

the program if firms lose and gain eligibility from year to year. A company will not want to invest in such a county only to have it suddenly become ineligible, due to new BLS data, before the company has even had the opportunity to recoup its investment by participating in the HUBZone program.

Section 613 seeks to stabilize this situation by looking at the unemployment picture over a three-year period for nonmetropolitan counties. It also provides that companies in such a county will have a one year period to pursue HUBZone opportunities and wrap up its activities under the program, after such a county becomes ineligible due to new BLS data. A similar one year period is provided for changes that may result due to enactment of this legislation.

Section 614. Community Development

For reasons similar to the problems preventing HUBZone program participation by Indian Tribal enterprises and Alaska Native Corporations, small businesses owned by Community Development Corporations were also inadvertently made ineligible by the original HUBZone Act. The Conference Report has included a provision to correct this problem. As with Tribal enterprises and Alaska Native Corporations, addressed in Subtitle A of this Title, Community Development Corporations are not made automatically eligible. These firms must agree to advance the job-creation goals of the HUBZone program. Specifically, as other businesses must do, these enterprises must maintain their principal office in a HUBZone and employ 35% of their workforce from one or more HUBZones.

Section 615. Reference Corrections

TITLE VII—NATIONAL WOMEN'S BUSINESS COUNCIL REAUTHORIZATION

Title VII reauthorizes the National Women's Business Council for three years, from FY 2001 to 2003, and to increase the annual appropriation from \$600,000 to \$1 million. The increase in funding will allow the Council to: support new and ongoing research; produce and distribute reports and recommendations prepared by the Council; and create an infrastructure to assist states in developing women's business advisory councils, coordinate summits and establish an interstate communication network.

The increase will also be used to assist Federal agencies meet the procurement goal for women-owned businesses established by Congress in 1994 under section 15(g) of the Small Business Act. By law, Federal agencies must strive to award women-owned small businesses at least 5 percent of the total amount of Federal prime contract dollars. The House and Senate Small Business Committees feel strongly that Federal agencies should meet the five-percent goal, and it supports the Council's plan to expand its efforts to increase the percentage of prime contracts that go to women-owned businesses. Based on current data, women are not receiving awards proportionate to their presence in the economy. For example, women-owned businesses make up 38 percent of all small businesses, yet women-owned businesses received only 2.42 percent of the \$189 billion in Federal prime contracts in FY 1999.

According to the National Foundation for Women Business Owners, over the past decade the number of women-owned businesses in this country has grown by 103 percent to an estimated 9.1 million firms. They generate almost \$3.6 trillion in sales annually and employ more than 27.5 million workers. With the impact of women-owned businesses on our economy increasing at an unprecedented rate, Congress relies on the Council to serve as its eyes and ears as it anticipates

the needs of this burgeoning entrepreneurial sector. Since it was established in 1988, the Council, which is bi-partisan, has provided important unbiased advice and counsel to Congress.

Title VII allows the Council to continue to perform its duties at the level it has done so far, as well as expand its activities to support initiatives that are creating the infrastructure for women's entrepreneurship at the state and local level.

TITLE VIII—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Title VIII contains several miscellaneous authorizations and programs.

Section 801. Loan Application Processing

This section requires a study of the time required for SBA to process loan applications.

Section 802. Application of Eligibility Requirements

This section clarifies that women-owned business, socially and economically disadvantaged business, and veteran owned business status is to be determined without regard for the possible application of state community property laws. Certain SBA offices have been denying loan applications based upon the possibility that qualified individuals may divorce resulting in joint ownership of the small business.

Section 803. Subcontracting Preference for Veterans

This clarifies that the language included in subcontracting plans for small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans and used for the purpose of data collection also includes small business concerns owned and controlled by service disabled veterans.

Section 804. Business Development Center Funding

This section reforms the formula for funding Small Business Development Centers.

Section 805. Surety Bonds

Reauthorizes the Surety Bond financing program.

Section 806. Size Standards

Clarifies the treatment of size standards under the North American Industry Classification system established by NAFTA. Also increases agricultural size standards to \$750,000 in gross annual receipts.

Section 807. Native Hawaiian Organizations under Section 8(a)

Clarifies the standards for participation of Native Hawaiian Organizations in the 8(a) contracting program.

Section 808. National Veterans Business Development Corporation Correction

Extends and corrects the authorization language for the NVBDC to correct for a missed appropriation cycle.

Section 809. Private Sector Resources for SCORE

Permits the SCORE program to solicit and expend funds donated by private sector organizations.

Section 810. Data Collection

This provision requires the SBA to develop a database of bundled contracts. The Administrator is then required to assess whether contracts whose terms have expired but will be recompeted as part of bundled contracts have achieved the savings or improvements in quality that the procuring agency anticipated when it initially consolidated the contract requirements. This analysis also will be used by the Administrator in determining the number of small businesses that have been displaced as prime contractors as a result of contract bundling. The provision requires the Administrator to report annually to the House and Senate Small Business

Committees on the cost savings from contract bundling and the number of small businesses displaced as prime contractors. The Administrator is required to use the definition of bundled contract set forth in section 3(o) of the Small Business Act to build the database and report to Congress.

The annual report of the Administrator of the Small Business Administration must contain data on the number of small businesses displaced as prime contractors, the number of contracts bundled by agencies, the total dollar value of the bundled contracts, the justification for each bundled contract, the total cost savings realized by the bundled contracts, the Small Business Administration's estimates of whether those total cost savings or other benefits will continue to be achieved under bundled contracts, the total dollar value of contracts previously awarded to small business prime contractors, the total dollar value of contracts awarded by the prime to small business subcontractors, the effect of bundling on the ability of small businesses to complete as prime contractors, and the effect on the industry including the reduction in the number of small businesses in the particular industrial classification.

Section 811. Procurement Program for Women-owned Small Business Concerns

Gives Federal agencies the authority to restrict competition for any contract for the procurement of goods or services by the Federal government to small businesses owned and controlled by women who are economically disadvantaged.

HONORING SENATOR SPENCER ABRAHAM

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize my good friend from the other body, Senator SPENCER ABRAHAM.

Senator ABRAHAM is a good American and a great Michigander. Over the years, I have gotten to know Senator ABRAHAM well and I can truly say his family has lived the American dream. His maternal grandfather came to America from Lebanon, began a new life in America as a peddler and eventually opened his own grocery store. His paternal grandfather was also a Lebanese immigrant who worked in the West Virginia coal mines before seeking a better life in Michigan as an autoworker and grocery store owner. SPENCE's dad was also an autoworker, and with his wife, owned a small shop in downtown Lansing.

As Michigan's U.S. Senator, SPENCER put the strong values he learned from his family into action. He worked hard and lived his dream. SPENCE was the first member of his family to attend college and went on to earn his law degree. Prior to serving as our Senator, SPENCER served as Michigan's Republican Chairman and in the Reagan Administration.

Since Senator ABRAHAM's election in 1994, I have had the distinct opportunity to work with him on a host of issues of importance both to the people of our state and the nation. And, his record speaks for itself. As a United States

Senator, he has truly been a workhorse—and it's paid off. Senator ABRAHAM is one of the few Members of the Senate that can say 16 bills he wrote have been signed into law.

One of the things I am most proud of is our work this past Congress to protect kids across America from the dangers of "date rape" drugs. By working together, we were able to write and pass a bill that outlaws the dangerous substance, GHB, and its close chemical cousins. This legislation was named in memory of Samantha Reid, a southeast Michigan teenager who died in 1999 after drinking from a can of Mountain Dew that was secretly laced with GHB.

I would personally like to thank Senator ABRAHAM for his assistance this past year to secure badly needed funds from Southwest Michigan's farmers whose crops had been devastated by firelight. By working together we were able to deliver much needed relief to these farmers.

Mr. Speaker, Senator SPENCER ABRAHAM has left a distinct mark on our nation. I submit my remarks into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to ensure that future generations have the opportunity to be inspired by the contributions of Senator SPENCER ABRAHAM of Michigan.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY RESCUE MISSION OF SAGINAW, MICHIGAN

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I pay tribute to the City Rescue Mission of Saginaw, Michigan. The dedicated support and dependable guidance of this organization has lifted the spirits of many homeless men, women and children for nearly a century.

Since 1905, the City Rescue Mission has stood as a beacon of hope for the homeless and economically disadvantaged throughout Saginaw County. The mission has a proud history of stepping up to the plate to move the less fortunate from dependency to self-sufficiency in a manner that respects individuals by providing them with the resources necessary for them to share in the fortunes of our society and ultimately to contribute back to our community.

The Rescue Mission's light still shines brightly as it continues to develop new and progressive methods to help the less fortunate find paths to success. Recently, the Mission opened the Frank N. Andersen Family Empowerment Center and enhanced its Literacy Education Center with a new computer lab and software programs to tutor users in math, information skills, writing, language arts and reading. As a result, many clients have been able to successfully complete General Education Development certificate requirements as a first step to full and meaningful employment.

Throughout the years, the City Rescue Mission has been blessed by an outpouring of volunteer help and financial assistance from community-minded benefactors who seek to share in caring for the needy and promoting economic and spiritual salvation. Clearly, the Mission is more effective today than at any other time in its long and honorable history.

Mr. Speaker, the City Rescue Mission of Saginaw has transformed for the better the

lives of those who cross its threshold and take part in its ministry. It is especially gratifying to have such an organization in Michigan's Fifth Congressional District. It is with great pride that I ask my colleagues to join me in offering a heartfelt thank-you to the Mission for a job well-done and wishing them many years of continued success on behalf of those in need.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERT K. REAVES, OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVANT AND CONSERVATION LEADER

HON. JOHN JOSEPH MOAKLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the leadership and outstanding public service of a member of our federal workforce.

After nearly 45 years of service, Robert K. Reaves will retire on January 3, 2001 from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service. In his role in public service, Bob set an example for everyone with a strong commitment to excellence, dedication to integrity, and an enthusiasm for conservation of natural resources.

Mr. Reaves was born and raised in the Washington, DC area and spent time in his youth working on his Uncle's tobacco farm in North Carolina. He attended George Washington University and received a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration.

In February of 1956 he began federal service with United States Geological Survey as a chemical technician in water quality. In May of 1969, Bob joined the United States Department of Agriculture's Research Service, as a program analyst. He served the Department in several capacities related to the budget development.

In 1981, Bob joined the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). For nearly two decades, Bob provided top-level expertise on conservation issues, including serving as the Budget Officer for NRCS. In 1997-98, Mr. Reaves was a key advisor in the USDA Civil Rights review and helped develop budget initiatives to support Civil Rights initiatives and several other key areas of Department Administration.

In his role with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, Mr. Reaves has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to public awareness of conservation issues, and has served as a source of expertise on national issues for executive branch and legislative branch officials alike. He is also a leading advocate for conservation funding, and has appeared before committees of this Congress on several occasions to support private lands conservation. The individual accomplishments of Mr. Reaves are many, but his years of service are a testament to his dedication, integrity and commitment to his work.

After 45 years of federal service, Bob will have a chance to share the fruits of retirement with his wife, Peggy and pursue hobbies including woodworking, and gardening. Although he will be missed by his colleagues at the Department and many friends here on Capitol Hill, we wish him the very best in his future pursuits. We thank him and salute him for a job well done and wish him well as he em-

barks upon new frontiers and endeavors that retirement will offer.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CASS BALLENGER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote 603 (H.R. 4577). Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4577, DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 15, 2000

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include the following statement in the record to accompany H.R. 5663, the New Markets Venture Capital Program Act of 2000, as enacted by the Conference Report to accompany H.R. 4577. This legislation was originally Title IX of H.R. 5545, as enacted through the conference report accompanying H.R. 2614. Unfortunately, H.R. 2614 did not gain approval in the Senate. However, we were able to save the provisions of H.R. 5545 in H.R. 5663 and H.R. 5667, which were enacted as part of the Conference Report for H.R. 4577, the Consolidated Appropriations Act.

The summary I am inserting is almost identical to the language of the conference report filed with H.R. 5545. The bill language has not changed and neither has the intent of the House and Senate Small Business Committees concerning the New Markets Venture Capital Program Act of 2000. I submit this statement as a Joint Statement of the House Managers in order to provide assistance to the Small Business Administration in implementing this law.

The purpose of H.R. 5663 the "New Markets Venture Capital Program Act of 2000," is to promote economic development, wealth and job opportunities in low income (LI) areas by encouraging venture capital investments and offering technical assistance to small enterprises. The central goal of the legislation is to fulfill the unmet equity investment needs of small enterprises primarily located in LI areas.

The bill creates a developmental venture capital program by amending the Small Business Investment Act to authorize the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to enter into participation agreements with 10 to 20 New Markets Venture Capital (NMVC) companies in a public/private partnership. It further authorizes SBA to guarantee debentures of NMVC companies to enable them to make venture capital investments in smaller enterprises in LI areas. And it authorizes SBA to make grants to NMVC companies, and to other entities, for the purpose of providing technical assistance to smaller enterprises that