, as amended.

Of the amount made available under this heading, \$275,000,000 shall be available for grants for the Economic Development Initiative (EDI) to finance a variety of economic development efforts, including \$240,000,000 for making individual grants for targeted economic investments in accordance with the terms and conditions specified for such grants in the statement of the managers of the committee of conference accompanying this Act.

For the cost of guaranteed loans, \$29,000,000, as authorized by section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed \$1,261,000,000, notwithstanding any aggregate limitation on outstanding obligations guaranteed in section 108(k) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974: Provided further, That in addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, \$1,000,000, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for "Salaries and expenses".

The Secretary is directed to transfer the administration of the small cities component of the Community Development Block Grant Program for the funds allocated for the State of New York under section 106(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 for fiscal year 2000 and all fiscal years thereafter to the State of New York to be administered by the Governor of New York.

BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT

For Economic Development Grants, as authorized by section 108(q) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, for Brownfields redevelopment projects, \$25,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall make these grants available on a competitive basis as specified in section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

For the HOME investment partnerships program, as authorized under title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (Public Law 101-625), as amended, \$1,600,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That up to \$15,000,000 of these funds shall be available for Housing Counseling under section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968: Provided further, That \$2,000,000 of these funds shall be made available as a grant to the National Housing Development Corporation for a program of housing acquisition and rehabilitation: Provided further, That all Housing Counseling program balances previously appropriated in the "Housing Counseling Assistance" account shall be transferred to this account, to be available for the purposes for which they were originally appropriated.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For the emergency shelter grants program (as authorized under subtitle B of title IV of the

Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, as amended); the supportive housing program (as authorized under subtitle C of title IV of such Act); the section 8 moderate rehabilitation single room occupancy program (as authorized under the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended) to assist homeless individuals pursuant to section 441 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act; and the shelter plus care program (as authorized under subtitle F of title IV of such Act), \$1,020,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That not less than 30 percent of these funds shall be used for permanent housing, and all funding for services must be matched by 25 percent in funding by each grantee: Provided further, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct a review of any balances of amounts provided under this heading in any previous appropriations Acts that have been obligated but remain unexpended and shall deobligate any such amounts that the Secretary determines were obligated for contracts that are unlikely to be performed and award such amounts during this fiscal year: Provided further, That up to 1 percent of the funds appropriated under this heading may be used for technical assistance: Provided further, That all balances previously appropriated in the "Emergency Shelter Grants", "Supportive Housing", "Supplemental Assistance for Facilities to Assist the Homeless", "Shelter Plus Care", "Section 8 Moderate Rehabilitation Single Room Occupancy", and "Innovative Homeless Initiatives Demonstration" accounts shall be transferred to and merged with this account, to be available for any authorized purpose under this heading.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

HOUSING FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS

For assistance for the purchase, construction, acquisition, or development of additional public and subsidized housing units for low income families not otherwise provided for, \$911,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That \$710,000,000 shall be for capital advances, including amendments to capital advance contracts, for housing for the elderly, as authorized by section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as amended, and for project rental assistance, and amendments to contracts for project rental assistance, for the elderly under such section 202(c)(2), and for supportive services associated with the housing of which amount \$50,000,000 shall be for service coordinators and continuation of existing congregate services grants for residents of assisted housing projects, and of which amount \$50,000,000 shall be for grants for conversion of existing section 202 projects, or portions thereof, to assisted living or related use, consistent with the relevant provision of title V of this Act: Provided further, That of the amount under this heading, \$201,000,000 shall be for capital advances, including amendments to capital advance contracts, for supportive housing for persons with disabilities, as authorized by section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, for project rental assistance, for amendments to contracts for project rental assistance, and supportive services associated with the housing for persons with disabilities as authorized by section 811 of such Act: Provided further, That the Secretary may designate up to 25 percent of the amounts earmarked under this paragraph for section 811 of such Act for tenant-based assistance, as authorized under that section, including such authority as may be waived under the next proviso, which assistance is five years in duration: Provided further, That the Secretary may waive any provision of such section 202 and such section 811 (including the provisions governing the terms and conditions of project rental assistance and tenant-based assistance) that the Secretary determines is not necessary to achieve the objectives of these programs, or that otherwise impedes the ability to develop, operate or administer projects assisted under these programs, and

may make provision for alternative conditions or terms where appropriate.

FLEXIBLE SUBSIDY FUND

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

From the Rental Housing Assistance Fund, all uncommitted balances of excess rental charges as of September 30, 1999, and any collections made during fiscal year 2000, shall be transferred to the Flexible Subsidy Fund, as authorized by section 236(g) of the National Housing Act, as amended.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

FHA—MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

During fiscal year 2000, commitments to guarantee loans to carry out the purposes of section 203(b) of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall not exceed a loan principal of \$140,000,000,000.

During fiscal year 2000, obligations to make direct loans to carry out the purposes of section 204(g) of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall not exceed \$100,000,000: Provided, That the foregoing amount shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with sales of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund.

For administrative expenses necessary to carry out the guaranteed and direct loan program, \$330,888,000, of which not to exceed \$324,866,000 shall be transferred to the appropriation for "Salaries and expenses"; not to exceed \$4,022,000 shall be transferred to the appropriation for the Office of Inspector General. In addition, for administrative contract expenses, \$160,000,000: Provided, That to the extent guaranteed loan commitments exceed \$49,664,000,000 on or before April 1, 2000, an additional \$1,400 for administrative contract expenses shall be available for each \$1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below \$1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed \$16,000,000.

FHA—GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-3 and 1735c), including the cost of loan guarantee modifications (as that term is defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended), \$153,000,000, including not to exceed \$153,000,000 from unobligated balances previously appropriated under this heading, to remain available until expended: Provided, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, of up to \$18,100,000,000: Provided further, That any amounts made available in any prior appropriations Act for the cost (as such term is defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974) of guaranteed loans that are obligations of the funds established under section 238 or 519 of the National Housing Act that have not been obligated or that are deobligated shall be available to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in connection with the making of such guarantees and shall remain available until expended, notwithstanding the expiration of any period of availability otherwise applicable to such amounts.

Gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by sections 204(g), 207(l), 238, and 519(a) of the National Housing Act, shall not exceed \$50,000,000; of which not to exceed \$30,000,000 shall be for bridge financing in connection with the sale of multifamily real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under such Act; and of which not to exceed \$20,000,000 shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with the sale of single-family real properties owned

by the Secretary and formerly insured under such Act.

In addition, for administrative expenses necessary to carry out the guaranteed and direct loan programs, \$211,455,000 (including not to exceed \$147,000,000 from unobligated balances previously appropriated under this heading), of which \$193,134,000, shall be transferred to the appropriation for "Salaries and expenses"; and of which \$18,321,000 shall be transferred to the appropriation for the Office of Inspector General. In addition, for administrative contract expenses necessary to carry out the guaranteed and direct loan programs, \$144,000,000: Provided, That to the extent guaranteed loan commitments exceed \$7,263,000,000 on or before April 1, 2000, an additional \$19,800 for administrative contract expenses shall be available for each \$1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments over \$7,263,000,000 (including a pro rata amount for any increment below \$1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed \$14,400,000.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

During fiscal year 2000, new commitments to issue guarantees to carry out the purposes of section 306 of the National Housing Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1721(g)), shall not exceed \$200,000,000,000.

For administrative expenses necessary to carry out the guaranteed mortgage-backed securities program, \$9,383,000 to be derived from the GNMA guarantees of mortgage-backed securities guaranteed loan receipt account, of which not to exceed \$9,383,000 shall be transferred to the appropriation for departmental "Salaries and expenses".

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For contracts, grants, and necessary expenses of programs of research and studies relating to housing and urban problems, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title V of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1701z-1 et seq.), including carrying out the functions of the Secretary under section 1(a)(1)(i) of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1968, \$45,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided, That of the amount provided under this heading, \$10,000,000 shall be for the Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing (PATH) Initiative and \$500,000 shall be for a commission established in section 525 of title V of this Act.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

For contracts, grants, and other assistance, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, and section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987, as amended, \$44,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2001, of which \$24,000,000 shall be to carry out activities pursuant to such section 561: Provided, That no funds made available under this heading shall be used to lobby the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with a specific contract, grant or loan.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Lead Hazard Reduction Program, as authorized by sections 1011 and 1053 of the Residential Lead-Based Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, \$80,000,000 to remain available until expended, of which \$1,000,000 shall be for CLEARCorps and \$10,000,000 shall be for a Healthy Homes Initiative, which shall be a program pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970

that shall include research, studies, testing, and demonstration efforts, including education and outreach concerning lead-based paint poisoning and other housing-related environmental diseases and hazards: Provided, That all balances for the Lead Hazard Reduction Programs previously funded in the Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing and Community Development Block Grant accounts shall be transferred to this account, to be available for the purposes for which they were originally appropriated.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For necessary administrative and non-administrative expenses of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, not otherwise provided for, including not to exceed \$7,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$1,005,733,000, of which \$518,000,000 shall be provided from the various funds of the Federal Housing Administration, \$9,383,000 shall be provided from funds of the Government National Mortgage Association, \$1,000,000 shall be provided from the "Community development block grants program" account, \$150,000 shall be provided by transfer from the "Title VI Indian federal guarantees program" account, and \$200,000 shall be provided by transfer from the "Indian housing loan guarantee fund program" account: Provided, That the Secretary is prohibited from using any funds under this heading or any other heading in this Act from employing more than 77 schedule C and 20 noncareer Senior Executive Service employees: Provided further, That the Secretary is prohibited from using funds under this heading or any other heading in this Act to employ more than 9,300 employees: Provided further, That the Secretary is prohibited from using funds under this heading or any other heading in this Act to convert any external community builders to career employees, and after September 1, 2000 to employ any external community builders: Provided further, That the Secretary is prohibited from using funds under this heading or any other heading in this Act to employ more than 14 employees in the Office of Public Affairs: Provided further, That of the amount made available under this heading, \$2,000,000 shall be for the Millennial Housing Commission as established under section 206.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$83,000,000, of which \$22,343,000 shall be provided from the various funds of the Federal Housing Administration and \$10,000,000 shall be provided from the amount earmarked for Operation Safe Home in the appropriation for "Drug elimination grants for low-income housing": Provided, That the Inspector General shall have independent authority over all personnel issues within the Office of Inspector General.

OFFICE OF FEDERAL HOUSING ENTERPRISE OVERSIGHT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For carrying out the Federal Housing Enterprise Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992, including not to exceed \$500 for official reception and representation expenses, \$19,493,000, to remain available until expended, to be derived from the Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight Fund: Provided, That not to exceed such amount shall be available from the General Fund of the Treasury to the extent necessary to incur obligations and make expenditures pending the receipt of collections to the Fund: Provided further, That the General Fund amount shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final appropriation from the General Fund estimated at not more than \$0.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

FINANCING ADJUSTMENT FACTORS

SEC. 201. Fifty percent of the amounts of budget authority, or in lieu thereof 50 percent of the cash amounts associated with such budget authority, that are recaptured from projects described in section 1012(a) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-628, 102 Stat. 3224, 3268) shall be rescinded, or in the case of cash, shall be remitted to the Treasury, and such amounts of budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury shall be used by State housing finance agencies or local governments or local housing agencies with projects approved by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for which settlement occurred after January 1, 1992, in accordance with such section. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the Secretary may award up to 15 percent of the budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury to provide project owners with incentives to refinance their project at a lower interest rate.

FAIR HOUSING AND FREE SPEECH

SEC. 202. None of the amounts made available under this Act may be used during fiscal year 2000 to investigate or prosecute under the Fair Housing Act any otherwise lawful activity engaged in by one or more persons, including the filing or maintaining of a nonfrivolous legal action, that is engaged in solely for the purpose of achieving or preventing action by a government official or entity, or a court of competent jurisdiction.

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS GRANTS

SEC. 203. Section 207 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999, is amended by striking wherever it occurs "fiscal year 1999" and inserting "fiscal years 1999 and 2000".

REPROGRAMMING

SEC. 204. Of the amounts made available under the sixth undesignated paragraph under the heading "COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT—COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS" in title II of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-276; 112 Stat. 247) for the Economic Development Initiative (EDI) for grants for targeted economic investments, the \$1,000,000 to be made available (pursuant to the related provisions of the joint explanatory statement in the conference report to accompany such Act (Report 105-769, 105th Congress, 2d Session)) to the City of Redlands, California, for the redevelopment initiatives near the historic Fox Theater shall, notwithstanding such provisions, be made available to such City for the following purposes:

(1) \$700,000 shall be for renovation of the City of Redlands Fire Station No. 1;

(2) \$200,000 shall be for renovation of the Mission Gables House at the Redlands Bowl historic outdoor amphitheater; and

(3) \$100,000 shall be for the preservation of historic Hillside Cemetery.

ADJUSTMENTS TO INCOME ELIGIBILITY FOR UNUSUALLY HIGH OR LOW FAMILIES INCOMES IN ASSISTED HOUSING

SEC. 205. Section 16 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(2)(A), by inserting before the period the following: " ; except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 30 percent of the area median income on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes"; and

(2) in subsection (c)(3), by inserting before the period the following: " ; except that the Secretary may establish income ceilings higher or lower than 30 percent of the area median income

on the basis of the Secretary's findings that such variations are necessary because of unusually high or low family incomes".

MILLENNIAL HOUSING COMMISSION

SEC. 206. (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a commission to be known as the Millennial Housing Commission (in this section referred to as the "Commission").

(b) STUDY.—The duty of the Commission shall be to conduct a study that examines, analyzes, and explores—

(1) the importance of housing, particularly affordable housing which includes housing for the elderly, to the infrastructure of the United States;

(2) the various possible methods for increasing the role of the private sector in providing affordable housing in the United States, including the effectiveness and efficiency of such methods; and

(3) whether the existing programs of the Department of Housing and Urban Development work in conjunction with one another to provide better housing opportunities for families, neighborhoods, and communities, and how such programs can be improved with respect to such purpose.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(1) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall be composed of 22 members, appointed not later than January 1, 2000, as follows:

(A) Two co-chairpersons appointed by—

(i) one co-chairperson appointed by a committee consisting of the chairmen of the Subcommittees on the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunities of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation of the Senate; and

(ii) one co-chairperson appointed by a committee consisting of the ranking minority members of the Subcommittees on the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, and the ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunities of the House of Representatives and the ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation of the Senate.

(B) Ten members appointed by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

(C) Ten members appointed by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate.

(2) QUALIFICATIONS.—Appointees should have proven expertise in directing, assembling, or applying capital resources from a variety of sources to the successful development of affordable housing or the revitalization of communities, including economic and job development.

(3) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy on the Commission shall not affect its powers and shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(4) CHAIRPERSONS.—The members appointed pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) shall serve as co-chairpersons of the Commission.

(5) PROHIBITION OF PAY.—Members of the Commission shall serve without pay.

(6) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Commission shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(7) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum but a lesser number may hold hearings.

(8) MEETINGS.—The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairpersons.

(d) DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—

(1) DIRECTOR.—The Commission shall have a Director who shall be appointed by the Chairperson. The Director shall be paid at a rate not to exceed the rate of basic pay payable for level V of the Executive Schedule.

(2) STAFF.—The Commission may appoint personnel as appropriate. The staff of the Commission shall be appointed subject to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of that title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

(3) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the maximum annual rate of basic pay payable for the General Schedule.

(4) STAFF OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Upon request of the Commission, the head of any Federal department or agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of that department or agency to the Commission to assist it in carrying out its duties under this Act.

(e) POWERS.—

(1) HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.—The Commission may, for the purpose of carrying out this section, hold hearings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and receive evidence as the Commission considers appropriate.

(2) POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.—Any member or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the Commission, take any action which the Commission is authorized to take by this section.

(3) OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.—The Commission may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States information necessary to enable it to carry out this Act. Upon request of the Chairpersons of the Commission, the head of that department or agency shall furnish that information to the Commission.

(4) GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DEVISES.—The Commission may accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of services or property, both real and personal, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Commission. Gifts, bequests, or devises of money and proceeds from sales of other property received as gifts, bequests, or devises shall be deposited in the Treasury and shall be available for disbursement upon order of the Commission.

(5) MAIIS.—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(6) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.—Upon the request of the Commission, the Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, the administrative support services necessary for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this section.

(7) CONTRACT AUTHORITY.—The Commission may contract with and compensate government and private agencies or persons for services, without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5).

(f) REPORT.—The Commission shall submit to the Committees on Appropriations and Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Appropriations and Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate a final report not later than March 1, 2002. The report shall contain a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Commission with respect to the study conducted under subsection (b), together with its recommendations for legislation, administrative

actions, and any other actions the Commission considers appropriate.

(g) TERMINATION.—The Commission shall terminate on June 30, 2002, section 14(a)(2)(B) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.; relating to the termination of advisory committees) shall not apply to the Commission.

FHA TECHNICAL CORRECTION

SEC. 207. Section 203(b)(2)(A)(ii) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(b)(2)(A)(ii)) is amended by adding before "48 percent" the following: "the greater of the dollar amount limitation in effect under this section for the area on the date of the enactment of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 1999 or".

RESCISSESS

SEC. 208. Of the balances remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Public Law 105-65 and prior appropriations Acts, \$74,400,000 is rescinded: Provided, That the amount rescinded shall be comprised of—

(1) \$30,552,000 of the amounts that were appropriated for the modernization of public housing unit; under the heading "Annual contributions for assisted housing", including an amount equal to the amount transferred from such account to, and merged with amounts under the heading "Public housing capital fund";

(2) \$3,048,000 of the amounts from which no disbursements have been made within five successive fiscal years beginning after September 30, 1993, that were appropriated under the heading "Annual contributions for assisted housing", including an amount equal to the amount transferred from such account to the account under the heading "Housing certificate fund";

(3) \$22,975,000 of amounts appropriated for homeownership assistance under section 235(r) of the National Housing Act, including \$6,875,000 appropriated in Public Law 103-327 (approved September 28, 1994, 104 Stat. 2305) for such purposes;

(4) \$11,400,000 of the amounts appropriated for the Homeownership and Opportunity for People Everywhere programs (HOPE programs), as authorized by the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act; and

(5) \$6,400,000 of the balances remaining in the account under the heading "Nonprofit Sponsor Assistance Account".

GRANT FOR NATIONAL CITIES IN SCHOOLS

SEC. 209. For a grant to the National Cities in Schools Community Development program under section 930 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992, \$5,000,000.

MOVING TO WORK DEMONSTRATION

SEC. 210. For the Jobs-Plus Initiative of the Moving to Work Demonstration, \$5,000,000 to cover the cost of rent-based work incentives to families in selected public housing developments, who shall be encouraged to go to work under work incentive plans approved by the Secretary and carefully tracked as part of the research and demonstration effort.

REPEALER

SEC. 211. Section 218 of Public Law 104-204 is repealed.

FHA ADMINISTRATIVE CONTRACT EXPENSE

AUTHORITY

SEC. 212. Section 1 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1702) is amended by inserting the following new sentence after the first proviso: "Except with respect to title III, for the purposes of this section, the term "nonadministrative" shall not include contract expenses that are not capitalized or routinely deducted from the proceeds of sales, and such expenses shall not be payable from funds made available by this Act."

FULL PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

SEC. 213. (a) Section 541 of the National Housing Act is amended—

(1) by amending the heading to read as follows: "PARTIAL PAYMENT OF CLAIMS ON DEFECTED MORTGAGES AND IN CONNECTION WITH MORTGAGE RESTRUCTURING"; and

(2) in subsection (b), by striking "partial payment of the claim under the mortgage insurance contract" and inserting, "partial or full payment of claim under one or more mortgage insurance contracts".

(b) Section 517 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 is amended by adding a new subsection (a)(6) to read as follows: "(6) The second mortgage under this section may be a first mortgage if no restructured or new first mortgage will meet the requirement of paragraph (1)(A)."

AVAILABILITY OF INCOME MATCHING INFORMATION

SEC. 214. (a) Section 3(f) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a), as amended by section 508(d)(1) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, is further amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) after the first appearance of "public housing agency", by inserting ", or the owner responsible for determining the participant's eligibility or level of benefits,"; and

(B) after "as applicable", by inserting ", or to the owner responsible for determining the participant's eligibility or level of benefits"; and

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by striking "or";

(B) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period and inserting ", or"; and

(C) by inserting at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(C) for which project-based assistance is provided under section 8, section 202, or section 811.".

(b) Section 904(b) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 3544), as amended by section 508(d)(2) of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, is further amended in paragraph (4)—

(1) by inserting after "public housing agency" the first time it appears the following: ", or the owner responsible for determining the participant's eligibility or level of benefits,"; and

(2) by striking "the public housing agency verifying income" and inserting "verifying income".

EXEMPTION FOR ALASKA AND MISSISSIPPI FROM REQUIREMENT OF RESIDENT ON BOARD

SEC. 215. Public housing agencies in the states of Alaska and Mississippi shall not be required to comply with section 2(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, during fiscal year 2000.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE CDBG PROGRAM BY NEW YORK STATE

SEC. 216. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall transfer on the date of the enactment of this Act the administration of the Small Cities component of the Community Development Block Grants program for all funds allocated for the State of New York under section 106(d) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 for fiscal year 2000 and all fiscal years thereafter, to the State of New York to be administered by the Governor of such State.

SECTION 202 EXEMPTION

SEC. 217. Notwithstanding section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 or any other provision of law, Peggy A. Burgin may not be disqualified on the basis of age from residing at Clark's Landing in Groton, Vermont.

DARLINTON PRESERVATION AMENDMENT

SEC. 218. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, upon prepayment of the FHA-insured Section 236 mortgage, the Secretary shall continue to provide interest reduction payment in accordance with the existing amortization schedule for Darlington Manor Apartments, a

100-unit project located at 606 North 5th Street, Bozeman, Montana, which will continue as affordable housing pursuant to a use agreement with the State of Montana.

RISK-SHARING PRIORITY

SEC. 219. Section 517(b)(3) of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998 is amended by inserting after "1992" the following: "The Secretary shall use risk-shared financing under section 542(c) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 for any mortgage restructuring, rehabilitation financing, or debt refinancing included as part of a mortgage restructuring and rental assistance sufficiency plan if the terms and conditions are considered to be the best available financing in terms of financial savings to the FHA insurance funds and will result in reduced risk of loss to the Federal Government.".

TREATMENT OF EXPIRING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE GRANTS

SEC. 220. (a) AVAILABILITY.—Notwithstanding section 1552 of title 31, United States Code, the grant amounts identified in subsection (b) shall remain available to the grantees for the purposes for which such amounts were obligated through September 30, 2000.

(b) GRANTS.—The grant amounts identified in this subsection are the amounts provided under the following grants made by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under the economic development initiative under section 108(q) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5308(q)):

(1) The grant for Miami, Florida, designated as B-92-ED-12-013.

(2) The grant for Miami Beach, Florida, designated as B-92-ED-12-014.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall be considered to have taken effect on September 30, 1999. The Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall take such actions as may be necessary to carry out this section, notwithstanding any actions taken previously pursuant to section 1552 of title 31, United States Code.

USE OF TRUSTS WITH REGARD TO COOPERATIVE HOUSING SECTION

SEC. 221. Section 213(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715e(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: "Nothing in this section may be construed to prevent membership in a nonprofit housing cooperative from being held in the name of a trust, the beneficiary of which shall occupy the dwelling unit in accordance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary.".

GRANT TECHNICAL CORRECTION

SEC. 222. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amount made available under the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1991 (Public Law 101-507) for a special purpose grant under section 107 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 to the County of Hawaii for the purpose of an environmental impact statement for the development of a water resource system in Kohala, Hawaii, that is unobligated on the date of the enactment of this Act, may be used to fund water system improvements, including exploratory wells, well drillings, pipeline replacements, water system planning and design, and booster pump and reservoir development.

REUSE OF CERTAIN BUDGET AUTHORITY

SEC. 223. section 8(z) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by inserting after "on account of" the following: "expiration or"; and

(B) by striking the parenthetical phrase; and

(2) by striking paragraph (3).

SECTION 108 WAIVER

SEC. 224. With respect to the \$6,700,000 commitment in connection with guaranteed obliga-

tions for the Sandtown-Winchester Home Ownership Zone under section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, the Secretary shall not require security in excess of that authorized under section 108(d)(1)(B).

HOPWA TECHNICAL

SEC. 225. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amount allocated for fiscal year 2000, and the amounts that would otherwise be allocated for fiscal year 2001, to the City of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on behalf of the Philadelphia, PA-NJ Primary Metropolitan Area (hereafter "metropolitan area"), under section 854(c) of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12903(c)), the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall adjust such amounts by allocating to the State of New Jersey the proportion of the metropolitan area's amount that is based on the number of cases of AIDS reported in the portion of the metropolitan area that is located in New Jersey.

(b) The State of New Jersey shall use amounts allocated to the state under this section to carry out eligible activities under section 855 of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12904) in the portion of the metropolitan area that is located in New Jersey.

TITLE III—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES

AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, of the American Battle Monuments Commission, including the acquisition of land or interest in land in foreign countries; purchases and repair of uniforms for caretakers of national cemeteries and monuments outside of the United States and its territories and possessions; rent of office and garage space in foreign countries; purchase (one for replacement only) and hire of passenger motor vehicles; and insurance of official motor vehicles in foreign countries, when required by law of such countries, \$28,467,000, to remain available until expended.

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses in carrying out activities pursuant to section 112(r)(6) of the Clean Air Act, including hire of passenger vehicles, and for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376, \$8,000,000: Provided, That the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board shall have not more than three career Senior Executive Service positions.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For grants, loans, and technical assistance to qualifying community development lenders, and administrative expenses of the Fund, including services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for ES-3, \$95,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2001, of which up to \$7,860,000 may be used for administrative expenses, up to \$16,500,000 may be used for the cost of direct loans, and up to \$1,000,000 may be used for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program: Provided, That the cost of direct loans, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$53,140,000: Provided further, That not more than \$30,000,000 of the funds made available under

this heading may be used for programs and activities authorized in section 114 of the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, including hire of passenger motor vehicles, services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable under 5 U.S.C. 5376, purchase of nominal awards to recognize non-Federal officials' contributions to Commission activities, and not to exceed \$500 for official reception and representation expenses, \$49,000,000.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS
OPERATING EXPENSES
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses for the Corporation for National and Community Service (referred to in the matter under this heading as the "Corporation") in carrying out programs, activities, and initiatives under the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (referred to in the matter under this heading as the "Act") (42 U.S.C. 12501 et seq.), \$434,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2000: Provided, That not more than \$28,500,000 shall be available for administrative expenses authorized under section 501(a)(4) of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12671(a)(4)) with not less than \$1,500,000 targeted to administrative needs, not including salaries and expenses, identified as urgent by the Corporation without regard to the provisions of section 501(a)(4)(B) of the Act: Provided further, That not more than \$2,500 shall be for official reception and representation expenses: Provided further, That not more than \$70,000,000, to remain available without fiscal year limitation, shall be transferred to the National Service Trust account for educational awards authorized under subtitle D of title I of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12601 et seq.), of which not to exceed \$5,000,000 shall be available for national service scholarships for high school students performing community service: Provided further, That not more than \$234,000,000 of the amount provided under this heading shall be available for grants under the National Service Trust program authorized under subtitle C of title I of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12571 et seq.) (relating to activities including the AmeriCorps program), of which not more than \$45,000,000 may be used to administer, reimburse, or support any national service program authorized under section 121(d)(2) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12581(d)(2)): Provided further, That not more than \$7,500,000 of the funds made available under this heading shall be made available for the Points of Light Foundation for activities authorized under title III of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12661 et seq.): Provided further, That no funds shall be available for national service programs run by Federal agencies authorized under section 121(b) of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12571(b)): Provided further, That to the maximum extent feasible, funds appropriated under subtitle C of title I of the Act shall be provided in a manner that is consistent with the recommendations of peer review panels in order to ensure that priority is given to programs that demonstrate quality, innovation, replicability, and sustainability: Provided further, That not more than \$18,000,000 of the funds made available under this heading shall be available for the Civilian Community Corps authorized under subtitle E of title I of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12611 et seq.): Provided further, That not more than \$43,000,000 shall be available for school-based and community-based service-learning programs authorized under subtitle B of title I of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12521 et seq.): Provided further, That not more than \$28,500,000 shall be available for quality and innovation activities authorized under subtitle H of title I of the Act (42 U.S.C.

12853 et seq.): Provided further, That not more than \$5,000,000 shall be available for audits and other evaluations authorized under section 179 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 12639): Provided further, That to the maximum extent practicable, the Corporation shall increase significantly the level of matching funds and in-kind contributions provided by the private sector, shall expand significantly the number of educational awards provided under subtitle D of title I, and shall reduce the total Federal costs per participant in all programs: Provided further, That of amounts available in the National Service Trust account from previous appropriations acts, \$80,000,000 shall be rescinded.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$4,000,000.

COURT OF VETERANS APPEALS

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses for the operation of the United States Court of Veterans Appeals as authorized by 38 U.S.C. 7251-7298, \$11,450,000, of which \$910,000, shall be available for the purpose of providing financial assistance as described, and in accordance with the process and reporting procedures set forth, under this heading in Public Law 102-229.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—CIVIL
CEMETERIAL EXPENSES, ARMY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, as authorized by law, for maintenance, operation, and improvement of Arlington National Cemetery and Soldiers' and Airmen's Home National Cemetery, including the purchase of one passenger motor vehicle for replacement only, and not to exceed \$1,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$12,473,000, to remain available until expended.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For science and technology, including research and development activities, which shall include research and development activities under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as amended; necessary expenses for personnel and related costs and travel expenses, including uniforms, or allowances therefore, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376; procurement of laboratory equipment and supplies; other operating expenses in support of research and development; construction, alteration, repair, rehabilitation, and renovation of facilities, not to exceed \$75,000 per project, \$645,000,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided, That the obligated balance of sums available in this account shall remain available through September 30, 2008 for liquidating obligations made in fiscal years 2000 and 2001: Provided further, That the obligated balance of funds transferred to this account in Public Law 105-276 shall remain available through September 30, 2007 for liquidating obligations made in fiscal years 1999 and 2000.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

For environmental programs and management, including necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for personnel and related costs and travel expenses, including uniforms, or allowances therefore, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376; hire of passenger motor vehicles; hire, maintenance, and operation of aircraft; purchase of reprints; library memberships in societies or associations which issue publica-

tions to members only or at a price to members lower than to subscribers who are not members; construction, alteration, repair, rehabilitation, and renovation of facilities, not to exceed \$75,000 per project; and not to exceed \$6,000 for official reception and representation expenses, \$1,900,000,000, which shall remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided, That the obligated balance of such sums shall remain available through September 30, 2008 for liquidating obligations made in fiscal years 2000 and 2001: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act shall be used to propose or issue rules, regulations, decrees, or orders for the purpose of implementation, or in preparation for implementation, of the Kyoto Protocol which was adopted on December 11, 1997, in Kyoto, Japan at the Third Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, which has not been submitted to the Senate for advice and consent to ratification pursuant to article II, section 2, clause 2, of the United States Constitution, and which has not entered into force pursuant to article 25 of the Protocol: Provided further, That none of the funds made available in this Act may be used to implement or administer the interim guidance issued on February 5, 1998, by the Environmental Protection Agency relating to title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and designated as the "Interim Guidance for Investigating Title VI Administrative Complaints Challenging Permits" with respect to complaints filed under such title after October 21, 1998, and until guidance is finalized. Nothing in this proviso may be construed to restrict the Environmental Protection Agency from developing or issuing final guidance relating to title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964: Provided further, That notwithstanding 7 U.S.C. 136r and 15 U.S.C. 2609, beginning in fiscal year 2000 and thereafter, grants awarded under section 20 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act, as amended, and section 10 of the Toxic Substances Control Act, as amended, shall be available for research, development, monitoring, public education, training, demonstrations, and studies: Provided further, That the unexpended funds remaining from the \$2,200,000 appropriated under this heading in Public Law 105-276 for a grant to the Lake Ponchartrain Basin Foundation circuit rider initiative in Louisiana shall be transferred to the "State and tribal assistance grants" appropriation to remain available until expended for making grants for the construction of wastewater and water treatment facilities and groundwater protection infrastructure in accordance with the terms and conditions specified for such grants in the report accompanying that Act.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, and for construction, alteration, repair, rehabilitation, and renovation of facilities, not to exceed \$75,000 per project, \$32,409,000, to remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided, That the sums available in this account shall remain available through September 30, 2008 for liquidating obligations made in fiscal years 2000 and 2001: Provided further, That the obligated balance of funds transferred to this account in Public Law 105-276 shall remain available through September 30, 2007 for liquidating obligations made in fiscal years 1999 and 2000.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

For construction, repair, improvement, extension, alteration, and purchase of fixed equipment or facilities of, or for use by, the Environmental Protection Agency, \$62,600,000, to remain available until expended.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SUPERFUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses to carry out the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (CERCLA), as

amended, including sections 111(c)(3), (c)(5), (c)(6), and (e)(4) (42 U.S.C. 9611), and for construction, alteration, repair, rehabilitation, and renovation of facilities, not to exceed \$75,000 per project; \$1,400,000,000 (of which \$100,000,000 shall not become available until September 1, 2000), to remain available until expended, consisting of \$700,000,000, as authorized by section 517(a) of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986 (SARA), as amended by Public Law 101-508, and \$700,000,000 as a payment from general revenues to the Hazardous Substance Superfund for purposes as authorized by section 517(b) of SARA, as amended by Public Law 101-508: Provided, That funds appropriated under this heading may be allocated to other Federal agencies in accordance with section 111(a) of CERCLA: Provided further, That \$11,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be transferred to the "Office of Inspector General" appropriation to remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided further, That \$38,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be transferred to the "Science and technology" appropriation to remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 111(m) of CERCLA or any other provision of law, \$70,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) to carry out activities described in sections 104(i), 111(c)(4), and 111(c)(14) of CERCLA and section 118(f) of SARA: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, in lieu of performing a health assessment under section 104(i)(6) of CERCLA, the Administrator of ATSDR may conduct other appropriate health studies, evaluations or activities, including, without limitation, biomedical testing, clinical evaluations, medical monitoring, and referral to accredited health care providers: Provided further, That in performing any such health assessment or health study, evaluation, or activity, the Administrator of ATSDR shall not be bound by the deadlines in section 104(i)(6)(A): Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for ATSDR to issue in excess of 40 toxicological profiles pursuant to section 104(i) of CERCLA during fiscal year 2000.

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM
For necessary expenses to carry out leaking underground storage tank cleanup activities authorized by section 205 of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act of 1986, and for construction, alteration, repair, rehabilitation, and renovation of facilities, not to exceed \$75,000 per project, \$70,000,000, to remain available until expended.

OIL SPILL RESPONSE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For expenses necessary to carry out the Environmental Protection Agency's responsibilities under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, \$15,000,000, to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability trust fund, to remain available until expended.

STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

For environmental programs and infrastructure assistance, including capitalization grants for State revolving funds and performance partnership grants, \$3,466,650,000, to remain available until expended, of which \$1,350,000,000 shall be for making capitalization grants for the Clean Water State Revolving Funds under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended; \$820,000,000 shall be for capitalization grants for the Drinking Water State Revolving Funds under section 1452 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, except that, notwithstanding section 1452(n) of the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended, none of the funds made available under this heading in this Act, or in previous appropriations acts, shall be reserved by the Administrator for health effects studies on drinking water contaminants; \$50,000,000 shall be for architectural, engineer-

ing, planning, design, construction and related activities in connection with the construction of high priority water and wastewater facilities in the area of the United States-Mexico Border, after consultation with the appropriate border commission; \$30,000,000 shall be for grants to the State of Alaska to address drinking water and wastewater infrastructure needs of rural and Alaska Native Villages; \$331,650,000 shall be for making grants for the construction of wastewater and water treatment facilities and groundwater protection infrastructure in accordance with the terms and conditions specified for such grants in the conference report and joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying this Act (H.R. 2684); and \$885,000,000 shall be for grants, including associated program support costs, to States, federally recognized tribes, interstate agencies, tribal consortia, and air pollution control agencies for multi-media or single media pollution prevention, control and abatement and related activities, including activities pursuant to the provisions set forth under this heading in Public Law 104-134, and for making grants under section 103 of the Clean Air Act for particulate matter monitoring and data collection activities: Provided, That notwithstanding section 603(d)(7) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended, the limitation on the amounts in a State water pollution control revolving fund that may be used by a State to administer the fund shall not apply to amounts included as principal in loans made by such fund in fiscal year 2000 and prior years where such amounts represent costs of administering the fund, or by the State of New York for fiscal year 2000 and prior years, costs of capitalizing the fund, to the extent that such amounts are or were deemed reasonable by the Administrator, accounted for separately from other assets in the fund, and used for eligible purposes of the fund, including administration, or, by the State of New York for fiscal year 2000 and prior years, for capitalization of the fund: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 518(f) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the Administrator is authorized to use the amounts appropriated for any fiscal year under section 319 of that Act to make grants to Indian Tribes pursuant to section 319(h) and 518(e) of that Act: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, in the case of a publicly owned treatment works in the District of Columbia, the Federal share of grants awarded under title II of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, beginning October 1, 1999 and continuing through September 30, 2001, shall be 80 percent of the cost of construction, and all grants made to such publicly owned treatment works in the District of Columbia may include an advance of allowance under section 201(l)(2): Provided further, That the \$2,200,000 appropriated in Public Law 105-276 in accordance with House Report No. 105-769, for a grant to the Charleston, Utah Water Conservancy District, as amended by Public Law 106-31, shall be awarded to Wasatch County, Utah, for water and sewer needs: Provided further, That the funds appropriated under this heading in Public Law 105-276 for the City of Fairbanks, Alaska, water system improvements shall instead be for the Matanuska-Susitna Borough, Alaska, water and sewer improvements: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, all claims for principal and interest registered through grant dispute AA-91-AD34 (05-90-AD09) or any other such dispute hereafter filed by the Environmental Protection Agency relative to water pollution control center and sewer system improvement grants numbers C-390996-01, C-390996-2, and C-390996-3 made in 1976 and 1977 are hereby resolved in favor of the grantee.

The Environmental Protection Agency and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation are authorized to award, from construction grant reallocations to the State of New York of previously appropriated

funds, supplemental grant assistance to Nassau County, New York, for additional odor control at the Bay Park and Cedar Creek wastewater treatment plants, notwithstanding initiation of construction or prior State Revolving Fund funding, Nassau County may elect to accept a combined lump-sum of \$15,000,000, paid in advance of construction, in lieu of a 75 percent entitlement, to minimize grant and project administration.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

For necessary expenses of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, in carrying out the purposes of the National Science and Technology Policy, Organization, and Priorities Act of 1976 (42 U.S.C. 6601 and 6671), hire of passenger motor vehicles, and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, not to exceed \$2,500 for official reception and representation expenses, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, \$5,108,000.

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

For necessary expenses to continue functions assigned to the Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, the Environmental Quality Improvement Act of 1970, and Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 1977, \$2,827,000: Provided, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, no funds other than those appropriated under this heading shall be used for or by the Council on Environmental Quality and Office of Environmental Quality: Provided further, That notwithstanding section 202 of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970, the Council shall consist of one member, appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, serving as chairman and exercising all powers, functions, and duties of the Council.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$33,666,000, to be derived from the Bank Insurance Fund, the Savings Association Insurance Fund, and the FSLIC Resolution Fund.

FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DISASTER RELIEF

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses in carrying out the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), \$300,000,000, and, notwithstanding 42 U.S.C. 5203, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed \$2,900,000 may be transferred to "Emergency Management Planning and Assistance" for the consolidated emergency management performance grant program: Provided, That of the funds made available under this heading in this and prior Appropriations Acts and under section 404 of the Stafford Act to the State of California, \$2,000,000 shall be for a pilot project of seismic retrofit technology at California State University, San Bernardino; \$6,000,000 shall be for a seismic retrofit project at Loma Linda University Hospital; and \$2,000,000 shall be for a seismic retrofit project at the University of Redlands, Redlands: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading in this and prior Appropriations Acts and under section 404 of the Stafford Act to the State of Florida, \$1,000,000 shall be for a hurricane protection project for the St. Petersburg campus of South Florida University, and \$2,500,000 shall be for a windstorm simulation project at Florida International University, Miami: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading in this and prior Appropriations Acts and under section 404 of the Stafford Act to the State of North Carolina, \$1,000,000 shall be for a logistical staging

area concept demonstration involving warehouse facilities at the Stanly County Airport: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading in this and prior Appropriations Acts and under section 404 of the Stafford Act to the State of Louisiana, \$500,000 shall be for wave monitoring buoys in the Gulf of Mexico off the Louisiana coast.

For an additional amount for "Disaster relief", \$2,480,425,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the entire amount is designated by the Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended: Provided further, That the entire amount shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request for a specific dollar amount, that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as an emergency requirement as defined in the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985, as amended, is transmitted by the President to the Congress.

DISASTER ASSISTANCE DIRECT LOAN PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of direct loans, \$1,295,000, as authorized by section 319 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans not to exceed \$25,000,000.

In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the direct loan program, \$420,000.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, including hire and purchase of motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343; uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the maximum rate payable for senior level positions under 5 U.S.C. 5376; expenses of attendance of cooperating officials and individuals at meetings concerned with the work of emergency preparedness; transportation in connection with the continuity of Government programs to the same extent and in the same manner as permitted the Secretary of a Military Department under 10 U.S.C. 2632; and not to exceed \$2,500 for official reception and representation expenses, \$180,000,000.

OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$8,015,000.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, to carry out activities under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, and the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.), the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), the Earthquake Hazards Reduction Act of 1977, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7701 et seq.), the Federal Fire Prevention and Control Act of 1974, as amended (15 U.S.C. 2201 et seq.), the Defense Production Act of 1950, as amended (50 U.S.C. App. 2061 et seq.), sections 107 and 303 of the National Security Act of 1947, as amended (50 U.S.C. 404-405), and Reorganization Plan No. 3 of 1978, \$267,000,000: Provided, That for purposes of pre-disaster mitigation pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 5131(b) and (c) and 42 U.S.C. 5196(e) and (i), \$25,000,000 of the funds made available under this heading shall be available until expended for project grants: Provided further, That beginning in fiscal year 2000 and each fiscal year thereafter, and notwithstanding any other provision of

law, the Director of FEMA is authorized to provide assistance from funds appropriated under this heading, subject to terms and conditions as the Director of FEMA shall establish, to any State for multi-hazard preparedness and mitigation through consolidated emergency management performance grants: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, FEMA is authorized to and shall extend its cooperative agreement for the Jones County, Mississippi Emergency Operating Center, and the funds which were obligated as federal matching funds for that Center shall remain available for expenditure until September 30, 2001.

RADIOLOGICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND

The aggregate charges assessed during fiscal year 2000, as authorized by Public Law 105-276, shall not be less than 100 percent of the amounts anticipated by FEMA necessary for its radiological emergency preparedness program for the next fiscal year. The methodology for assessment and collection of fees shall be fair and equitable; and shall reflect costs of providing such services, including administrative costs of collecting such fees. Fees received pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the Fund as offsetting collections and will become available for authorized purposes on October 1, 2000, and remain available until expended.

EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER PROGRAM

To carry out an emergency food and shelter program pursuant to title III of Public Law 100-77, as amended, \$110,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That total administrative costs shall not exceed three and one-half percent of the total appropriation.

FLOOD MAP MODERNIZATION FUND

For necessary expenses pursuant to section 1360 of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, \$5,000,000, and such additional sums as may be provided by State or local governments or other political subdivisions for cost shared mapping activities under section 1360(f)(2), to remain available until expended.

NATIONAL INSURANCE DEVELOPMENT FUND

Notwithstanding the provisions of 12 U.S.C. 1735d(b) and 12 U.S.C. 1749bbb-13(b)(6), any indebtedness of the Director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency resulting from the Director borrowing sums under such sections before the date of the enactment of this Act to carry out title XII of the National Housing Act shall be canceled, and the Director shall not be obligated to repay such sums or any interest thereon, and no further interest shall accrue on such sums.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For activities under the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, as amended, not to exceed \$24,333,000 for salaries and expenses associated with flood mitigation and flood insurance operations, and not to exceed \$78,710,000 for flood mitigation, including up to \$20,000,000 for expenses under section 1366 of the National Flood Insurance Act, which amount shall be available for transfer to the National Flood Mitigation Fund until September 30, 2001. In fiscal year 2000, no funds in excess of: (1) \$47,000,000 for operating expenses; (2) \$456,427,000 for agents' commissions and taxes; and (3) \$50,000,000 for interest on Treasury borrowings shall be available from the National Flood Insurance Fund without prior notice to the Committees on Appropriations. For fiscal year 2000, flood insurance rates shall not exceed the level authorized by the National Flood Insurance Reform Act of 1994.

Section 1309(a)(2) of the National Flood Insurance Act (42 U.S.C. 4016(a)(2)), as amended by Public Law 104-208, is further amended by striking "1999" and inserting "2000".

The first sentence of section 1376(c) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended

(42 U.S.C. 4127(c)), is amended by striking "September 30, 1999" and inserting "September 30, 2000".

**NATIONAL FLOOD MITIGATION FUND
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

Notwithstanding sections 1366(b)(3)(B)-(C) and 1366(f) of the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968, as amended, \$20,000,000 to remain available until September 30, 2001, for activities designed to reduce the risk of flood damage to structures pursuant to such Act, of which \$20,000,000 shall be derived from the National Flood Insurance Fund.

**GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
CONSUMER INFORMATION CENTER FUND**

For necessary expenses of the Consumer Information Center, including services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, \$2,622,000, to be deposited into the Consumer Information Center Fund: Provided, That the appropriations, revenues and collections deposited into the fund shall be available for necessary expenses of Consumer Information Center activities in the aggregate amount of \$7,500,000. Appropriations, revenues, and collections accruing to this fund during fiscal year 2000 in excess of \$7,500,000 shall remain in the fund and shall not be available for expenditure except as authorized in appropriations Acts.

**NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE
ADMINISTRATION
HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT**

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of human space flight research and development activities, including research, development, operations, and services; maintenance; construction of facilities including repair, rehabilitation, and modification of real and personal property, and acquisition or condemnation of real property, as authorized by law; space flight, spacecraft control and communications activities including operations, production, and services; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$5,510,900,000, to remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided, That \$40,000,000 of the amount provided in this paragraph shall be available to the space shuttle program only for preparations necessary to carry out a life and micro-gravity science mission, to be flown between STS-107 and December 2001.

SCIENCE, AERONAUTICS AND TECHNOLOGY

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in the conduct and support of science, aeronautics and technology research and development activities, including research, development, operations, and services; maintenance; construction of facilities including repair, rehabilitation, and modification of real and personal property, and acquisition or condemnation of real property, as authorized by law; space flight, spacecraft control and communications activities including operations, production, and services; and purchase, lease, charter, maintenance and operation of mission and administrative aircraft, \$5,606,700,000, to remain available until September 30, 2001.

MISSION SUPPORT

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, in carrying out mission support for human space flight programs and science, aeronautical, and technology programs, including research operations and support; space communications activities including operations, production and services; maintenance; construction of facilities including repair, rehabilitation, and modification of facilities, minor construction of new facilities and additions to existing facilities, facility planning and design, environmental compliance and restoration, and acquisition or condemnation of real property, as authorized by law; program management; personnel and related costs, including uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; travel expenses; purchase, lease, charter, maintenance, and operation of mission and administrative aircraft; not to exceed \$35,000 for official

reception and representation expenses; and purchase (not to exceed 33 for replacement only) and hire of passenger motor vehicles, \$2,515,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2001.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$20,000,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Notwithstanding the limitation on the availability of funds appropriated for "Human space flight", "Science, aeronautics and technology", or "Mission support" by this appropriations Act, when any activity has been initiated by the incurrence of obligations for construction of facilities as authorized by law, such amount available for such activity shall remain available until expended. This provision does not apply to the amounts appropriated in "Mission support" pursuant to the authorization for repair, rehabilitation and modification of facilities, minor construction of new facilities and additions to existing facilities, and facility planning and design.

Notwithstanding the limitation on the availability of funds appropriated for "Human space flight", "Science, aeronautics and technology", or "Mission support" by this appropriations Act, the amounts appropriated for construction of facilities shall remain available until September 30, 2002.

Notwithstanding the limitation on the availability of funds appropriated for "Mission support" and "Office of Inspector General", amounts made available by this Act for personnel and related costs and travel expenses of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration shall remain available until September 30, 2000 and may be used to enter into contracts for training, investigations, costs associated with personnel relocation, and for other services, to be provided during the next fiscal year.

Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or in the joint explanatory statement of the committee of conference accompanying this Act, no part of the funds appropriated for "Human space flight" may be used for the development of the International Space Station in excess of the amounts set forth in the budget estimates submitted as part of the budget request for fiscal year 2000.

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

CENTRAL LIQUIDITY FACILITY

During fiscal year 2000, administrative expenses of the Central Liquidity Facility shall not exceed \$257,000: Provided, That \$1,000,000, together with amounts of principal and interest on loans repaid, to be available until expended, is available for loans to community development credit unions.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

For necessary expenses in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1861-1875), and the Act to establish a National Medal of Science (42 U.S.C. 1880-1881); services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; maintenance and operation of aircraft and purchase of flight services for research support; acquisition of aircraft; \$2,966,000,000, of which not to exceed \$253,000,000 shall remain available until expended for Polar research and operations support, and for reimbursement to other Federal agencies for operational and science support and logistical and other related activities for the United States Antarctic program; the balance to remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided, That receipts for scientific support services and materials furnished by the National Research Centers and other National Science Foundation supported research facilities may be credited to this appropriation: Provided further, That to the extent that the amount appropriated is less than the total amount authorized to be appropriated for included ac-

tivities, all amounts, including floors and ceilings, specified in the authorizing Act for those program activities or their subactivities shall be reduced proportionally: Provided further, That \$60,000,000 of the funds available under this heading shall be made available for a comprehensive research initiative on plant genomes for economically significant crop: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the National Science Foundation in this or any prior Act may be obligated or expended by the National Science Foundation to enter into or extend a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement for the support of administering the domain name and numbering system of the Internet after September 30, 1998: Provided further, That no funds in this or any other Act shall be used to acquire or lease a research vessel with ice-breaking capability built or retrofitted by a shipyard located in a foreign country if such a vessel of United States origin can be obtained at a cost no more than 50 per centum above that of the least expensive technically acceptable foreign vessel bid: Provided further, That, in determining the cost of such a vessel, such cost be increased by the amount of any subsidies or financing provided by a foreign government (or instrumental thereof) to such vessel's construction: Provided further, That if the vessel contracted for pursuant to the foregoing is not available for the 2002-2003 austral summer Antarctic season, a vessel of any origin may be leased for a period of not to exceed 120 days for that season and each season thereafter until delivery of the new vessel.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT

For necessary expenses of major construction projects pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended, including award-related travel, \$95,000,000, to remain available until expended.

EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

For necessary expenses in carrying out science and engineering education and human resources programs and activities pursuant to the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1861-1875), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, award-related travel, and rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia, \$696,600,000, to remain available until September 30, 2001: Provided, That to the extent that the amount of this appropriation is less than the total amount authorized to be appropriated for included program activities, all amounts, including floors and ceilings, specified in the authorizing Act for those program activities or their subactivities shall be reduced proportionally: Provided further, That \$10,000,000 shall be available for the purpose of establishing an office of innovation partnerships.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For salaries and expenses necessary in carrying out the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1861-1875); services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; hire of passenger motor vehicles; not to exceed \$9,000 for official reception and representation expenses; uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; rental of conference rooms in the District of Columbia; reimbursement of the General Services Administration for security guard services; \$149,000,000: Provided, That contracts may be entered into under "Salaries and expenses" in fiscal year 2000 for maintenance and operation of facilities, and for other services, to be provided during the next fiscal year.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General as authorized by the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, \$5,450,000, to remain available until September 30, 2001.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

For payment to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for use in neighborhood reinvestment activities, as authorized by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 8101-8107), \$75,000,000.

SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Selective Service System, including expenses of attendance at meetings and of training for uniformed personnel assigned to the Selective Service System, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 4101-4118 for civilian employees; and not to exceed \$1,000 for official reception and representation expenses; \$24,000,000: Provided, That during the current fiscal year, the President may exempt this appropriation from the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 1341, whenever he deems such action to be necessary in the interest of national defense: Provided further, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be expended for or in connection with the induction of any person into the Armed Forces of the United States.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 401. Where appropriations in titles I, II, and III of this Act are expendable for travel expenses and no specific limitation has been placed thereon, the expenditures for such travel expenses may not exceed the amounts set forth therefore in the budget estimates submitted for the appropriations: Provided, That this provision does not apply to accounts that do not contain an object classification for travel: Provided further, That this section shall not apply to travel performed by uncompensated officials of local boards and appeal boards of the Selective Service System; to travel performed directly in connection with care and treatment of medical beneficiaries of the Department of Veterans Affairs; to travel performed in connection with major disasters or emergencies declared or determined by the President under the provisions of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act; to travel performed by the Offices of Inspector General in connection with audits and investigations; or to payments to interagency motor pools where separately set forth in the budget schedules: Provided further, That if appropriations in titles I, II, and III exceed the amounts set forth in budget estimates initially submitted for such appropriations, the expenditures for travel may correspondingly exceed the amounts therefore set forth in the estimates in the same proportion.

SEC. 402. Appropriations and funds available for the administrative expenses of the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Selective Service System shall be available in the current fiscal year for purchase of uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901-5902; hire of passenger motor vehicles; and services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109.

SEC. 403. Funds of the Department of Housing and Urban Development subject to the Government Corporation Control Act or section 402 of the Housing Act of 1950 shall be available, without regard to the limitations on administrative expenses, for legal services on a contract or fee basis, and for utilizing and making payment for services and facilities of Federal National Mortgage Association, Government National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Financing Bank, Federal Reserve banks or any member thereof, Federal Home Loan banks, and any insured bank within the meaning of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1811-1831).

SEC. 404. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 405. No funds appropriated by this Act may be expended—

(1) pursuant to a certification of an officer or employee of the United States unless—

(A) such certification is accompanied by, or is part of, a voucher or abstract which describes the payee or payees and the items or services for which such expenditure is being made; or

(B) the expenditure of funds pursuant to such certification, and without such a voucher or abstract, is specifically authorized by law; and

(2) unless such expenditure is subject to audit by the General Accounting Office or is specifically exempt by law from such audit.

SEC. 406. None of the funds provided in this Act to any department or agency may be expended for the transportation of any officer or employee of such department or agency between their domicile and their place of employment, with the exception of any officer or employee authorized such transportation under 31 U.S.C. 1344 or 5 U.S.C. 7905.

SEC. 407. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used for payment, through grants or contracts, to recipients that do not share in the cost of conducting research resulting from proposals not specifically solicited by the Government: Provided, That the extent of cost sharing by the recipient shall reflect the mutuality of interest of the grantee or contractor and the Government in the research.

SEC. 408. None of the funds in this Act may be used, directly or through grants, to pay or to provide reimbursement for payment of the salary of a consultant (whether retained by the Federal Government or a grantee) at more than the daily equivalent of the rate paid for level IV of the Executive Schedule, unless specifically authorized by law.

SEC. 409. None of the funds provided in this Act shall be used to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings. Nothing herein affects the authority of the Consumer Product Safety Commission pursuant to section 7 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2056 et seq.).

SEC. 410. Except as otherwise provided under existing law, or under an existing Executive Order issued pursuant to an existing law, the obligation or expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for contracts for any consulting service shall be limited to contracts which are: (1) a matter of public record and available for public inspection; and (2) thereafter included in a publicly available list of all contracts entered into within 24 months prior to the date on which the list is made available to the public and of all contracts on which performance has not been completed by such date. The list required by the preceding sentence shall be updated quarterly and shall include a narrative description of the work to be performed under each such contract.

SEC. 411. Except as otherwise provided by law, no part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be obligated or expended by any executive agency, as referred to in the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 401 et seq.), for a contract for services unless such executive agency: (1) has awarded and entered into such contract in full compliance with such Act and the regulations promulgated thereunder; and (2) requires any report prepared pursuant to such contract, including plans, evaluations, studies, analyses and manuals, and any report prepared by the agency which is substantially derived from or substantially includes any report prepared pursuant to such contract, to contain information concerning: (A) the contract pursuant to which the report was prepared; and (B) the contractor who prepared the report pursuant to such contract.

SEC. 412. Except as otherwise provided in section 406, none of the funds provided in this Act to any department or agency shall be obligated or expended to provide a personal cook, chauffeur, or other personal servants to any officer or employee of such department or agency.

SEC. 413. None of the funds provided in this Act to any department or agency shall be obli-

gated or expended to procure passenger automobiles as defined in 15 U.S.C. 2001 with an EPA estimated miles per gallon average of less than 22 miles per gallon.

SEC. 414. None of the funds appropriated in title I of this Act shall be used to enter into any new lease of real property if the estimated annual rental is more than \$300,000 unless the Secretary submits, in writing, a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Congress and a period of 30 days has expired following the date on which the report is received by the Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 415. (a) It is the sense of the Congress that, to the greatest extent practicable, all equipment and products purchased with funds made available in this Act should be American-made.

(b) In providing financial assistance to, or entering into any contract with, any entity using funds made available in this Act, the head of each Federal agency, to the greatest extent practicable, shall provide to such entity a notice describing the statement made in subsection (a) by the Congress.

SEC. 416. None of the funds appropriated in this Act may be used to implement any cap on reimbursements to grantees for indirect costs, except as published in Office of Management and Budget Circular A-21.

SEC. 417. Such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2000 pay raises for programs funded by this Act shall be absorbed within the levels appropriated in this Act.

SEC. 418. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used for any program, project, or activity, when it is made known to the Federal entity or official to which the funds are made available that the program, project, or activity is not in compliance with any Federal law relating to risk assessment, the protection of private property rights, or unfunded mandates.

SEC. 419. Corporations and agencies of the Department of Housing and Urban Development which are subject to the Government Corporation Control Act, as amended, are hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for 2000 for such corporation or agency except as hereinafter provided: Provided, That collections of these corporations and agencies may be used for new loan or mortgage purchase commitments only to the extent expressly provided for in this Act (unless such loans are in support of other forms of assistance provided for in this or prior appropriations Acts), except that this proviso shall not apply to the mortgage insurance or guaranty operations of these corporations, or where loans or mortgage purchases are necessary to protect the financial interest of the United States Government.

SEC. 420. Notwithstanding section 320(g) of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1330(g)), funds made available pursuant to authorization under such section for fiscal year 2000 may be used for implementing comprehensive conservation and management plans.

SEC. 421. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the term "qualified student loan" with respect to national service education awards shall mean any loan made directly to a student by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, in addition to other meanings under section 148(b)(7) of the National and Community Service Act.

SEC. 422. It is the sense of the Congress that, along with health care, housing, education, and other benefits, the presence of an honor guard at a veteran's funeral is a benefit that a veteran has earned, and, therefore, the executive branch should provide funeral honor details for the funerals of veterans when requested, in accordance with law.

SEC. 423. Notwithstanding any other law, funds made available by this or any other Act or previous Acts for the United States/Mexico Foundation for Science may be used for the endowment of such Foundation: Provided, That funds from the United States Government shall be matched in equal amounts with funds from Mexico: Provided further, That the accounts of such Foundation shall be subject to United States Government administrative and audit requirements concerning grants and requirements concerning cost principles for nonprofit organizations: Provided further, That the United States/Mexico Foundation for Science is renamed the George E. Brown United States/Mexico Foundation for Science.

SEC. 424. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to carry out Executive Order No. 13083.

SEC. 425. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act, no part of any appropriation for the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be available for any activity in excess of amounts set forth in the budget estimates submitted for the appropriations.

SEC. 426. Except in the case of entities that are funded solely with Federal funds or any natural persons that are funded under this Act, none of the funds in this Act shall be used for the planning or execution of any program to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties to lobby or litigate in respect to adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act. A chief executive officer of any entity receiving funds under this Act shall certify that none of these funds have been used to engage in the lobbying of the Federal government or in litigation against the United States unless authorized under existing law.

SEC. 427. **LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES NOT INCLUDED AS OWNER OR OPERATOR.** Section 101(20)(D) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601(20)(D)) is amended by inserting "through seizure or otherwise in connection with law enforcement activity" before "involuntary" the first place it appears.

SEC. 428. No part of any funds appropriated in this Act shall be used by an agency of the executive branch, other than for normal and recognized executive-legislative relationships, for publicity or propaganda purposes, and for the preparation, distribution or use of any kit, pamphlet, booklet, publication, radio, television or film presentation designed to support or defeat legislation pending before the Congress, except in presentation to the Congress itself.

SEC. 429. The comment period on the proposed rules related to section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act published at 64 Federal Register 46012 and 46058 (August 23, 1999) shall be extended from October 22, 1999, for a period of 90 additional calendar days.

SEC. 430. Section 4(a) of the Act of August 9, 1950 (16 U.S.C. 77c(a)), is amended in the second sentence by striking "1999" and inserting "2000".

SEC. 431. **PROMULGATION OF STORMWATER REGULATIONS.** (a) **STORMWATER REGULATIONS.**—The Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall not promulgate the Phase II stormwater regulations until the Administrator submits to the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report containing—

(1) an in-depth impact analysis on the effect the final regulations will have on urban, suburban, and rural local governments subject to the regulations, including an estimate of—

(A) the costs of complying with the 6 minimum control measures described in the regulations; and

(B) the costs resulting from the lowering of the construction threshold from 5 acres to 1 acre;

(2) an explanation of the rationale of the Administrator for lowering the construction site threshold from 5 acres to 1 acre, including—

(A) an explanation, in light of recent court decisions, of why a 1-acre measure is any less arbitrarily determined than a 5-acre measure; and

(B) all qualitative information used in determining an acre threshold for a construction site;

(3) documentation demonstrating that stormwater runoff is generally a problem in communities with populations of 50,000 to 100,000 (including an explanation of why the coverage of the regulation is based on a census-determined population instead of a water quality threshold); and

(4) information that supports the position of the Administrator that the Phase II stormwater program should be administered as part of the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System under section 402 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (33 U.S.C. 1342).

(b) PHASE I REGULATIONS.—No later than 120 days after the enactment of this Act, the Environmental Protection Agency shall submit to the Environment and Public Works Committee of the Senate and the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives a report containing a detailed explanation of the impact, if any, that the Phase I program has had in improving water quality in the United States (including a description of specific measures that have been successful and those that have been unsuccessful).

(c) FEDERAL REGISTER.—The reports described in subsections (a) and (b) shall be published in the Federal Register for public comment.

SEC. 432. PESTICIDE TOLERANCE FEES. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act shall be used to promulgate a final regulation to implement changes in the payment of pesticide tolerance processing fees as proposed at 64 Fed. Reg. 31040, or any similar proposals. The Environmental Protection Agency may proceed with the development of such a rule.

SEC. 433. COMMERCIAL SPACE LAUNCH INDEMNIFICATION EXTENSION. Section 70113(f) of title 49, United States Code is amended by striking "December 31, 1999", and inserting "December 31, 2000".

SEC. 434. SPACE STATION COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM. (a) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to establish a demonstration regarding the commercial feasibility and economic viability of private sector business operations involving the International Space Station and its related infrastructure. The goal will be furthered by the early use of the International Space Station by United States commercial entities committing private capital to commercial enterprises on the International Space Station. In conjunction with this demonstration program, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) shall establish and publish a price policy designed to eliminate price uncertainty for those planning to utilize the International Space Station and its related facilities for United States commercial use.

(b) USE OF RECEIPTS FOR COMMERCIAL USE.—Any receipts collected by NASA from the commercial use of the International Space Station shall first be used to offset any costs incurred by NASA in support of the United States commercial use of the International Space Station. Any receipts collected in excess of the costs identified pursuant to the prior sentence may be retained by NASA for use without fiscal year limitation in promoting the commercial use of the International Space Station.

(c) REPORT.—NASA shall submit an annual report to the Congress that identifies all receipts that are collected under this section, the use of the receipts and the status of the demonstration. NASA shall submit a final report on the status of the demonstration, including any recommendation for expansion, within 120 days of the completion of the assembly of the International Space Station or the end of fiscal year 2004, whichever is earlier.

(d) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term "United States commercial use" means private commercial projects that are designed to benefit the United States through the sales of goods or services or the creation of jobs, or both.

(e) TERMINATION.—The demonstration program established under this section shall apply to United States commercial use agreements that are entered into prior to the date of the completion of the International Space Station or the end of fiscal year 2004, whichever is earlier.

SEC. 435. INSURANCE; INDEMNIFICATION; LIABILITY. (a) AMENDMENT.—The National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 (42 U.S.C. 2451 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 308 the following new section:

"EXPERIMENTAL AEROSPACE VEHICLE

"(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may provide liability insurance for, or indemnification to, the developer of an experimental aerospace vehicle developed or used in execution of an agreement between the Administration and the developer.

"(b) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this section, the insurance and indemnification provided by the Administration under subsection (a) to a developer shall be provided on the same terms and conditions as insurance and indemnification is provided by the Administration under section 308 of this Act to the user of a space vehicle.

"(2) INSURANCE.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—A developer shall obtain liability insurance or demonstrate financial responsibility in amounts to compensate for the maximum probable loss from claims by—

"(i) a third party for death, bodily injury, or property damage, or loss resulting from an activity carried out in connection with the development or use of an experimental aerospace vehicle; and

"(ii) the United States Government for damage or loss to Government property resulting from such an activity.

"(B) MAXIMUM REQUIRED.—The Administrator shall determine the amount of insurance required, but, except as provided in subparagraph (C), that amount shall not be greater than the amount required under section 70112(a)(3) of title 49, United States Code, for a launch. The Administrator shall publish notice of the Administrator's determination and the applicable amount or amounts in the Federal Register within 10 days after making the determination.

"(C) INCREASE IN DOLLAR AMOUNTS.—The Administrator may increase the dollar amounts set forth in section 70112(a)(3)(A) of title 49, United States Code, for the purpose of applying that section under this section to a developer after consultation with the Comptroller General and such experts and consultants as may be appropriate, and after publishing notice of the increase in the Federal Register not less than 180 days before the increase goes into effect. The Administrator shall make available for public inspection, not later than the date of publication of such notice, a complete record of any correspondence received by the Administration, and a transcript of any meetings in which the Administration participated, regarding the proposed increase.

"(D) SAFETY REVIEW REQUIRED BEFORE ADMINISTRATOR PROVIDES INSURANCE.—The Administrator may not provide liability insurance or indemnification under subsection (a) unless the developer establishes to the satisfaction of the Administrator that appropriate safety procedures and practices are being followed in the development of the experimental aerospace vehicle.

"(3) NO INDEMNIFICATION WITHOUT CROSS-WAIVER.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Administrator may not indemnify a developer of an experimental aerospace vehicle under this section unless there is an agreement between the Administration and the developer described in subsection (c).

"(4) APPLICATION OF CERTAIN PROCEDURES.—If the Administrator requests additional appropriations to make payments under this section, like the payments that may be made under section 308(b) of this Act, then the request for those appropriations shall be made in accordance with the procedures established by subsections (d) and (e) of section 70113 of title 49, United States Code.

"(c) CROSS-WAIVERS.—

"(1) ADMINISTRATOR AUTHORIZED TO WAIVE.—The Administrator, on behalf of the United States, and its departments, agencies, and related entities, may reciprocally waive claims with a developer or cooperating party and with the related entities of that developer or cooperating party under which each party to the waiver agrees to be responsible, and agrees to ensure that its own related entities are responsible, for damage or loss to its property for which it is responsible, or for losses resulting from any injury or death sustained by its own employees or agents, as a result of activities connected to the agreement or use of the experimental aerospace vehicle.

"(2) LIMITATIONS.—

"(A) CLAIMS.—A reciprocal waiver under paragraph (1) may not preclude a claim by any natural person (including, but not limited to, a natural person who is an employee of the United States, the developer, the cooperating party, or their respective subcontractors) or that natural person's estate, survivors, or subrogees for injury or death, except with respect to a subrogee that is a party to the waiver or has otherwise agreed to be bound by the terms of the waiver.

"(B) LIABILITY FOR NEGLIGENCE.—A reciprocal waiver under paragraph (1) may not absolve any party of liability to any natural person (including, but not limited to, a natural person who is an employee of the United States, the developer, the cooperating party, or their respective subcontractors) or such a natural person's estate, survivors, or subrogees for negligence, except with respect to a subrogee that is a party to the waiver or has otherwise agreed to be bound by the terms of the waiver.

"(C) INDEMNIFICATION FOR DAMAGES.—A reciprocal waiver under paragraph (1) may not be used as the basis of a claim by the Administration, or the developer or cooperating party, for indemnification against the other for damages paid to a natural person, or that natural person's estate, survivors, or subrogees, for injury or death sustained by that natural person as a result of activities connected to the agreement or use of the experimental aerospace vehicle.

"(3) EFFECT ON PREVIOUS WAIVERS.—Subsection (c) applies to any waiver of claims entered into by the Administration without regard to whether it was entered into before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

"(d) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) COOPERATING PARTY.—The term 'cooperating party' means any person who enters into an agreement with the Administration for the performance of cooperative scientific, aeronautical, or space activities to carry out the purposes of this Act.

"(2) DEVELOPER.—The term 'developer' means a United States person (other than a natural person) who—

"(A) is a party to an agreement with the Administration for the purpose of developing new technology for an experimental aerospace vehicle;

"(B) owns or provides property to be flown or situated on that vehicle; or

"(C) employs a natural person to be flown on that vehicle.

"(3) EXPERIMENTAL AEROSPACE VEHICLE.—The term 'experimental aerospace vehicle' means an object intended to be flown in, or launched into, orbital or suborbital flight for the purpose of demonstrating technologies necessary for a reusable launch vehicle, developed under an agreement between the Administration and a developer.

“(4) RELATED ENTITY.—The term ‘related entity’ includes a contractor or subcontractor at any tier, a supplier, a grantee, and an investigator or detailee.

“(e) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAWS.—

“(I) SECTION 308.—This section does not apply to any object, transaction, or operation to which section 308 of this Act applies.

“(2) CHAPTER 701 OF TITLE 49, UNITED STATES CODE.—The Administrator may not provide indemnification to a developer under this section for launches subject to license under section 70117(g)(1) of title 49, United States Code.”.

(b) REPEAL.—Section 431 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-276) is repealed.

TITLE V—PRESERVATION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

SEC. 501. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ‘Preserving Affordable Housing for Senior Citizens and Families into the 21st Century Act’.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this title is as follows:

Sec. 501. Short title and table of contents.

Sec. 502. Regulations.

Sec. 503. Effective date.

Subtitle A—Authorization of Appropriations for Supportive Housing for the Elderly and Persons With Disabilities

Sec. 511. SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR ELDERLY PERSONS.

an opportunity to participate in, the rulemaking, as required by such section 553.

SEC. 503. EFFECTIVE DATE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The provisions of this title and the amendments made by this title are effective as of the date of the enactment of this Act, unless such provisions or amendments specifically provide for effectiveness or applicability upon another date certain.

(b) EFFECT OF REGULATORY AUTHORITY.—Any authority in this title or the amendments made by this title to issue regulations, and any specific requirement to issue regulations by a date certain, may not be construed to affect the effectiveness or applicability of the provisions of this title or the amendments made by this title under such provisions and amendments and subsection (a) of this section.

Subtitle A—Authorization of Appropriations for Supportive Housing for the Elderly and Persons With Disabilities

SEC. 511. SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR ELDERLY PERSONS.

Section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(m) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for providing assistance under this section \$710,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.”.

SEC. 512. SUPPORTIVE HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

Section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (m) as subsection (n); and

(2) by inserting after subsection (l) the following new subsection:

“(m) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for providing assistance under this section \$201,000,000 for fiscal year 2000.”.

SEC. 513. SERVICE COORDINATORS AND CONGREGATE SERVICES FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED HOUSING.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR FEDERALLY ASSISTED HOUSING.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development \$50,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 for the following purposes:

(1) GRANTS FOR SERVICE COORDINATORS FOR CERTAIN FEDERALLY ASSISTED MULTIFAMILY HOUSING.—For grants under section 676 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13632) for providing service coordinators.

(2) CONGREGATE SERVICES FOR FEDERALLY ASSISTED HOUSING.—For contracts under section 802 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8011) to provide congregate services programs for eligible residents of eligible housing projects under subparagraphs (B) through (D) of subsection (k)(6) of such section.

(b) PUBLIC HOUSING.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2000 for grants for use only for activities described in paragraph (2) of section 34(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437z-6(b)(2)) for renewal of all grants made in prior fiscal years for providing service coordinators and congregate services for the elderly and disabled in public housing.

Subtitle B—Expanding Housing Opportunities for the Elderly and Persons With Disabilities

SEC. 521. STUDY OF DEBT FORGIVENESS FOR SECTION 202 LOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct an analysis of the net impact on the Federal budget deficit or surplus of making available, on a one-time basis, to sponsors of projects assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (as in effect before the enactment of the Cranston-Gon-

zalez National Affordable Housing Act), forgiveness of any indebtedness to the Secretary relating to any remaining principal and interest under loans made under such section, together with a dollar for dollar reduction in the amount of rental assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 or other rental assistance provided for such project. Such analysis shall take into consideration the full cost of future appropriations for rental assistance under such section 8 expected to be provided if such debt forgiveness does not take place, notwithstanding current budgetary treatment of such actions pursuant to the Congressional Budget Act of 1974.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the 3-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall submit a report to the Congress containing the quantitative results of the analysis and an enumeration of any project or administrative benefits of such actions.

SEC. 522. GRANTS FOR CONVERSION OF ELDERLY HOUSING TO ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES.

Title II of the Housing Act of 1959 is amended by inserting after section 202a (12 U.S.C. 1701q-1) the following new section:

“SEC. 202b. GRANTS FOR CONVERSION OF ELDERLY HOUSING TO ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES.

“(a) GRANT AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may make grants in accordance with this section to owners of eligible projects described in subsection (b) for one or both of the following activities:

“(1) REPAIRS.—Substantial capital repairs to a project that are needed to rehabilitate, modernize, or retrofit aging structures, common areas, or individual dwelling units.

“(2) CONVERSION.—Activities designed to convert dwelling units in the eligible project to assisted living facilities for elderly persons.

“(b) ELIGIBLE PROJECTS.—An eligible project described in this subsection is a multifamily housing project that is—

“(1)(A) described in subparagraph (B), (C), (D), (E), (F), or (G) of section 683(2) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13641(2)), or (B) only to the extent amounts of the Department of Agriculture are made available to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for such grants under this section for such projects, subject to a loan made or insured under section 515 of the Housing Act of 1949 (42 U.S.C. 1485);

“(2) owned by a private nonprofit organization (as such term is defined in section 202); and

“(3) designated primarily for occupancy by elderly persons.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection or this section, an unused or underutilized commercial property may be considered an eligible project under this subsection, except that the Secretary may not provide grants under this section for more than 3 such properties. For any such projects, any reference under this section to dwelling units shall be considered to refer to the premises of such properties.

“(c) APPLICATIONS.—Applications for grants under this section shall be submitted to the Secretary in accordance with such procedures as the Secretary shall establish. Such applications shall contain—

“(1) a description of the substantial capital repairs or the proposed conversion activities for which a grant under this section is requested;

“(2) the amount of the grant requested to complete the substantial capital repairs or conversion activities;

“(3) a description of the resources that are expected to be made available, if any, in conjunction with the grant under this section; and

“(4) such other information or certifications that the Secretary determines to be necessary or appropriate.

“(d) FUNDING FOR SERVICES.—The Secretary may not make a grant under this section for

conversion activities unless the application contains sufficient evidence, in the determination of the Secretary, of firm commitments for the funding of services to be provided in the assisted living facility, which may be provided by third parties.

(e) SELECTION CRITERIA.—The Secretary shall select applications for grants under this section based upon selection criteria, which shall be established by the Secretary and shall include—

“(I) in the case of a grant for substantial capital repairs, the extent to which the project to be repaired is in need of such repair, including such factors as the age of improvements to be repaired, and the impact on the health and safety of residents of failure to make such repairs;

“(2) in the case of a grant for conversion activities, the extent to which the conversion is likely to provide assisted living facilities that are needed or are expected to be needed by the categories of elderly persons that the assisted living facility is intended to serve, with a special emphasis on very low-income elderly persons who need assistance with activities of daily living;

“(3) the inability of the applicant to fund the repairs or conversion activities from existing financial resources, as evidenced by the applicant's financial records, including assets in the applicant's residual receipts account and reserves for replacement account;

“(4) the extent to which the applicant has evidenced community support for the repairs or conversion, by such indicators as letters of support from the local community for the repairs or conversion and financial contributions from public and private sources;

“(5) in the case of a grant for conversion activities, the extent to which the applicant demonstrates a strong commitment to promoting the autonomy and independence of the elderly persons that the assisted living facility is intended to serve;

“(6) in the case of a grant for conversion activities, the quality, completeness, and managerial capability of providing the services which the assisted living facility intends to provide to elderly residents, especially in such areas as meals, 24-hour staffing, and on-site health care; and

“(7) such other criteria as the Secretary determines to be appropriate to ensure that funds made available under this section are used effectively.

(f) DEFINITIONS.—For the purposes of this section—

“(I) the term 'assisted living facility' has the meaning given such term in section 232(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715w(b)); and

“(2) the definitions in section 202(k) shall apply.

(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for providing grants under this section such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2000.”.

SEC. 523. USE OF SECTION 8 ASSISTANCE FOR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES.

(a) VOUCHER ASSISTANCE.—Section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

(18) RENTAL ASSISTANCE FOR ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A public housing agency may make assistance payments on behalf of a family that uses an assisted living facility as a principal place of residence and that uses such supportive services made available in the facility as the agency may require. Such payments may be made only for covering costs of rental of the dwelling unit in the assisted living facility and not for covering any portion of the cost of residing in such facility that is attributable to service relating to assisted living.

“(B) RENT CALCULATION.—

(i) CHARGES INCLUDED.—For assistance pursuant to this paragraph, the rent of the dwell-

ing unit that is an assisted living facility with respect to which assistance payments are made shall include maintenance and management charges related to the dwelling unit and tenant-paid utilities. Such rent shall not include any charges attributable to services relating to assisted living.

(ii) PAYMENT STANDARD.—In determining the monthly assistance that may be paid under this paragraph on behalf of any family residing in an assisted living facility, the public housing agency shall utilize the payment standard established under paragraph (I), for the market area in which the assisted living facility is located, for the applicable size dwelling unit.

(iii) MONTHLY ASSISTANCE PAYMENT.—The monthly assistance payment for a family assisted under this paragraph shall be determined in accordance with paragraph (2) (using the rent and payment standard for the dwelling unit as determined in accordance with this subsection).

(C) DEFINITION.—For the purposes of this paragraph, the term 'assisted living facility' has the meaning given that term in section 232(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715w(b)), except that such a facility may be contained within a portion of a larger multifamily housing project.”.

(b) PROJECT-BASED ASSISTANCE.—Section 202b of the Housing Act of 1939, as added by section 522 of this Act, is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (f) and (g) as subsections (g) and (h), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (e) the following new subsection:

“(f) SECTION 8 PROJECT-BASED ASSISTANCE.—
“(1) ELIGIBILITY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a multifamily project which includes one or more dwelling units that have been converted to assisted living facilities using grants made under this section shall be eligible for project-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, in the same manner in which the project would be eligible for such assistance but for the assisted living facilities in the project.

(2) CALCULATION OF RENT.—For assistance pursuant to this subsection, the maximum monthly rent of a dwelling unit that is an assisted living facility with respect to which assistance payments are made shall not include charges attributable to services relating to assisted living.”.

SEC. 524. SIZE LIMITATION FOR PROJECTS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES.

(a) LIMITATION.—Section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013) is amended—

(1) in subsection (k)(4), by inserting “, subject to the limitation under subsection (h)(6)” after “prescribe”; and

(2) in subsection (l), by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) SIZE LIMITATION.—Of any amounts made available for any fiscal year and used for capital advances or project rental assistance under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (d), not more than 25 percent may be used for supportive housing which contains more than 24 separate dwelling units.”.

(b) STUDY.—Not later than the expiration of the 3-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct a study and submit a report to the Congress regarding—

(1) the extent to which the authority of the Secretary under section 811(k)(4) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(k)(4)), as in effect immediately before the enactment of this Act, has been used in each year since 1990 to provide for assistance under such section for supportive housing for persons with disabilities having more than 24 separate dwelling units;

(2) the per-unit costs of, and the benefits and problems associated with, providing such housing in projects having 8 or less dwelling units, 8 to 24 units, and more than 24 units; and

(3) the per-unit costs of, and the benefits and problems associated with providing housing under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1939 (12 U.S.C. 1701q) in projects having 30 to 50 dwelling units, in projects having more than 50 but not more than 80 dwelling units, in projects having more than 80 but not more than 120 dwelling units, and in projects having more than 120 dwelling units, but the study shall also examine the social considerations afforded by smaller and moderate-size developments and shall not be limited to economic factors.

SEC. 525. COMMISSION ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING AND HEALTH CARE FACILITY NEEDS IN THE 21ST CENTURY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established a commission to be known as the Commission on Affordable Housing and Health Care Facility Needs in the 21st Century (in this section referred to as the “Commission”).

(b) STUDY.—The duty of the Commission shall be to conduct a study that—

(1) compiles and interprets information regarding the expected increase in the population of persons 62 years of age or older, particularly information regarding distribution of income levels, homeownership and home equity rates, and degree or extent of health and independence of living;

(2) provides an estimate of the future needs of seniors for affordable housing and assisted living and health care facilities;

(3) provides a comparison of estimate of such future needs with an estimate of the housing and facilities expected to be provided under existing public programs, and identifies possible actions or initiatives that may assist in providing affordable housing and assisted living and health care facilities to meet such expected needs;

(4) identifies and analyzes methods of encouraging increased private sector participation, investment, and capital formation in affordable housing and assisted living and health care facilities for seniors through partnerships between public and private entities and other creative strategies;

(5) analyzes the costs and benefits of comprehensive aging-in-place strategies, taking into consideration physical and mental well-being and the importance of coordination between shelter and supportive services;

(6) identifies and analyzes methods of promoting a more comprehensive approach to dealing with housing and supportive service issues involved in aging and the multiple governmental agencies involved in such issues, including the Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Department of Health and Human Services; and

(7) examines how to establish intergenerational learning and care centers and living arrangements, in particular to facilitate appropriate environments for families consisting only of children and a grandparent or grandparents who are the head of the household.

(c) MEMBERSHIP.—

(i) NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission shall be composed of 14 members, appointed not later than January 1, 2000, as follows:

(A) Two co-chairpersons, of whom—

(i) one co-chairperson shall be appointed by a committee consisting of the chairman of the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunities of the House of Representatives and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation of the Senate, and the chairmen of the Subcommittees on the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate; and

(ii) one co-chairperson shall be appointed by a committee consisting of the ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunities of the House of Representatives and the ranking minority member of the Subcommittee on Housing and Transportation of the Senate, and the ranking minority

members of the Subcommittees on the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(B) Six members appointed by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Banking and Financial Services of the House of Representatives and the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

(C) Six members appointed by the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member of the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

(2) **QUALIFICATIONS.**—Appointees should have proven expertise in directing, assembling, or applying capital resources from a variety of sources to the successful development of affordable housing, assisted living facilities, or health care facilities.

(3) **VACANCIES.**—Any vacancy on the Commission shall not affect its powers and shall be filled in the manner in which the original appointment was made.

(4) **CHAIRPERSONS.**—The members appointed pursuant to paragraph (1)(A) shall serve as chairpersons of the Commission.

(5) **PROHIBITION OF PAY.**—Members of the Commission shall serve without pay.

(6) **TRAVEL EXPENSES.**—Each member of the Commission shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(7) **QUORUM.**—A majority of the members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum but a lesser number may hold hearings.

(8) **MEETINGS.**—The Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairpersons.

(d) **DIRECTOR AND STAFF.**—

(i) **DIRECTOR.**—The Commission shall have a Director who shall be appointed by the Chairperson. The Director shall be paid at a rate not to exceed the rate of basic pay payable for level V of the Executive Schedule.

(2) **STAFF.**—The Commission may appoint personnel as appropriate. The staff of the Commission shall be appointed subject to the provisions of title 5, United States Code, governing appointments in the competitive service, and shall be paid in accordance with the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of that title relating to classification and General Schedule pay rates.

(3) **EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.**—The Commission may procure temporary and intermittent services under section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the daily equivalent of the maximum annual rate of basic pay payable for the General Schedule.

(4) **STAFF OF FEDERAL AGENCIES.**—Upon request of the Commission, the head of any Federal department or agency may detail, on a reimbursable basis, any of the personnel of that department or agency to the Commission to assist it in carrying out its duties under this Act.

(e) **POWERS.**—

(i) **HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.**—The Commission may, for the purpose of carrying out this section, hold hearings, sit and act at times and places, take testimony, and receive evidence as the Commission considers appropriate.

(2) **POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.**—Any member or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the Commission, take any action which the Commission is authorized to take by this section.

(3) **OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.**—The Commission may secure directly from any department or agency of the United States information necessary to enable it to carry out this Act. Upon request of the Chairpersons of the Commission, the head of that department or agency shall furnish that information to the Commission.

(4) **GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DEVISES.**—The Commission may accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of services or property, both real and personal, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Commission. Gifts, bequests, or devises of money and proceeds from sales of other property received as gifts, bequests, or devises shall be deposited in the Treasury and shall be available for disbursement upon order of the Commission.

(5) **MAILS.**—The Commission may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(6) **ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.**—Upon the request of the Commission, the Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable basis, the administrative support services necessary for the Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this section.

(7) **CONTRACT AUTHORITY.**—The Commission may contract with and compensate government and private agencies or persons for services, without regard to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (41 U.S.C. 5).

(f) **REPORT.**—The Commission shall submit to the Committees on Banking and Financial Services and Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs and Appropriations of the Senate, a final report not later than December 31, 2001. The report shall contain a detailed statement of the findings and conclusions of the Commission with respect to the study conducted under subsection (b), together with its recommendations for legislation, administrative actions, and any other actions the Commission considers appropriate.

(g) **TERMINATION.**—The Commission shall terminate on June 30, 2002. Section 14(a)(2)(B) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.; relating to the termination of advisory committees) shall not apply to the Commission.

Subtitle C—Renewal of Expiring Rental Assistance Contracts and Protection of Residents

SEC. 531. RENEWAL OF EXPIRING CONTRACTS AND ENHANCED VOUCHERS FOR PROJECT RESIDENTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 524 of the Multi-family Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is amended to read as follows:

“SEC. 524. RENEWAL OF EXPIRING PROJECT BASED SECTION 8 CONTRACTS.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—

(i) **RENEWAL.**—Subject to paragraph (2), upon termination or expiration of a contract for project-based assistance under section 8 for a multifamily housing project (and notwithstanding section 8(v) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 for loan management assistance), the Secretary shall, at the request of the owner of the project and to the extent sufficient amounts are made available in appropriation Acts, use amounts available for the renewal of assistance under section 8 of such Act to provide such assistance for the project. The assistance shall be provided under a contract having such terms and conditions as the Secretary considers appropriate, subject to the requirements of this section. This section shall not require contract renewal for a project that is eligible under this subtitle for a mortgage restructuring and rental assistance sufficiency plan, if there is no approved plan for the project and the Secretary determines that such an approved plan is necessary.

(2) **PROHIBITION ON RENEWAL.**—Notwithstanding part 24 of title 24 of the Code of Federal Regulations, the Secretary may elect not to renew assistance for a project otherwise required to be renewed under paragraph (1) or provide comparable benefits under paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (e) for a project described in either such paragraph, if the Secretary deter-

mines that a violation under paragraph (1) through (4) of section 516(a) has occurred with respect to the project. For purposes of such a determination, the provisions of section 516 shall apply to a project under this section in the same manner and to the same extent that the provisions of such section apply to eligible multifamily housing projects, except that the Secretary shall make the determination under section 516(a)(4).

(3) **CONTRACT TERM FOR MARK-UP-TO-MARKET CONTRACTS.**—In the case of an expiring or terminating contract that has rent levels less than comparable market rents for the market area, if the rent levels under the renewal contract under this section are equal to comparable market rents for the market area, the contract shall have a term of not less than 5 years, subject to the availability of sufficient amounts in appropriation Acts.

(4) **RENEWAL RENTS.**—Except as provided in subsection (b), the contract for assistance shall provide assistance at the following rent levels:

(A) **MARKET RENTS.**—At the request of the owner of the project, at rent levels equal to the lesser of comparable market rents for the market area or 150 percent of the fair market rents, in the case only of a project that—

(i) has rent levels under the expiring or terminating contract that do not exceed such comparable market rents;

(ii) does not have a low- and moderate-income use restriction that can not be eliminated by unilateral action by the owner;

(iii) is decent, safe, and sanitary housing, as determined by the Secretary;

(iv) is not—

(v) owned by a nonprofit entity;

(II) subject to a contract for moderate rehabilitation assistance under section 8(e)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, as in effect before October 1, 1991; or

(III) a project for which the public housing agency provided voucher assistance to one or more of the tenants after the owner has provided notice of termination of the contract covering the tenant's unit; and

(v) has units assisted under the contract for which the comparable market rent exceeds 110 percent of the fair market rent.

The Secretary may adjust the percentages of fair market rent (as specified in the matter preceding clause (i) and in clause (v)), but only upon a determination and written notification to the Congress within 10 days of making such determination, that such adjustment is necessary to ensure that this subparagraph covers projects with a high risk of nonrenewal of expiring contracts for project-based assistance.

(B) **REDUCTION TO MARKET RENTS.**—In the case of a project that has rent levels under the expiring or terminating contract that exceed comparable market rents for the market area, at rent levels equal to such comparable market rents.

(C) **RENTS NOT EXCEEDING MARKET RENTS.**—In the case of a project that is not subject to subparagraph (A) or (B), at rent levels that—

(i) are not less than the existing rents under the terminated or expiring contract, as adjusted by an operating cost adjustment factor established by the Secretary (which shall not result in a negative adjustment), if such adjusted rents do not exceed comparable market rents for the market area; and

(ii) do not exceed comparable market rents for the market area.

In determining the rent level for a contract under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall approve rents sufficient to cover budget-based cost increases and shall give greater consideration to providing rent at a level up to comparable market rents for the market area based on the number of the criteria under clauses (i) through (iii) of subparagraph (D) that the project meets.

(D) **WAIVER OF 150 PERCENT LIMITATION.**—Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), at rent levels up to comparable market rents for the market

area, in the case of a project that meets the requirements under clauses (i) through (v) of subparagraph (A) and—

“(i) has residents who are a particularly vulnerable population, as demonstrated by a high percentage of units being rented to elderly families, disabled families, or large families;

“(ii) is located in an area in which tenant-based assistance would be difficult to use, as demonstrated by a low vacancy rate for affordable housing, a high turnback rate for vouchers, or a lack of comparable rental housing; or

“(iii) is a high priority for the local community, as demonstrated by a contribution of State or local funds to the property.

In determining the rent level for a contract under this subparagraph, the Secretary shall approve rents sufficient to cover budget-based cost increases and shall give greater consideration to providing rent at a level up to comparable market rents for the market area based on the number of the criteria under clauses (i) through (iv) that the project meets.

“(5) COMPARABLE MARKET RENTS AND COMPARISON WITH FAIR MARKET RENTS.—The Secretary shall prescribe the method for determining comparable market rent by comparison with rents charged for comparable properties (as such term is defined in section 512), which may include appropriate adjustments for utility allowances and adjustments to reflect the value of any subsidy (other than section 8 assistance) provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

“(b) EXCEPTION RENTS.—

“(I) RENEWAL.—In the case of a multifamily housing project described in paragraph (2), pursuant to the request of the owner of the project, the contract for assistance for the project pursuant to subsection (a) shall provide assistance at the lesser of the following rent levels:

“(A) ADJUSTED EXISTING RENTS.—The existing rents under the expiring contract, as adjusted by an operating cost adjustment factor established by the Secretary (which shall not result in a negative adjustment).

“(B) BUDGET-BASED RENTS.—Subject to a determination by the Secretary that a rent level under this subparagraph is appropriate for a project, a rent level that provides income sufficient to support a budget-based rent (including a budget-based rent adjustment if justified by reasonable and expected operating expenses).

“(2) PROJECTS COVERED.—A multifamily housing project described in this paragraph is a multifamily housing project that—

“(A) is not an eligible multifamily housing project under section 512(2); or

“(B) is exempt from mortgage restructuring under this subtitle pursuant to section 514(h).

“(3) MODERATE REHABILITATION PROJECTS.—In the case of a project with a contract under the moderate rehabilitation program, other than a moderate rehabilitation contract under section 441 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, pursuant to the request of the owner of the project, the contract for assistance for the project pursuant to subsection (a) shall provide assistance at the lesser of the following rent levels:

“(A) ADJUSTED EXISTING RENTS.—The existing rents under the expiring contract, as adjusted by an operating cost adjustment factor established by the Secretary (which shall not result in a negative adjustment).

“(B) FAIR MARKET RENTS.—Fair market rents (less any amounts allowed for tenant-purchased utilities).

“(C) MARKET RENTS.—Comparable market rents for the market area.

“(c) RENT ADJUSTMENTS AFTER RENEWAL OF CONTRACT.—

“(I) REQUIRED.—After the initial renewal of a contract for assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 pursuant to subsection (a), (b)(1), or (e)(2), the Secretary shall annually adjust the rents using an operating cost adjustment factor established by the

Secretary (which shall not result in a negative adjustment) or, upon the request of the owner and subject to approval of the Secretary, on a budget basis. In the case of projects with contracts renewed pursuant to subsection (a) or pursuant to subsection (e)(2) at rent levels equal to comparable market rents for the market area, at the expiration of each 5-year period, the Secretary shall compare existing rents with comparable market rents for the market area and may make any adjustments in the rent necessary to maintain the contract rents at a level not greater than comparable market rents or to increase rents to comparable market rents.

“(2) DISCRETIONARY.—In addition to review and adjustment required under paragraph (1), in the case of projects with contracts renewed pursuant to subsection (a) or pursuant to subsection (e)(2) at rent levels equal to comparable market rents for the market area, the Secretary may, at the discretion of the Secretary but only once within each 5-year period referred to in paragraph (1), conduct a comparison of rents for a project and adjust the rents accordingly to maintain the contract rents at a level not greater than comparable market rents or to increase rents to comparable market rents.

“(d) ENHANCED VOUCHERS UPON CONTRACT EXPIRATION.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a contract for project-based assistance under section 8 for a covered project that is not renewed under subsection (a) or (b) of this section (or any other authority), to the extent that amounts for assistance under this subsection are provided in advance in appropriation Acts, upon the date of the expiration of such contract the Secretary shall make enhanced voucher assistance under section 8(t) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(t)) available on behalf of each low-income family who, upon the date of such expiration, is residing in an assisted dwelling unit in the covered project.

“(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection, the following definitions shall apply:

“(A) ASSISTED DWELLING UNIT.—The term ‘assisted dwelling unit’ means a dwelling unit that—

“(i) is in a covered project; and

“(ii) is covered by rental assistance provided under the contract for project-based assistance for the covered project.

“(B) COVERED PROJECT.—The term ‘covered project’ means any housing that—

“(i) consists of more than 4 dwelling units;

“(ii) is covered in whole or in part by a contract for project-based assistance under—

“(I) the new construction or substantial rehabilitation program under section 8(b)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as in effect before October 1, 1983);

“(II) the property disposition program under section 8(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

“(III) the moderate rehabilitation program under section 8(e)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as in effect before October 1, 1991);

“(IV) the loan management assistance program under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

“(V) section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (as in effect before January 1, 1975);

“(VI) the rent supplement program under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965; or

“(VII) section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937, following conversion from assistance under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965, which contract will (under its own terms) expire during the period consisting of fiscal years 2000 through 2004; and

“(iii) is not housing for which residents are eligible for enhanced voucher assistance as provided, pursuant to the ‘Preserving Existing Housing Investment’ account in the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and

Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (Public Law 104-204; 110 Stat. 2884) or any other subsequently enacted provision of law, in lieu of any benefits under section 223 of the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 (12 U.S.C. 4113).

“(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004 such sums as may be necessary for enhanced voucher assistance under this subsection.

“(e) CONTRACTUAL COMMITMENTS UNDER PRESERVATION LAWS.—Except as provided in subsection (a)(2) and notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, the following shall apply:

“(I) PRESERVATION PROJECTS.—Upon expiration of a contract for assistance under section 8 for a project that is subject to an approved plan of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 (12 U.S.C. 1715l note) or the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 (12 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.), to the extent amounts are specifically made available in appropriation Acts, the Secretary shall provide to the owner benefits comparable to those provided under such plan of action, including distributions, rent increase procedures, and duration of low-income affordability restrictions. This paragraph shall apply to projects with contracts expiring before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this section.

“(2) DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—Upon expiration of a contract for assistance under section 8 for a project entered into pursuant to any authority specified in subparagraph (B) for which the Secretary determines that debt restructuring is inappropriate, the Secretary shall, at the request of the owner of the project and to the extent sufficient amounts are made available in appropriation Acts, provide benefits to the owner comparable to those provided under such contract, including annual distributions, rent increase procedures, and duration of low-income affordability restrictions. This paragraph shall apply to projects with contracts expiring before, on, or after the date of the enactment of this section.

“(B) DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS.—The authority specified in this subparagraph is the authority under—

“(i) section 210 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (Public Law 104-134; 110 Stat. 1321-285; 42 U.S.C. 1437f note);

“(ii) section 212 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (Public Law 104-204; 110 Stat. 2897; 42 U.S.C. 1437f note); and

“(iii) either of such sections, pursuant to any provision of this title.

“(f) PREEMPTION OF CONFLICTING STATE LAWS LIMITING DISTRIBUTIONS.—

“(I) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), no State or political subdivision of a State may establish, continue in effect, or enforce any law or regulation that limits or restricts, to an amount that is less than the amount provided for under the regulations of the Secretary establishing allowable project distributions to provide a return on investment, the amount of surplus funds accruing after the date of the enactment of this section that may be distributed from any multifamily housing project assisted under a contract for rental assistance renewed under any provision of this section (except subsection (b)) to the owner of the project.

“(2) EXCEPTION AND WAIVER.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any law or regulation to the extent such law or regulation applies to—

“(A) a State-financed multifamily housing project; or

“(B) a multifamily housing project for which the owner has elected to waive the applicability of paragraph (1).

“(3) TREATMENT OF LOW-INCOME USE RESTRICTIONS.—This subsection may not be construed to provide for, allow, or result in the release or termination, for any project, of any low- or moderate-income use restrictions that can not be eliminated by unilateral action of the owner of the project.

“(g) APPLICABILITY.—Except to the extent otherwise specifically provided in this section, this section shall apply with respect to any multifamily housing project having a contract for project-based assistance under section 8 that terminates or expires during fiscal year 2000 or thereafter.”.

“(b) DEFINITION OF ELIGIBLE MULTIFAMILY HOUSING PROJECT.—Section 512(2) of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is amended by inserting after and below subparagraph (C) the following:

“Such term does not include any project with an expiring contract described in paragraph (1) or (2) of section 524(e).”.

“(c) PROJECTS EXEMPTED FROM RESTRUCTURING AGREEMENTS.—Section 514(h) of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is amended by inserting before the semicolon at the end the following: “and the financing involves mortgage insurance under the National Housing Act, such that the implementation of a mortgage restructuring and rental assistance sufficiency plan under this subtitle is in conflict with applicable law or agreements governing such financing”.

“(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) is amended—

(1) by designating as subsection (v) the sentence added by section 405(c) of The Balanced Budget Downpayment Act, I (Public Law 104-99; 110 Stat. 44); and

(2) by striking subsection (w).

SEC. 532. SECTION 236 ASSISTANCE.

(a) CONTINUED RECEIPT OF SUBSIDIES UPON REFINANCING.—Section 236(e) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(e)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(1)” after “(e)”; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(2) A project for which interest reduction payments are made under this section and for which the mortgage on the project has been refinanced shall continue to receive the interest reduction payments under this section under the terms of the contract for such payments, but only if the project owner enters into such binding commitments as the Secretary may require (which shall be applicable to any subsequent owner) to ensure that the owner will continue to operate the project in accordance with all low-income affordability restrictions for the project in connection with the Federal assistance for the project for a period having a duration that is not less than the term for which such interest reduction payments are made plus an additional 5 years.”.

(b) RETENTION OF EXCESS INCOME.—Section 236(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(g)) is amended—

(1) by inserting “(1)” after “(g)”; and

(2) by striking the last sentence; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

“(2) Subject to paragraph (3) and notwithstanding any other requirements of this subsection, a project owner may retain some or all of such excess charges for project use if authorized by the Secretary. Such excess charges shall be used for the project and upon terms and conditions established by the Secretary, unless the Secretary permits the owner to retain funds for non-project use after a determination that the project is well-maintained housing in good con-

dition and that the owner has not engaged in material adverse financial or managerial actions or omissions as described in section 516 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997. In connection with the retention of funds for non-project use, the Secretary may require the project owner to enter into a binding commitment (which shall be applicable to any subsequent owner) to ensure that the owner will continue to operate the project in accordance with all low-income affordability restrictions for the project in connection with the Federal assistance for the project for a period having a duration of not less than the term of the existing affordability restrictions plus an additional 5 years.

“(3) The authority under paragraph (2) to retain and use excess charges shall apply—

“(A) during fiscal year 2000, to all project owners collecting such excess charges; and

“(B) during fiscal year 2001 and thereafter—

“(i) to any owner of (I) a project with a mortgage insured under this section, (II) a project with a mortgage formerly insured under this section if such mortgage is held by the Secretary and the owner of such project is current with respect to the mortgage obligation, or (III) a project previously assisted under subsection (b) but without a mortgage insured under this section if the project was insured under section 207 of this Act before July 30, 1998, pursuant to section 223(f) of this Act and assisted under subsection (b); and

“(ii) to other project owners not referred to in clause (i) who collect such excess charges, but only to the extent that such retention and use is approved in advance in an appropriation Act.”.

(c) PREVIOUSLY OWNED EXCESS INCOME.—Section 236(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(g)), as amended by subsection (b) of this section, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

“(4) The Secretary shall not withhold approval of the retention by the owner of such excess charges because of the existence of unpaid excess charges if such unpaid amount is being remitted to the Secretary over a period of time in accordance with a workout agreement with the Secretary, unless the Secretary determines that the owner is in violation of the workout agreement.”.

(d) FLEXIBILITY REGARDING BASIC RENTS AND MARKET RENTS.—Section 236(f) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(f)(1)) is amended by striking the subsection designation and all that follows through the end of paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

“(f)(1)(A)(i) For each dwelling unit there shall be established, with the approval of the Secretary, a basic rental charge and fair market rental charge.

“(ii) The basic rental charge shall be—

“(I) the amount needed to operate the project with payments of principal and interest due under a mortgage bearing interest at the rate of 1 percent per annum; or

“(II) an amount greater than that determined under clause (ii)(I), but not greater than the market rent for a comparable unassisted unit, reduced by the value of the interest reduction payments subsidy.

“(iii) The fair market rental charge shall be—

“(I) the amount needed to operate the project with payments of principal, interest, and mortgage insurance premium which the mortgagor is obligated to pay under the mortgage covering the project; or

“(II) an amount greater than that determined under clause (iii)(I), but not greater than the market rent for a comparable unassisted unit.

“(iv) The Secretary may approve a basic rental charge and fair market rental charge for a unit that exceeds the minimum amounts permitted by this subparagraph for such charges only if—

“(I) the approved basic rental charge and fair market rental charges each exceed the applicable minimum charge by the same amount; and

“(II) the project owner agrees to restrictions on project use or mortgage prepayment that are acceptable to the Secretary.

“(v) The Secretary may approve a basic rental charge and fair market rental charge under this paragraph for a unit with assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) that differs from the basic rental charge and fair market rental charge for a unit in the same project that is similar in size and amenities but without such assistance, as needed to ensure equitable treatment of tenants in units without such assistance.

“(B)(i) The rental charge for each dwelling unit shall be at the basic rental charge or such greater amount, not exceeding the fair market rental charge determined pursuant to subparagraph (A), as represents 30 percent of the tenant's adjusted income, except as otherwise provided in this subparagraph.

“(ii) In the case of a project which contains more than 5000 units, is subject to an interest reduction payments contract, and is financed under a State or local project, the Secretary may reduce the rental charge ceiling, but in no case shall the rental charge be below the basic rental charge set forth in subparagraph (A)(ii)(I).

“(iii) For plans of action approved for capital grants under the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 or the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987, the rental charge for each dwelling unit shall be at the minimum basic rental charge set forth in subparagraph (A)(ii)(I) or such greater amount, not exceeding the lower of (I) the fair market rental charge set forth in subparagraph (A)(iii)(I), or (II) the actual rent paid for a comparable unit in comparable unassisted housing in the market area in which the housing assisted under this section is located, as represents 30 percent of the tenant's adjusted income.

“(C) With respect to those projects which the Secretary determines have separate utility metering paid by the tenants for some or all dwelling units, the Secretary may—

“(i) permit the basic rental charge and the fair market rental charge to be determined on the basis of operating the project without the payment of the cost of utility services used by such dwelling units; and

“(ii) permit the charging of a rental for such dwelling units at such an amount less than 30 percent of a tenant's adjusted income as the Secretary determines represents a proportionate decrease for the utility charges to be paid by such tenant, but in no case shall rental be lower than 25 percent of a tenant's adjusted income.”.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1998 PROVISIONS.—Section 236(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(g)), as amended by section 227 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-276; 112 Stat. 2490) shall be effective on the date of the enactment with respect to projects with mortgages insured under section 207 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1713) may be retained by the project owner unless the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development specifically provides otherwise. The Secretary may return any excess charges remitted to the Secretary since such date of the enactment.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall take effect, and the amendments made by this section are made and shall apply, on the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 533. REHABILITATION OF ASSISTED HOUSING.

(a) REHABILITATION LOANS FROM RECAPTURED IRP AMOUNTS.—Section 236(s) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(s)) is amended—

(1) by striking the subsection designation and heading and inserting the following:

“(s) GRANTS AND LOANS FOR REHABILITATION OF MULTIFAMILY PROJECTS.—”;

(2) in paragraph (1), by inserting "and loans" after "grants";

(3) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking "capital grant assistance under this subsection" and inserting "capital assistance under this subsection under a grant or loan only"; and

(B) in subparagraph (D)(i), by striking "capital grant assistance" and inserting "capital assistance under this subsection from a grant or loan (as appropriate)";

(4) in paragraph (3), by striking all of the matter that precedes subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

"(3) **ELIGIBLE USES.**—Amounts from a grant or loan under this subsection may be used only for projects eligible under paragraph (2) for the purposes of—";

(5) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by striking the paragraph heading and inserting "GRANT AND LOAN AGREEMENTS"; and

(B) by inserting "or loan" after "grant", each place it appears;

(6) in paragraph (5), by inserting "or loan" after "grant", each place it appears;

(7) in paragraph (6), by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

"(D) **LOANS.**—In making loans under this subsection using the amounts that the Secretary has recaptured from contracts for interest reduction payments pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (7)(A)—

"(i) the Secretary may use such recaptured amounts for costs (as such term is defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974) of such loans; and

"(ii) the Secretary may make loans in any fiscal year only to the extent or in such amounts that amounts are used under clause (i) to cover costs of such loans.;"

(8) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) (as amended by the preceding provisions of this subsection) as paragraphs (6) and (7); and

(9) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

"(5) **LOAN TERMS.**—A loan under this subsection—

"(A) shall provide amounts for the eligible uses under paragraph (3) in a single loan disbursement of loan principal;

"(B) shall be repaid, as to principal and interest, on behalf of the borrower using amounts recaptured from contracts for interest reduction payments pursuant to clause (i) or (ii) of paragraph (7)(A);

"(C) shall have a term to maturity of a duration not shorter than the remaining period for which the interest reduction payments for the insured mortgage or mortgages that fund repayment of the loan would have continued after extinguishment or write-down of the mortgage (in accordance with the terms of such mortgage in effect immediately before such extinguishment or write-down);

"(D) shall bear interest at a rate, as determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, that is based upon the current market yields on outstanding marketable obligations of the United States having comparable maturities; and

"(E) shall involve a principal obligation of an amount not exceeding the amount that can be repaid using amounts described in subparagraph (B) over the term determined in accordance with subparagraph (C), with interest at the rate determined under subparagraph (D).";

(b) **IRP CAPITAL GRANTS REQUIREMENT FOR EXTENSION OF LOW-INCOME AFFORDABILITY REQUIREMENTS.**—Section 236(s) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1(s)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2)—

(A) by redesignating subparagraphs (C) and (D), as amended by the preceding provisions of this section, as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respectively; and

(B) by inserting after subparagraph (B) the following new subparagraph:

"(C) the project owner enters into such binding commitments as the Secretary may require

(which shall be applicable to any subsequent owner) to ensure that the owner will continue to operate the project in accordance with all low-income affordability restrictions for the project in connection with the Federal assistance for the project for a period having a duration that is not less than the period referred to in paragraph (5)(C);"; and

(2) in paragraph (4)(B), by inserting "and consistent with paragraph (2)(C)" before the period at the end.

SEC. 534. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.

Section 514(f)(3) of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is amended by inserting after "new owners)" the following: ", for technical assistance for preservation of low-income housing for which project-based rental assistance is provided at below market rent levels and may not be renewed (including transfer of developments to tenant groups, nonprofit organizations, and public entities).";

SEC. 535. TERMINATION OF SECTION 8 CONTRACT AND DURATION OF RENEWAL CONTRACT.

Section 8(c)(8) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(c)(8)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking "terminating" and inserting "termination of"; and

(B) by striking the third comma of the first sentence and all that follows through the end of the subparagraph and inserting the following: ". The notice shall also include a statement that, if the Congress makes funds available, the owner and the Secretary may agree to a renewal of the contract, thus avoiding termination, and that in the event of termination the Department of Housing and Urban Development will provide tenant-based rental assistance to all eligible residents, enabling them to choose the place they wish to rent, which is likely to include the dwelling unit in which they currently reside. Any contract covered by this paragraph that is renewed may be renewed for a period of up to one year or any number of years, with payments subject to the availability of appropriations for any year.;"

(2) by striking subparagraph (B);

(3) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) by striking the first sentence;

(B) by striking "in the immediately preceding sentence";

(C) by striking "180-day" each place it appears;

(D) by striking "such period" and inserting "one year"; and

(E) by striking "180 days" and inserting "one year"; and

(4) by redesignating subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E), as amended by the preceding provisions of this subsection, as subparagraphs (B), (C), and (D), respectively.

SEC. 536. ELIGIBILITY OF RESIDENTS OF FLEXIBLE SUBSIDY PROJECTS FOR ENHANCED VOUCHERS.

Section 201 of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1a) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(p) **ENHANCED VOUCHER ELIGIBILITY.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any project that receives or has received assistance under this section and which is the subject of a transaction under which the project is preserved as affordable housing, as determined by the Secretary, shall be considered eligible low-income housing under section 229 of the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 (12 U.S.C. 4119) for purposes of

eligibility of residents of such project for enhanced voucher assistance provided under section 8(t) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(t)) (pursuant to section 223(f) of the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 (12 U.S.C. 4113(f))).";

SEC. 537. ENHANCED DISPOSITION AUTHORITY.

Section 204 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (12 U.S.C. 1715z-11a) is amended—

(1) by striking "and 1999" and inserting "1999, and 2000"; and

(2) by striking "or demolition" and inserting ", demolition, or construction on the properties (which shall be eligible whether vacant or occupied)";

SEC. 538. UNIFIED ENHANCED VOUCHER AUTHORITY.

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) is amended by inserting after subsection (s) the following new subsection:

"(t) **ENHANCED VOUCHERS.**—

"(1) **IN GENERAL.**—Enhanced voucher assistance under this subsection for a family shall be voucher assistance under subsection (o), except that under such enhanced voucher assistance—

"(A) subject only to subparagraph (D), the assisted family shall pay as rent no less than the amount the family was paying on the date of the eligibility event for the project in which the family was residing on such date;

"(B) during any period that the assisted family continues residing in the same project in which the family was residing on the date of the eligibility event for the project, if the rent for the dwelling unit of the family in such project exceeds the applicable payment standard established pursuant to subsection (o) for the unit, the amount of rental assistance provided on behalf of the family shall be determined using a payment standard that is equal to the rent for the dwelling unit (as such rent may be increased from time to time), subject to paragraph (10)(A) of subsection (o);

"(C) subparagraph (B) of this paragraph shall not apply and the payment standard for the dwelling unit occupied by the family shall be determined in accordance with subsection (o) if—

"(i) the assisted family moves, at any time, from such project; or

"(ii) the voucher is made available for use by any family other than the original family on behalf of whom the voucher was provided; and

"(D) if the income of the assisted family declines to a significant extent, the percentage of income paid by the family for rent shall not exceed the greater of 30 percent or the percentage of income paid at the time of the eligibility event for the project.

"(2) **ELIGIBILITY EVENT.**—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'eligibility event' means, with respect to a multifamily housing project, the prepayment of the mortgage on such housing project, the voluntary termination of the insurance contract for the mortgage for such housing project, the termination or expiration of the contract for rental assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 for such housing project, or the transaction under which the project is preserved as affordable housing, that, under paragraphs (3) and (4) of section 515(c), section 524(d) of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note), section 223(f) of the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 (12 U.S.C. 4113(f)), or section 201(p) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 1715z-1a(p)), results in tenants in such housing project being eligible for enhanced voucher assistance under this subsection.

"(3) **TREATMENT OF ENHANCED VOUCHERS PROVIDED UNDER OTHER AUTHORITY.**—

"(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any enhanced voucher assistance provided under any authority specified in subparagraph (B) shall (regardless of the date that the amounts for providing such assistance were made available) be treated, and subject to the same requirements, as enhanced voucher assistance under this subsection.

“(B) IDENTIFICATION OF OTHER AUTHORITY.—The authority specified in this subparagraph is the authority under—

“(i) the 10th, 11th, and 12th provisos under the ‘Preserving Existing Housing Investment’ account in title II of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (Public Law 104-204; 110 Stat. 2884), pursuant to such provisos, the first proviso under the ‘Housing Certificate Fund’ account in title II of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public Law 105-65; 111 Stat. 1351), or the first proviso under the ‘Housing Certificate Fund’ account in title II of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1999 (Public Law 105-276; 112 Stat. 2469); and

“(ii) paragraphs (3) and (4) of section 515(c) of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note), as in effect before the enactment of this Act.

“(4) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, and 2004 such sums as may be necessary for enhanced voucher assistance under this subsection.”.

(b) ENHANCED VOUCHERS UNDER MAHRAA.—Section 515(c) of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (42 U.S.C. 1437f note) is amended by striking paragraph (4) and inserting the following new paragraph:

“(4) ASSISTANCE THROUGH ENHANCED VOUCHERS.—In the case of any family described in paragraph (3) that resides in a project described in section 512(2)(B), the tenant-based assistance provided shall be enhanced voucher assistance under section 8(t) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(t)).”.

(c) ENHANCED VOUCHERS FOR CERTAIN TENANTS IN PREPAYMENT AND VOLUNTARY TERMINATION PROPERTIES.—Section 223 of the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 (12 U.S.C. 4113) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

“(f) ENHANCED VOUCHER ASSISTANCE FOR CERTAIN TENANTS.—

“(I) AUTHORITY.—In lieu of benefits under subsections (b), (c), and (d), and subject to the availability of appropriated amounts, each family described in paragraph (2) shall be offered enhanced voucher assistance under section 8(t) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(t)).”.

(2) ELIGIBLE FAMILIES.—A family described in this paragraph is a family that is—

“(A)(i) a low-income family; or

“(ii) a moderate-income family that is (I) an elderly family, (II) a disabled family, or (III) residing in a low-vacancy area; and

“(B) residing in eligible low-income housing on the date of the prepayment of the mortgage or voluntary termination of the insurance contract.”.

This Act may be cited as the ‘Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2000’.

And the Senate agree to the same.

JAMES T. WALSH,
TOM DELAY,
DAVID HOBSON,
JOE KNOLLENBERG,
ROD FRELINGHUYSEN,
ROGER WICKER,
ANNE M. NORTHUP,
JOHN E. SUNUNU,
BILL YOUNG,
ALAN MOLLOHAN,
MARCY KAPTR, CARRIE P. MEEK,
DAVID E. PRICE,

BUD CRAMER,
DAVID OBEY
(except for delayed
funding gimmick),
Managers on Part of the House.

C.S. BOND,
CONRAD BURNS,
RICHARD SHELBY,
LARRY E. CRAIG,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
TED STEVENS,
BARBARA MIKULSKI,
PATRICK LEAHY,
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
TOM HARKIN,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
DANIEL INOUYE,
Managers on Part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The managers on the part of the House and the Senate at the conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, submit the following joint statement to the House and the Senate in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the managers and recommended in the accompanying report.

The language and allocations set forth in House Report 106-286 and Senate Report 106-161 should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in the conference report and statement of the managers. Report language included by the House which is not changed by the report of the Senate or the conference, and Senate report language which is not changed by the conference is approved by the committee of conference. The statement of the managers, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases in which the House or Senate have directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

Unless specifically addressed in this report, the conferees agree to retain the reprogramming thresholds for each department or agency at the level established by the fiscal year 1999 conference agreement.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

VETERANS BENEFITS ADMINISTRATION COMPENSATION AND PENSIONS

Provides up to \$17,932,000 to be transferred to the general operating expenses and medical care accounts as proposed by the House instead of \$38,079,000 as proposed by the Senate.

GUARANTEED TRANSITIONAL HOUSING LOANS FOR HOMELESS VETERANS PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Retains language proposed by the Senate providing \$48,250,000 for the guaranteed transitional housing loans program account.

VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CARE

Appropriates \$19,006,000,000 for medical care as proposed by the House instead of \$18,406,000,000 plus \$600,000,000 in emergency funding as proposed by the Senate. The conferees have recommended \$1,700,000,000 above the President’s request for medical care. According to the General Accounting Office, there are many opportunities to make VA health care more cost-effective. These in-

clude improved procurement practices, consolidating certain services, and eliminating excess management layers and administration. The conferees expect VA to continue implementing reforms and improvements to the way it allocates its resources, ensuring that funds are focused on veterans health, not maintaining buildings and the status quo. The additional funds in VA’s budget are for improving the quality of and access to veterans health care, accommodating uncontrollable increased costs associated with pharmaceuticals and prosthetics, enhancing care for homeless veterans, expanding alternatives to institutional long-term care, and accommodating some new requirements upon enactment of authorizing legislation. The conferees direct that VA submit as part of its operating plan a detailed description of its plans for allocating the additional funds. Retains the Senate provision making \$900,000,000, approximately 5 percent of the medical care appropriation, available until September 30, 2001.

Delays the availability of \$900,000,000 of the medical care appropriation in the equipment and land and structures object classifications until August 1, 2000, instead of delaying the availability of \$635,000,000 as proposed by the House and Senate.

Retains language proposed by the Senate transferring not to exceed \$27,907,000 from the medical care appropriation to the general operating expenses appropriation for expenses of the Office of Resolution Management (ORM) and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication (OEDCA).

Retains language proposed by the Senate directing the VA to contract for a recovery audit program of past medical payments. The intent of the provision is to ensure that clinical diagnoses and treatments match the codes which are submitted to VA for payment, and where an overpayment has been made, to enable VA to recover these funds for medical care. The conferees are interested to learn the quality of VA’s financial records and whether VA’s data quality has an impact on its ability to recover overpayments under this program. The conferees direct VA to provide a report detailing the progress and success of this program within one year after enactment of this Act.

The conferees reiterate their frustration with the way VA handled the directed report on the National Formulary by the Institutes of Medicine. The conferees direct that the VA deliver the completed report by July 11, 2000. If the report is not available on that date, the conferees direct the VA to brief the Committees on Appropriations as to the status and reasons why the report is not completed. The conferees strike the language inserted by the House restricting classification activities.

The conferees are concerned about the availability of mental health services and direct the VA to submit one report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations addressing the concerns described in House Report 106-286 and Senate Report 106-161, no later than March 31, 2000.

In each of the past two fiscal years the Congress has provided funding from within the VISM 8 allocation for a demonstration program to study the cost-effectiveness of contracting inpatient health care services with local East Central Florida hospitals. Based on the success of the program and the significant increase in funding provided in this bill for medical care, the conferees direct the VA to continue the demonstration program in fiscal year 2000. The conferees direct the VA to submit a report by April 1, 2000 addressing the costs and benefits of this program and the applicability of expanding this program to other parts of the country.

Due to the success of the program in VISN 8, the conferees view this program as a regular part of the VISN 8 system, not a demonstration, and expect that in future years any further funding or continuation considerations should be made on the demonstrated merits and available resources.

The conferees recommend \$750,000 to continue VA's participation with the Alaska Federal Health Care Access Network.

The conferees direct the Department to continue the demonstration project involving the Clarksburg VAMC and the Ruby Memorial Hospital at West Virginia University.

The conferees encourage further deployment of the Joslin Vision Network as a high priority through available resources in the medical care account and not the medical and prosthetic research account as proposed by the House.

The conferees direct the VA to provide a report addressing the OIG findings and recommendations regarding local patient access to care, including the feasibility of a contracting demonstration program, for the medical care system serving Chattanooga, Tennessee by January 31, 2000.

The conferees direct the VA to submit a report on access to medical care and community-based outpatient clinics in Georgia's 7th Congressional District 30 days after the enactment of this bill.

In instances that significant deficiencies in quality of care and operations of VA medical facilities are identified by the VA Medical Inspector, the conferees expect that the VA will correct the deficiencies identified in the inspections and that resources such as the National Reserve Fund, other surplus resources, FTE, technical assistance, training and equipment should be made available on a priority basis to address the deficiencies.

The conferees are concerned that the VA medical system must cancel and/or reschedule healthcare appointments, creating an undue hardship to veterans. Furthermore, the conferees understand that the GAO is currently investigating this issue. Therefore, within 90 days after the GAO issues the final report on this issue, the conferees direct the VA to develop options to mitigate the hardship placed on veterans when the VA medical system cancels or reschedules their medical appointments and submit a report of those options to the committees.

The conferees urge the VA to partner with existing, federally-funded Community Health Care Centers to provide outpatient primary and preventive health care services to area veterans in their home communities. Such a plan would greatly enhance access to quality health care for veterans living in remote areas. The conferees urge the veteran populations in the following areas be included in such a program: Marshall County, Mississippi; Hardin County, Tennessee; and Letcher County, Kentucky.

The conferees support VA's efforts to undertake a three-year rural health care pilot program at the VAMC in White River Junction, Vermont. The rural health care services delivery model will explore new methods of optimizing surgical, ambulatory, and mental health care services in rural settings. VA estimates this will cost approximately \$7,000,000 in fiscal year 2000.

The conferees urge the VA to make testing and treatment for hepatitis C broadly available to all veterans.

MEDICAL AND PROSTHETIC RESEARCH

Appropriates \$321,000,000 for medical and prosthetic research, instead of \$326,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$316,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees have not included the recommended funding as proposed by the House, but instead urge research endeavors in the

areas of prostate imaging, bio-artificial kidney development, and artificial neural networks relating to the diagnosis and prognosis of heart disease, subject to the normal peer review procedures. The conferees are aware of bio-artificial kidney research being conducted by Dr. David Humes of the Ann Arbor VAMC and the University of Michigan.

The conferees direct \$1,000,000 to the National Technology Transfer Center to establish a pilot program to assess, market, and license medical technologies researched in VA facilities. The conferees expect a report on the progress of this program by April 1, 2000.

The conferees are concerned about the review and oversight procedures protecting human subjects in research programs funded by the VA. The conferees believe an effective means of promoting adequate protections and informed consent for human subjects in VA research programs is ensuring that an appropriate mix of independent expertise is represented on Institutional Review Boards. Such boards have a special and sensitive responsibility to mentally ill veterans, who, because of the nature of their illness, may have difficulty fully understanding the purposes and risks associated with such research. The conferees therefore urge the VA to submit a report to the committees on the Department's progress for improving the functions and oversight of these boards, especially where they involve mental illness research, by March 31, 2000.

MEDICAL ADMINISTRATION AND MISCELLANEOUS OPERATING EXPENSES

Appropriates \$59,703,000 for medical administration and miscellaneous operating expenses, instead of \$61,200,000 as proposed by the House and \$60,703,000 as proposed by the Senate.

DEPARTMENTAL ADMINISTRATION

GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES

Appropriates \$912,594,000 for general operating expenses as proposed by the Senate, instead of \$886,000,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees provided \$45,600,000, approximately 5 percent of the appropriation, to be available until September 30, 2001.

The conferees direct the immediate Office of the Secretary to limit travel expenditures to \$100,000 in fiscal year 2000. The conferees are extremely concerned about recent findings of the Inspector General related to improper use of travel and representation funds by the Secretary and expect that the IG's recommendations will be implemented fully.

The conferees expect assurances that the Department is fiscally and logically ready to consolidate computer services at the Austin Automation Center. Therefore, the conferees direct the VA to submit a report summarizing all cost/benefit studies regarding the consolidation and site readiness at Austin to accommodate the relocated services. The conferees direct that no funds in this Act will be used to relocate the center unless the VA submits the requested report to the Committees 60 days prior to moving operations from Hines.

NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMINISTRATION

Appropriates \$97,256,000 for the National Cemetery Administration as proposed by the Senate instead of \$97,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Restores language proposed by the Senate transferring not to exceed \$90,000 (\$84,000 for ORM and \$6,000 for OEDCA) from the national cemetery administration appropriation to the general operating expenses appropriation for expenses of the Office of Resolution Management and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication. Additional information on funding for these two offices is included under the VA's

administrative provisions section of this report.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriates \$43,200,000 for the Office of Inspector General as proposed by the Senate, instead of \$38,500,000 as proposed by the House.

Retains Senate language transferring not to exceed \$30,000 from the Office of Inspector General appropriation to the general operating expenses appropriation for expenses of the Office of Resolution Management (\$28,000) and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication (\$2,000). Additional information on funding for these two offices is included under the VA's administrative provisions section of this report.

CONSTRUCTION, MAJOR PROJECTS

Appropriates \$65,140,000 for construction, major projects instead of \$34,700,000 as proposed by the House and \$70,140,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes the following changes from the budget estimate:

+\$10,000,000 for capital asset planning.

+\$1,000,000 for the advance planning and design of the Lebanon VAMC renovation of patient care units and enhancements for extended care programs, contingent upon authorization.

+\$500,000 for planning national cemeteries in the regions designated by the authorizing committees in the Atlanta area of Georgia, the Pittsburgh area of Pennsylvania, South Florida, and Northern California.

-\$6,500,000 from available unobligated balances in the working reserve.

The conferees support a new national cemetery in the Lawton, OK area. VA expects to award a design contract for architectural and engineering services for this project in October 1999. The conferees expect the President's fiscal year 2001 budget will include construction funds for this project.

CONSTRUCTION, MINOR PROJECTS

Appropriates \$160,000,000 for construction, minor projects instead of \$102,300,000 as proposed by the House and \$175,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Of the funds provided, the conferees direct \$150,000 for "mothballing" four historic buildings at the Dayton VAMC in Dayton, Ohio; \$3,000,000 for renovations of the research building at the Bronx VAMC in Bronx, New York; \$500,000 for preparation of the satellite site at the National Cemetery at Salisbury, North Carolina; and \$3,900,000 to convert unfinished space into research laboratories at the ambulatory care addition of the Harry S Truman VAMC. The conferees also request a study to examine and design a relocated entrance to the West Virginia National Cemetery in Grafton, West Virginia.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE EXTENDED CARE FACILITIES

Appropriates \$90,000,000 for grants for construction of state extended care facilities as proposed by the Senate, instead of \$87,000,000 (\$80,000,000 in the grants for construction of state extended care facilities account and an additional \$7,000,000 in Sec. 426 of the General Provisions) as proposed by the House.

GRANTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF STATE VETERANS CEMETERIES

Appropriates \$25,000,000 for grants for construction of state veterans cemeteries as proposed by the Senate, instead of \$11,000,000 as proposed by the House.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Deletes language proposed by the House authorizing the reimbursement of expenses for the Office of Resolution Management and the Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication from other VA appropriations beginning in fiscal year 2000,

and inserts language as proposed by the Senate transferring amounts in medical care (\$27,907,000—\$26,111,000 for ORM and \$1,796,000 for OEDCA), national cemetery administration (\$117,000—\$111,000 for ORM and \$6,000 for OEDCA), and Office of Inspector General (\$30,000—\$28,000 for ORM and \$2,000 for OEDCA) to the general operating expenses appropriation. In addition, \$2,068,000 is assumed in the general operating expenses appropriation for these activities. All funds for these two offices should be requested in the general operating expenses appropriation in fiscal year 2001.

The conferees recognize that transportation to VA hospitals and clinics is a major concern to many veterans in rural areas. The conferees direct the VA to conduct a study to determine to what extent geography and distance serve as a barrier to health care in rural areas. The conferees direct the VA to report its findings back to Congress no later than February 1, 2000. Furthermore, the conferees direct the VA to develop a proposal addressing this concern.

Both the House and Senate included provisions expressing the concern about the quality of and access to medical care for veterans in rural areas. The conferees consolidated the two provisions in this title under Sec. 108.

Retains Sec. 109, proposed by the House authorizing \$11,500,000, originally appropriated in fiscal year 1998, to renovate Building 9 at the VAMC in Waco, Texas, to instead be used for renovation and construction of a joint venture cardiovascular institute at the Olin E. Teague VAMC in Temple, Texas.

In response to the GAO report, VA Health Care: Closing a Chicago Hospital Would Save Millions and Enhance Access to Services, the VHA established the VISN 12 Delivery Options Study Steering Committee to provide recommended options for optimally aligning resources with veteran needs. The conferees have concerns about the recommended option of the VISN 12 Delivery Options Study as it may be inconsistent with the GAO report. The conferees understand that the recommended option is under review and may lead to a realignment plan being proposed by VHA for VISN 12. Sec. 110 has been included to ensure appropriate consultation and input for all stakeholders.

Deletes bill language proposed by the Senate presuming cancer of the lung, colon, brain and central nervous system should be added to the list of radiogenic diseases presumed to be service-connected disabilities by the Department.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING
HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriates \$11,376,695,000 for the housing certificate fund, instead of \$10,540,135,000 as proposed by the House and \$11,051,135,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes:

—\$10,990,135,000 for expiring section 8 housing assistance contracts, tenant protections, including tenant protections for HOPE VI relocations, section 8 amendments, contract administration, enhanced vouchers, and contracts entered into pursuant to section 441 of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act;

—\$346,560,000 to provide 60,000 incremental section 8 housing assistance vouchers, to increase the number of low-income individuals and families receiving assistance; and

—\$40,000,000 to provide section 8 housing vouchers to non-elderly, disabled residents who are affected by designation of public and assisted housing as “elderly-only” developments.

Within the overall totals for the housing certificate fund, the House bill provided \$25,000,000 for non-elderly disabled residents and did not specify a division between the amounts for contract renewals and tenant protection vouchers, while the Senate bill provided \$10,855,135,000 for contract renewals, \$156,000,000 for tenant protection vouchers, and \$40,000,000 for the non-elderly disabled. Neither bill provided funds for incremental vouchers.

The conferees note that the costs of renewing all expiring section 8 housing assistance contracts will continue to rise significantly from year to year. The 60,000 additional vouchers provided in the conference agreement will need to be funded in future years, and will place substantial burdens on the Congress. The conferees have agreed to fund these incremental vouchers for fiscal year 2000, based in part on the Administration's representation that it will endeavor to address the shortfalls in this account and to fully fund these and all other section 8 contracts in fiscal year 2001.

The conferees expect the Administration to submit a budget request for fiscal year 2001 that includes sufficient funding for the section 8 account, including vouchers added this year, consistent with the agreement reached between the Administration and the conferees.

While the conferees have included funds for incremental voucher assistance, they note that vouchers are not a panacea for low-income, affordable housing. The voucher program has significant problems, with families in many areas of the country unable to utilize effectively this housing subsidy, especially in high-cost areas where the payment standard of the voucher program may not be sufficient to cover market rents. Moreover, there is a substantial shortage of available, low-income affordable housing throughout the country, and vouchers do not provide an effective financing tool that will result in constructing additional affordable housing. Finally, there is a need for communities, nonprofits, public housing authorities and others to create links between all HUD programs, to ensure that housing and community development assistance is integrated to benefit the overall needs of the community.

Inserts language, as proposed by the Senate, making the amount set aside for non-elderly disabled persons affected by elderly-only designations also available to assist other disabled persons, to the extent that amounts are not needed to fund applications from those affected by designations.

Inserts language proposed by the House and not included by the Senate requiring HUD to determine section 8 administrative fees for public housing authorities under the requirements in effect before enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate adopting the Administration's recommendation to provide \$4,200,000,000 (within the overall totals given above for the housing certificate fund) in the form of an advance appropriation that will first become available in fiscal year 2001. This advance appropriation is intended to cover a portion of expenditures that will actually occur in fiscal year 2001 under section 8 contracts renewed during fiscal year 2000. The House did not include such an advance appropriation, but instead followed the past practice of providing all funds needed for fiscal year 2000 contract renewals in the form of a regular fiscal year 2000 appropriation.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House prohibiting funds from being expended for the Regional Opportunity Counseling program.

Inserts language, not included by either the House or the Senate, rescinding

\$1,300,000,000 in recaptured section 8 housing assistance funds from the Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing account and the Housing Certificate Fund account that are not expected to be needed in fiscal year 2000.

Inserts language, not included by either the House or the Senate, rescinding \$943,000,000 in unobligated balances of funds previously appropriated in the Housing Certificate Fund or Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing accounts.

PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriates \$2,900,000,000 for the public housing capital fund instead of \$2,555,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and the House. The conferees recommend an increase in this appropriation above the levels provided in either the House or the Senate bill, in recognition of the serious unmet needs for capital improvements to the nation's public housing. The conferees believe that providing adequate funding to renovate and improve these facilities is less costly than allowing them to fall into disrepair. Currently, HUD estimates that the 3,400 public housing authorities have a backlog of modernization needs that totals more than \$20,000,000,000. This is due in large part to the age of the inventory, as at least half of the 1,322,000 apartments managed by public housing authorities are more than 30 years old and are home to almost 3,000,000 people, 43% of whom are 62 or older or have a disability. Families with children live in the remaining apartments. Public housing represents a major investment of federal resources over many years, and it is vital that funding be provided to properly preserve this taxpayer investment. Allowing more of these housing units to deteriorate to the point that they must be demolished and rebuilt would be a far more costly option.

Includes \$75,000,000 for technical assistance under section 9(h) of the United States Housing Act of 1937, instead of \$100,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and \$50,000,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees note that section 9(h) includes the costs of travel, and have therefore deleted a House provision that provided \$1,000,000 for travel costs. Finally, the conferees direct HUD to include in its operating plan a detailed description of the Department's plans for utilizing these technical assistance funds in fiscal year 2000, and to include a similarly detailed description in next year's budget justification regarding plans for use of any funds requested for fiscal year 2001. Unless such information is provided, the conferees would be very reluctant to continue appropriating funds for technical assistance in the future.

Includes \$75,000,000 for the Secretary's discretionary fund for the purpose of making grants to PHAs for emergency capital needs resulting from emergencies and natural disasters. The House did not include a similar provision and the Senate expressly provided no funds for this activity under section 9(k) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

Appropriates \$3,138,000,000 for the public housing operating fund instead of \$2,818,000,000 as proposed by the House, and \$2,900,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Like the increase to the public housing capital fund, this increase reflects the conferees' commitment to providing adequate resources to public housing—in this case for basic costs like water, gas and electric utilities, security, and routine maintenance.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House prohibiting funds from being used for the Secretary's discretionary fund under section 9(k) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

The conferees direct HUD to delay implementing the Public Housing Assessment System (PHAS) until, in consultation with public housing authorities (PHAs) and their designated representatives, the Secretary: (a) conducts a thorough analysis of all advisory PHAS assessments; (b) reviews the GAO's study of the PHAS when it is complete; and (c) based on that analysis and review, publishes in the Federal Register a new consensus-based PHAS final rule that incorporates any recommended changes resulting from the process referenced above. Finally, HUD shall take all reasonable steps to minimize the costs and burdens the PHAS imposes on public housing authorities. The conferees intend that the PHAS, when finalized, acknowledge the complexities and practicalities inherent in managing large-scale apartment buildings and make allowances for these considerations.

Finally, the conferees note that the negotiated rule-making on revisions to the "performance funding system" formula for allocating operating subsidy funds appears to have stalled, in part because of lack of adequate data about actual costs of operating public housing. Therefore, before a proposed rule is published in the Federal Register, the conferees direct HUD to contract with the Harvard University Graduate School of Design to conduct a study on the costs incurred in operating well-run public housing and provide the results to the negotiated rule-making committee and the appropriate congressional committees. The final report shall be completed by October 1, 2000. The conferees direct that \$3,000,000 from technical assistance funds in the public housing capital fund account be set-aside for this purpose.

DRUG ELIMINATION GRANTS FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriates \$310,000,000 for drug elimination grants, as proposed by the Senate instead of \$290,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Includes \$20,000,000 for the New Approach Anti-Drug program, as proposed by the Senate, rather than no funding as proposed by the House.

Includes \$4,500,000 for technical assistance grants as proposed by the House instead of \$5,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of this set-aside, \$150,000 is for related travel as proposed by the House, instead of \$250,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House requiring notice and comment rulemaking in all situations where HUD makes substantive changes to the grant program. Nevertheless, the conferees strongly believe in the value of notice and comment rulemaking, and remind the Department of the requirements set forth in the Administrative Procedures Act and in section 208 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1998. The conferees encourage the Department to institutionalize the drug elimination grant program through an appropriate rulemaking process.

REVITALIZATION OF SEVERELY DISTRESSED PUBLIC HOUSING (HOPE VI)

Appropriates \$575,000,000 for the revitalization of severely distressed public housing program as proposed by the House, instead of \$500,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Inserts language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate providing \$10,000,000 for technical assistance, training, and necessary travel.

The conferees note the Department's success in leveraging local businesses, community organizations, residents, and other part-

ners, to create residential computing centers in multifamily housing through the unfunded Neighborhood Networks Initiative. This initiative bridges the information technology gap in communities, helping hundreds of residents, such as those in The Terraces in West Baltimore, improve computer technology skills, which in turn increases job and education opportunities. The conferees believe that the opportunity to bridge the digital divide should also be available to HOPE VI residents and directs the Department to undertake an effort to adapt the Neighborhood Networks Initiative to new HOPE VI projects. The conferees further direct the Department to report on the status of its efforts to implement the Neighborhood Networks Initiative in HOPE VI communities no later than June 30, 2000.

The conferees direct the Department to contract with the Urban Institute to conduct an independent study on the long-term effects of the HOPE VI program on former residents of distressed public housing developments, focusing on the effects of relocation and improved community and supportive services. The conferees have provided \$1,200,000 from within this account for this purpose. Because HOPE VI was established to address the social needs of residents as well as the physical distress of the housing, the conferees feel that it is important to assess the effectiveness of the social aspects of the program in order to better evaluate the accomplishments of the program.

**NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)**

Includes \$6,000,000 for technical assistance grants, of which \$4,000,000 is for HUD and \$2,000,000 is for the National American Indian Housing Council (NAIHC). The House provided the entire amount to HUD while the Senate provided \$4,000,000 to NAIHC and \$2,000,000 to HUD. Of the amount \$200,000 is for related travel instead of \$100,000 as proposed by the House and \$300,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The housing and economic development problems faced by Indian tribes are unique because of the special status accorded to reservation lands. NAIHC has a proven technical assistance and training program that the conferees believe could be a valuable tool in addition to HUD's existing technical assistance programs. Prior to receiving the grant, the conferees expect NAIHC to provide a business plan to HUD and to the Committees on Appropriations for expending these funds. The plan should include performance measures and goals. Upon receipt and review of the plan, HUD is directed to enter into a contract with NAIHC, and to deliver the funds by March 1, 2000.

Inserts language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate making a technical correction to bill language.

**INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND
PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Inserts language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate making a technical correction to bill language.

**COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH
AIDS**

Appropriates \$232,000,000 for housing opportunities for persons with AIDS, as proposed by the Senate instead of \$225,000,000 as proposed by the House. Of the amount, .75 percent is appropriated for technical assistance instead of .50 percent as proposed by the House and 1 percent as proposed by the Senate.

Deletes bill and report language proposed by the Senate requiring HUD to give priority

to renewing existing programs. The House did not include similar language.

RURAL HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Appropriates \$25,000,000 for rural housing and economic development as proposed by the Senate, instead of a \$10,000,000 set-aside in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) account as proposed by the House. The conferees note that they intend to fully review HUD's Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), which is the vehicle HUD has used to implement this program, and to make recommendations about its contents where necessary. Furthermore, the conferees reiterate their expectation that HUD will cooperate with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), review the requirements of USDA's rural development and housing programs, and incorporate USDA definitions and requirements in this program to the extent appropriate.

**AMERICA'S PRIVATE INVESTMENT COMPANIES
PROGRAM ACCOUNT**

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Inserts new language providing \$20,000,000 for America's private investment companies program account, contingent upon enactment of authorizing legislation prior to June 30, 2000. If the program is not authorized, the funds shall be transferred to the Community Development Financial Institutions program. Neither the House nor the Senate included a similar provision.

URBAN EMPOWERMENT ZONES

Inserts new language providing \$55,000,000 for grants to urban empowerment zones to be used in conjunction with economic development activities detailed in the strategic plans of each empowerment zone. Neither the House nor the Senate included a similar provision.

RURAL EMPOWERMENT ZONES

Inserts new language providing \$15,000,000 to the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture for grants to designated empowerment zones.

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANTS
(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)**

Appropriates \$4,800,000,000 for community development block grants, as proposed by the Senate instead of \$4,500,200,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees agree to the following earmarks:

—\$41,500,000 for section 107 grants. The House provided \$30,000,000 for section 107 grants and the Senate provided \$41,500,000 for section 107 grants. The conference agreement provides the following earmarks:

—\$3,000,000 is for community development work study;

—\$10,000,000 is for historically black colleges and universities;

—\$8,000,000 is for the Community Outreach Partnerships program;

—\$7,000,000 is for insular areas;

—\$2,000,000 is for native Hawaiian Serving Institutions and for Alaska Native Serving Institutions, to be divided evenly;

—\$6,500,000 is for Hispanic Serving Institutions; and

—\$5,000,000 is for management information systems;

—\$2,200,000 for the National American Indian Housing Council instead of \$3,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$1,800,000 as proposed by the Senate;

—\$20,000,000 for the Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing program, authorized by section 4 of P.L. 103-120, as in effect before June 12, 1997, instead of the \$15,000,000 proposed by the House and \$25,000,000 proposed by the Senate; of the amount provided in the conference report, at least \$4,000,000 shall be for capacity building activities in rural areas;

—\$3,750,000 for the capacity building activities of Habitat for Humanity International, as proposed by the House and instead of no funding as proposed by the Senate;

—\$42,500,000 for YouthBuild, including \$2,500,000 for a grant to YouthBuild USA for capacity building activities, the same as proposed by both the House and Senate (apart from a technical correction);

—\$20,000,000 for grants to eligible grantees under section 11 of the Self-Help Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, instead of \$15,000,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate did not include funds for this item;

—\$30,000,000 for the Neighborhood Initiatives program, instead of \$20,000,000 as proposed by the House and no funding as proposed by the Senate;

—\$5,000,000 is for the Institute for Software Research for construction related to a high-technology diversification initiative;

—\$10,000,000 is for the City of Syracuse, New York, for the Neighborhood Initiative Program;

—\$4,000,000 for Missouri, of which \$1,500,000 shall be for the St. Louis Sustainable Neighborhoods Initiative, of which at least \$500,000 shall be made available for the redevelopment of the Lemay community and at least \$500,000 shall be for the redevelopment of Grand Rock community, both in St. Louis, and \$2,500,000 shall be made available for Kansas City, Missouri, of which \$1,500,000 shall be made available for the Midtown Community Development Corporation for the redevelopment of the Mount Cleveland community and \$1,000,000 shall be made available for the East Meyer Community Association for the redevelopment of the East Meyer community; and

—\$1,000,000 shall be for the Patterson Park Community Development Corporation to establish a revolving fund to acquire and rehabilitate properties in Baltimore, Maryland; \$500,000 for the City of Suffolk, Virginia for the East Suffolk Gateway Redevelopment project; \$500,000 for Fort Dodge, Iowa for the Soldier Creek neighborhood revitalization project; \$750,000 for the Mitchell Development Corporation for economic development activities in Mitchell, South Dakota; \$500,000 for the City of Green Bay, Wisconsin for Broadway Street revitalization; and \$500,000 for the City of Yankton, South Dakota for the restoration of the downtown area and the development of the Fox Run Industrial Park;

—\$29,000,000 for credit subsidy for section 108 loan guarantees as proposed by the Senate instead of \$25,000,000 as proposed by the House. This level of credit subsidy should produce no more than \$1,261,000,000 in loan guarantees as proposed by the Senate instead of \$1,087,000,000 as proposed by the House; and,

—\$275,000,000 for economic development grants, instead of \$20,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$110,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees agree to the following targeted economic development initiatives:

—\$480,000 to the Town of Swearingen, Alabama for water system infrastructure improvements;

—\$300,000 to Lamar County, Alabama for upgrading sewer and water supply systems;

—\$140,000 to Rainsville, Alabama for infrastructure improvements to the town's industrial park;

—\$60,000 to Haleyville, Alabama for purchase and renovation of a senior citizens center and a Head Start facility;

—\$800,000 to the City of Mobile, Alabama for the waterfront development project;

—\$500,000 to the University of Alabama for the construction of a child development facility;

—\$500,000 to the University of South Alabama for the construction of an archaeological research facility;

—\$250,000 to Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama for the construction and development of a health and wellness facility;

—\$200,000 to the City of Daphne, Alabama for revitalization of the Daphne Bayfront Park;

—\$1,500,000 to Union County, Arkansas to find alternative water sources to the Sparta Sands Aquifer;

—\$1,000,000 to the City of Sierra Vista, Arizona for a wastewater treatment and effluent recharge facility;

—\$500,000 to the Boys and Girls Club in Oxnard, California for the renovation and expansion of existing facilities;

—\$250,000 to the County of San Bernardino, California for the rehabilitation of Fogelsons Pool in Barstow;

—\$425,000 to the City of Highland, California for public park facilities to serve the recreational needs of the local community;

—\$250,000 to the County of San Bernardino, California for a River Walk Nature and Bike Trail on the Mojave river between Mojave Narrows and Old Town Victorville;

—\$425,000 to the County of San Bernardino, California for the Yucaipa Valley Regional Soccer Complex;

—\$500,000 to the San Bernardino National Forest for Phase II construction of the Big Bear Discovery Center;

—\$50,000 to the City of Twentynine Palms,

California for the completion of the mural project;

—\$100,000 to the City of Loma Linda, California for road infrastructure improvements;

—\$1,000,000 to the City of San Juan Capistrano for the rehabilitation and historic preservation of the Mission San Juan Capistrano;

—\$500,000 to the City of Citrus Heights, California for the revitalization of the Sunrise Mall;

—\$750,000 to the City of Escondido, California for the development and infrastructure improvements associated with Quail Hills Industrial Park;

—\$600,000 to the City of Tracy, California for the repair/construction of the Tracy Fire Station Number 1;

—\$350,000 to the City of Riverside, California for the expansion of the Goeke Senior and Disabled Citizens Center;

—\$350,000 to the City of Fountain Valley, California for the expansion of the Mile Square Regional Park recreation facility;

—\$350,000 to the City of Huntington Beach, California for soil remediation and cleanup activities in Huntington Central Park;

—\$1,000,000 to the City of San Diego, California for the San Diego Children's Convalescent Hospital;

—\$100,000 to the City of Arcadia, California for the Arcadia Historical Museum;

—\$400,000 to the City of Claremont, California for construction of a community center;

—\$1,000,000 to the City of Pasadena, California for renovation and rehabilitation of the Pasadena Civic Auditorium;

—\$20,000 to the City of Glendale, California for city infrastructure improvements;

—\$250,000 to Shelter From the Storm, Inc., a battered women's and children's center in Palm Desert, California;

—\$250,000 to the City of El Segundo, California for the design and development of the Douglas Street Gap Closure project;

—\$200,000 to the County of Tulare, California for road infrastructure improvements;

—\$400,000 to the City of Bakersfield, California to redevelop downtown Bakersfield through the Mobility Opportunities via Education initiative;

—\$100,000 to the County of Tulare, California for construction of an international trade center;

—\$600,000 to the Klingberg Family Centers in New Britain, Connecticut for the expansion of their school;

—\$250,000 to the City of Miami Beach, Florida for the North Beach Recreation Corridor Initiative;

—\$600,000 to the City of Largo, Florida for economic development and infrastructure improvements;

—\$1,400,000 to the City of Clearwater, Florida for costs associated with the development of a regional stormwater retention facility;

—\$300,000 to the City of Edgewater, Florida for the construction of an emergency shelter;

—\$400,000 to the City of Jacksonville, Florida for the development of an ecosystem tourist program;

—\$300,000 to the City of Jacksonville, Florida for the Lower East Side/Upper Deer Creek Stormwater Project;

—\$1,250,000 to the Town of Milton, Florida for the construction of a hurricane shelter;

—\$250,000 to the City of Miami, Florida for the OpSail Miami 2000 cultural exchange program;

—\$500,000 to the Tubman African American Museum in Macon, Georgia for development of a new facility;

—\$400,000 to the City of Savannah, Georgia for development of a youth facility;

—\$500,000 to Rockdale County, Georgia for the development of Georgia Veterans' Park;

—\$500,000 to the Village of Hampshire, Illinois to construct new drinking water facilities;

—\$500,000 to the Haymarket Center in Haymarket, Illinois for a community and family learning center;

—\$750,000 to Edward Hospital in Naperville, Illinois for the construction of a women and children's pavilion;

—\$250,000 to the Town of Cortland, Illinois for water treatment facility improvements;

—\$250,000 to the Town of Steward, Illinois for water treatment facility improvements;

—\$500,000 to Loyola University, Illinois for expansion of their computer and information resource centers;

—\$500,000 to the Safe Haven Foundation, Inc. in Indianapolis, Indiana to expand domestic violence shelters and related services;

—\$250,000 to Ball State University, Indiana for the development of the Workforce Technology Enhancement Project;

—\$500,000 to Tri-State University, Indiana for the expansion, renewal, and renovation of their Business and Engineering Departments, including the Tri-State Leadership Institute and Center;

—\$1,000,000 to the Home of the Innocents in Louisville, Kentucky for the expansion and relocation of a facility to help abused children;

—\$500,000 to the Wayne County, Kentucky Historical Society to complete the renovation and restoration of the Wayne County Historical Museum;

—\$500,000 to the Kentucky Highlands Investment Corporation in London, Kentucky for expansion of a venture capital fund;

—\$500,000 to the Center for Rural Development in Somerset, Kentucky for continued development and training for a regional teleconferencing network;

—\$250,000 to Bell County, Kentucky for renovation of the Pine Mountain Park Amphitheater;

—\$250,000 to the Magoffin County, Kentucky Historical Society for the expansion of the Pioneer Tourist Information and Visitor Center;

—\$250,000 to Montgomery County, Kentucky for redevelopment of a community center;

—\$300,000 to the Port of South Louisiana for the expansion of the Globalplex Intermodal Terminal Facility;

—\$100,000 to the City of New Iberia, Louisiana for economic development and revitalization of the downtown area;

—\$50,000 to the City of Thibodaux, Louisiana for infrastructure improvements to the Civic Center;

—\$50,000 to St. Charles Parish, Louisiana for the enhancement of the parks and recreation system;

—\$100,000 to Plaquemines Parish, Louisiana for enhancements and upgrades to their Disaster Communications Center;

—\$100,000 to Nicholls State University in Louisiana for expansion and development of the Family and Consumer Science Program;

—\$300,000 to Wayne State University in Michigan for infrastructure improvements to the Merrill-Palmer Institute's child care research facilities;

—\$500,000 to Wayne County, Michigan for enhancement of geographical information systems to expedite economic development;

—\$100,000 to the City of Detroit, Michigan for the Covenant House, a long-term transitional living facility for homeless adults;

—\$250,000 to the National Eagle Center community development project in Wabasha, Minnesota;

—\$1,100,000 to the City of Fulton, Mississippi for water infrastructure improvements for the Northeast Mississippi Regional Water Supply District;

—\$200,000 to the Town of Sardis, Mississippi for economic development and related infrastructure and recreational facilities;

—\$550,000 to the City of Lincoln, Nebraska for Cedars Youth Services for the development of a youth home;

—\$750,000 to Wake Forest University in North Carolina for the continued development of the University's Baptist Medical Center;

—\$250,000 to the Town of Berlin, New Hampshire for the Northern Forest Heritage Park;

—\$300,000 to the Town of Tamworth, New Hampshire for the construction of a multi-service community center;

—\$1,000,000 to the Child Health Institute in New Jersey for development;

—\$550,000 to the Morris County Urban League, New Jersey to support community outreach and child care initiatives;

—\$100,000 to the Town of Dover, New Jersey to renovate and establish El Primer Paso, an early childhood education center;

—\$350,000 to the Morris Area Girl Scout Council in Randolph, New Jersey for upgrading facilities at Jockey Hollow campgrounds;

—\$300,000 to the County of Bernalillo, New Mexico to conduct a feasibility study and design for the Wheels Museum;

—\$200,000 to the City of Albuquerque, New Mexico for restoration planning and design of the Albuquerque Little Theatre;

—\$1,000,000 to the Buffalo Economic Renaissance Corporation in New York for the development of the Atlantic Corridor business exchange and education program;

—\$345,000 to Wayne County, New York for anti-erosion measures and construction on Port Bay Barrier Bar;

—\$500,000 to the Water Systems Council in Glenellen, Illinois for rural water infrastructure;

—\$155,000 to the Town of Amherst, New York for rehabilitation of the Amherst Senior Center;

—\$750,000 to Rural Opportunities, Inc. in Rochester, New York for the establishment of the Rural Opportunities Affordable Housing Alliance to expand housing opportunities in rural communities;

—\$700,000 to the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey for construction and dredging of the Arthur Kill at Howland Hook Marine Terminal;

—\$100,000 to the New York City Economic Development Corporation for the Fifth Avenue Reconstruction in Bay Bridge, Brooklyn, New York;

—\$750,000 to the State University of New York at Stonybrook in Islip, New York for the Center for Emerging Technology;

—\$1,000,000 to Carnegie Hall in New York City, New York for the Third Stage Project;

—\$400,000 to Neve Yerushalayim College in Brooklyn, New York for the development of a Residential Community Center;

—\$500,000 to the Town of Babylon, New York for revitalization of the Babylon Citizen's Cultural Resource Center;

—\$1,000,000 to the Town of Massena, New York for the construction of the St. Lawrence Aquarium and Environmental Research Institute;

—\$1,000,000 to the County of Schuyler, New York for the Schuyler County Partnership for Economic Development to develop a business park and revitalize Watkins Glen International;

—\$200,000 to the New York Institute of Technology for the rehabilitation of Robbins Hall;

—\$200,000 to the Village of Amityville, New York for construction and revitalization of the Village's downtown area;

—\$3,000,000 to Olympic Regional Development Authority, New York for upgrades at Mt. Van Hoevenberg Sports Complex;

—\$500,000 to the Village of Freeport, New York to revitalize the Nautical Mile;

—\$275,000 to the Town of New Brunswick, New York for the extension of a water line to a senior housing project;

—\$225,000 to the Town of East Greenbush, New York for road infrastructure improvements;

—\$450,000 to the County of Cortland, New York for the acquisition and remediation of the Contento scrapyard;

—\$1,000,000 to St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center for the Central New York Cardiac Care and Hemodialysis Enhancement Center in Syracuse, New York;

—\$250,000 to the City of Syracuse, New York for renovations to the Media Unit Building;

—\$450,000 to the City of Syracuse, New York for the renovation and revitalization of the Everson Museum;

—\$1,000,000 to the University of Syracuse in New York for rehabilitation and community redevelopment of the Marshall Street area;

—\$450,000 to the City of Syracuse, New York for rehabilitation and conversion of part of the former NYNEX building into a parking garage;

—\$500,000 to Onondaga County, New York for infrastructure improvements involved in the expansion of the New Venture Gear Facility;

—\$500,000 to the City of Syracuse, New York for renovations to the O.M. Edwards Building;

—\$250,000 to the City of Syracuse, New York for renovations to the Dunbar Center;

—\$440,000 to the Village of Weedsport, New York for the construction of a water storage facility;

—\$150,000 to the City of Auburn, New York for renovation of the Schine Theater;

—\$100,000 to the Village of Newark Valley, New York for the construction of a new well;

—\$160,000 to the Town of Victory, New York for the extension of a water line;

—\$300,000 to the Town of Elbridge, New York for extension of a water line to provide additional fire protection for the Tessy Plastics facility;

—\$500,000 to the Southeastern Otsego Health Center in Worcester, New York to enhance their health care facilities;

—\$500,000 to the Dominican College in Orangeburg, New York to establish a Center for Health Sciences;

—\$600,000 to the New York State Education and Research Network for support of advanced application implementation on high performance networks;

—\$500,000 to the State University of New York at Albany, New York to establish an economic development/workforce training initiative;

—\$700,000 to the Hebrew Academy for Special Children in New York for expansion of a developmentally disabled children program;

—\$250,000 to the Orange County Mental Health Association in Orange County, New York to provide enhanced health care services;

—\$700,000 to the University Colleges of Technology of the State University of New York for the development of the Telecommunications Center for Education;

—\$700,000 to the Children's Center of Brooklyn, New York for the construction of a facility to house educational and therapeutic programs for disabled preschool children;

—\$1,000,000 to Wittenberg University, Ohio for rehabilitation and renovation of a Science Center facility;

—\$500,000 to the Greene County, Ohio Park District to construct a composite materials bicycle/pedestrian bridge;

—\$1,000,000 to Holmes County, Ohio for the construction of a wellness center;

—\$400,000 to the University of Cincinnati for renovation of the medical science building;

—\$1,500,000 to the City of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma for the loan fund created to assist with recovery efforts from the Oklahoma City bombing;

—\$360,000 to the Borough of New Hope, Pennsylvania for redevelopment and revitalization of the site formerly known as Union Camp;

—\$40,000 to the Township of Tinicum, Pennsylvania for a floodplain delineation/hydraulic modeling study;

—\$400,000 to Wyoming County, Pennsylvania for a radiological facility at the Tyler Memorial Hospital in Tunkhannock;

—\$500,000 to Calhoun County, South Carolina for economic development and infrastructure improvements;

—\$300,000 to Carter County, Tennessee for road construction and water infrastructure improvements;

—\$300,000 to the ArtSpace Victory Arts Center in Texas for the revitalization of the Our Lady of Victory Convent;

—\$350,000 to the City of Lubbock, Texas for development of the American Wind Power Center;

—\$350,000 to the City of Lubbock, Texas for the Texas Aviation Heritage Foundation;

—\$1,000,000 million to the Salt Lake City Organizing Committee for housing infrastructure improvements for the Olympics and Paralympics;

—\$50,000 to the Town of Shenandoah, Virginia for the establishment of a comprehensive economic development strategy;

—\$1,000,000 to Warren County, Virginia for asbestos remediation and lead paint removal at the Avtex Superfund Site in Front Royal, Virginia;

—\$50,000 to Fairfax County, Virginia to revitalize low and moderate income housing;

—\$500,000 to the George Mason University in Virginia to develop and enhance the National Center for Technology and the Law;

—\$500,000 to the City of Covington, Washington to replace substandard water lines in the Covington Water District/Timberline Estate Development;

—\$50,000 to the City of Enumclaw, Washington for the development of a Welcome Center Facility;

—\$1,000,000 to the National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville, Alabama for the establishment of a research and training facility;

—\$200,000 to Alabama A&M University in Normal, Alabama for the renovation of historic buildings on the university's campus;

—\$150,000 to the Children's Museum of the Shoals in Florence, Alabama for the establishment of a hands-on discovery museum;

—\$125,000 to the Princess Theater in Decatur, Alabama for the renovation and operation of the current facility;

—\$25,000 to the Limestone County Veteran's Museum and Archives in Limestone County, Alabama for establishment of a veteran's museum in the City of Athens, Alabama;

—\$250,000 to the Arizona Science Center in Yuma, Arizona for its after-school program for inner-city youth;

—\$150,000 to the City of Yuma, Arizona for its downtown rejuvenation project involving the Historic Yuma Theatre;

—\$100,000 to the City of Phoenix, Arizona for the Westwood Neighborhood Redevelopment Project;

—\$250,000 to the Central American Resource Center (CARECEN) in Los Angeles, California for the rehabilitation of the Youth and Family Technology and Education Floor at its community center;

—\$400,000 to the County of Merced, California for planning for UC-Merced and University Village;

—\$400,000 to the City of Culver City, California for construction of the Culver City Senior Center;

—\$400,000 to the Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative (LANI) for the South Robertson Neighborhood project;

—\$150,000 to the Carmel Highlands Fire Protection District, California for the construction of a new fire station;

—\$150,000 to the City of Hollister, California for the construction of a new fire station;

—\$200,000 to the City of Alhambra, California for the Fire Station Training Center Project;

—\$100,000 to the City of Norwalk, California for construction of a new senior citizen center;

—\$200,000 to the City of Maywood, California for the design and construction of a community center for at-risk youth and seniors;

—\$10,000 to the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department in Los Angeles, California for the Chinatown Gateway Project to build an archway in Chinatown;

—\$80,000 to the City of Los Angeles, California for the redevelopment of the Sears and Prison Industrial sites in the downtown area;

—\$100,000 to The East Los Angeles Community Union (TELACU) in Los Angeles, California for the renovation of a sixty-acre industrial park;

—\$10,000 to the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission in Los Angeles, California for a telemedicine program in the east Los Angeles area;

—\$300,000 to the City of San Leandro, California for the Gateway to the East Bay Initiative;

—\$100,000 to the Pacific Union College in Angwin, California for the Napa Valley Resource Center job training program;

—\$400,000 to the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency in Sacramento, California for the rehabilitation of the Franklin Villa housing development;

—\$500,000 to the City of New Haven, Connecticut for the restoration and rehabilitation of the West River Memorial Park;

—\$200,000 to the Mystic Seaport in Mystic, Connecticut for the design and construction of the American Maritime Education and Research Center;

—\$300,000 to Building Bridges Across the River in Washington, District of Columbia for the continued development and construction of a recreation and performing arts center in Ward 8;

—\$400,000 to the City of Monticello, Florida for the refurbishment of the Jefferson County High School building as a community center;

—\$1,700,000 to the City of Miami, Florida for the development of a Homeownership Zone to assist residents displaced by the demolition of public housing in the Model City area;

—\$300,000 to the City of Gainesville, Florida for the planning, design and implementation of the Depot Avenue Project;

—\$400,000 to the City of Atlanta, Georgia for the design and construction of a community center adjacent to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Historic District;

—\$350,000 to the City of East St. Louis, Illinois for the renovation of the former Cannady School into a Vocational Charter School;

—\$1,000,000 to the Rush-Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois for the design, construction and operation of a research center for the elderly;

—\$250,000 to Black Hawk College in East Moline, Illinois for the design and construction of a business and continuing education conference center;

—\$200,000 to the City of Harvey, Illinois to establish a pilot program for neighborhood stabilization, including demolition of vacant homes, land-banking of vacant properties and renovation of occupied homes;

—\$200,000 to the Illinois International Port District in Chicago, Illinois for dockwall repairs at Port of Chicago and Lake Calumet;

—\$300,000 to the City of Chicago, Illinois for the South Chicago Housing Initiative at the former USX South Works site;

—\$200,000 to the Village of Chicago Ridge, Illinois for the construction of a municipal law enforcement complex;

—\$200,000 to the Township of Stickney, Illinois for the renovation of the Stickney Township North Clinic;

—\$400,000 to Wyatt Community Life Center in Chicago, Illinois for health, education and job training needs of underserved populations;

—\$200,000 to the City of Elkhart, Indiana for the continuation of the Building the American Dream initiative;

—\$500,000 to the Town of Griffith, Indiana for stormwater and sewer separation;

—\$100,000 to Northern Kentucky University in Highland Heights, Kentucky for the purchase of computers, books and supplies at the Urban Learning Center;

—\$500,000 to the City of Boston, Massachusetts for redevelopment in the historic Tremont Street midtown area;

—\$400,000 to the Springfield Library and Museum Association in Springfield, Massachusetts for construction and infrastructure improvement needs related to a national memorial and park honoring Theodor Geisel;

—\$250,000 to the Greater Holyoke YMCA in Holyoke, Massachusetts for the continuation of the Expanding Horizons Downtown for Children and Families capital campaign;

—\$250,000 to Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts for construction of the National Center for Science Education;

—\$500,000 to the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland for the renovation of the James McGregor Burn Academy of Leadership;

—\$100,000 to the Bowie-Crofton Business and Professional Women's (BPW) Choices and Challenges Program in Bowie, Maryland for the purchase of computers, educational software and other educational materials;

—\$600,000 to Macomb Township, Michigan for site preparation, site development and equipment purchase related to Waldenburg Park;

—\$600,000 to the City of St. Clair Shores, Michigan for enhancement of the Jefferson Avenue corridor;

—\$400,000 to the City of Pontiac, Michigan for the renovation and rehabilitation of the Strand Theatre;

—\$275,000 to Fairview Health Services in Elk River, Minnesota for the expansion of the Elk River primary care clinic;

—\$600,000 to the Minneapolis Urban League City of Minneapolis, Minnesota for planning and construction of a multi-purpose business development center in north Minneapolis;

—\$100,000 to Better Family Life in St. Louis, Missouri for construction of a new facility;

—\$50,000 to the Black World History Wax Museum in St. Louis, Missouri for structural renovations and accessibility improvements;

—\$100,000 to the Black Repertory Company in St. Louis, Missouri for renovation of a facility;

—\$250,000 for People's Health Centers in St. Louis, Missouri for the construction of an elderly day care and physical fitness center;

—\$1,000,000 to the St. Louis City Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry in St. Louis, Missouri for the ongoing restoration of Forest Park;

—\$500,000 to the St. Louis City Department of Parks, Recreation and Forestry in St. Louis, Missouri for modernization of facilities and restorations at Carondelet Park;

—\$200,000 to the Union Station Assistance Corporation in Kansas City, Missouri for construction of the passenger rail services facility;

—\$200,000 to the City of Jackson, Mississippi for the capitalization of a home mortgage program for first-time home buyers;

—\$200,000 to the City of Jackson, Mississippi for the capitalization of a home improvement loan program;

—\$400,000 to Greene County Health Care in Snow Hill, North Carolina for facility enhancements;

—\$250,000 to the Town of Navassa, North Carolina for the construction of a community center;

—\$600,000 to the City of Durham, North Carolina for the Durham Regional Finance Center to acquire and renovate office space;

—\$250,000 to the Town of Chapel Hill, North Carolina for the activities of the Community Land Trust in Orange County;

—\$250,000 to the Community Reinvestment Association of North Carolina in Raleigh, North Carolina for economic literacy activities;

—\$200,000 to the Eagle Village Community Development Corporation in Durham, North Carolina for community development activities;

—\$200,000 for the Park Performing Arts Center in Union City, New Jersey for facilities renovation;

—\$300,000 to the City of Newark, New Jersey for the restoration and beautification of area urban parks;

—\$1,000,000 to Little Flowers Children's Services in Wading River, New York for construction of residential colleges and for educational and therapeutic services to children who have been separated from their parents;

—\$400,000 to the City of Kingston, New York for the rehabilitation and renovation of its City Hall;

—\$950,000 for the Town of Tonawanda, New York, for construction of low-income and mixed income housing, giving priority to the Blind Association of Western New York for construction of low-income and mixed income housing for physically disabled persons;

—\$500,000 to the City of New Rochelle, New York for streetscape improvements to North Avenue;

—\$200,000 to the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens for construction of an 89 unit senior citizens apartment complex in New York County, New York;

—\$400,000 to the Bronx Museum of the Arts in New York, New York for infrastructure improvements, construction, renovation, operation and facility upgrades;

—\$150,000 to the Mount Hope Housing Company in New York, New York for renovation of a multi-use community center;

—\$150,000 to the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation in New York, New York for phase three of the rebuilding and restoration of Joyce Kilmer Park in South Bronx, New York;

—\$170,000 to the David Hochstein Memorial Music School in New York for renovations and equipment related to a historic church sanctuary to serve as a performance hall;

—\$80,000 to the Rochester Association of Performing Arts, School of Performing Arts in New York for restoration and renovation of the School;

—\$200,000 to the City of Dayton, Ohio for land acquisition for the Tool Town precision metalworking park;

—\$1,400,000 to the City of Toledo, Ohio for improvements to central city neighborhoods and rejuvenation near the downtown historic commercial district, in cooperation with area not-for-profit community development corporations;

—\$700,000 to the Ohio Department of Development in Columbus, Ohio for the Safe Water Fund and rural development initiatives including cultural arts centers in Lucas, Fulton, Wood and Ottawa Counties, Ohio;

—\$200,000 to the City of Detroit, Oregon for sewer system design engineering in cooperation with the City of Idanha, Oregon;

—\$200,000 to the Regional Industrial Development Corporation of Southwestern Pennsylvania's Growth Fund in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania for asbestos abatement and removal of blast furnace stocks located on the Duquesne and McKeesport brownfield sites in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania;

—\$200,000 to the Schuylkill County Fire Fighters Association for a smoke-maze building on the grounds of the firefighters facility in Morea, Pennsylvania;

—\$300,000 to the City of Nanticoke, Pennsylvania for economic development initiatives;

—\$500,000 to Camp Kon-O-Kwee/Spencer YMCA camp in Beaver County, Pennsylvania for construction of a wastewater treatment facility;

—\$350,000 to Rostraver Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania for wastewater infrastructure upgrades and extension of sanitary sewer lines into previously unserved areas;

—\$540,000 to the Cambria County Commissioners in Cambria County, Pennsylvania for the design and construction of a recreation facility in northern Cambria County;

—\$260,000 to the Fort Ligonier Association in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania for restoration of Fort Ligonier;

—\$500,000 to the Indiana County Commissioners in Indiana, Pennsylvania for rehabilitation of the downtown area;

—\$300,000 to Mount Aloysius College in Cresson, Pennsylvania for the restoration of a historic boiler house;

—\$500,000 to Fallingwater in Mill Run, Pennsylvania for rehabilitation of concrete cantilevers;

—\$500,000 to the Johnstown Area Heritage Association in Johnstown, Pennsylvania for facilities renovation and exhibition development;

—\$250,000 to the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) for the renovation and restoration of the UPR Theater;

—\$500,000 to the Berkeley-Charleston-Dorchester Council of Governments for planning and construction of the Parkers Ferry Community Center in Charleston County, South Carolina;

—\$400,000 to Lee County, South Carolina for the renovation of the old Ashwood School into a community center;

—\$100,000 to the Town of Santee, South Carolina for construction of the Santee Cultural Arts and Visitor's Center;

—\$250,000 to the Memphis Zoo in Memphis, Tennessee for the Northwest Passage Campaign;

—\$400,000 to the City of Waco, Texas for unmet housing needs;

—\$400,000 to the Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition in Arlington, Virginia for expansion of the Airport-Alternative Fuel Vehicle Demonstration Project to Dallas-Fort Worth Airport and other locations nationally;

—\$150,000 to the Acres Home Citizen's Chamber of Commerce in Houston, Texas for services provided through the Acres Home Consortium;

—\$50,000 to the South Dallas Fairpark Inner City Community Development Corporation in Dallas, Texas for community housing development programs;

—\$50,000 to the Southfair Community Development Corporation in Dallas, Texas for community housing development programs;

—\$100,000 to the West Dallas Neighborhood Development Corporation in Dallas, Texas for community housing development programs;

—\$250,000 to Arlington-Alexandria Coalition for the Homeless (AAC) in Arlington, Virginia for the purchase of the property that houses its Community Resource Center;

—\$250,000 to the Borromeo Housing Foundation in Arlington, Virginia to establish a permanent Second Chance Home for unwed mothers;

—\$200,000 to the Campagna Center in Alexandria, Virginia to support the This Way House program;

—\$250,000 to the City of Virginia Beach, Virginia for the Virginia Marine Science Museum's Phase III expansion plan;

—\$300,000 to the Admiral Theater Foundation in Bremerton, Washington for continuing renovations and improvements at the Admiral Theatre;

—\$100,000 to the City of Tacoma, Washington for supplementation of the Tacoma Housing Trust Fund;

—\$400,000 to the City of Madison, Wisconsin for affordable housing initiatives;

—\$900,000 to the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine Foundation in Lewisburg, West Virginia for the construction of a multi-use museum and cultural education center;

—\$900,000 to the Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College in Williamson, West Virginia for the construction, equipping and furnishing of a library;

—\$250,000 to the Berkeley County, West Virginia Commission for the Historic Baltimore and Ohio Roundhouse Renovation Project;

—\$225,000 to the Gilmer County, West Virginia Commission for a museum and cultural education center;

—\$500,000 to the Gilmer County, West Virginia Commission for the planning and construction of a senior center;

—\$225,000 to the Calhoun County, West Virginia Commission for a museum and cultural education center;

—\$700,000 to the Kanawha County, West Virginia Commission for the activities of the Upper Kanawha Valley Enterprise Community;

—\$2,000,000 to the Vandalia Heritage Foundation for promotion of community and economic development;

—\$1,150,000 to the City of Fairmont, West Virginia to be distributed as follows: \$1,000,000 to the Fairmont Community Development Partnership, and \$150,000 to the Women's Club of Fairmont;

—\$300,000 to the Marion County Camp Board Association in Marion County, West Virginia for facilities enhancement at Camp Mar-Mac;

—\$1,000,000 to the City of Shinnston, West Virginia for design and construction of city park facilities;

—\$500,000 to the Mid-Atlantic Aerospace Complex in Bridgeport, West Virginia for economic development efforts;

—\$300,000 to the Institute for Software Research in Fairmont, West Virginia for capital equipment, operational expenses and program development;

—\$100,000 to the St. Louis County Port Authority for the remediation of the National Lead Site;

—\$500,000 for the City of Union for infrastructure improvements to the Union Corporate Center, Missouri;

—\$1,000,000 for City of Knoxville, Tennessee for economic development training for low-income people;

—\$700,000 for the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for the preservation of federally assisted low-income housing at risk of being lost as affordable housing;

—\$1,700,000 for the Sheldon Jackson College Auditorium in Sitka, Alaska for refurbishing;

—\$250,000 for Northern Initiatives in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan for the capitalization of a training endowment fund;

—\$1,500,000 for Focus HOPE for the expansion of its Machinist Training Institute in Detroit, Michigan;

—\$1,000,000 for the construction of a fire station project in Logan, Utah;

—\$900,000 for Ogden, Utah for downtown redevelopment;

—\$750,000 for Billings, Montana for the redevelopment of the Billings Depot;

—\$900,000 for Libby, Montana for the construction of a community center;

—\$1,000,000 for Mississippi State University for the renovation of buildings;

—\$1,200,000 for the City of Madison, Mississippi to renovate a gateway to historic downtown Madison;

—\$900,000 for Providence, Rhode Island for the renovation of the Providence performing Arts Center;

—\$1,000,000 for the Bidwell Industrial Development Corporation the Harbor Gardens development project;

—\$500,000 for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania for the expansion of the Pennsylvania Convention Center;

—\$1,000,000 for the City of Jackson, Mississippi to create a housing rehabilitation program;

—\$650,000 for Monessen, Pennsylvania for the development of a business development and support facility;

—\$800,000 for the City of Wilkes-Barre for downtown revitalization;

—\$500,000 for the Friends of the Capitol Theater for the renovation of the Capitol Theater in Dover, Delaware;

—\$2,000,000 for the Idaho Bureau of Disaster Services for the restoration of Milo Creek;

—\$500,000 for the Clearwater Economic Development Association for planning for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial celebration;

—\$1,000,000 for the Developmental Disabilities Resource Center to provide services to persons with disabilities in the Front Range area of Colorado;

—\$600,000 for the City of Montrose, Colorado to develop affordable, low-income housing;

—\$1,400,000 for the Columbia/Adair County Industrial Development Authority in Kentucky for infrastructure development for the Columbia/Adair County Industrial Park Development;

—\$800,000 for the University of Findlay in Ohio to expand its National Center for Excellence in Environmental Management facility;

—\$500,000 for MSU-Billings in Billings, Montana for the development of a business development and support facility;

—\$500,000 for the City of Brookhaven, Mississippi to renovate historic Whitworth College buildings and related improvements;

—\$1,500,000 for the Bethel Pre-Maternal Home in Bethel, Alaska for expansion;

—\$3,500,000 for the University of Alaska Fairbanks Museum in Fairbanks, Alaska;

—\$1,200,000 for Forum Health of Youngstown, Ohio for a hospital conversion project;

—\$2,200,000 for the Pacific Science Center for the construction of the Mercer Slough Environmental Education Center;

—\$1,000,000 for the Tacoma Art Museum in Tacoma, Washington for expansion;

—\$300,000 for the Portsmouth, New Hampshire City Housing Authority for the development of a multiple use recreation and learning center;

—\$300,000 for the City of Concord for community and neighborhood improvements;

—\$100,000 for the City of Nashua, New Hampshire for a river front project;

—\$75,000 for the Manchester Neighborhood Housing Services in Manchester, New Hampshire;

—\$200,000 for Vergennes, Vermont for the renovation and expansion of the Vergennes Opera House;

—\$1,000,000 for the renovation and expansion of the Flynn Theatre in Burlington, Vermont;

—\$75,000 for the French Hill Neighborhood Housing Services in Nashua, New Hampshire;

—\$75,000 for the Concord Area Trust for Community Housing in Concord, New Hampshire;

—\$375,000 for the Town of Winchester, New Hampshire to tear down an old leather tannery;

—\$2,500,000 for the Kansas City Liberty Memorial renovation and restoration;

—\$1,500,000 for the American National Fish and Wildlife Museum in Springfield, Missouri for construction;

—\$100,000 for the City of Claremont, New Hampshire to upgrade and repair their public parks service;

—\$75,000 for the Laconia Area Community Land Trust in Laconia, New Hampshire;

—\$200,000 for the Town of Barre, Vermont for the construction of a business incubator building in the Wilson Industrial Park;

—\$400,000 for Housing Vermont to construct affordable housing in Bellows Falls, Vermont;

—\$200,000 for the Vermont Center for Independent Living for its Home Access program;

—\$100,000 for the Bennington Museum in Bennington, Vermont;

—\$600,000 for the Vermont Rural Fire Protection Task Force for the purchase of equipment;

—\$900,000 for the Home Repair Collaborative in Indianapolis, Indiana for the repair of low-income housing;

—\$1,900,000 for the City of Montgomery, Alabama for the redevelopment of its riverfront area;

—\$1,500,000 for the planning and construction of a regional learning center at Spring Hill College in Montgomery, Alabama;

—\$1,500,000 for the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center for the development of a greenhouse complex;

—\$500,000 for Calhoun Community College, Advance Manufacturing Center in Decatur, Alabama for the development of an advanced manufacturing center;

—\$500,000 for the Clay County Courthouse rehabilitation project in Clay County, Alabama;

—\$1,800,000 for the renovation of Bates Mill in Lewiston, Maine;

—\$800,000 for Coastal Enterprises, Inc for rural economic development and housing initiatives in Kennebec and Somerset Counties;

—\$1,300,000 for the City of Fort Worth, Texas for building renovation associated with the development of the Fort Worth Medtech Center;

—\$1,000,000 for the Southwest Collaborative for Community Development for low-income housing and economic development in the southwest border area of Texas;

—\$750,000 for Houston, Texas to establish a Distance Learning Center as part of a "campus park" redevelopment in the Stella Link community;

—\$1,650,000 for Farmington, New Mexico for the renovation of Ricketts Field;

—\$1,000,000 for New Mexico Highlands University for its Science and Engineering Complex;

—\$800,000 for the National Institute for Community Empowerment for its capacity building efforts in underserved communities;

—\$250,000 for the City of Santa Ana, California for the establishment of the IDEA center;

—\$750,000 for the First AME Church in Los Angeles, California for the development of a business incubator;

—\$750,000 for the City of Riverside, California for the development of Citrus Park;

—\$500,000 for the City of Inglewood, California for the construction of a senior center;

—\$750,000 for the City of San Francisco, California for the redevelopment of the Laguna Honda Assisted Living/Housing for Seniors;

—\$250,000 for the Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance in Hartford, Connecticut for downtown renovation;

—\$250,000 for the University of Connecticut for the construction of a biotechnology facility;

—\$1,500,000 for Fairfield University for the Information Technology Center, Fairfield, Connecticut;

—\$500,000 for the Mark Twain House Visitor's Center in Hartford, Connecticut;

—\$500,000 for the Bushnell Theater, Hartford, Connecticut for renovation efforts;

—\$700,000 for Bethune-Cookman College in Daytona Beach, Florida for the development of a community services student union;

—\$500,000 for Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia for renovation of the Spelman College Science Center;

—\$1,150,000 for the City of Moultrie, Georgia for environmental mitigation and redevelopment of the Swift Building;

—\$150,000 for the County of Maui, Hawaii to assist the Island of Molokai for capacity development related to its status as an Enterprise Community;

—\$1,000,000 for Honolulu, Hawaii to implement the Kahuku Drainage Plan;

—\$350,000 for the Maui Family Support Services, Inc. for the creation of an early childhood center in Maui County, Hawaii;

—\$500,000 for Wailuku, Hawaii for revitalization efforts;

—\$500,000 for the City of Waterloo, Iowa for the development of affordable, low-income housing;

—\$500,000 for Des Moines, Iowa for south of downtown redevelopment;

—\$500,000 for the Muscatine Center for Strategic Action in Wilton, Iowa for the operation of a nonprofit modular housing factory;

—\$1,000,000 for Sioux City, Iowa for the redevelopment of the Sioux City Stockyards;

—\$550,000 for Audubon Institute Living Sciences Museum for the restoration of a New Orleans, Louisiana, Customs House;

—\$500,000 for Dillard University in New Orleans, Louisiana for assisting persons in the transition from welfare to work;

—\$250,000 for the National Center for the Revitalization of Central Cities, New Orleans, Louisiana for the development of redevelopment strategies;

—\$1,500,000 for the University of Maryland-Eastern Shore in Princess Anne, Maryland for the development of a Coastal Ecology Teaching and Research Center;

—\$1,500,000 for Prince Georges County, Maryland for the revitalization of the Route 1 corridor;

—\$250,000 for the Hampden/Hampshire Housing Partnership Loan Fund in western Massachusetts for the development of affordable housing;

—\$250,000 for the City of Lowell, Massachusetts for downtown redevelopment;

—\$250,000 for the City of Lawrence, Massachusetts for the City of Lawrence Loan and Investment Program;

—\$500,000 for the Boys & Girls Club of Boston in Chelsea, Massachusetts for construction of a clubhouse;

—\$500,000 for Assumption College in Worcester, Massachusetts for construction of the Lieutenant Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Memorial Science and Technology Center;

—\$250,000 for the City of Pontiac, Michigan for economic development activities;

—\$500,000 for City of Flint, Michigan for economic development activities;

—\$1,000,000 for the Minnesota Indian Primary Residential Treatment Center in Sawyer, Minnesota for the adolescent treatment center;

—\$500,000 for the Research Development Enterprise in Missoula, Montana for the advancement of university research activities;

—\$500,000 for the Panhandle Community Service in Scottsbluff, Nebraska for the construction of an early childhood development center;

—\$1,750,000 for the University of Nevada in Reno, Nevada for the Structures Laboratory;

—\$250,000 for Henderson, Nevada for downtown redevelopment;

—\$600,000 for the Boys & Girls Club of Las Vegas, Nevada for the renovation and expansion of existing facilities;

—\$250,000 for Willingboro, New Jersey for the revitalization of the Central Business Center;

—\$500,000 for Plainfield, New Jersey for the redevelopment of the Teppers building;

—\$200,000 for Trenton, New Jersey for the renovation of the YWCA's indoor swimming pool;

—\$500,000 for Gloucester County, New Jersey for downtown revitalization;

—\$1,000,000 for Children's House Hackensack University Medical Center in Hackensack, New Jersey for expansion;

—\$250,000 for Belen, New Mexico for the development of a recreation center;

—\$250,000 for Arroyo Seco Youth Center Hands Across Culture Corporation, New Mexico;

—\$500,000 for the Esperanza Domestic Violence Shelter in northern New Mexico for homeless services;

—\$500,000 for the Court Youth Center in Dona Ana County, New Mexico for renovation of their youth center;

—\$750,000 for the New York Public Library's Library for the Performing Arts for renovations;

—\$1,000,000 for Rural Economic Area Partnership Zones in North Dakota;

—\$850,000 for Turtle Mountain Economic Development and Education Complex in North Dakota;

—\$500,000 for the City of Providence, Rhode Island for the Nickerson Community Center for an assisted living facility for homeless veterans;

—\$100,000 for the South Providence Development Corporation in Providence, Rhode Island for a child care facility;

—\$2,000,000 for the Spartanburg School for the Deaf and the Blind in Spartanburg, South Carolina for a new dormitory;

—\$500,000 for the University of South Carolina School of Public Health to consolidate its programs in a new central location;

—\$1,000,000 for the University of South Dakota, in Vermillion, South Dakota for the expansion of Medical School research facilities;

—\$100,000 for the City of Flandreau, South Dakota for infrastructure improvements and economic development activities;

—\$100,000 for the City of Garretson, South Dakota for infrastructure improvements and economic development activities;

—\$100,000 for the City of Hot Springs, South Dakota for redevelopment activities;

—\$100,000 for the City of Sisseton, South Dakota to make infrastructure improvements at an industrial site in the community;

—\$250,000 for the City of Aberdeen, South Dakota for a community child daycare center;

—\$100,000 for the North Sioux City Economic Development Corporation in North Sioux, South Dakota for the construction of an industrial park;

—\$650,000 for Burlington, Vermont for downtown redevelopment;

—\$500,000 for the Kellogg-Hubbard Library in Montpelier, Vermont for renovation and expansion;

—\$350,000 for Brattleboro, Vermont for downtown redevelopment;

—\$750,000 for Chittenden County, Vermont for the development of affordable low-income housing;

—\$250,000 for Lake Champlain Science Center, Burlington, Vermont;

—\$150,000 for the Southwest Virginia Governor's School for Science, Mathematics and Technology for improvements;

—\$500,000 for the Accomack-Northampton Planning District Commission for economic development on the Eastern Shore of Virginia;

—\$250,000 for an Achievable Dream in Newport News, Virginia to help at-risk youth;

—\$500,000 for the Fremont Public Association in Seattle, Washington for construction costs related to its Community Resource Center;

—\$500,000 for the Puget Sound Center for Teaching, Learning and Technology in Seattle, Washington;

—\$200,000 for the University of Charleston in West Virginia for a basic skills and assessment lab;

—\$600,000 for Shepherd College in Shepherdstown, West Virginia for the renovation of Scarborough Library;

—\$4,000,000 for Wheeling Jesuit University in Wheeling, West Virginia for the construction of a science/computer teaching center;

—\$500,000 for the Town of Kimball, West Virginia for the restoration of the Kimball War Memorial;

—\$300,000 for Bethany College, in Bethany, West Virginia for the creation of a health and wellness center;

—\$200,000 for West Virginia State College to assist in creating a computer library;

—\$2,000,000 for the Center for the Arts & Sciences of West Virginia for the construction of a theater/planetarium;

—\$500,000 for the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin for its Metcalfe Neighborhood Redevelopment Initiative;

—\$250,000 for the City of Beloit, Wisconsin for urban renewal activities;

—\$500,000 for the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin for redevelopment activities in the Menomonee River Valley. Milwaukee, Wisconsin may transfer up to \$200,000 of these funds to its Metcalfe Neighborhood Redevelopment Initiative;

—\$4,000,000 for the City of Hot Springs, Arkansas for the construction and hillside stabilization of the Downtown Hot Springs National Park parking facility;

—\$1,000,000 for Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon for construction and program activities at Bicentennial Hall;

—\$250,000 for the Reedsport, Oregon for the expansion of exhibits and educational programs at Umpqua Discovery Center;

—\$1,000,000 for the Redevelopment Agency of Salt Lake City, Utah for the redevelopment of the Gateway District;

—\$500,000 for the Boys and Girls Club for the development of a Boys and Girls Club facility in Brownsville, Texas to serve at-risk youth;

—\$500,000 for the City of Beaumont, Texas to renovate the L. L. Melton YMCA to provide services to low-income families;

—\$1,000,000 for the Discovery Place Museum in Charlotte, North Carolina for modernization and program costs;

—\$500,000 for the American Cave and Karst Center in Horse Cave, Kentucky;

—\$900,000 for the Madison County Economic Development Authority for the development of the Central Mississippi Industrial Center in Madison, Mississippi;

—\$500,000 for the Borden Development Alliance to develop strategies and promote economic development in the United States-Mexico border region;

—\$1,000,000 for the Center for Science and Technology in Idaho Falls, Idaho for start-up costs to develop technology transfer and business development within Idaho;

—\$250,000 for the Thomas Jefferson Agricultural Institute in Missouri to develop programs supporting farmers and rural communities through diversification and value-added economic development;

—\$250,000 for the Hundley-Whaley telecommunications resource center in Albany, Missouri;

—\$350,000 for infrastructure and development activities associated with new housing in Moscow Mills, Missouri;

—\$300,000 for Kirksville, Missouri downtown redevelopment activities;

—\$350,000 to Maysville, Missouri for drinking water infrastructure improvements;

—\$250,000 to Moberly, Missouri for streetscape and curb improvements;

—\$500,000 to the Northeast Community Action Corporation of Missouri for low-income rural housing;

—\$250,000 to the Missouri Agriculture and Small Business Development Authority to complete market development activities that relate to beef and pork cooperative processing capacity such as in Macon, Missouri;

—\$500,000 for Anchorage, Alaska United Way for rehabilitation of a community services building;

—\$500,000 for the Sitka Pioneer Home in Sitka, Alaska for rehabilitation;

—\$100,000 to the University of Maryland-Baltimore County for an environmental center;

—\$600,000 to East Northport in Long Island, New York for construction of a sewage treatment facility;

The conference report includes \$55,000,000 for the Resident Opportunity and Supportive Services (ROSS) program, as proposed by both the House and the Senate, but deletes the specific \$10,000,000 amount allocated by both the House and Senate within this item for grants for service coordinators and congregate housing services for the elderly and disabled. Rather, the conferees direct the Department to use sufficient funds within the ROSS program to renew all expiring service coordinator and congregate services grants (except those for which renewal is not considered appropriate due to poor performance, lack of continuing need, or similar circumstances), other than those for which renewal funding is made available elsewhere in this conference report. The conferees understand that the amount needed for these renewals exceeds the \$10,000,000 allocated by the House and Senate, but have not inserted

a new dollar amount because of uncertainties regarding the precise cost. The conference report also includes language proposed by the Senate restricting HUD from adding certain conditions to grants for service coordinators and congregate services.

Deletes report language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House directing HUD to report on all projects funded under EDI grants awarded independently by HUD.

Deletes report language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House directing HUD to conduct a close-out review of each EDI grant within five years of funding.

Adds language proposed by the House authorizing YouthBuild to engage in capacity building activities.

The conferees continue to expect YouthBuild programs to leverage private capital. This requirement emphasizes the value of local commitments as a state in these programs as well as additional resources available to assist in expansion.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House to permanently transfer the New York Small Cities program to the State of New York. If, however, the program is not operating smoothly and effectively after one year, HUD may submit legislation to transfer the program back to the Department. The conferees will be following the results of this transfer and its implementation at the state level.

The conferees note that the Governor of New York has stated that ". . . New York has taken the necessary steps as set out by law and precedent to begin the transfer of this program from HUD to the State. In addition, the State has proposed an appropriate structure to administer the program and we have implemented an extensive consultation and public outreach process through which numerous citizens, local government and organizations participated in development of the comprehensive plan for our administration of the program."

The conferees direct that this transfer shall not affect any awards made by HUD prior to the enactment of these provisions, including multi-year awards, provided the awardee remains in compliance with all contract terms and applicable regulations. HUD is directed to continue to administer those awards that are under contract but have not yet been closed out. Furthermore, the conferees delete bill language conditioning award of other Small Cities funds on this transfer and clarify that only the Small Cities program for New York State is transferred.

BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT

Appropriates \$25,000,000 for brownfields redevelopment, as proposed by the Senate instead of \$20,000,000 as proposed by the House.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

Appropriates \$1,600,000,000 for the HOME program, as proposed by the Senate instead of \$1,580,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Includes \$15,000,000 for housing counseling, instead of \$7,500,000 as proposed by the House and \$20,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Includes \$5,000,000 for information systems as proposed by the House instead of no funding as proposed by the Senate.

Includes an earmark of \$2,000,000 for the National Housing Development Corporation, to demonstrate innovative methods of preserving affordable housing. The funding is intended to be used for start-up costs, operating expenses, and working capital.

The conferees reiterate language included in the fiscal year 1999 conference report directing HUD to develop a process for measuring the performance of housing counseling agencies, and urge HUD to incorporate performance measurement requirements into

future Notices of Funding Availability for the housing counseling program. Unless HUD provides solid information concerning the uses of these funds and the performance of grantees, the conferees will reluctantly consider making further reductions in the housing counseling program in future years.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Appropriates \$1,020,000,000 for homeless assistance grants as proposed by the Senate instead of \$970,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Inserts language requiring at least 30% of the appropriation be directed to permanent housing, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include this item.

Inserts language requiring a 25% match by grantees for funding for services, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include this item.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate directing HUD to review any previously obligated amounts of assistance, and to deobligate the funds if the contracts are unlikely to be performed. The House did not include this item.

The conferees agree with report language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House directing HUD to ensure that State and local jurisdictions pass on at least 50% of all administrative funds to the non-profit organizations administering the homeless assistance programs.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

HOUSING FOR SPECIAL POPULATIONS

Appropriates \$911,000,000 for housing for special populations as proposed by the Senate instead of \$854,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Includes \$710,000,000 for section 202 housing for the elderly as proposed by the Senate instead of \$660,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Includes \$201,000,000 for section 811 housing for the disabled as proposed by the Senate instead of \$194,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House that, of the funds appropriated for the section 202 program, \$50,000,000 shall be for service coordinators and existing congregate services grants, and \$50,000,000 shall be for the costs of converting existing section 202 projects to assisted living facilities. Grants for conversion of buildings to assisted living facilities are to be administered under provisions of title V of this Act. For fiscal year 2000, funds are not provided for any capital repairs but are limited to conversions only.

The conferees note that title V of this bill includes reforms to the elderly and disabled housing programs. These reforms will enable the programs to work more efficiently and effectively.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION FHA—MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Limits commitments for guaranteed loans to \$140,000,000,000 as proposed by the House instead of \$120,000,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Limits obligations for direct loans to no more than \$100,000,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of \$50,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Appropriates \$330,888,000 for administrative expenses as proposed by the Senate instead of \$328,888,000 as proposed by the House.

Appropriates \$160,000,000 for administrative contract expenses as proposed by the Senate. The House did not fund this item.

Inserts language making a technical correction as proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate prohibiting HUD or the FHA from discriminating between public and private elementary and secondary school teachers. The House did not include a similar item. The conferees note, however, that HUD should make FHA mortgage insurance advantages available to any teacher regardless of school affiliation.

The conferees are aware that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, pursuant to the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (Title VIII, P.L. 102-550), has announced the intention to publish for comment a proposed rule implementing new affordable housing goals for Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae. In light of the extraordinary increase in the proposed goal, the conferees expect the Secretary to consider the following:

First, the stretch affordable housing efforts required of each of Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae should be equal, so that both enterprises are similarly challenged in attaining the goals. This will require the Secretary to recognize the present composition of each enterprise's overall portfolio in order to ensure regulatory parity in the application of regulatory guidelines measuring goal compliance. Second, any new affordable housing goal regulations must recognize that attainment of materially higher goals will be largely dependent on the continuation of the current economic conditions that are very favorable for housing affordability. Deterioration in these conditions likely would render stretch goals infeasible within the intent of the 1992 legislation.

The fiscal year 1999 Appropriations Act contained a provision that imposed treble damages on FHA lenders who fail to provide loss mitigation actions. The conferees are concerned with how this provision will be implemented and encourage HUD to promulgate very specific regulations to clearly define actions that are considered loss mitigation. Furthermore, the conferees urge HUD to withhold imposing severe penalties under this provision until such times as regulations are in place and the authorizing committees have had time to review the impact these penalties will have on the FHA lending program.

FHA—GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriates \$144,000,000 for administrative contract expenses as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include this item.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate prohibiting HUD or the FHA from discriminating between public and private elementary and secondary school teachers. The House did not include a similar item.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate making previously appropriated amounts available despite the expiration of the amounts.

Inserts language making a technical correction as proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate.

The conferees are aware of the efforts the Department has made to bridge the growing digital divide between information technology "haves" and "have nots" through its Neighborhood Networks initiative. This initiative leverages local businesses, community organizations, local residents and other partners to provide residential computing centers to HUD-assisted housing throughout the country which in turn provide computer and job training, senior and youth programs and a variety of other supportive services at almost no direct cost to the Department. The conferees direct the Department to submit a report no later than June 30, 2000 which details and evaluates: the goals and

progress of the initiative; strategies to sustain resident involvement in the program and to overcome other potential obstacles, which the report should identify; future areas of opportunity for the program, including possible partnerships with non-profit organizations and other Federal agencies; and the effectiveness of the initiative relative to the mission and goals of the Department as specified in the strategic and annual operating plan.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT (INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriates \$9,383,000 for administrative expenses as proposed by the House instead of \$15,383,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Inserts language proposed by the House requiring expenses to be derived from receipts from GNMA guarantees of mortgage backed securities (MBS). The Senate did not include this item.

Inserts language making a technical correction to bill language as proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

Appropriates \$45,000,000 for research and technology, instead of \$42,500,000 as proposed by the House and \$35,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Includes \$10,000,000 for the PATH program, instead of \$7,500,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate did not include a similar item. Additionally, \$500,000 is for the Elderly Housing Commission, which is authorized in title V of this Act.

The conferees expect the PATH program to include coordination on cold climate housing research with the Cold Climate Housing Research Center in Fairbanks, Alaska.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

Appropriates \$44,000,000 for fair housing activities, instead of \$40,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and \$37,500,000 as proposed by the House.

Of the total amount provided in the conference agreement, \$24,000,000 is for the Fair Housing Initiatives Program (including \$6 million for continuation of the nationwide audit to determine the extent of discrimination in housing rental and sales) and \$20,000,000 is for the Fair Housing Assistance Program.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriates \$80,000,000 for lead hazard reduction, as proposed by the Senate instead of \$70,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Of the amount, \$10,000,000 is for the Healthy Homes Initiative as proposed by the Senate instead of \$7,500,000 as proposed by the House.

Inserts language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate providing \$1,000,000 for CLEARCorps.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION SALARIES AND EXPENSES (INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Appropriates \$477,000,000 for salaries and expenses instead of \$456,843,000 as proposed by the House and \$457,039,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate prohibiting HUD from employing more than 77 schedule C and 20 non-career SES employees.

The conferees are aware of a number of significant concerns with HUD's external Community Builders program. Most importantly,

the conferees believe that HUD must rebuild itself from within, from staff that are committed to HUD's long-term future and the federal investment in local communities and neighborhoods. Therefore, the conferees are terminating the external Community Builders program effective September 1, 2000 (rather than effective February 1, 2000, as proposed by the Senate). The conferees expect that, following the termination of the program, functions now being performed by external Community Builders will be carried out by career civil servants, and that FTEs now occupied by external Community Builders will be filled instead by regular civil service employees.

HUD also is prohibited from converting any external Community Builder to permanent staff (i.e., from changing employee status without following normal civil service competitive requirements). In addition, while the conferees do not object to external community builders applying for career civil service positions at HUD, they should not be provided any special preference or priority simply because of their status as current or former external Community Builders.

In addition, the conferees remain concerned about potential problems with conflicts of interest in the Community Builders program, and direct HUD to establish clear rules to avoid any appearance of self-interest. In particular, there should be a bright line test prohibiting any Community Builder from being involved in any HUD transaction in which that person has a fiduciary interest or has had an employer/employee relationship with the entities involved in the transaction.

Inserts several language changes that are technical.

Inserts language proposed by the House and not included by the Senate providing \$2,000,000 for the Millennial Housing Commission established in the Administrative Provisions section of this title.

Inserts a modification of Senate language prohibiting HUD from employing more than 9,300 full-time equivalent employees. Unlike the Senate language, the conference agreement does not count on-site contract employees as part of the total that is subject to the limitation.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House prohibiting HUD from employing more than 14 employees in the Office of Public Affairs.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House prohibiting HUD from using more than \$1,000,000 for travel.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Appropriates \$83,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General, instead of \$72,343,000 as proposed by the House and \$95,910,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Inserts language making a technical correction as proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House providing \$10,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General to contract for a series of independent financial audits of HUD's internal systems. Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House authorizing this amount to be available until September 30, 2001.

OFFICE OF FEDERAL HOUSING ENTERPRISE
OVERSIGHT
SALARIES AND EXPENSES
(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

Provides \$500 for the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight's (OFHEO) reception and representation expenses instead

of \$1,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate did not provide a similar item.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate making a technical correction regarding enhanced disposition authority. This provision is incorporated in title V.

Restores language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate reprogramming previously awarded economic development initiatives.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House clarifying an owner's right to prepay the mortgage of eligible low-income housing developments.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House prohibiting operating subsidies or capital funds from being provided to certain State and city funded and locally developed public housing or assisted units.

Restores language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate establishing the Millennial Housing Commission.

Restores language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate rescinding \$74,400,000.

Restores language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate providing \$5,000,000 for the National Cities in Schools Community Development program.

Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate authorizing HUD to provide enhanced section 8 vouchers for certain assisted housing projects. This authority is incorporated into provisions in title V.

Restores language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate to provide \$5,000,000 to the Jobs-Plus component of the Moving to Work program.

Restores language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate repealing section 214 of Public Law 104-204, dealing with recaptured section 8 funds.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House amending the National Housing Act defining the term "nonadministrative."

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House limiting compensation to employees of public housing authorities to no more than \$125,000.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House making a technical correction to section 541 of the National Housing Act regarding payment of claims. This provision streamlines the debt restructuring process in MAHRA.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House limiting compensation for employees of YouthBuild to no more than \$125,000.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House providing HUD with the authority to gain access to tenant income matching information.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House eliminating the Secretary's discretionary fund.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House to correct section 514 (h)(1) of MAHRA. This matter is covered in title V.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House requiring HUD to reimburse GAO for any failure to cooperate in investigations.

The conferees have agreed to drop the requirement that HUD reimburse GAO for the cost of time due to delays caused by HUD in providing access to HUD officials and staff and to information important to the House and Senate appropriations committees. The conferees are concerned, however, about reports that HUD has unreasonably delayed

such access on numerous occasions in the past year. Therefore, the conferees direct GAO to maintain a log detailing GAO's efforts to meet with HUD officials and staff and in seeking to obtain information on HUD programs and activities. This log shall include a summary of all delays and HUD's reasons for the delays. The conferees expect HUD to provide reasonable access to HUD officials, staff and information and that all meetings should be accommodated within a week of any request, unless there is a delay that is both reasonable and unavoidable.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House exempting Alaska and Mississippi—for fiscal year 2000 only—from statutory requirements to have a resident of public housing on the Board of Directors.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House clarifying that HOME funds may be used to preserve housing assisted with section 8.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House transferring administration of the Small Cities component of the CDBG program for all funds allocated to the State of New York from HUD to the State of New York.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House exempting Peggy Burgin from having to comply with the age requirement at Clark's Landing in Groton, Vermont.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House requiring HUD to continue to make interest reductions payments to Darlington Manor apartments.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House authorizing HUD to provide section 8 assistance to buildings with terminating section 8 contracts. This provision is incorporated in title V.

Inserts modified language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House requiring HUD to use risk-sharing if the refinancing is the best available in terms of savings to the FHA insurance funds and results in reduced risk of loss to the federal government.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House authorizing section 8 enhanced vouchers. This provision is included in title V.

Inserts language extending the deadline for certain EDI grants until September 30, 2000. Neither the House nor the Senate included this language.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House authorizing HUD to contract with State or local housing finance agencies for the purpose of determining market rents.

Inserts new language enabling tenants of cooperative housing projects to make use of revocable trusts. Neither the House nor the Senate included this language.

Inserts new language making a technical correction to a grant to the County of Hawaii. Neither the House nor the Senate included this provision.

Restores language proposed by the House and not included by the Senate providing authority to HUD to reuse certain section 8 funds.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate and not included by the House authorizing HUD to allow project owners to use interest reduction payments for renovations in certain assisted housing projects. A similar provision is included in title V.

Inserts new language making waivers to the section 108 program for certain projects.

Inserts new language requiring HUD to allocate directly to New Jersey a portion of HOPWA funds designated for the Philadelphia, PA-NJ Primary Metropolitan Statistical Area. Neither the House nor the Senate included a similar provision.

TITLE III—INDEPENDENT AGENCIES
AMERICAN BATTLE MONUMENTS COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriates \$28,467,000 for salaries and expenses as proposed by the House instead of \$26,467,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees commend the ABMC for the progress made in reducing the backlogged maintenance needs throughout the ABMC system, and have provided funds in excess of the budget request to continue this important project.

CHEMICAL SAFETY AND HAZARD INVESTIGATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriates \$8,000,000 for salaries and expenses instead of \$7,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$6,500,000 as proposed by the Senate. Bill language has been included for fiscal year 2000 which limits the number of career Senior Executive Service positions to three.

The conferees share the concern expressed in the Senate Report that the Board may not be making the most effective use of its financial resources. In particular, the conferees agree that the Board must spend the preponderance of its resources, including contract resources, on investigations and safety instead of on external affairs or information technology.

The Board is further directed to complete, by December 31, 1999, an updated business plan, as well as formal written procedures for awarding and managing contracts and formal written procedures for selecting and performing investigations. In addition, the Board is directed to expend no funds to develop software for vulnerability assessments, and may not fill any vacant positions in the areas of external affairs or information technology.

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

Appropriates \$95,000,000 for the Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, instead of \$70,000,000 as proposed by the House, and \$80,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Deletes language proposed by the House allowing the CDFI Fund to use part of its appropriation to establish and carry out a microenterprise technical assistance and capacity building grant program.

The conferees encourage the CDFI Fund to maintain a blend of emerging and mature CDFIs, as well as CDFIs of varying asset sizes, by creating a "Small and Emerging CDFI Access Program" (SECAP) as part of its core CDFI Program. SECAP would fill a gap between the Core Component of the CDFI Program and the Technical Assistance Program.

The conferees recommend that the CDFI Fund's "Small and Emerging CDFI Access Program" require a streamlined business plan; employ flexible matching requirements; include access to training and technical assistance, as in the Core Component; and place a \$100,000 cap per application on capital assistance, including both capital awards and awards for technical assistance.

CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION
SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriates \$49,000,000 for the Consumer Product Safety Commission, salaries and expenses, instead of \$47,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$49,500,000 as proposed by the Senate.

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMS
OPERATING EXPENSES

Appropriates \$434,500,000 for national and community service programs operating expenses, instead of \$423,500,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House proposed termination of the Corporation for National and Community Service using funds appropriated in fiscal year 1999 for close-out expenses.

Limits funds for administrative expenses to not more than \$28,500,000, instead of \$27,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees direct that additional funds are to be used for improvements to the Corporation's financial management system and not for general salaries and expenses. The conferees direct that the Corporation report, on a monthly basis, the status of efforts to improve its financial management.

Limits funds as proposed by the Senate to not more than \$28,500,000 for quality and innovation activities; \$2,500 for official reception and representation expenses; \$70,000,000 for education awards, of which not to exceed \$5,000,000 shall be available for national service scholarships for high school students performing community service; \$234,000,000 for AmeriCorps grants, of which \$45,000,000 may be for national direct programs; \$7,500,000 for the Points of Light Foundation; \$18,000,000 for the Civilian Community Corps; \$43,000,000 for school-based and community-based service-learning programs; and \$5,000,000 for audits and other evaluations.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate which prohibits using any funds for national service programs run by Federal agencies; provides that, to the maximum extent feasible, funds for the AmeriCorps program will be provided consistent with the recommendation of peer review panels; and provides that, to the maximum extent practicable, the level of matching funds shall be increased, education only awards shall be expanded, and the cost per participant shall be reduced.

Rescinds \$80,000,000 from the National Service Trust as proposed by the Senate. The conferees have taken this action because the balances in the Trust appear at this time to be in excess of requirements based upon usage rates. The conferees direct the Corporation to report in its fiscal year 2001 budget request and operating plan the status of its Trust fund reserve including the award usage rate and number of participants in the program.

The conferees agree to the Senate proposal to earmark \$5,000,000 for the Girl Scouts of the United States for the "P.A.V.E. the Way" project and direct the Corporation to use the increase in the national direct program cap to fund this project. The conferees further agree that a unique set of circumstances exist in Shelby County, Alabama which indicates that the RSVP Program is to be allowed to operate separately from the existing multi-county consortium.

The House proposed that the Corporation be terminated and did not include any of the foregoing limitations or provisions proposed by the Senate.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriates \$4,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General, instead of \$5,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and \$3,000,000 as proposed by the House.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Appropriates \$645,000,000 for science and technology as proposed by the House instead of \$642,483,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees have agreed to the following increases to the budget request:

1. \$1,250,000 for continuation of the California Regional PM 10 and 2.5 air quality study.

2. \$2,500,000 for EPSCoR.

3. \$700,000 for continuation of the study of livestock and agricultural pollution abatement at Tarleton State University.

4. \$3,000,000 for the Water Environment Research Foundation.

5. \$750,000 for continued research on urban waste management at the University of New Orleans.

6. \$750,000 for continued perchlorate research through the East Valley Water District.

7. \$1,500,000 for the Mickey Leland National Urban Air Toxics Research Center.

8. \$4,000,000 for the American Water Works Association Research Foundation, including \$1,000,000 for continued research on arsenic.

9. \$1,500,000 for the National Decentralized Water Resource Capacity Development Project, in coordination with EPA, for continued training and research and development.

10. \$750,000 for the Integrated Petroleum Environmental Consortium project.

11. \$1,000,000 for the National Center for Atlantic and Caribbean Reef Research.

12. \$800,000 for the University of New Hampshire's Bedrock Bioremediation Center research project.

13. \$1,800,000 for the Lovelace National Environmental Respiratory Center.

14. \$400,000 for the development, design, and implementation of a research effort on tributyltin-based ship bottom paints at Old Dominion University.

15. \$750,000 for research of advanced vehicle design, advanced transportation systems, vehicle emissions, and atmospheric pollution at the University of Riverside CE-CERT facility.

16. \$1,500,000 for the Environmental Technology Commercialization Center (ETCC) in Cleveland, Ohio.

17. \$750,000 for continued research of the Salton Sea at the University of Redlands.

18. \$750,000 for the final phase of research conducted through the Institute for Environmental and Industrial Science in San Marcos, Texas.

19. \$1,000,000 for the Center for Estuarine Research at the University of South Alabama for research on the environmental impact of human activities on water quality and habitat loss in an estuarine environment.

20. \$550,000 to develop and maintain an information repository of water related materials for research and conflict resolution at the Water Resources Institute at California State University, San Bernardino.

21. \$300,000 for environmental remanufacturing research at the Rochester Institute of Technology.

22. \$1,500,000 for the Fresh Water Institute to extend and expand acid deposition research.

23. \$2,000,000 for assessing and mitigating the impact of exposure to multiple indoor contaminants on human health through the Metropolitan Development Association of Syracuse and Central New York.

24. \$2,000,000 for the Canaan Valley Institute to establish a regional environmental data center and coordinated information system in the Mid-Atlantic Highlands, in coordination with the Federal Geographic Data Committee and the National Spatial Data Infrastructure.

25. \$2,000,000 for the Center for the Engineered Conservation of Energy in Alfred, New York to conduct environmental performance and resource conservation research.

26. \$750,000 for the National Center for Animal Waste Technologies at Purdue University.

27. \$1,000,000 for analysis and research of the environmental and public health impacts associated with pollution sources, including waste transfer stations, in the South Bronx, New York, to be conducted by New York University.

28. \$1,000,000 for research associated with the restoration and enhancement of Manchac Swamp conducted by Southeastern Louisiana University at the Turtle Cove Research Station.

29. \$2,000,000 for drinking water research, to ensure the best available science needed for upcoming regulatory requirements under the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments.

30. \$1,500,000 for the National Jewish Medical and Research Center for research on the relationship between indoor and outdoor pollution and the development of respiratory diseases.

31. \$1,250,000 for the Center for Air Toxics Metals at the Energy and Environmental Research Center.

32. \$250,000 for acid rain research at the University of Vermont.

33. \$6,000,000 for the Mine Waste Technology program at the National Environmental Waste Technology, Testing, and Evaluation Center.

34. \$350,000 for the Consortium for Agricultural Soils Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases.

35. \$250,000 to continue the work of the Environmental Technology Development and Commercialization Center at the Texas Regional Institute for Environmental Studies.

36. \$750,000 for the Geothermal Heat Pump (GHP) Consortium.

37. \$2,000,000 for the National Research Council to conduct a study of the effectiveness of clean air programs utilized by federal, state, and local governments. This study is intended to reveal, among other things, any contradictions among the various clean air programs, rules, and regulations at every level of government which may result in worsening air quality in the United States.

38. \$3,000,000 for the National Technology Transfer Center to establish a technology commercialization partnership program and a comprehensive training program on commercialization best practices for EPA and other Federal officials.

The conferees have agreed to the following reductions from the budget request:

1. \$22,900,000 from the CCTI Transportation research program.

2. \$2,000,000 from the global change research program.

3. \$3,000,000 from the Research for Ecosystems Assessment and Restoration program objective.

4. \$900,000 from project EMPACT.

5. \$4,958,000 from Clean Water Action Plan related research.

6. \$1,000,000 from various lower priority facility repair and improvement projects.

7. \$16,625,000 as a general reduction.

Within available funds, the Agency is expected to provide up to \$1,000,000 to create the databases and analysis necessary to help establish programs and technologies to achieve an effective carbon sequestration program. In addition, no less than \$7,000,000 is to be provided for the Superfund Innovative Technology Evaluation (SITE) program, and no less than \$4,000,000 for the Clean Air Status and Trends Network (CASTNet).

The conferees are concerned about the accuracy of information contained in the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) data base which contains health effects information on more than 500 chemicals. The conferees direct the Agency to consult with the Science Advisory Board (SAB) on the design of a study that will, 1) examine a representative sample of IRIS health assessments completed before the IRIS Pilot Project, as well

as a representative sample of assessments completed under the project, and 2) assess the extent to which these assessments document the range of uncertainty and variability of the data. The results of that study will be reviewed by the SAB and a copy of the study and the SAB's report on the study sent to the Congress within one year of enactment of this Act.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS AND MANAGEMENT

Appropriates \$1,900,000,000 for environmental programs and management instead of \$1,850,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$1,897,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees have included bill language as proposed by the House, identical to that carried in the fiscal year 1999 Act, which limits the expenditure of funds to implement or administer guidance relating to title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, with certain exceptions. This provision does not provide the Agency statutory authority to implement its Environmental Justice Guidance. Rather, it simply clarifies the applicability of the Interim Guidance with respect to certain pending cases as an administrative convenience for the Agency.

Bill language proposed by the House and the Senate, identical to that contained in the fiscal year 1999 Act, has also been included to prohibit the expenditure of funds to take certain actions for the purpose of implementing or preparing to implement the Kyoto Protocol. Also included is bill language proposed by the House and the Senate to provide that in fiscal year 2000 and thereafter, grants awarded under section 20 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act and under section 10 of the Toxic Substances Control Act shall be available for research, development, monitoring, public education, training, demonstrations, and studies.

Finally, the conferees have included bill language which transfers unexpended funds appropriated under this heading in Public Law 105-276 for the Lake Ponchartrain Basin Foundation to the state and tribal assistance grants account for grants for wastewater treatment infrastructure construction in Fluker Chapel and Mandeville, Louisiana.

The conferees have deleted language proposed by the Senate providing funds from within other EPA accounts to fund the Montreal Protocol activity, and have deleted language proposed by the Senate limiting the expenditure of funds for personnel compensation and benefit costs. The conferees have also deleted bill language proposed by the House providing funds for regional haze grants to the states. These issues have been specifically addressed elsewhere in the statement of the managers accompanying the conference report.

The conferees have agreed to the following increases to the budget request:

1. \$2,000,000 for the Michigan Biotechnology Institute for continued development of viable cleanup technologies.

2. \$500,000 for continued activities of the Small Business Pollution Prevention Center at the University of Northern Iowa.

3. \$750,000 for the painting and coating compliance project at the University of Northern Iowa.

4. \$1,500,000 for continuation of the Sacramento River Toxic Pollution Control Project, to be cost shared.

5. \$1,325,000 for ongoing activities at the Canaan Valley Institute.

6. \$2,500,000 for the Southwest Center for Environmental Research and Policy (SCERP).

7. \$400,000 for continuation of the Small Water Systems Institute at Montana State University.

8. \$14,000,000 for rural water technical assistance activities and groundwater protec-

tion with distribution as follows: \$8,500,000 for the National Rural Water Association; \$2,300,000 for the Rural Community Assistance Program; \$650,000 for the Groundwater Protection Council; \$1,550,000 for the Small Flows Clearinghouse; and \$1,000,000 for the National Environmental Training Center. The conferees believe that the increase provided to carry out rural water technical assistance through the Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) should be utilized to balance that program's efforts with additional attention to wastewater projects.

9. \$900,000 for implementation of the National Biosolids Partnership Program.

10. \$1,000,000 for continued work on the Soil Aquifer Treatment Demonstration project.

11. \$2,000,000 for continuation of the New York and New Jersey dredge decontamination project.

12. \$500,000 for operation of the Long Island Sound Office.

13. \$750,000 for the Southern Appalachian Mountain Institute.

14. \$100,000 to the Miami-Dade County Department of Environmental Resources Management to expand the existing education program.

15. \$200,000 for the Northwest Citizens' Advisory Commission to coordinate research and education efforts of environmental issues covering the entire Northwest Straits area.

16. \$175,000 for use in planning to enhance environmental stewardship in the design, construction, and operation, of the University of California, Merced.

17. \$1,000,000 for the four regional environmental enforcement projects.

18. \$690,000 to develop a broad-based, highly interdisciplinary risk assessment program with strong community involvement, at Cleveland State University.

19. \$700,000 for the university portion of the Southern Oxidants Study.

20. \$1,500,000 for source water protection programs.

21. \$5,000,000 for section 103 grants to the states to develop regional haze programs under Title I, Part C of the Clean Air Act.

22. \$500,000 for continued work on the Cortland County, New York aquifer protection plan, \$150,000 of which is for planning and implementation of the Upper Susquehanna watershed.

23. \$1,250,000 for the National Onsite Water Demonstration project.

24. \$2,000,000 for the Federal Energy Technology Center and EPA Region III for continued activities on a comprehensive clean water initiative.

25. \$1,600,000 for Tampa Bay Watch to establish a sustaining program and expand community environmental restoration and developmental stewardship projects designed to elevate the health of the Tampa Bay estuary.

26. \$500,000 for water quality monitoring of the Tennessee River basin through the Alabama Department of Environmental Management.

27. \$5,000,000 to validate screens and tests required by the Food Quality Protection Act to identify hormone-disrupting chemicals.

28. \$1,500,000 for training grants under section 104(g) of the Clean Water Act.

29. \$500,000 for the Small Public Water System Technology Center at Western Kentucky University.

30. \$400,000 for Small Water Systems Technology Assistance Center at the University of Alaska-Sitka.

31. \$500,000 for the Small Public Water System Technology Center at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

32. \$500,000 for the Southeast Center for Technology Assistance for Small Drinking Water Systems at Mississippi State University.

33. \$500,000 to assist communities in Hawaii to meet successfully the water quality permitting requirements for rehabilitating native Hawaiian fishponds.

34. \$5,000,000 under section 104(b) of the Clean Water Act for America's Clean Water Foundation for implementation of on-farm environmental assessments for hog production operations, with the goal of improving surface and ground water quality.

35. \$475,000 for the Coordinated Tribal Water Quality Program through the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission.

36. \$500,000 for the Ohio River Watershed Pollutant Reduction Program, to be cost-shared.

37. \$1,500,000 for the National Alternative Fuels Vehicle Training Program.

38. \$2,500,000 for King County, Washington, molten carbonate fuel cell demonstration project.

39. \$1,000,000 for the Frank Tejeda Center for Excellence in Environmental Operations to demonstrate new technology for water and wastewater treatment.

40. \$775,000 for the National Center for Vehicle Emissions Control and Safety for onboard diagnostic research.

41. \$750,000 for the Chesapeake Bay Small Watershed Grants Program.

42. \$1,250,000 for the Lake Champlain management plan.

43. \$500,000 for the Environmentors project.

44. \$1,500,000 for the Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute's Missouri watershed initiative project to link economic and environmental data with ambient water quality.

45. \$500,000 for the final year of funding for the Ala Wai Canal watershed improvement project.

46. \$200,000 for the Hawaii Department of Agriculture and the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources to continue developing agriculturally based remediation technologies.

47. \$1,000,000 for the Animal Waste Management Consortium through the University of Missouri, acting with Iowa State University, North Carolina State University, Michigan State University, Oklahoma State University, and Purdue University to supplement ongoing research, demonstration, and outreach projects associated with animal waste management.

48. \$1,500,000 for the University of Missouri Agroforestry Center to support the agroforestry floodplain initiative on nonpoint source pollution.

49. \$1,000,000 for the Columbia basin ground water management assessment.

50. \$1,500,000 for a cumulative impacts study of North Slope oil and gas development. The conferees expect the Administrator to contract for the full amount with the National Academy of Sciences through the National Research Council's Board on Environmental Studies and Toxicology to perform the study which shall be completed within 2 years of contract execution. The Council shall seek input from federal and state agencies, Native organizations, non-governmental entities, and other interested parties. Pending completion of the NRC study, the conferees direct that federal agencies shall not, under any circumstances, rely upon the pendency of the study to delay, suspend, or otherwise alter federal decision-making and NEPA compliance for any existing or proposed oil and gas exploration, development, production or delivery on the North Slope.

51. \$750,000 for an expansion of EPA's efforts related to the Government purchase and use of environmentally preferable products under Executive Order 13101 through the Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances. This includes up to \$200,000 for the University of Missouri-Rolla to work with the Army to validate smoke as a replacement for petroleum fog oil in obscurant smoke used in battlefield exercises.

52. \$200,000 to complete the development of a technical guidance manual for use by permit reviewers and product specifiers (Government and private sector) to ensure appropriate uses of preserved wood in applications including housing, piers, docks, bridges, utility poles, and railroad ties.

53. \$500,000 for a watershed study for northern Kentucky, including the development and demonstration of a methodology for implementing a cost-effective program for addressing the problems associated with wet weather conditions on a watershed basis.

54. \$1,750,000 for the Kansas City Riverfront project to demonstrate innovative methods of removing contaminated debris.

55. \$250,000 for the Maryland Bureau of Mines to design and construct a Kempton Mine remediation project to reduce or eliminate the loss of quality water from surface streams into the Kempton Mine complex.

56. \$975,000 for the Alabama Department of Environmental Management water and wastewater training programs.

57. \$250,000 for the Vermont Department of Agriculture to work with the conservation districts along the Connecticut River in Vermont to reduce nonpoint source pollution.

58. \$75,000 for the groundwater protection/wellhead protection project, Nez Perce Indian Reservation in Idaho.

59. \$475,000 for the Water Systems Council to assist in the effective delivery of water to rural citizens nationwide.

60. \$500,000 to complete the Treasure Valley Hydrologic Project.

61. \$350,000 for the Leon County, Florida storm water runoff study.

62. \$500,000 for Envision Utah sustainable development activities.

63. \$550,000 for the Idaho Water Initiative.

64. \$750,000 for the Resource and Agricultural Policy Systems Project.

65. \$150,000 for the Vermont Small Business Development Center to assist small businesses in complying with environmental regulations.

66. \$700,000 to continue the Urban Rivers Awareness Program at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia for its environmental science program.

67. \$500,000 for the Kenai River Center for research on watershed issues and related activities.

68. \$300,000 for the restoration of the Beaver Springs Slough.

69. \$750,000 for the New Hampshire Estuaries Project management plan implementation.

70. \$200,000 for the Fairmount Park Commission to identify, design, implement, and evaluate environmental education exhibits.

71. \$100,000 to continue the Design for the Environment for Farmers Program to address the unique environmental concerns of the American Pacific area through the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices.

72. \$200,000 to complete the cleanup of Five Island Lake in Emmetsburg, Iowa.

73. \$175,000 for the Geographical Survey of Alabama for a study on flow in natural and induced fractures in coalbed methane reservoirs to determine the impact of hydraulic fracturing and deep water production on shallow domestic water wells.

74. \$850,000 for continued restoration of Lake Ponchartrain, Louisiana.

75. \$500,000 for an arsenic groundwater study in Fallon, Nevada.

76. \$500,000 for planning and development of the Buffalo Creek watershed, New York.

77. \$1,500,000 for continued work on the water quality management plans for the New York watersheds.

78. \$1,000,000 for the Mecklenburg County, North Carolina surface water improvement and management program.

79. \$1,000,000 for planning and development of a master plan of the Susquehanna-Lackawanna, Pennsylvania watershed through the Pennsylvania Geographic Information Consortium.

80. \$500,000 for a study of the effect of pesticide runoff on inter-urban lakes in Fort Worth, Texas.

81. \$500,000 for the Brazos/Navasota, Texas watershed management initiative.

82. \$300,000 for implementation of the Potomac River Visions Initiative through the Friends of the Potomac.

83. \$500,000 for Mississippi State University, the University of Mississippi, and the University of Georgia to conduct forestry best management practice water quality effectiveness studies in the States of Mississippi and Georgia.

84. \$500,000 for planning and consolidation of the west bank Jefferson Parish, Louisiana wastewater treatment facilities.

85. \$300,000 for the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM).

86. \$500,000 for completion of the international project to phase out the use of lead in gasoline.

87. \$1,500,000 for West Virginia University to develop the plastics recycling component of the Green Exchange, in cooperation with the Polymer Alliance Zone and the National Electronics Recycling Project, and in consultation with the Office of Information and Resource Management.

The conferees have agreed to the following reductions from the budget request:

1. \$90,000,000 from the climate change technology initiative (CCTI), including elimination of funds for the Transportation Partners program.
2. \$2,000,000 from the partnerships with other countries program.
3. \$3,043,000 from Project EMPACT.
4. \$5,847,000 from compliance monitoring program.
5. \$6,749,000 from the civil enforcement program.
6. \$656,000 from the enforcement training program.
7. \$2,700,000 from human resources management.
8. \$1,369,000 from the criminal enforcement program.
9. \$9,000,000 from the Montreal Protocol Multilateral Fund.
10. \$4,700,000 from Sustainable Development Challenge Grants.
11. \$3,400,000 from the new Urban Environmental Quality and Human Health program.
12. \$112,119,000 as a general reduction.

In the Congressional response to the EPA's proposed Operating Plan for fiscal year 1999, deep concerns were raised regarding the increase of the overall personnel level at the Agency and the relationship of that increase to the actual appropriated levels for activities of the Agency. As a result of these concerns, both the House and the Senate included specific payroll reductions in their respective fiscal year 2000 legislative proposals, and the Senate took the further step of including a maximum expenditure for personnel compensation and benefits within the text of its bill.

The conferees acknowledge that such specific direction tends to reduce the Agency's flexibility in balancing both personnel and operations requirements and have therefore determined not to include specific dollar or FTE provisions in either the legislation or the statement of the managers accompanying the conference report. This action, however, should not be interpreted as any change in the conferees' resolve that EPA must continue to take the steps necessary,

short of a reduction-in-force action, to reduce its workforce and personnel costs.

To this end, the conferees expect the Agency to maintain throughout the year the modified hiring freeze begun during fiscal year 1999, with the ultimate goal of reaching, by the end of fiscal year 2001, an Agency-wide personnel level of no more than 18,000 FTEs. In applying the hiring freeze, the Agency should remain flexible and make accommodations, as appropriate, to maintain necessary positions, even if doing so will temporarily result in upward fluctuations of monthly personnel levels. In addition, the Agency is expected to include as part of its Operating Plan submission for fiscal year 2000 a proposal to reduce payroll costs to help meet the general reduction requirement contained in the Environmental Programs and Management account. Finally, the Agency is requested to provide monthly to the Committees on Appropriations an informal report detailing the end-of-month personnel levels listed by office, location (headquarters, region, field) and by appropriations account.

The conferees have agreed to provide \$1,250,000 from within available funds for the seven Environmental Finance Centers. In this regard, the conferees direct the Agency to consider the finance center located at the University of Louisville part of an equal partner in all activities, financial and otherwise, of the finance center network.

The conference agreement includes the budget request of \$32,800,000 for reregistration and \$36,100,000 for registration activities performed by EPA. Faster review and approval for registration applications will allow safer, more environmentally friendly products on the market sooner and ensure that farmers have the ability to protect their crop. In the submission of the fiscal year 2000 operating plan, the Agency is directed to take no reductions below the budget request from the pesticide registration and reregistration programs, as well as from the NPDES permit backlog, compliance assistance activities, RCRA corrective actions, and data quality and information management activities related to the reorganization of the Office of Information Management.

The conferees have provided \$5,000,000 under section 103 of the Clean Air Act for states and recognized regional partnerships, including the Western Regional Air Partnership due to the accelerated schedule it has in the Regional Haze regulations, for multi-state planning efforts on regional haze, including aiding in the development of emissions inventories, quantification of natural visibility conditions, monitoring, and other data necessary to define reasonable progress and develop control strategies. These additional funds shall in no way reduce other, existing grants to states or tribes authorized under sections 103 and 105 of title I, part C of the Clean Air Act, as amended.

The conferees have similarly provided an additional \$5,000,000 for the validation of screens and tests under the Endocrine Disrupter Screening Program (EDSP), bringing the total funding level for this program to \$12,700,000. The conferees expect these funds to be used by the Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics, in conjunction with the Office of Research and Development, to improve, standardize, and validate simultaneously the recommended Tier I screens and Tier II tests, beginning with those screens and tests relevant to human health, to protect appropriately public health. For the public to have confidence in information developed under the EDSP, the screens and tests must produce credible, replicable results.

Within 60 days of enactment of this Act, EPA is directed to provide \$300,000 to the En-

vironmental Council of the States (ECOS) to analyze state enforcement and compliance statistics and identify the sources of any inconsistencies among the states and EPA in data collection, reporting, or definitions, and make such information along with a summary of state enforcement and compliance activities available for review by the Congress. EPA is further directed to provide the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA), within 60 days of enactment, \$200,000 to provide the Congress with an independent evaluation of state and federal enforcement data, including a recommendation of actions needed to ensure public access to accurate, credible, and consistent enforcement data.

Within available funds, the conferees direct EPA to conduct a relative risk assessment of deep well injection, ocean disposal, surface discharge, and aquifer recharge of treated effluent in South Florida, in close cooperation with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and South Florida municipal water utilities.

The conferees encourage EPA to move forward with a rulemaking to provide for the use of a refillable/recyclable refrigerant cylinder system as a means of reducing the release of ozone-depleting chemicals.

Consistent with the Senate Report, the Agency is directed to conduct in conjunction with the Department of Agriculture a cost and capability assessment of the Unified National Strategy for Animal Feeding Operations. The conferees agree this report should be completed and submitted to the Congress by May 15, 2001. Similarly, consistent with the House Report, the conferees expect the Agency to solicit and consider additional public comment regarding exemptions from the rule on "plant pesticides" as suggested by the Consortium of Eleven Scientific Societies.

The conferees are concerned about an apparent inequity created by two separate and conflicting actions that occurred last May. One was EPA's issuance of a final rule under section 126 of the Clean Air Act that in essence requires the same emission reductions called for by EPA's State Implementation Plan (SIP) revision call for nitrogen oxides (NOx) if the Agency has not approved the NOx SIP Call revisions of 22 States and the District of Columbia by November 30, 1999. The other was an order by the United States Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit staying the requirement imposed in EPA's 1998 NOx SIP Call for these same jurisdictions to submit the SIP revisions just mentioned for EPA approval. Prior to this, EPA maintained a close link between the NOx SIP Call and the section 126 rule.

While the conferees' primary concern is in ensuring that these matters are soon resolved in the interest of air quality enhancements for all the states, the conferees encourage EPA to retain the linkage and refrain from implementing the section 126 regulation until the NOx SIP Call litigation is complete.

The conferees are aware that an agreement is close to being reached among the EPA, various animal protection organizations, trade associations representing chemical companies, and other interested parties that will incorporate certain animal welfare concerns and scientific principles into the High Production Volume (HPV) testing program. It is the intention of the conferees that the HPV program, including the first test rule, should proceed in a manner that is consistent with those animal welfare concerns and that the EPA develop and validate within existing funds non-animal test methods for use in chemical toxicity testing.

The conferees are aware of concerns regarding the relationship between proposed

regulatory standards for radium in drinking water and the actual risks to public health caused by the ingestion of low concentrations of radium in drinking water. The Administrator of the EPA is therefore directed to evaluate all direct human health impacts of low concentrations of radium in drinking water and ascertain at what level radium in water actually becomes a risk to public health. The EPA is expected to publish a summary of this information in a Notice of Data Availability before making decisions about final standards for Radium 226 and Radium 228 in drinking water.

The conferees have deleted bill language proposed by the House under General Provisions in title IV prohibiting the expenditure of funds to publish or issue an assessment required under section 106 of the Global Change Research Act of 1990 unless the supporting research has been subjected to peer review and, if not otherwise publicly available, posted electronically for public comment prior to use in the assessment, and the draft assessment has been published in the Federal Register for a 60 day public comment period. While the conferees have deleted this specific bill language, the Agency is nevertheless expected to adhere to this provision.

Unlike in the State and Tribal Assistance Grants account, the Agency has historically not required a cost-share component for specific grants provided through the Environmental Programs and Management (EPM) account, unless specifically required. In order to leverage better available financial resources, the Agency is directed to work with the Committees on Appropriations in the development of a proposal for a cost-share requirement to be included for projects funded within the EPM account, with the goal of having such an agreed upon proposal included in the fiscal year 2000 Operating Plan.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriates \$32,409,000 for the Office of Inspector General as proposed by the Senate instead of \$25,000,000 as proposed by the House. In addition to this appropriation, \$11,000,000 is available to the OIG by transfer from the Hazardous Substance Superfund account. The conferees agree that the increase above the budget request provided the OIG should be used to address major problems at EPA through the development of additional audits of grants and assistance agreements, and to form a new program evaluation unit to analyze environmental outcomes more effectively.

BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES

Appropriates \$62,600,000 for buildings and facilities as proposed by the House instead of \$25,930,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees note that within this appropriation is \$36,700,000, the final funding increment, for continued construction of the consolidated research facility at Research Triangle Park, North Carolina.

HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SUPERFUND

Appropriates \$1,400,000,000 for hazardous substance superfund as proposed by the Senate instead of \$1,450,000,000 as proposed by the House. Bill language provides that \$700,000,000 of the appropriated amount is to be derived from the Superfund Trust Fund, while the remaining \$700,000,000 is to be derived from General Revenues of the Treasury. Additional language 1) provides \$70,000,000 for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR); 2) provides for a transfer of \$11,000,000 to the Office of Inspector General; 3) provides for a transfer of \$38,000,000 to the Science and Technology account; and 4) provides that \$100,000,000 of the appropriated amount shall not become available for obligation until September 1, 2000.

The conferees have also included bill language which permits the Administrator of the ATSDR to conduct other appropriate health studies and evaluations or activities in lieu of health assessments pursuant to section 104(i)(6) of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (CERCLA). The language further stipulates that in the conduct of such other health assessments, evaluations, or activities, the ATSDR shall not be bound by the deadlines imposed in section 104(i)(6)(A) of CERCLA.

The conferees have agreed to the following fiscal year 2000 funding levels:

1. \$917,337,000 for Superfund response/cleanup actions. The Brownfields program has been funded at the budget request level of \$91,700,000.
2. \$140,000,000 for enforcement activities.
3. \$125,000,000 for management and support. In addition, \$11,000,000 is to be provided by transfer to the Office of Inspector General.
4. \$38,000,000 for research and development activities, to be transferred to the Science and Technology account.
5. \$60,000,000 for the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, including \$23,000,000 for worker training and \$37,000,000 for research activities.
6. \$70,000,000 for the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry.
7. \$38,663,000 for reimbursable interagency activities, including \$28,663,000 for the Department of Justice, \$650,000 for OSHA, \$1,100,000 for FEMA, \$2,450,000 for NOAA, \$4,800,000 for the Coast Guard, and \$1,000,000 for the Department of the Interior.

Within the amount provided to the ATSDR, \$1,500,000 is for continued work on the Toms River, New Jersey cancer evaluation and research project. In addition, the conferees expect the ATSDR to provide adequate funding to continue the minority health professions program and to continue the health effects study on the consumption of Great Lakes fish. As in the past, ATSDR's administrative costs charged by CDC are capped at 7.5 percent of the amount appropriated herein. The conferees agree that \$3,000,000 is to be re-directed from health assessments to other priorities.

With the funds transferred to science and technology, the conferees direct that the current hazardous substance research centers, including the Gulf Coast center, will be funded at no less than the 1998 funding level.

For fiscal year 2000 and consistent with fiscal year 1999, the conferees direct the Agency not to initiate or order dredging, except as noted in the conference report and statement of the managers accompanying the 1999 Appropriations Act, until the National Academy of Sciences has completed its dredging study and that study has been properly considered by EPA. Further, the Agency should only initiate or order dredging in cases where a full analysis of long and short-term health and environmental impacts has been conducted.

Finally, the conferees direct that within 45 days of enactment of this Act, EPA award a cooperative agreement for an independent analysis of the projected federal costs over the ten-year period of fiscal years 2000–2010 for implementation of the Superfund program under current law, including the annual and cumulative costs associated with administering CERCLA activities at National Priority List (NPL) sites. The analysis should identify sources of uncertainty in the estimates, and shall model 1) costs for completion of all sites currently listed on the NPL, 2) costs associated with additions to the NPL anticipated for fiscal year 2000 through fiscal year 2009, 3) costs associated with federal expenditures for the operations and maintenance at both existing and new

NPL sites, 4) costs for emergency removals, 5) non-site specific costs assigned to other activities such as research, administration, and interagency transfers, and 6) costs associated with five-year reviews at existing and new NPL sites and associated activities. For purposes of this analysis, costs associated with assessment, response, and development of brownfields and federal facility sites are not to be included. The analysis shall be conducted by the Resources for the Future, and the results of the work are to be transmitted in a report to the Congress no later than December 31, 2000.

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK PROGRAM

Appropriates \$70,000,000 for the leaking underground storage tank program instead of \$60,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$71,556,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees direct EPA to submit a plan to the Congress by May 1, 2000, including cost estimates, to (1) identify underground storage tanks that are not in compliance with subtitle I of the Solid Waste Disposal Act; (2) identify underground storage tanks in temporary closure; (3) determine the ownership of underground storage tanks not in compliance or in temporary closure; and (4) determine the plans of owners and operators to bring such tanks into compliance or out of temporary closure. For tanks for which no owner can be identified, the plans should describe how they will be brought into compliance or closed permanently.

OIL SPILL RESPONSE

Appropriates \$15,000,000 for oil spill response as provided by both the House and the Senate.

STATE AND TRIBAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS

Appropriates \$3,466,650,000 for state and tribal assistance grants instead of \$3,199,957,000 as proposed by the House and \$3,250,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Bill language specifically provides \$1,350,000,000 for Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) capitalization grants, \$820,000,000 for Safe Drinking Water SRF capitalization grants, \$50,000,000 for the United States-Mexico Border program, \$30,000,000 for grants to address drinking water and wastewater infrastructure needs in rural and native Alaska, \$885,000,000 for categorical grants to the states and tribes, and \$331,650,000 for grants for construction of water and wastewater treatment facilities and for groundwater protection infrastructure.

The conferees have included bill language which, for fiscal year 2000 only, authorizes the Administrator of the EPA to use funds appropriated under section 319 of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act (FWPCA) to make grants to Indian tribes pursuant to section 319 (h) and 518 (e) of FWPCA. In addition, bill language has been adopted by the conferees to permit states to include as principal amounts considered to be the cost of administering or, for the State of New York only, capitalizing SRF loans to eligible borrowers, with certain limitations.

The conferees have further agreed to include bill language which resolves in favor of the grantee a disputed grant, docket number AA-91-AD34 (05-90-AD09); bill language which permits EPA and the State of New York to utilize certain grant reallocations to provide grant assistance to Nassau County, New York for improvements at the Bay Park and Cedar Creek waste treatment plants; and bill language which makes technical changes to the use of funds appropriated in Public Law 105-276 for water and sewer infrastructure improvements in Utah and Alaska.

Finally, the conferees have included bill language, similar to that included in the fiscal year 1998 Appropriations Act, which per-

mits the District of Columbia Water and Sewer Authority to obtain federal construction grants containing a matching requirement of 80-20. This provision will permit the District to continue its efforts to implement its necessary capital improvement program while enabling it to maintain a sound financial position.

Of the funds provided for the United States-Mexico Border Program, \$3,000,000 is for the El Paso-Las Cruces sustainable water project, and \$2,000,000 is for the Brownsville, Texas water supply project. Of the funds provided for rural and Alaska Native villages, \$2,000,000 is for training and technical assistance. The State of Alaska must also provide a 25 percent match for all expenditures through this program.

The conferees agree that the \$331,650,000 provided to communities or other entities for construction of water and wastewater treatment facilities and for groundwater protection infrastructure shall be accompanied by a cost-share requirement whereby 45 percent of a project's cost is to be the responsibility of the community or entity consistent with long-standing guidelines of the Agency. These guidelines also offer flexibility in the application of the cost-share requirement for those few circumstances when meeting the 45 percent requirement is not possible. The Agency is commended for its past efforts in working with communities and other entities to resolve problems in this regard, and the conferees expect this level of effort and flexibility to continue throughout fiscal year 2000. The distribution of funds under this program is as follows:

1. \$2,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in Cherokee County (\$750,000); South Vinemont (\$750,000); and Dodge City (\$500,000), Alabama.
2. \$1,000,000 for water infrastructure needs in Jefferson County, Alabama.
3. \$500,000 for the Dog River watershed project in Mobile, Alabama.
4. \$1,900,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in Stevenson (\$950,000) and Athens (\$950,000), Alabama.
5. \$3,000,000 for a surface water treatment plant in Franklin County, Alabama.
6. \$500,000 for Lafayette, Alabama, water system project.
7. \$500,000 for the City of Sitka, Alaska, water/sewer improvements.
8. \$3,750,000 for water/sewer improvements in the Chugiak area of Anchorage, Alaska.
9. \$3,750,000 for water/sewer improvements for the City of Valdez, Alaska.
10. \$300,000 for the East Wetlands Restoration project in Yuma, Arizona.
11. \$3,000,000 for a grant to the Arizona Water Infrastructure Financing Authority for making a loan to the city of Safford, Arizona to address the city's wastewater needs, which will be repaid by the city to the Arizona Clean Water Revolving fund established under title VI of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, as amended.
12. \$1,000,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements in Fort Chaffee, Arkansas.
13. \$3,000,000 for the Coastal Low Flow Storm Drain Diversion project in San Diego, California.
14. \$1,500,000 for the removal of Arundo Donax on the lower Santa Ana River (\$1,000,000); and for restoration of Lake Elsinore (\$500,000), California.
15. \$3,000,000 for continued construction of the Olivenhain Water District, California water treatment project.
16. \$2,000,000 for continued work on the Lake Tahoe water export replacement project (\$1,000,000), and for wastewater infrastructure improvements at the Placer County Subregional Wastewater Treatment Plant (\$1,000,000), California.

17. \$3,500,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements for Arcadia and Sierra Madre (\$2,000,000) and the City of San Dimas Walker House (\$1,000,000); and for the Desalination Research and Innovation Partnership (\$500,000), California.

18. \$500,000 for continued development of the Calleguas Creek, California watershed management plan.

19. \$4,000,000 for water, wastewater, and system infrastructure development and improvements for the Yucaipa Valley Water District (\$2,000,000); the Lower Owens River project in Inyo County (\$1,000,000); the Lower Owens River project in the City of Los Angeles (\$500,000); and the San Timoteo Creek environmental restoration project in Loma Linda (\$500,000), California.

20. \$2,000,000 for Sacramento, California's combined sewer system improvement and rehabilitation project.

21. \$2,500,000 for a desalination facility in Carlsbad (\$500,000); for the San Diego wastewater capital improvement program (\$1,000,000), and for watershed planning for the community and environmental transportation acceptability process in Riverside County (\$1,000,000), California.

22. \$1,000,000 for wastewater and sewer infrastructure improvements in Huntington Beach, California.

23. \$950,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in the Russian River Sanitation District (\$475,000), and for continued development of the Geysers Recharge project (\$475,000), California.

24. \$1,600,000 for continuation of a water reuse demonstration project in Yucca Valley (\$1,000,000) and a water storage distribution project in Twenty Nine Palms (\$600,000), California.

25. \$950,000 for wastewater infrastructure needs on Mare Island, Vallejo, California.

26. \$1,500,000 for sewer infrastructure improvements in the vicinity of the Santa Clara River in Los Angeles County, California.

27. \$1,500,000 for the City of Montrose, Colorado, wastewater treatment plant upgrade.

28. \$1,500,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in New Britain and Southington, Connecticut.

29. \$1,425,000 for wastewater infrastructure and combined sewer overflow improvements on the Connecticut River in Connecticut and Massachusetts.

30. \$3,000,000 for water, wastewater, and water reuse infrastructure improvements through Florida's five water management district Alternative Water Sources Development program.

31. \$2,000,000 for continuation of the water reuse infrastructure project in West Palm Beach, Florida.

32. \$5,000,000 for the Tampa Bay, Florida regional reservoir infrastructure project.

33. \$1,900,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements for Opa-locka (\$950,000) and for the Highland Village neighborhood of North Miami Beach (\$950,000), Florida.

34. \$1,500,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements necessary to reduce effluent discharge into Sarasota Bay, Florida.

35. \$500,000 for development of the Deer Point Watershed Protection Zone in Bay County, Florida.

36. \$1,000,000 for analysis and development of necessary combined system overflow facilities in Atlanta, Georgia.

37. \$1,000,000 for infrastructure development and improvements of the Big Creek watershed programs in the cities of Roswell, Mountain Park, and Brookfield, and Fulton County, Georgia.

38. \$1,000,000 for continued work on the basin stormwater retention and reuse project at Big Haynes Creek, Georgia.

39. \$1,500,000 for the County of Kauai, Hawaii, for the Lihue wastewater treatment plant.

40. \$600,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements in Jerome (\$300,000), and Dietrich (\$300,000), Idaho.

41. \$1,800,000 for the City of Blackfoot, Idaho, for wastewater treatment plant improvements.

42. \$7,500,000 for drinking water infrastructure improvements in the cities of DeKalb (\$2,500,000); Yorkville (\$1,000,000); Elburn (\$500,000); Batavia (\$1,500,000); Oswego (\$1,000,000); and Geneva (\$1,000,000), Illinois.

43. \$4,750,000 for continued development of the tunnel and reservoir project (TARP) of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District in Chicago, Illinois.

44. \$950,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements in Robbins (\$475,000) and Phoenix (\$475,000), Illinois.

45. \$1,000,000 for infrastructure development of the Pigeon Creek Enhancement project in Evansville, Indiana.

46. \$1,900,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements within the Gary Sanitary District, Indiana.

47. \$900,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in Kansas City, Kansas.

48. \$1,500,000 for wastewater infrastructure development and improvements in Jessamine County, Kentucky.

49. \$1,000,000 for wastewater and drinking water infrastructure improvements in Bonnieville (\$600,000) and in the Kentucky Turnpike Water District Division 2 (\$400,000), Kentucky.

50. \$1,500,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements at the West County Wastewater Treatment Plant within the Metropolitan Sewer District of Louisville, Kentucky.

51. \$6,400,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure needs for Knott County (\$2,000,000); Somerset (\$1,400,000); Knox County (\$1,000,000); Harlan (\$1,000,000); and McCreary County (\$1,000,000), Kentucky.

52. \$800,000 for water, sewer, and wastewater infrastructure improvements within the Henderson County Water District (\$350,000); the Logan/Todd Regional Water System (\$300,000); the McLean County sewer system (\$120,000); and the Fancy Farm water system (\$30,000), Kentucky.

53. \$3,000,000 for North Jessamine County, Kentucky, wastewater system improvements.

54. \$2,500,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements in the East Baton Rouge Parish (\$1,000,000); Ascension Parish (\$1,250,000); and St. Gabriel (\$250,000), Louisiana.

55. \$2,000,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements in St. Bernard Parish, Louisiana.

56. \$3,800,000 for New Orleans, Louisiana wastewater infrastructure improvements.

57. \$1,425,000 for combined sewer overflow infrastructure support in Middlesex and Essex Counties (\$712,500), and for continued wastewater infrastructure improvements in Essex County (\$712,500), Massachusetts.

58. \$2,000,000 for continued wastewater needs in Bristol County, Massachusetts.

59. \$1,900,000 for combined sewer overflow infrastructure improvements in Boston, Massachusetts.

60. \$1,000,000 for Vinalhaven, Maine, wastewater infrastructure improvements.

61. \$5,000,000 for the upgrade of sewage treatment facilities in Cambridge and Salisbury, Maryland.

62. \$1,500,000 for combined sewer overflow infrastructure improvements in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

63. \$5,000,000 for continuation of the Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration project.

64. \$1,500,000 for infrastructure improvements within the George W. Kuhn Drainage District, Oakland County, Michigan.

65. \$1,000,000 for water and watershed infrastructure improvements and research through Western Michigan University at Kalamazoo, Michigan.

66. \$1,900,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in Port Huron, Michigan.

67. \$1,425,000 for continued drinking water infrastructure improvements for Bad Axe, Michigan.

68. \$1,900,000 for continued development of the Mille Lacs regional wastewater treatment facility, Minnesota.

69. \$2,800,000 for the City of Flowood, Mississippi for the Hogg Creek Interceptor wastewater infrastructure improvements within the West Rankin Regional Sewage System.

70. \$950,000 for sewer and wastewater infrastructure needs in Picayune, Mississippi.

71. \$3,500,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements at the DeSoto County Wastewater Treatment Facility (\$2,950,000), and the City of Farmington wastewater collection and treatment facility (\$550,000), Mississippi.

72. \$475,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in Lamont, Mississippi.

73. \$5,200,000 for wastewater infrastructure evaluation and improvements in Jackson, Mississippi.

74. \$2,375,000 for the Meramac River, Missouri enhancement and wetlands protection project.

75. \$1,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in Jefferson County, Missouri.

76. \$5,500,000 for the State of Missouri Department of Natural Resources for phosphorous removal efforts in southwestern Missouri communities under 50,000, including but not limited to Nixa, Ozark, Kimberling City, Reeds Spring, and Galena wastewater treatment facilities discharging into the Table Rock Lake watershed.

77. \$3,300,000 for the Missouri Division of State Parks water and sewer improvements needs including but not limited to the state parks of Meramec, Roaring River, Lake of the Ozarks, Knob Noster, Cuivre River, Mark Twain, and Trail of Tears.

78. \$1,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements for the East Missoula wastewater system (\$250,000); the El Mar Estates wastewater treatment facility (\$250,000); and the Lolo wastewater treatment plant (\$500,000), Montana.

79. \$4,000,000 for the Lockwood, Montana, water and sewer district for implementation of its wastewater collection, treatment and disposal plan.

80. \$1,500,000 for the Big Timber, Montana wastewater treatment facility.

81. \$450,000 for watershed management improvements in Omaha, Nebraska.

82. \$3,300,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure needs of the Moapa Valley Water District (\$2,300,000) and the City of Fallon (\$1,000,000), Nevada.

83. \$900,000 for water infrastructure improvements in Henderson, Nevada.

84. \$2,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in Epping, New Hampshire.

85. \$2,000,000 for the Berlin, New Hampshire, water infrastructure improvements.

86. \$1,000,000 for combined sewer overflow infrastructure improvements in Nashua, New Hampshire.

87. \$5,000,000 for combined sewer overflow requirements of the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission, New Jersey.

88. \$1,500,000 for combined sewer overflow infrastructure improvements of the North Hudson Sewerage Authority, New Jersey.

89. \$475,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements for the South Side Interceptor/Queens Ditch in Newark, New Jersey.

90. \$3,000,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure and development needs in Lovington (\$1,500,000) and Belen (\$1,500,000), New Mexico.

91. \$7,500,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements in Bernalillo (\$1,000,000); in the North and South Valley areas of Albuquerque and Bernalillo County (\$6,000,000); and in Espanola (\$500,000), New Mexico.

92. \$500,000 for the Clovis, New Mexico emergency repair of a wastewater effluent holding pond and renovation of its wastewater treatment plant.

93. \$10,000,000 for drinking water infrastructure needs in the New York City watershed.

94. \$5,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements within the Western Ramapo Sewer District in Rockland County, New York.

95. \$950,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements at New York and Pennsylvania treatment facilities which discharge into the Susquehanna River.

96. \$950,000 for infrastructure improvements at the White Plains water filtration facility, New York.

97. \$1,500,000 for phase one of the Genesee County, New York public water supply project.

98. \$1,500,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements for the Hamlet of Verona, New York.

99. \$1,500,000 for the Lake Water Supply project in Monroe County, New York.

100. \$1,000,000 for water infrastructure improvements in Syracuse, New York.

101. \$18,500,000 for continued clean water improvements of Onondaga Lake, New York.

102. \$2,500,000 for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure improvements of the Buncombe County Metropolitan Sewerage District (\$2,000,000), and in the town of Waynesville (\$500,000), North Carolina.

103. \$3,000,000 for the Grand Forks, North Dakota, water treatment plant.

104. \$1,925,000 for continued development of a storm water abatement system in the Doan Brook Watershed Area, Ohio.

105. \$3,000,000 for combined sewer overflow infrastructure improvements in Port Clinton (\$1,500,000) and Van Wert (\$1,500,000), Ohio.

106. \$1,000,000 for water treatment infrastructure improvements in Girard, Ohio.

107. \$1,900,000 for wastewater improvements associated with the Toledo Waste Equalization Basin, Ohio.

108. \$1,425,000 for drinking water infrastructure needs in Jackson County, Ohio.

109. \$1,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in Hood River, Oregon.

110. \$2,900,000 for continued development of the Three Rivers Wet Weather Demonstration program in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania.

111. \$1,000,000 for Hampden Township, Pennsylvania wastewater infrastructure improvements.

112. \$1,000,000 for continued wastewater infrastructure improvements for the Springettsbury Township and City of York, Pennsylvania.

113. \$3,800,000 for groundwater, drinking water and watershed infrastructure restoration and improvements in Carrolltown Borough (\$1,567,500); Sipesville (\$2,118,500); and the Saint Vincent watershed (\$114,000), Pennsylvania.

114. \$1,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements for the Roaring Brook Township Sewer Authority (\$300,000); the Borough of Olyphant (\$300,000); and the Borough of Honesdale (\$400,000), Pennsylvania.

115. \$1,000,000 for wastewater and sewer infrastructure improvements in New Kensington, Pennsylvania.

116. \$5,000,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements for the Lewistown Municipal Water Authority (\$500,000); Chambersburg Borough (\$1,250,000); Hollidaysburg Borough (\$1,500,000); Houtzdale Borough Municipal Authority (\$200,000); Ty-

rone Borough (\$800,000); Metal Township Sewer Authority (\$500,000); and Decatur Township (\$250,000), Pennsylvania.

117. \$500,000 for water infrastructure needs in the Khedive area of Jefferson Township, Greene County, Pennsylvania.

118. \$4,000,000 for the continued development of water supply needs of the Lake Marion Regional Water Agency, South Carolina.

119. \$2,300,000 for the Shulerlville-Honey Hill, South Carolina, water extension project.

120. \$1,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure development and improvements at the George's Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, Pickens County, South Carolina.

121. \$500,000 for Dell Rapids, South Dakota, wastewater treatment facility upgrade.

122. \$5,000,000 for the Mitchell, South Dakota, water system.

123. \$2,000,000 for drinking water infrastructure improvements of the Sunbright Utility District, Morgan County, Tennessee.

124. \$1,000,000 for a wastewater, wet weather demonstration project in Fort Worth, Texas.

125. \$500,000 for continued development of the Riverton, Utah water reuse system improvement project.

126. \$2,000,000 for water, sewer, and stormwater infrastructure improvements for the City of Ogden, Utah.

127. \$800,000 for a wetland development project in Logan, Utah.

128. \$8,000,000 for continued development of combined sewer overflow improvements in Richmond (\$4,000,000) and Lynchburg (\$4,000,000), Virginia.

129. \$2,000,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements in western Lee County (\$1,250,000) and in Amonate, Tazewell County (\$750,000), Virginia.

130. \$2,700,000 for the Pownal, Vermont wastewater treatment project.

131. \$1,300,000 for the Cabot, Vermont, wastewater treatment project.

132. \$2,500,000 for water system improvements in Metaline Falls, Washington.

133. \$600,000 for the city of Bremerton, Washington, combined sewer overflow project.

134. \$450,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure needs for the Village of Klickitat, Washington.

135. \$950,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure improvements in Huntington, West Virginia.

136. \$7,000,000 for water, wastewater, and sewer infrastructure improvements in Davis (\$1,850,000); Newburg (\$1,900,000); the Chestnut Ridge Public Service District in Barbour County (\$1,950,000); and Worthington (\$1,300,000), West Virginia.

137. \$5,000,000 for the City of Welch, West Virginia, for water and sewer improvements.

138. \$3,000,000 for continued development of the Metropolitan Milwaukee Sewerage District interceptor system.

139. \$1,000,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements in Beloit, Wisconsin.

140. \$5,900,000 for continuation of the National Community Decentralized Wastewater Demonstration Project to develop and transfer technologies which offer alternatives to centralized wastewater treatment facilities.

The three communities of Monroe County, Florida Keys, Florida (\$4,000,000); Mobile, Alabama (\$1,200,000); and Skaneateles Lake, New York have been added to the demonstration project based on their unique and diverse geology and geography, as well as on the commitment of each community to find appropriate alternative technologies to resolve their wastewater treatment needs. The Committee expects to continue the cost share requirements for these three projects as was provided the first three project communities.

141. \$500,000 for wastewater infrastructure improvements through the City of Warm Springs, Georgia.

It is the intent of the conferees that EPA is to award the remaining \$2,675,000 not yet awarded from the \$8,000,000 appropriated in Public Law 105-65 for the Upper Savannah Council of Governments for wastewater facility improvements, with a local match less than that normally prescribed by EPA for such grants. In addition, for this year and prior fiscal years, any grants to nonprofit organizations (or educational institutions) for a project to demonstrate the use of an onsite ecologically based wastewater treatment process that are funded from monies included in EPA's State and Tribal Assistance Grant account should require not more than a five percent match requirement.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Appropriates \$5,108,000 for the Office of Science and Technology Policy as proposed by the House instead of \$5,201,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees are aware of the growing interest in the scientific, biomedical, and industrial communities for increasing high field nuclear magnetic resonance capacities. Last year, the House Appropriations Committee requested the National Science Foundation assess and report on Japanese efforts in this area. It appears that progress by Japan and several other countries has been impressive while efforts related to this important new technology in the United States have lagged.

The conferees strongly urge the OSTP to undertake an assessment of this technology, its potential utilization by various scientific disciplines, and to provide recommendations on what future efforts or programs the federal research and development agencies should undertake to address this challenge. The conferees request the OSTP provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations by May 1, 2000.

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Appropriates \$2,827,000 for the Council on Environmental Quality and the Office of Environmental Quality as proposed by the House instead of \$2,675,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees have once again included bill language which prohibits CEQ from using funds other than those appropriated directly under this heading. The Council is expected to implement this provision in a manner consistent with its implementation during fiscal years 1998 and 1999.

The conferees note that the fiscal year 1999 Appropriations Act directed that "no less than \$100,000 of the appropriated amount be used by CEQ for work on the NEPA Reinvention project . . . to establish a memorandum of understanding between the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and other appropriate federal departments and agencies to expedite review of natural gas pipeline projects." The conferees commend CEQ for beginning this process and understand the Council is currently awaiting input from the industry, which is expected shortly. The conferees continue to want this memorandum of understanding to occur in fiscal year 2000 and expect that it will help to serve as a model to develop memoranda of understanding to expedite processing for other projects that require NEPA review.

FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriates \$33,666,000 for the Office of Inspector general as proposed by the House, instead of \$34,666,000 as proposed by the Senate. Funds for this account are derived from the Bank Insurance Fund, the Savings and Loan

association Insurance Fund, and the FSLIC Resolution Fund.

**FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY
DISASTER RELIEF**

Appropriates \$300,000,000 for disaster relief as proposed by the both the House and the Senate. In addition, appropriates \$2,480,425,000 in emergency funding for disaster relief. The House and Senate bills did not provide for the emergency funding.

The conferees have agreed to include language in the bill making \$10,000,000 from section 404 hazard mitigation grant funding available to the State of California for pilot projects to demonstrate seismic retrofit technology. Of this amount, FEMA is directed to use \$2,000,000 to continue a pilot project of seismic retrofit technology on an existing welded steel frame building at California State University, San Bernardino. Also within the account, an additional \$6,000,000 is available for continuation of a project at Loma Linda University Hospital, and \$2,000,000 is available for a seismic retrofit project at the University of Redlands.

The conferees have also agreed to make available from section 404 hazard mitigation grant funding available to the respective states, \$1,000,000 for a hurricane mitigation project at South Florida University, Ft. Lauderdale campus; \$2,500,000 for a windstorm simulation project at Florida International University; \$1,000,000 for a logistical staging area concept demonstration at the Stanly County Airport in North Carolina; and \$500,000 for wave monitoring buoys in the Gulf of Mexico off the Louisiana coast.

The conferees note that FEMA's plans to promulgate regulations pertaining to public assistance insurance requirements have significant financial implications for states, municipalities, and private non-profit hospitals and universities. The conferees believe it is important that FEMA obtain key data prior to finalizing such a rule. Therefore, the conferees direct the General Accounting Office to study the financial impacts of the proposed FEMA regulation and submit the report to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate within 120 days. Prior to finalizing a rule, FEMA is directed to consider fully the GAO's findings.

The conferees agree that the Texas Task Force 1 is strategically located and fully operational and direct FEMA to do a full evaluation of the task force and report back to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate as to whether it should be included in the Urban Search and Rescue system.

The conferees are concerned that FEMA may not have adequate resources available for the training of federal, state, local, and volunteer disaster officials on the latest techniques in disaster response and resource management. Therefore, the conferees direct FEMA to study the feasibility and the merits of establishing a national training academy in south Florida for the above purposes. In completing such study, FEMA should consult with other agencies engaged in natural disaster response and assistance, and should take into account the activities of the Emergency Management Institute in Emmitsburg, Maryland. The conferees expect FEMA to report back to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate by January 31, 2000.

EMERGENCY Y2K ASSISTANCE

The conferees agree not to establish a program of grants and loans to counties and local governments for expenses related to problems associated with the year 2000 date change as proposed by the Senate. This program was not included in the House bill.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriates \$180,000,000 for salaries and expenses as proposed by the Senate instead

of \$177,720,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees agree that the reduction from the budget request shall be applied to program offices in an equitable manner. FEMA is to provide a track of the funding reduction as part of its operating plan.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriates \$8,015,000 for the Office of Inspector General as proposed by the Senate instead of \$6,515,000 as proposed by the House.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING AND ASSISTANCE

Appropriates \$267,000,000 for emergency management planning and assistance instead of \$280,787,000 as proposed by the House and \$255,850,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees have included language in the bill which authorizes and directs FEMA to extend its cooperative agreement for the Jones County, Mississippi emergency operating center, modified with a technical change from that proposed by the Senate.

The conferees agree that the amount provided includes \$25,000,000 for pre-disaster mitigation activities and a reduction of \$4,500,000 from the budget request for consolidated emergency performance grants. Unspecified reductions to the account are to be taken in an equitable manner except as provided below.

The conferees agree to make no specific reduction to the request for anti-terrorism activities. However, the conferees are concerned that the proliferation of anti-terrorism activities throughout the Federal government may give rise to duplication of efforts. FEMA is encouraged to take whatever action is required to ensure that its efforts do not duplicate the efforts of other Federal entities.

The conferees direct FEMA to ensure that, in exchange for the additional flexibility provided through the emergency management performance grants, States are held accountable for the funds by tying such funds to performance measures. FEMA is expected to provide adequate financial and programmatic accountability in order to demonstrate appropriate use of the funds.

The conferees agree to provide \$400,000 for upgrades to the computer modeling capability of FEMA and the California Office of Emergency Services. Specifically, the Regional Assessment of Mitigation Priorities computer program is to be upgraded to evaluate earthquake disaster mitigation projects. The conferees also agree to provide \$1,500,000 for the commercialization of emergency response technologies, to be performed by the National Technology Transfer Center, and \$1,000,000 for the Operations Support Directorate to archive key agency documents by digitalization to optical disks.

The conferees agree with the Senate that the full budget request of \$5,500,000 is to be provided for the dam safety program.

The conferees concur with House report language regarding an evacuation plan for the New Orleans area and direct FEMA to work with the Southeast Louisiana Hurricane Task Force and the Louisiana One Coalition on the preparation of this evacuation and recovery plan and report.

EMERGENCY FOOD AND SHELTER PROGRAM

Appropriates \$110,000,000 for the Emergency Food and Shelter program as proposed by both the House and Senate. Includes language proposed by the Senate which makes the funds available until expended.

FLOOD MAP MODERNIZATION FUND

Appropriates \$5,000,000 to establish the Flood Map Modernization Fund as proposed by the House. The Senate did not provide funding for this program. The conferees agree not to provide an earmark of \$2,000,000

for the New York Department of Environmental Conservation from this fund.

NATIONAL INSURANCE DEVELOPMENT FUND

The conferees agree to bill language which cancels the indebtedness of the Director of FEMA. The House and Senate both included the provision, but with technical differences. The conferees agree to include the House language.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE FUND

The conferees have included bill language which authorizes the National Flood Insurance Program for fiscal year 2000. Without this authorization, new flood insurance policies could not be written throughout the fiscal year. In addition, the conferees direct FEMA to make \$2,000,000 available to the New York Department of Environmental Conservation for initiating the Statewide Flood Plain Mapping Program. The House had proposed this earmark within the Flood Map Modernization Fund.

NATIONAL FLOOD MITIGATION FUND

Provides for the transfer of \$20,000,000 from the National Flood Insurance Fund to the National Flood Mitigation Fund as proposed by the House. The Senate did not include a provision for the Fund.

NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION

Appropriates a total of \$13,652,700,000 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, instead of \$12,653,800,000 as proposed by the House and \$13,578,400,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees agree to retain the current NASA account structure for fiscal year 2000.

The conferees agree to include a general provision which provides indemnification and cross-waivers of liability with regard to experimental aerospace vehicle programs. The language is included as a general provision in title IV of the Act and is a modification of language included as part of the fiscal year 1999 appropriations Act. The conferees have also agreed to include a general provision which provides for a one year extension of indemnification for commercial space launches.

In addition, the conferees have agreed to include a general provision which authorizes NASA to carry out a program to demonstrate commercial feasibility and economic viability of private sector business operations involving the International Space Station.

The conferees believe that the International Space Station will be a catalyst for future economic development activity in low earth orbit. Therefore, the conferees have included bill language establishing a demonstration program intended to test the feasibility of commercial ventures using the station, and whether or not it is possible to operate the station in accordance with business practices. In order to encourage private investment and increase economic activity in low earth orbit, NASA may negotiate for payments, at a value set by the private market, and retain any funds received in excess of costs for re-investment in the station economic development program.

The demonstration program applies only to the transition period associated with station assembly and early operations—a period during which fledgling businesses will experience their first opportunity for sustainable, continuous access to orbital laboratories. The conferees expect NASA to refrain from picking winners and losers in this coming era and instead enable the power of the U.S. capital markets to come to bear on this new frontier of U.S. economic development.

The conferees intend that the results of this demonstration program—and lessons learned along the way—will be incorporated

into NASA's planning for long-term commercialization of the station, in concert with other ongoing activities such as the establishment of a non-government organization for station utilization and management.

Of the amounts approved in the following appropriations accounts, NASA must limit transfers of funds between programs and activities to not more than \$500,000 without prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations. Further, no changes may be made to any account or program element if it is construed to be policy or a change in policy. Any activity or program cited in this report shall be construed as the position of the conferees and should not be subject to reductions or reprogramming without prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate. Finally, it is the intent of the conferees that all carryover funds in the various appropriations accounts are subject to the normal reprogramming requirements outlined above.

HUMAN SPACE FLIGHT

Appropriates \$5,510,900,000 for human space flight. The House had proposed \$5,388,000,000 in this account. The Senate had proposed two new accounts, International Space Station and Launch Vehicles and Payload Operations, with a total of \$5,638,700,000. Within the amount provided, the appropriation for space shuttle is \$3,011,200,000, the appropriation for payload and utilization is \$169,100,000, and the appropriation for space station development related activities is \$2,330,600,000.

The amount provided for space shuttle operations is \$25,000,000 greater than the budget request. The increase is provided for urgent safety upgrades for the shuttle and may be augmented with additional funding from shuttle operations if such funding is identified throughout the fiscal year. The conferees agree that NASA is to undertake upgrades that are necessary to ensure continued safe operation of the shuttle and NASA is to provide a report to the Committees on Appropriations which identifies proposed upgrades, a schedule for accomplishing the upgrades, and the cost associated with each upgrade. The report is to be provided to the Committees on Appropriations by February 1, 2000.

The conferees have included a proviso within the Human Space Flight account which reserves \$40,000,000 for use only in connection with a shuttle science mission to be flown between the flight of STS-107 and December of 2001. The conferees have taken this action because of the belief that dedicated science missions must continue during the assembly of the International Space Station to ensure that the scientific community remains fully engaged in human space flight activities. Funding of \$15,000,000 provided for the life and microgravity science program in fiscal year 1999 is to be used for STS-107 (\$5,000,000) and for principal investigators associated with the dedicated flight which will occur before December, 2001 (\$10,000,000).

The amount provided for the international space station program is \$2,330,600,000, a decrease of \$152,100,000 from the budget request. The reductions include a transfer of \$17,100,000 to Mission Support to cover emergent personnel costs, a reduction of \$100,000,000 from the funds requested for development of the crew return vehicle, and a general reduction of \$35,000,000.

The conferees agree that international agreements to provide hardware for the space station should be binding and such agreements should be structured in such a way as to avoid complicating the assembly of the station. In order to be more fully informed on what potential problems may arise due to a reliance on foreign entities

providing necessary hardware, NASA is directed to provide the Committees on Appropriations with a report on all external hardware components needed for the station that have been contracted for internationally, the schedule for delivery of these components, and the current status of each component with regard to completion and delivery.

The conferees agree that the two quarterly reports requested in the International Space Station section of the Senate report shall not be required. Instead, NASA shall provide a quarterly report, beginning on April 1, 2000 and every three months thereafter, which provides the status of station hardware construction and assembly, as well as associated costs. The report shall highlight schedule and cost variance relative to the schedule and cost included as the basis for the fiscal year 2000 budget request.

The conferees recognize the funds appropriated by this Act for the development of the International Space Station may not be adequate to cover all potential contractual commitments should the program be terminated for the convenience of the Government. Accordingly, if the Space Station is terminated for the convenience of the Government, additional appropriated funds may be necessary to cover such contractual commitments. In the event of such termination, it would be the intent of the conferees to provide such additional appropriations as may be necessary to provide fully for termination payments in a manner which avoids impacting the conduct of other ongoing NASA programs.

SCIENCE, AERONAUTICS AND TECHNOLOGY

Appropriates \$5,606,700,000 for science, aeronautics and technology. The House had proposed \$4,975,700,000 in this account and the Senate had proposed \$5,424,700,000. The amount provided is \$182,000,000 above the budget request. The amount provided consists of:

\$2,197,850,000 for space science.

\$277,200,000 for life and microgravity sciences.

\$1,455,200,000 for earth sciences.

\$1,158,800,000 for aeronautics and space transportation.

\$406,300,000 for mission support.

\$141,300,000 for academic programs.

\$29,950,000 in general reductions.

The conferees are aware of a recent capabilities briefing that took place at NASA's Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V) Facility in conjunction with the quarterly Senior Management Council Meeting in June, 1999. The conferees understand that most NASA Center Directors or their designees were present at this briefing, as were the Assistant Administrators of the various NASA enterprises. The conferees expect substantial integration of the IV&V Facility into the NASA system, and in particular, the activities of the Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC). This Center should take specific note of this opportunity due to its close proximity to the IV&V Facility. To these ends, the conferees direct the Administrator to report, in conjunction with GSFC and no later than June 1, 2000, on what new activities the various NASA Centers are initiating with the IV&V Facility.

The conferees are aware of the NASA Sounding Rocket Operations contract (NSROC) competitive procurement for rocket systems now underway, and see this as an excellent opportunity to invigorate the domestic sounding rocket industry, which has languished in recent years. Therefore, NASA is directed to instruct the NSROC contractor to choose the best domestic competitor for this procurement, if the NASA Administrator determines the competitor has satisfied the requirements of the contract.

The conferees are concerned that the large amount of data being collected as part of NASA science missions is not being put to the best possible use. To allay these concerns, the conferees direct NASA to contract with the National Research Council for the study of the availability and usefulness of data collected from all of NASA's science missions. The study should also address what investments are needed in data analysis commensurate with the promotion of new missions.

The conferees note that the fiscal year 1998 Statement of Managers (House Report 105-297) outlined a change in the allocation of advanced technology funding for space science so that 75 percent of all such funding would be done competitively through an announcement of opportunity. The conferees urge NASA to continue its efforts to reach the 75 percent target in a manner that does not undermine the core competencies of the NASA centers. Furthermore, the conferees direct NASA to present a plan to the Committees on Appropriations by February 1, 2000 that details how the agency will meet the 75 percent goal for both space and earth sciences and preserve core competencies at NASA Centers. The plan should also articulate how non-competitive funding will be allocated, by Center, to preserve core competencies. In addition, the report shall include a plan to link NASA Centers with relevant academic laboratories to enhance Center capabilities and core competencies.

The conferees direct NASA to submit project status reports on a quarterly basis for all space and earth science missions. The project status reports must include all projects in either phase B or phase C/D status and all mission operations and data analysis funding. The reports must also include all advanced technology funding by subprogram activity and future flight profile, and salary and expense costs. The conferees further expect NASA to include in these quarterly project status reports a review of any mission or project that is exceeding its annual or aggregate budget by more than 15 percent. This review shall include a status report on the feasibility of the mission or project, the reasons for the cost overrun, and a cost containment plan, in cases where NASA has determined to continue the mission or project. The conferees have included this reporting requirement as an alternative to the Senate recommendation that NASA missions and projects be terminated where their costs exceed their budget by 15 percent.

The conferees believe NASA should seek further opportunities to expand the scope of the Consolidated Space Operations Contract as a means to achieve additional savings for the agency and the taxpayer. Thus far, large portions of the deep space network (DSN) and related mission operations infrastructure have been exempted from CSOC. Therefore, the conferees direct NASA's space operations management office (SOMO) to undertake a study, to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations by February 8, 2000, that evaluates transferring all remaining non-CSOC work in the telecommunications and mission operations directorate (TMOD), including all work designated for mission operations partnership services (MOPS), Jet Propulsion Lab (JPL) mission services, DSN operations architecture development and the deep space network services management system (DSMS) to the CSOC contract.

The space operations management office should identify and compare the full and total existing direct and indirect cost of the TMOD workforce with the projected cost of this workforce when transferred to CSOC on October 1, 2000. The transfer and cost analysis shall include all positions in the entire

TMOD base, including employees assigned to specific flight projects, data services, mission services and research and development costs related to the deep space network operations infrastructure. Cost calculations for determining the existing full costs of TMOD shall utilize the rates and estimates stated in the FY 99-01 JPL Cost Estimation Rates and Factors Manual and shall include direct labor, fringe benefits, leave, vacation pay, and full burden rates applied to the work performed at JPL. The full JPL burden rate calculation for estimating current TMOD costs shall follow precisely all terms and rates stated in the FY 99-01 JPL Cost Estimation Rates and Factors Manual.

Specific program adjustments are outlined below.

SPACE SCIENCE

The conferees agree to the following changes to the budget request:

1. Reduce funding for future planning for the Explorer program by \$6,100,000. The conferees direct NASA to ensure that this reduction will not impact the current Explorer announcement of opportunity selection, ensuring that there will be two awards made for the mid-explorer competition.

2. Reduce funding for future planning for the Discovery program future mission by \$23,700,000. The conferees expect that this reduction will not adversely impact funds available for Contour, Messenger and Deep Impact so that each can launch on its current schedule. In addition, the conferees expect that there will be sufficient funds in fiscal year 2000 to extend NEAR operations to correspond to next year's encounter with the Eros asteroid.

3. Reduce funding for Mars missions by \$22,800,000. The conferees have made this adjustment without prejudice in light of the recent failure of this mission. The Committees on Appropriations are troubled by this second failure of a Mars orbiting spacecraft in recent years and expect a complete report on the cause of the most recent failure and what corrective actions NASA will take to prevent a failure on subsequent Mars missions. This report is due within 180 days of enactment of this Act.

4. Reduce funding for supporting research and technology by \$4,400,000.

5. A reduction of \$37,400,000 in the funding for the Champollion mission due to cancellation of the mission.

6. A reduction of \$100,000 to finance personnel related expenses. These funds are provided within the Mission Support account.

7. An increase of \$8,000,000 for Space Solar Power.

8. An increase of \$2,000,000 for the Science Center at Glendale Community College.

9. An increase of \$1,500,000 for the Louisville Science Center.

10. An increase of \$1,500,000 for the Science Center Initiative at Ohio Wesleyan University.

11. An increase of \$5,000,000 for the Polymer Energy Rechargeable System (PERS). The conferees recognize the leadership of NASA Glenn in battery technology development and encourage NASA to continue this program. Working with scientists at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, the PERS program will develop significant space, defense, and commercial applications and therefore should continue at NASA Glenn.

12. An increase of \$2,000,000 for the center on life in extreme thermal environments at Montana State University in Bozeman.

13. An increase of \$3,000,000 for the Adler Planetarium in Chicago, Illinois.

14. NASA is directed to provide an increase of \$10,000,000 for fundamental physics research.

15. An increase of \$23,000,000 for science costs related to the next servicing mission of

the Hubble Space Telescope. The conferees are aware of the strong support in the scientific community for proceeding with the infrared channel on Wide Field-3 Camera. The conferees have provided sufficient resources in fiscal year 2000 to begin work on its development so that it will be ready for the final servicing mission now scheduled for Hubble in the 2002-03 timeframe.

16. An increase of \$21,000,000 for the Sun-Earth Connections program, including an increase of \$15,000,000 for STEREO and \$6,000,000 for advanced technology for post-STEREO missions.

17. An increase of \$3,000,000 for the development of STEP-Air SEDS, an electrodynamic tether facility to place and manipulate satellites in their orbits without the use of chemical propellants. To the extent this is a viable and useful technology, it is expected that NASA will include the necessary funds in the fiscal year 2001 budget.

18. An increase of \$1,000,000 for a satellite telescope at Western Kentucky University.

19. An increase of \$4,000,000 for the Sci-Quest hands-on science center in Huntsville, Alabama.

20. An increase of \$2,000,000 for research into advanced hardware and software technologies at Montana State University, Bozeman.

21. An increase of \$2,500,000 for the Bishop Museum.

22. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the Chabot Observatory, Oakland, California.

23. An increase of \$4,000,000 for the Green Bank Radio Telescope Museum.

24. An increase of \$750,000 for the Museum of Discovery and Science in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida.

25. An increase of \$500,000 for the Science and Technology Museum, Discovery Place in Charlotte, North Carolina.

LIFE AND MICROGRAVITY SCIENCES

The conferees have included a provision in the Human Space Flight account which calls for two science missions prior to December of 2001. The first mission, STS-107 will utilize up to \$5,000,000 of the amounts provided in this account in fiscal year 1999. The remaining \$10,000,000 from the fiscal year 1999 appropriation is to be used to finance principal investigators affiliated with the second science mission.

The conferees agree to the following changes to the budget request:

1. An increase of \$14,000,000 for infrastructure needs at the University of Missouri, Columbia.

2. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the "Garden Machine" program at Texas Tech University.

3. An increase of \$4,000,000 for the Space Radiation program at Loma Linda University Hospital.

4. An increase of \$2,000,000 for the Neutron Therapy Facility at Fermi Lab.

EARTH SCIENCES

The conferees have not terminated the Triana program as the House had proposed. Instead, the conferees direct NASA to suspend all work on the development of the Triana satellite using funds made available by this appropriation until the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) has completed an evaluation of the scientific goals of the Triana mission. The conferees expect the NAS to move expeditiously to complete its evaluation. In the event of a favorable report from the NAS, NASA may not launch Triana prior to January 1, 2001. The conferees have no objection to NASA's reserving funds made available by this appropriation for potential termination costs. The conferees recognize that, if a favorable report is rendered by the NAS, there will be some additional cost resulting from the delay.

The conferees agree with the House language directing NASA to develop a five-year

plan detailing a robust program for Code Y utilization of unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs). The conferees expect NASA to move ahead with the UAV Science Demonstration Program as detailed in the fiscal year 2000 budget justification, and to request fiscal year 2001 funding for this program in conformity with the five-year plan.

The conferees do not agree with the Senate directive to provide a report on the commercialization of EOSDIS data.

The conferees agree that NASA is to submit a report by March 15, 2000 on an EOS-II strategy that articulates in detail the NASA plan for earth science through fiscal year 2010.

The conferees direct NASA, in conjunction with the National Science Foundation, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, to report by April 15, 2000 on a plan to demonstrate the potential benefits of remote sensing.

The conferees agree to the following changes to the budget request:

1. An increase of \$2,000,000 for a Remote Sensing Center for Geoinformatics at the University of Mississippi.

2. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the Advanced Tropical Remote Sensing Center of the National Center for Tropical Remote Sensing Applications and Resources at the Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science.

3. An increase of \$10,000,000 for the Regional Application Center in Cayuga County, New York.

4. An increase of \$2,500,000 for a joint U.S./Italian space-based research initiative for the study and detection of forest fires.

5. An increase of \$3,000,000 for continuation of programs at the American Museum of Natural History.

6. An increase of \$1,500,000 for a remote sensing center at the Fulton-Montgomery Community College in New York. The center is to work through the Regional Application Center at Cayuga County, New York.

7. An increase of \$1,000,000 for continued development of nickel metal hydride battery technology.

8. An increase of \$31,000,000 for the EOSDIS Core System.

9. An increase of \$2,000,000 for the Advanced Fisheries Management Information System, of which \$500,000 is to be used to develop a companion program at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks.

10. An increase of \$2,000,000 for the EOS National Resource Training Center at the University of Montana, Missoula.

11. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the PIPELINE project at Iowa State University and Southern University, Baton Rouge.

12. An increase of \$7,000,000 to the EOSDIS Core System to develop additional uses for NASA's Earth Observing System to make data more readily available for potential user communities.

13. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the Field Museum for the "underground adventure" exhibit.

14. An increase of \$2,000,000 for research in remote sensing applications at the University of Missouri, Columbia.

15. An increase of \$300,000 for the State University of New York College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry for a remote sensing applications project.

16. A decrease of \$20,000,000 from the LightSAR program. The conferees agree that NASA's action to terminate the LightSAR program has resulted in a missed opportunity by failing to recognize the commitment to commercial investment and significant interest shown by private industry in the current structure of the program. LightSAR continues to offer tremendous potential for a number of practical applications, most particularly as an all-weather

method for remote sensing of the Earth's surface. The conferees direct NASA to review the history of this program and report to the Congress by February 1, 2000 on actions the agency can undertake to support industry-led efforts to develop an operational synthetic aperture radar capability in the United States, with particular focus on NASA as a data customer.

17. A decrease of \$23,500,000 from reserves being held for the PM-1 mission.

18. A decrease of \$5,700,000 from algorithm development.

19. A decrease of \$22,000,000 from the funding requested for EOS special spacecraft.

AERONAUTICS AND SPACE TRANSPORTATION

The conferees agree that an independent review of NASA's decision to terminate the High Speed Research and Advanced Subsonic Technology programs is necessary. The conferees direct the Office of Science and Technology Policy to conduct such a review which should address the overall impact of these terminations on the United States aviation industry as well as the impact on the core competencies of NASA centers. The review should also address the merits of NASA undertaking a program to improve aircraft safety and reduce aircraft noise emissions. The conferees direct that this report be completed no later than July 1, 2000.

The conferees are aware of NASA's recent ERAST research announcement to bid competitively, important technology thrusts for combustible fuel vehicle research, with the goal of providing unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) platforms to meet Code Y requirements by fiscal year 2002. The conferees are equally supportive of NASA's plan for flight testing as part of the solar-electric airplane program at the Pacific Missile Range Facility (PMRF). Therefore, the conferees expect NASA to balance carefully these two important initiatives. Furthermore, NASA should remain sensitive to transition funding for the partners of the ERAST Alliance during this period, such that past NASA investments in these partners is not undermined.

The conferees are aware of the many successful technology transfer arrangements negotiated in rural states through the NASA Techlink program and expect NASA to continue the program at the current level.

The conferees are concerned that significant reductions in NASA's budget request for rotorcraft research will undermine the core competencies in this technology at the Glenn and Langley research centers. The conferees believe that NASA should take into consideration the valuable service these centers provide to the Department of Defense for its Joint Transport Rotorcraft and tiltrotor programs and take efforts to ensure the centers retain their expertise in rotorcraft research.

The conferees agree to the following changes to the budget request:

1. An increase of \$20,000,000 for Ultra Efficient Engine Technology.

2. An increase of \$1,800,000 for phase two of the synthetic vision information system being tested at the Dallas-Ft. Worth Airport.

3. An increase of \$1,200,000 for continued support of the Dynamic Runway Occupancy Measurement System demonstration at the Seattle-Tacoma Airport.

4. An increase of \$2,000,000 to facilitate the acquisition of a 16 beam SOCRATES system and integration of SOCRATES into the AVOSS program.

5. An increase of \$10,000,000 for the Trailblazer program at the Glenn Research Center.

6. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the Institute for Software Research to continue its collaborative effort with NASA-Dryden, focusing on adaptive flight control research, in-

cluding a flight control upgrade to the F-15 Active.

7. An increase of \$1,500,000 for the Software Optimization and Reuse Technology program.

8. An increase of \$2,000,000 for the establishment of the NASA-Illinois Technology Commercialization Center as an extension of the Midwest Regional Technology Transfer Center, to be located at the DuPage County Research Park.

9. An increase of \$1,000,000 for Miami-Dade Community College-Homestead Campus to develop a technology-oriented business incubator in Homestead, Florida.

10. An increase of \$2,000,000 for the Earth Alert program for a test of the system throughout the State of Maryland.

11. An increase of \$1,500,000 for the National Technology Transfer Center, to bring total funding for the center up to \$7,200,000.

12. An increase of \$500,000 to study aircraft cabin air quality at the Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health in Baltimore, Maryland.

13. An increase of \$80,000,000 for Space Liner 100 efforts.

14. An increase of \$1,500,000 for the Western Environmental Technology Office, Butte Montana.

15. An increase of \$5,000,000 for the National Center for Space Technology.

16. An increase of \$3,000,000 for enhanced vision system technology development.

17. An increase of \$20,000,000 for efforts related to aircraft noise reduction.

18. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the Institute for Software Research, for the modeling and simulation of electromagnetic phenomena for alternative space propulsion concepts.

19. An increase of \$200,000 for the Garrett Morgan Initiative in Ohio.

20. A decrease of \$2,900,000 for personnel related expenses, transferred to Mission Support.

MISSION COMMUNICATIONS

The conferees have provided \$406,300,000 for Mission Communications, the same amount as provided by the House and Senate.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

The conferees have agreed to the following changes to the budget request:

1. An increase of \$6,500,000 for the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program, for a total of \$19,100,000.

2. An increase of \$1,500,000 for the Franklin Institute for development of an exhibit on astronomy.

3. An increase of \$2,300,000 for the JASON Foundation's JASON XI expedition, "Going to Extremes."

4. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the Carl Sagan Discovery Center at the Children's Hospital at Montefiore Medical Center.

5. An increase of \$4,000,000 for the Texas Learning and Computational Center at the University of Houston.

6. An increase of \$4,000,000 for the Space Science Museum and Educational Program at Downey, California. The conferees are concerned about the transfer of NASA property at the space shuttle manufacturing facility in Downey, California to the City when the contractor leaves the facility at the end of the year. The conferees endorse the process established by GSA for disposal of historic artifacts at the facility, specifically, the space shuttle mock-up and astronaut footprints. The conferees do not intend to circumvent this process, but the conferees agree that GSA should take into consideration the historical significance of these artifacts at the Downey site, a significance that would be lost if the artifacts were to move to a different location.

7. An increase of \$2,000,000 for the Ohio View Project.

8. An increase of \$2,000,000 for continued academic and infrastructure needs related to the computer sciences, mathematics and physics building at the University of Redlands.

9. An increase of \$5,400,000 for the EPSCoR program.

10. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the Science Learning Center in Kenai, Alaska.

11. An increase of \$2,000,000 for the Lewis and Clark Rediscovery Web Technology Project.

12. An increase of \$1,000,000 for the Science Museum at Spelman College.

13. An increase of \$7,600,000 for Minority University Research and Education projects, including \$1,000,000 to provide support for the establishment of a Center of Excellence in Mathematics and Science at Texas College.

14. An increase of \$500,000 for the University of San Diego for a Science and Education Center.

15. An increase of \$500,000 for the City of Ontario, California for the development of a Science and Technology Learning Center.

16. The conferees agree to provide the budget request of \$2,000,000 for the Classroom of the Future project.

MISSION SUPPORT

Appropriates \$2,515,100,000 for mission support instead of \$2,269,300,000 as proposed by the House and \$2,495,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The amount provided includes an increase of \$20,200,000, derived from other accounts, to cover emergent personnel related requirements including lower than anticipated personnel retirements and government-wide pay rate changes.

The conferees continue to prohibit the use of funds appropriated or otherwise made available to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration by this Act, or any other Act enacted before the date of enactment of this Act, by the Administrator of NASA to relocate aircraft of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration based east of the Mississippi River to the Dryden Flight Research Center in California.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriates \$20,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General as proposed by the Senate, instead of \$20,800,000 as proposed by the House.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Deletes language proposed by the House which directed NASA to develop a revised appropriations structure for fiscal year 2001.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate which directed NASA to terminate any program which experienced a cost growth of 15 percent.

Inserts a new general provision which limits the amounts NASA may use for the International Space Station.

NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION

CENTRAL LIQUIDITY FACILITY

Appropriates \$1,000,000 for the National Credit Union Administration for the Community Development Revolving Loan Program for credit unions, as proposed by the House instead of no funding as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

RESEARCH AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Appropriates \$2,966,000,000 for research and related activities instead of \$2,768,500,000 as proposed by the House and \$3,007,300,000 as proposed by the Senate. Bill language provides up to \$253,000,000 of this amount for Polar research and operations support.

The conferees have included bill language which specifies that \$60,000,000 of appropriated funds are to be for a comprehensive research initiative on plant genomes for economically significant crops. Language has

also been included which prohibits NSF from obligating or expending funds to enter into or extend a grant, contract, or cooperative agreement regarding the administration of the domain name and numbering system of the Internet.

Finally, the conferees have agreed to bill language which: (1) prohibits funds spent in this or any other Act to acquire or lease a research vessel with ice-breaking capability built or retrofitted outside of the United States if such a vessel of United States origin can be obtained at a cost of not more than 50 per centum above the cost of the least expensive, technically acceptable, non-United States vessel; (2) requires that the amount of subsidy or financing provided by a foreign government, or instrumentality thereof, to a vessel's construction shall be included as part of the total cost of such vessel; and (3) provides that should a U.S. vessel as set forth in the foregoing language not be available for leasing for the austral summer Antarctic season of 2002-2003, and thereafter, a vessel of any origin can be leased for a period not to exceed 120 days of that season until delivery of such a United States vessel occurs.

The conference agreement provides an increase of \$196,000,000 above the fiscal year 1999 appropriated level for research and related activities, \$90,000,000 of which is to be used within the Computer and Information Sciences and Engineering (CISE) directorate and \$106,000,000 of which is for the remaining directorates, including Integrative Activities.

With regard to the additional funds provided for CISE, the conferees expect the Foundation to support individual and team research projects related to information technologies, specifically in the areas recommended in the PITAC report and in H.R. 2086. Among the most important of these are software research, scalable information infrastructure, software design, stability, security and reliability, as well as the need to acquire high-end computing equipment. In addition, the conferees expect an appropriate level of funding be provided for research to study privacy and access to information, and to further the understanding of the impact information technology advances have on issues that are of significant societal, ethical, and economical importance. Finally, as the NSF prepares to release CISE research funds through its normal competitive process, the conferees strongly encourage that an increased ratio of grants be issued at higher funding levels and for longer duration.

Within the amounts made available to all other directorates, \$50,000,000 is for the new Biocomplexity Initiative. All other programs within the Integrative Activities directorate, except the Opportunity Fund, have been funded at the budget request. The Opportunity Fund has, without prejudice, not been funded for fiscal year 2000.

The NSF is directed to provide up to \$5,000,000 for the National Oceanographic Partnership Program, and is further directed to contract with a non-federal entity to carry out a review of the merit review process of the Foundation. This review is to be completed and submitted to the Committees on Appropriations within eleven months of enactment of this Act.

The conferees have provided \$25,000,000 for Arctic research support and logistics, an increase of \$3,000,000 above the budget request. The conferees expect the Foundation, in conjunction and in close cooperation with the Interagency Arctic Research and Policy Committee to develop a multi-year, multi-agency plan for the implementation of joint United States-Japan Arctic research activities as envisioned by the March 1997 science and technology section of the Common Agen-

da agreed to by the United States and Japan. In this regard, the conferees expect the Foundation to provide up to \$5,000,000 from within available funds for logistical activities in support of United States-Japan international research activities related to global climate change.

Consistent with a directive of the Senate to strengthen international cooperation in science and engineering, the conferees encourage NSF to consider providing from within available funds up to \$3,000,000 to strengthen cooperative research activities between the United States and the former Soviet Union through the Civilian Research and Development Foundation.

Except as previously noted, the conferees expect that the remaining additional funds will be distributed proportionately and equitably, consistent with the ratio of the budget request level above the fiscal year 1999 funding level, among all of the remaining directorates, and request that such distribution be specifically noted in the fiscal year 2000 Operating Plan submission.

The conferees commend the Foundation for its support of the National High Magnetic Field Laboratory (NHMFL) located in Tallahassee, Florida. That laboratory is an excellent example of a facility that has worked closely with teams of academic and industrial scientists from throughout the United States and abroad. The conferees strongly support the work of this important national facility and commend the NSF for its increased support and interest in the work of the NHMFL.

Finally, pursuant to recommendations made by the federally-mandated National Gambling Impact Study Commission, the conferees encourage the NSF to explore the feasibility of establishing a multi-disciplinary research program that will estimate the benefits and costs of gambling.

MAJOR RESEARCH EQUIPMENT

Appropriates \$95,000,000 for major research equipment instead of \$56,500,000 as proposed by the House and \$70,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides the budget request level for all projects within the MRE account, including \$36,000,000 for the development and construction of a new, single site, five teraflop computing facility. The conferees expect that the competition for this project will allow for significant participation by universities and other institutions throughout the country, and will have as its goal completion of such a facility within 16 months of enactment of this Act. The conferees further expect the Foundation to provide regular, informal reports as to the progress of this project, including the funding requirements necessary to complete five teraflop capability.

The conference agreement also provides \$10,000,000 to begin production of the High-Performance Instrumented Airborne Platform for Environmental Research (HIAPER). This new high-altitude research aircraft will, upon its completion, be available to support critical and outstanding atmospheric science research opportunities over the next 25 to 30 years.

EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Appropriates \$696,600,000 for education and human resources instead of \$660,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$688,600,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Within this appropriated level, the conferees have provided \$55,000,000 for the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) to allow for renewed emphasis on research infrastructure development in the EPSCoR states, as well as to permit full implementation awards to states which have research proposals in the plan-

ning process. In addition, the conferees have provided \$10,000,000 to initiate a new Office of Innovation Partnerships. This new office, in addition to housing the EPSCoR program, will examine means of helping those non-EPSCoR institutions receiving among the least federal research funding expand their research capacity and competitiveness so as to develop a truly national scientific research community with appropriate research centers located throughout the nation.

The conferees expect that funds for these two efforts will be included in a single program office within the EHR account, under the direct supervision of the Director's office. Building upon the EPSCoR experience, the conferees also expect the new office to work with CISE to insure that all areas of the country share in advanced networking and computing activities, especially rural and insular areas with research institutions. Assistance in developing scientific research applications for use on the computing and networking systems now available as a result of earlier NSF programs is a high priority in the EPSCoR states. The conferees also expect the new office to coordinate with all research and related activities directorates.

The conference agreement also provides \$10,000,000 for Historically Black Colleges and Universities through the underrepresented population undergraduate reform initiative, including \$8,000,000 from the EHR account and \$2,000,000 from the RRA account. Similarly, the conferees have provided the budget request level of \$46,000,000 for the Informal Science Education (ISE) program. This program has acted as a catalyst for increasing the public's appreciation and understanding of science and technology in settings such as science centers, museums, zoos, aquariums, and public television. The ISE program has also been involved in the professional development of science teachers. The conferees continue to support this important program, including its focus for fiscal year 2000 on increasing access to informal learning opportunities in inner cities and rural areas that have received little exposure to science and technology.

Except as previously noted, the conferees expect that the remaining additional funds will be distributed proportionately and equitably, consistent with the ratio of the budget request level above the fiscal year 1999 funding level, among all of the remaining directorates, and request that such distribution be specifically noted in the fiscal year 2000 Operating Plan submission.

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Appropriates \$149,000,000 for salaries and expenses instead of \$146,500,000 as proposed by the House and \$150,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Consistent with the position of the Senate, the conferees direct the Foundation to fund program travel only from within the salaries and expenses account. Additionally, the conferees urge the Foundation to improve its oversight activity of its many programs, using available funds from within this account.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

Appropriates \$5,450,000 for the Office of Inspector General instead of \$5,325,000 as proposed by the House and \$5,550,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees expect the OIG to increase efforts in the areas of cost-sharing, indirect costs, and reducing misconduct in scientific research.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

Appropriates \$75,000,000 for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation instead of \$80,000,000 as proposed by the House and \$60,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

**SELECTIVE SERVICE SYSTEM
SALARIES AND EXPENSES**

Appropriates \$24,000,000 for salaries and expenses instead of \$7,000,000 for termination costs as proposed by the House and \$25,250,000 as proposed by the Senate.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS

Retains language proposed by the Senate permitting EPA appropriations to be used for comprehensive conservation and management plans.

Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate providing for a rescission of Tennessee Valley Authority borrowing authority.

Inserts and modifies language proposed by the Senate to hereafter authorize the use of funds for the United States/Mexico Foundation for Science. Inserts new language renaming the Foundation the "George E. Brown United States/Mexico Foundation for Science."

Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate prohibiting the use of funds by the EPA to publish or issue assessments under the Global Change Research Act unless certain conditions are met. The conferees have addressed this issue in the EPA Environmental Programs and Management account under title III.

Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate expressing House support for the improvement of health care services in rural areas. Similar language is included in the Administrative Provisions section of title I.

Restores language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate expressing the sense of the Congress that honor guards at a veteran's funeral is a benefit that a veteran has earned.

Deletes language proposed by the House and stricken by the Senate reducing certain accounts within the bill by \$7,000,000 and increasing another account by a like amount.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate prohibiting the use of funds to carry out Executive Order 13083.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate prohibiting HUD from using funds for any activity in excess of amounts set forth in the budget estimates.

Inserts modified language proposed by the Senate prohibiting the use of funds for the purpose of lobbying or litigating against any Federal entity or official, with certain exceptions.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate prohibiting the obligation of any funds after February 15, 2000 unless each department provides a detailed justification for all salary and expense activities for fiscal years 2001–2005.

Inserts modified language proposed by the Senate amending section 101 (20)(D) of CERCLA to stipulate that law enforcement agencies shall not be considered owners or operators following seizure of properties needing certain environmental cleanup response.

Inserts modified language proposed by the Senate prohibiting the use of funds for any activity or publication or distribution of literature that is designed to promote public support or opposition to any legislative proposal on which Congressional action is not complete.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate redesignating an economic development grant for Kohala, Hawaii. The conferees have included this provision in title II of the bill.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate prohibiting the movement of NASA aircraft from the Glenn Research Center to any other field center.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate establishing a GAO study of the Federal Home Loan Bank system capital structure.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate expressing the sense of the Senate regarding aeronautics research. This issue has been addressed in the NASA section of title III.

Deletes language proposed by the Senate directing the EPA Administrator to develop a compliance plan for the underground storage tank program. This issue was addressed in the EPA Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program under title III.

Inserts modified language proposed by the Senate extending the comment period on the proposed rule related to section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act by 90 days. The conferees agree that nothing in this language is intended to limit EPA's administrative authority to extend the comment period beyond this 90 day period.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate extending the authority of 16 U.S.C. 777c(a) through calendar year 2000.

Inserts modified language proposed by the Senate prohibiting EPA from promulgating the Phase II stormwater regulations until the Administrator submits a report to the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works and the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Inserts language proposed by the Senate prohibiting the EPA's expenditure of funds to promulgate a final regulation to implement changes in the payment of pesticide tolerance fees for fiscal year 2000. The conferees support and encourage EPA and the industry's joint effort to develop a comprehensive fee-for-service proposal to provide the necessary additional resources for registration and tolerance actions coupled with EPA performance enhancements, milestones, and accountability. The conferees expect that this fiscal year 2000 prohibition will not be repeated in future years. The conferees direct that the EPA not reduce its effort to approve both pesticide reassessments and approval of new applications at a pace presumed in the budget submittal.

Inserts language amending section 70113(f) of title 49, U.S.C., providing for a one year extension of indemnification for commercial space launches.

Inserts language providing the National Aeronautics and Space Administration with authority to establish a demonstration program regarding the commercial feasibility of private sector business operations involving the International Space Station.

Inserts language repealing section 431 of Public Law 105-276 and amending the National Aeronautics and Space Act of 1958 to allow for insurance, indemnification, and liability protection for experimental aerospace vehicle developers.

**TITLE V—PRESERVATION OF
AFFORDABLE HOUSING
OVERVIEW**

Title V combines certain provisions from three bipartisan House housing bills (including H.R. 202 "Preserving Affordable Housing for Senior Citizens into the 21st Century Act," introduced by Reps. James A. Leach and Rick Lazio, H.R. 1336 "Emergency Resident Protection Act of 1999," introduced by Reps. Leach, Lazio and James T. Walsh, and H.R. 1624 "Elderly Housing Quality Improvement Act," introduced by Reps. John J. LaFalce, Barney Frank and Bruce Vento) and the title is designed to address a potentially crisis-level loss of affordable housing for seniors, individuals with disabilities and other vulnerable families. The consolidate House bill passed the U.S. House of Representatives on September 27, 1999 by a vote of 405 to 5. In addition, this title is consistent with a number of provisions contained in S. 1319, the "Save My Home Act," legislation introduced by Senators Kit Bond and Wayne Allard which is designed to address the section 8 opt

out problem. The Senate VA/HUD FY 2000 appropriations bill also includes authority on section 202 and assisted living units.

The legislation protects existing residents of Federal-assisted housing from being forced to move from their homes in the face of market-rate rent increases; preserves the housing as affordable itself where appropriate by emphasizing renewal at market-rate rents for developments that serve seniors or persons with disabilities or in other circumstances where there is risk of loss of an important affordable housing resource; and provides flexibility for the conversion of housing to assisted living environments to allow seniors to "age in place."

Title V represents a consensus between the House and Senate VA/HUD Appropriations subcommittees as well as the House Banking Committee. The references to conferees herein reflect the views of all these parties.

SECTION BY SECTION: "PRESERVING AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS INTO THE 21ST CENTURY"

Section 501. Short title and table of contents

Titled cited as "Preserving Affordable Housing for Senior Citizens into the 21st Century Act".

Section 502. Regulations

Provides that the HUD Secretary shall issue regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of the Act only after notice and opportunity for public comment.

Section 503. Effective date

Provisions of the Act are effective as of the date of enactment unless such provisions specifically provide for effectiveness or applicability upon another date. The authority to issue regulations to implement this Act shall not be construed to affect the effectiveness or applicability of the bill as of the effective date.

Subtitle A—Authorization of Appropriations for Supportive Housing for the Elderly and Persons With Disabilities

Section 511. Supportive housing for elderly persons

Provides annual authorization of appropriation of \$710 million for existing program of supportive housing for the elderly (section 202) for FY2000.

Section 512. Supportive housing for persons with disabilities

Provides annual authorization of appropriation of \$201 million for supportive housing for the disabled (section 811) for FY2000.

Section 513. Service coordinators and congregate services for elderly and disabled housing

Provides annual authorization of appropriation of \$50 million for grants for service coordinators for certain federally assisted multifamily housing projects for FY2000.

Subtitle B—Expanding Housing Opportunities for the Elderly and Persons With Disabilities

Section 521. Study of debt forgiveness for section 202 loans

Requires the Secretary to conduct a study of the net impact on the Federal budget deficit or surplus of making available, on a one-time basis, debt forgiveness relating to remaining principal and interest from Section 202 loans with a dollar-for-dollar reduction of rental assistance amounts under the Section 8 rental assistance program.

Section 522. Grants for conversion of elderly housing to assisted living facilities

Authorizes grants to convert and repair elderly affordable housing projects to assisted living facilities. Authorizes such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2000.

Section 523. Use of section 8 assistance for assisted living facilities

Provides that a recipient of Section 8 housing assistance may use such assistance in an assisted living facility.

Section 524. Size limitation for projects for persons with disabilities

Provides that of any amounts made available in any fiscal year for capital advances or project rental assistance under this section, not more than 25% may be used for supportive housing which contains more than 24 separate dwelling units. Requires the Secretary to study and submit a report to Congress regarding the extent to which the authority of the Secretary under Section 811(k)(4) of the Cranston Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act has been used to provide assistance to supportive housing projects for persons with disabilities having more than 24 units.

Section 525. Commission on Affordable Housing and Health Care Facility Needs in the 21st Century

Establishes a commission to be known as the Commission on Affordable Housing and Health Care Facility Needs in the 21st Century. The Commission shall provide an estimate of the future needs of seniors for affordable housing and assisted living and health care facilities, identify methods of encouraging private sector participation and investment in affordable housing, and perform other matters relating to housing the elderly.

Subtitle C—Renewal of Expiring Rental Assistance Contracts and Protection of Residents**Section 531. Renewal of expiring contracts and enhanced vouchers for project residents**

Unless otherwise provided, for expiring Section 8 properties that have current rents below comparable market rents for the area and that meet certain criteria set out in the bill, the Secretary of HUD is directed upon renewal of such Section 8 contracts to set rents at comparable market rent levels. For those expiring Section 8 contracts that have rent levels above comparable market rents but are not being restructured, the Secretary upon renewal shall set these rents at comparable market rents. With regard to those expiring Section 8 contracts for multifamily housing projects that are not eligible multifamily housing project[s] under Section 512(2) of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act (MAHRA) or that are exempt from mortgage restructuring pursuant to section 514(h) of MAHRA, upon the request of the owner, renewal rents shall be set at the lesser of existing rents, adjusted by an operating cost adjustment factor, or a rent level that provides income sufficient to support a budget-based rent.

Directs the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to provide "enhanced vouchers" to residents residing in a property upon the date of the expiration of a federally-assisted housing contract that is not renewed. Enhanced vouchers allow increased assistance for residents in cases where rents increase as a result of the project owner's decision to opt-out of the Section 8 program, therefore ensuring that the resident may continue to reside in the unit. Authorizes such sums as may be necessary for enhanced voucher assistance for fiscal years 2000 through fiscal year 2004.

To the extent funds are specifically appropriated for this purpose, authorizes the Secretary to renew expiring Section 8 contracts for projects that are subject to an approval plan of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990 on terms

comparable to those provided in the plan of action.

Provides a limited preemption of state distribution limitations in cases where such limitations interfere with affordable housing preservation.

Section 532. Section 236 assistance

Allows Section 236 property to continue to receive interest reduction payments following a mortgage refinancing, subject to the owner's agreement to continue to operate the project in accordance with low income affordability restrictions for the period of the interest reduction payments plus an additional five years.

Allows an owner of a project financed under a State program pursuant to Section 236 of the National Housing Act to retain any excess rental income from the project for use for the benefit of the project, upon terms and conditions established by the Secretary, subject to appropriations.

Section 533. Rehabilitation of assisted housing

Amends Section 236 of the National Housing Act to accelerate the use of recaptured interest reduction payments.

Section 534. Technical assistance

Amends the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 to allow for technical assistance for preservation of low-income housing.

Section 535. Termination of section 8 contract and duration of renewal contract

Provides that section 8 contracts may be renewed for up to one year or for any number of years, subject to appropriations (as opposed to mandatory renewals of one year).

Section 536. Eligibility of residents of flexible subsidy projects for enhanced vouchers

Amends Section 201 of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 by allowing the use of enhanced vouchers for projects preserved as affordable housing under section 229 of the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990.

Section 537. Enhanced disposition authority

Amends section 204 of the FY 1997 VA/HUD Appropriations Act to extend current grant and loan authority under Section 204 through FY 2000, expressly provide that up-front grants or loans may support reconstruction as well as rehabilitation and demolition, and provide that vacant as well as occupied projects shall be eligible for such grants or loans.

Section 538. Unified enhanced voucher authority

Consolidates and unifies all existing enhanced voucher authority, the terms regarding provision of tenant-based assistance through an enhanced voucher under a new subsection 8(t) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

REPORT LANGUAGE

The conferees are aware that the Department has issued a notice permitting non-profit owners of section 202 properties to repay their section 202/section 8 mortgages and to refinance those mortgages provided the housing remains available to existing and future tenants under terms at least as advantageous to them as the terms required by the original loan, and if the subsequent refinancing would enhance the housing for the tenants. For this reason, the conferees do not feel it necessary to include Section 102 of HR 202, which passed the House with strong bipartisan support. Section 102 of HR 202 was intended to accomplish this same purpose. In keeping with the intent of section 102 of HR 202, however, the conferees direct the Department, in instances where section 202 borrowers choose to prepay and refi-

nance their mortgages, to share at least 50% of any section 8 savings that might become available as a result of prepayment with the borrower in order to facilitate the refinancing so that enhancements can be made to serve the current and future elderly tenants.

The conferees are aware that the non-profit sponsors of section 202 developments for the elderly struggle to identify additional sources of financing for their projects to enhance the amenities and services available to low-income senior citizens. One alternative that should be explored is to permit the non-profit organizations that are eligible as borrowers for section 202 funds to be the sole general partner of a for-profit limited partnership as long as that general partner meets the definition of private non-profit organization under section 202(k)(4). This would enable borrowers under the 202 program to become eligible for LIHTC, and the equity financing it generates, in the same way as non-profit borrowers under the section 515 rural rental housing program are eligible for the LIHTC. Such eligibility would provide a critical source of additional capital to housing for the elderly, giving our deserving elderly residents the best housing possible.

Sections 307 and 327 of HR 202 specifically allowed for the development and operation of commercial facilities in Section 202 and Section 811 projects, respectively. The conferees, however, believe that nothing in federal law currently prohibits the Department of Housing and Urban Development from permitting the development and operation of commercial facilities in Section 202 and Section 811 projects. For this reason, the conferees do not feel inclusion of these provisions of HR 202 is necessary, but instead specifically directs HUD to grant requests of project sponsors to do this wherever feasible.

In addition, the conferees believe that HUD has authority to allow the development and operation of Section 202 units on the same premises as, and integrated with, privately-financed units. Such integrated housing would allow low-income elderly residents and elderly residents in privately financed units to live side-by-side without the stigma of a separate, low-income wing or of units that are clearly designated for low-income residents. Such was the intent of Section 308 of HR 202. Because the conferees believe the Department already has the authority to accomplish this goal, rather than including Section 308 of 202, the conferees direct HUD to develop policies to enable Section 202 project sponsors who request it to include privately-financed units in their 202 developments.

The conferees direct the Department, for Fiscal Year 2000, that, notwithstanding any other provision of law or any Department regulation, in the case of any denial of an application for assistance under Section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 for failure to timely provide information required by the Secretary, the Secretary shall notify the applicant of the failure and provide the applicant an opportunity to show that the failure was due to the failure of a third party to provide information under the control of the third party. If the applicant demonstrates, within a reasonable period of time after notification of such failure, that the applicant did not have such information but requested the timely provision of such information by the third party, the Secretary may not deny the application on the grounds of failure to timely provide such information.

The conferees are concerned that section 8 projects whose rent structure was modified and a use agreement executed under one of the portfolio reengineering demonstration programs may be required to undertake a

second round of time consuming and expensive rent restructuring. If the Secretary has previously found debt restructuring to be inappropriate for a project by closing a project under a demonstration program using budget-based rents without debt restructuring and pursuant to a use agreement between the Secretary and the project owner, the conferees direct the Secretary to use the authority provided by the conference report to honor the terms of the use agreement without debt restructuring.

The contract renewals for moderate rehabilitation Section 8 projects are treated differently than contract renewals for other Section 8 properties by requiring a renewal at the lesser of: current rents with an operating cost adjustment factor (OCAF), FMRs minus tenant paid utilities, or the comparable market rent for unassisted units. The conferees do not intend for such renewals to result in a rent that is below the aggregate base rent for the project. The base rent reflects the rent without the rehabilitation financing that was added to the project upon entering the moderate rehabilitation program.

The conferees direct the Department to streamline and reduce the cost of refinancing Home Equity Conversion Mortgages [HECMs] for elderly homeowners, including (a) reducing the single premium payment to credit the premium paid on the original loan [subject to actuarial study], (b) establishing a limit on origination fees that may be charged [which fees may be fully financed] and prohibiting the charging of broker fees, (c) waiving counseling requirements if the borrower has received counseling in the prior five years and the increase in the principal limit exceeds refinancing costs by an amount set by the Department, and (d) providing a disclosure under a refinanced mortgage of the total cost of refinancing and the principal limit increase.

The conferees further direct the Department to conduct within 180 days an actuarial study of the effect of reducing the refinancing premium collected under a refinancing and of the effect creating a single national loan limit for HECM reverse mortgages.

The conferees note the increasing trend in the mortgage industry of various types of home equity loans such as reverse mortgages, and are concerned about the potential effect of abusive lending practices on elderly homeowners. Because the elderly have high rates of homeownership and are more likely to have high levels of equity in their homes, they are prime targets for reverse mortgage scams. While the conferees recognize the majority of lenders operate legitimately, the conferees are concerned about the increasing number of reverse mortgage scams. The conferees therefore direct HUD to evaluate and report on the lending practices of the reverse mortgage industry no later than June 30, 2000. This report should focus on elderly borrowers and should include, at a minimum, an evaluation of: current consumer protection measures; the terms of home equity loans, including the rates and fees paid by elderly borrowers; and the marketing of home equity loans to elderly borrowers. The report should also include an assessment of HUD's role in ensuring that reverse mortgages are not used to defraud elderly homeowners and should detail HUD's plan for preventing such activity.

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 2000 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 1999 amount, the 2000 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 2000 follow:

	[In thousands of dollars]
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1999	\$95,263,261
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2000	99,603,004
House bill, fiscal year 2000	91,980,156
Senate bill, fiscal year 2000	97,828,196
Conference agreement, fiscal year 2000	99,452,918
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 1999	+4,189,657
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2000	-150,086
House bill, fiscal year 2000	+7,472,762
Senate bill, fiscal year 2000	+1,624,722

JAMES T. WALSH,
TOM DELAY,
DAVID HOBSON,
JOE KNOLLENBERG,
ROD FRELINGHUYSEN,
ROGER WICKER,
ANNE M. NORTHUP,
JOHN E. SUNUNU,
BILL YOUNG,
ALAN MOLLOHAN,
MARCY KAPTUR,
CARRIE P. MEEK,
DAVID E. PRICE,
BUD CRAMER,
DAVID OBEY,
(except for delayed funding gimmick)

Managers on Part of the House.

C.S. BOND,
CONRAD BURNS,
RICHARD SHELBY,
LARRY E. CRAIG,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
TED STEVENS,
BARBARA MIKULSKI,
PATRICK LEAHY,
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
TOM HARKIN,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
DANIEL INOUYE,

Managers on Part of the Senate.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 8 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

□ 2357

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. DREIER) at 11 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION WAIVING POINTS OF ORDER AGAINST CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2684, DEPARTMENTS OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report

(Rept. No. 106-380) on the resolution (H. Res. 328) waiving points of order against the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 2684) making appropriations for the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and for sundry independent agencies, boards, commissions, corporations, and offices for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2679, MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ACT OF 1999

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-381) on the resolution (H. Res. 329) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2679) to amend title 49, United States Code, to establish the National Motor Carrier Administration in the Department of Transportation, to improve the safety of commercial motor vehicle operators and carriers, to strengthen commercial driver's licenses, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3064, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

Mr. SESSIONS, from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 106-382) on the resolution (H. Res. 330) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3064) making appropriations for the government of the District of Columbia and other activities chargeable in whole or in part against the revenues of said District for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. McNULTY) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MALONEY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. BROWN of Florida, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. DELAURO, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CROWLEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. BALDWIN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WIENER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. NADLER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. STRICKLAND, for 5 minutes, today.