

have reached economic parity with the rest of the United States; and

“(3) as isolated areas of distress, areas located in an economically strong county that have high rates of poverty or unemployment.

“(b) DISTRESSED COUNTIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall allocate at least 50 percent of the appropriations made available under section 382N for programs and projects designed to serve the needs of distressed counties in the region.

“(2) FUNDING LIMITATIONS.—The funding limitations under section 382D(b) shall not apply to projects providing basic services to residents in 1 or more distressed counties in the region.

“(c) ECONOMICALLY STRONG COUNTIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this subsection, no funds shall be provided under this subtitle for a project located in a county designated as an economically strong county under subsection (a).

“(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The funding prohibition under paragraph (1) shall not apply to grants to fund the administrative expenses of local development districts under section 382E(b).

“(B) MULTICOUNTY PROJECTS.—The Authority may approve additional exceptions to the funding prohibition under paragraph (1) for—

“(i) multicounty projects that include participation by an economically strong county; and

“(ii) any other type of project, if the Authority determines that the project could bring significant benefits to areas of the region outside an economically strong county.

“(C) ISOLATED AREAS OF DISTRESS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—An isolated area of distress shall be eligible for assistance at the discretion of the Authority.

“(ii) DETERMINATION.—A determination of eligibility of an isolated area of distress for assistance shall be supported—

“(I) by the most recent Federal data available; or

“(II) if no recent Federal data are available, by the most recent data available through the government of the State in which the isolated area of distress is located.

SEC. 382G. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROCESS.

“(a) STATE DEVELOPMENT PLAN.—In accordance with policies established by the Authority, each State member shall submit on such schedule as the Authority shall prescribe a development plan for the area of the region represented by the State member.

“(b) CONTENT OF PLAN.—A State development plan submitted under subsection (a) shall—

“(1) reflect the goals, objectives, and priorities identified in the regional development plan under section 382B(d);

“(2) describe—

“(A) the organization and continuous process for development planning of the State, including the procedures established by the State for the participation of local development districts in the development planning process;

“(B) the means by which the development planning process of the State is related to overall State-wide planning and budgeting processes; and

“(C) the method of coordinating planning and projects in the region under this subtitle and other Federal, State, and local programs;

“(3)(A) identify the goals, objectives, priorities, and expected outcomes of the State for the region, as determined by the Governor;

“(B) identify the needs on which those goals, objectives, priorities are based; and

“(C) describe the development strategy for achieving and the expected outcomes of those goals, objectives, and priorities; and

“(4) describe how strategies proposed in the plan would advance the objectives of this subtitle.

“(c) CONSULTATION WITH INTERESTED LOCAL PARTIES.—In carrying out the development planning process (including the selection of programs and projects for assistance), a State shall—

“(1) consult with—

“(A) local development districts;

“(B) local units of government; and

“(C) citizen groups; and

“(2) take into consideration the goals, objectives, priorities, and recommendations of the entities identified in paragraph (1).

“(d) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority and applicable State and local development districts shall encourage and assist, to the maximum extent practicable, public participation in the development, revision, and implementation of all plans and programs under this subtitle.

“(2) REGULATIONS.—The Authority shall develop guidelines specifying minimum goals for public participation described in paragraph (1), including public hearings.

SEC. 382H. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT CRITERIA.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—In considering programs and projects to be provided assistance under this subtitle, and in establishing a priority ranking of the requests for assistance presented to the Authority, the Authority shall follow procedures that ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, consideration of—

“(1) the relationship of the project or class of projects to overall regional development;

“(2) the per capita income and poverty and unemployment rates in the area;

“(3) the financial resources available to the applicants for assistance seeking to carry out the project;

“(4) the importance of the project or class of projects in relation to other projects or classes of projects that may be in competition for the same funds;

“(5) the prospects that the project for which assistance is sought will improve, on a continuing rather than a temporary basis, the opportunities for employment, the average level of income, or the economic and social development of the area served by the project; and

“(6) the extent to which the project design provides for detailed outcome measurements by which grant expenditures and the results of the expenditures may be evaluated.

“(b) NO RELOCATION ASSISTANCE.—No financial assistance authorized by this subtitle shall be used to assist a person or entity in relocating from 1 area to another.

“(c) REDUCTION OF FUNDS.—Funds may be provided for a program or project in a State under this subtitle only if the Authority determines that the level of Federal or State financial assistance provided under a law other than this subtitle, for the same type of program or project in the same area of the State within the region, will not be reduced so as to substitute funds authorized by this subtitle.

SEC. 382I. APPROVAL OF DEVELOPMENT PLANS AND PROJECTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—A State or regional development plan or any multistate sub-regional plan that is proposed for development under this subtitle shall be reviewed for approval by the Authority in accordance with section 382B(e)(3).

“(b) EVALUATION BY STATE MEMBER.—An application for a grant or any other assistance for a project under this subtitle shall be made through and evaluated for approval by the State member of the Authority representing the applicant.

“(c) CERTIFICATION.—An application for a grant or other assistance for a project shall

be approved only on certification by the State member and the Federal cochairperson that the application—

“(1) reflects an intent that the project comply with any applicable State development plan;

“(2) meets applicable criteria under section 382H;

“(3) provides adequate assurance that the proposed project will be properly administered, operated, and maintained; and

“(4) otherwise meets the requirements of this subtitle.

“(d) VOTES FOR DECISIONS.—The certification by a State member of an application for a grant or other assistance for a specific project under this section shall, when joined by an affirmative vote of the Federal cochairperson for the application, be considered to satisfy the requirements for affirmative votes for decisions under section 382B.

SEC. 382J. CONSENT OF STATES.

Nothing in this subtitle requires any State to engage in or accept any program under this subtitle without the consent of the State.

SEC. 382K. RECORDS.

“(a) RECORDS OF THE AUTHORITY.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Authority shall maintain accurate and complete records of all transactions and activities of the Authority financed with Federal funds.

“(2) AVAILABILITY.—All records of the Authority shall be available for audit and examination by the Comptroller General of the United States (including authorized representatives of the Comptroller General).

“(b) RECORDS OF RECIPIENTS OF FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Recipients of Federal assistance under this subtitle shall, as required by the Authority, maintain accurate and complete records of transactions and activities financed with Federal funds and report on the transactions and activities to the Authority.

“(2) AVAILABILITY.—All records described in paragraph (1) shall be available for audit by the Comptroller General of the United States and the Authority or their duly authorized representatives.

SEC. 382L. ANNUAL REPORT.

“Not later than 180 days after the end of each fiscal year, the Authority shall submit to the President and to Congress a report describing the activities carried out under this subtitle.

SEC. 382M. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Authority to carry out this subtitle \$30,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2001 through 2005, to remain available until expended.

“(b) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—Not more than 5 percent of the amount appropriated under subsection (a) shall be used for administrative expenses.”

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 391

At the request of Mr. KERREY, the name of the Senator from Virginia (Mr. WARNER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 391, a bill to provide for payments to children’s hospitals that operate graduate medical education programs.

S. 407

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. GRAHAM) was added as a cosponsor of S. 407, a bill to reduce gun trafficking by prohibiting bulk purchases of handguns.

S. 486

At the request of Mr. ASHCROFT, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. GRASSLEY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 486, a bill to provide for the punishment of methamphetamine laboratory operators, provide additional resources to combat methamphetamine production, trafficking, and abuse in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 562

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 562, a bill to provide for a comprehensive, coordinated effort to combat methamphetamine abuse, and for other purposes.

S. 702

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 702, a bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to prohibit discrimination in the payment of wages on account of sex, race, or national origin, and for other purposes.

S. 736

At the request of Mr. LIEBERMAN, the names of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE), the Senator from Virginia (Mr. ROBB), and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. WELLSTONE) were added as cosponsors of S. 736, a bill to amend titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure that individuals enjoy the right to be free from restraint, and for other purposes.

S. 1028

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the names of the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. HELMS) and the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. GRAMS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1028, a bill to simplify and expedite access to the Federal courts for injured parties whose rights and privileges, secured by the United States Constitution, have been deprived by final actions of Federal agencies, or other government officials or entities acting under color of State law, and for other purposes.

S. 1035

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the name of the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUYE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1035, a bill to establish a program to provide grants to expand the availability of public health dentistry programs in medically underserved areas, health professional shortage areas, and other Federally-defined areas that lack primary dental services.

S. 1197

At the request of Mr. ROTH, the names of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. CLELAND) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1197, a bill to prohibit the importation of products made with dog or cat fur, to prohibit the sale, manufacture, offer for sale, transportation, and distribution of products made with dog or cat fur in the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 1239

At the request of Mr. GRAHAM, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. BRYAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1239, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to treat spaceports like airports under the exempt facility bond rules.

S. 1269

At the request of Mr. McCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1269, a bill to provide that the Federal Government and States shall be subject to the same procedures and substantive laws that would apply to persons on whose behalf certain civil actions may be brought, and for other purposes.

S. 1310

At the request of Ms. COLLINS, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. THURMOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1310, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to modify the interim payment system for home health services, and for other purposes.

S. 1419

At the request of Mr. McCAIN, the names of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER), the Senator from Texas (Mr. GRAMM), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 1419, a bill to amend title 36, United States Code, to designate May as "National Military Appreciation Month."

S. 1446

At the request of Mr. LOTT, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1446, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow an additional advance refunding of bonds originally issued to finance governmental facilities used for essential governmental functions.

S. 1449

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1449, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase the payment amount for renal dialysis services furnished under the medicare program.

S. 1459

At the request of Mr. MACK, the name of the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1459, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to protect the right of a medicare beneficiary enrolled in a Medicare+Choice plan to receive services at a skilled nursing facility selected by that individual.

S. 1473

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1473, a bill to amend section 2007 of the Social Security Act to provide grant

funding for additional Empowerment Zones, Enterprise Communities, and Strategic Planning Communities, and for other purposes.

SENATE RESOLUTION 118

At the request of Mr. REID, the names of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. HOLLINGS), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), and the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 118, A resolution designating December 12, 1999, as "National Children's Memorial Day."

SENATE RESOLUTION 179

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. ASHCROFT), the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. VOINOVICH), and the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) were added as cosponsors of Senate Resolution 179, a resolution designating October 15, 1999, as "National Mammography Day."

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

BYRD (AND OTHERS) AMENDMENT NO. 1744

Mr. BOND (for Mr. BYRD, for himself, Mr. BOND, Mr. DOMENICI, Mr. STEVENS, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. SPECTER, Mr. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WELLSTONE, Mr. SMITH of NH, Mr. HOLLINGS, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. CONRAD, Mr. KERREY, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LEAHY, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. HAGEL, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. JEFFORDS, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. HUTCHINSON, Mr. REID, Mr. KERRY, Mr. ROBB, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. BRYAN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. ASHCROFT, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. COVERDELL, Mr. HARKIN, Mr. ABRAHAM, Mr. DORGAN, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. LEVIN, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. FRIST) proposed an amendment to the bill (H.R. 2684) A bill 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; as follows:

On page 7, beginning on line 23, strike "\$18,406,000,000" and all that follows through "Provided," and insert "\$19,006,000,000, plus reimbursements: *Provided* That of the funds made available under this heading, \$600,000,000 is designated by Congress as an emergency requirement pursuant to section 251(b)(2)(A) of the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 and shall be available only to the extent that an official budget request that includes designation of the entire amount of the request as