state ought to play in the new system and whether or not the system should be privatized. Their great national debate is quite akin to the current prescription drug and Medicare debate in the U.S.

Clearly. Slovenia has made great strides in constructing a thriving democratic government, ready to meet the challenges and demands of the 21st century. It is very impressive that the Slovenian people and their duly elected government have accomplished all this in a mere 12 years. The values and principles upon which their nation has been founded are many of the same values and principles that we have come to cherish in our own Government and to champion throughout the world. We should embrace our Slovenian brothers and sisters and invite them into the NATO fold this November.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION DOUBLING ACT

Mr. ROCKEFELLER. Mr. President, I am delighted that Congress passed the National Science Foundation Doubling Act last week. I have been working for quite some time to increase basic research funding at the National Science Foundation. Passing this bill at such a critical time for our economy is extremely important, since investing in science and technology is one of the best ways to ensure long-term growth.

I am particularly pleased at the inclusion of two programs I authored, the Math and Science Partnership Program and the Robert Noyce Scholarship Program, that I separately proposed in freestanding legislation. Each program is an investment designed to strengthen and improve math and science education at elementary and secondary schools.

The Math and Science Partnership Program has strong bipartisan support, and President Bush requested and received funding in last year's appropriation bill to jump start this important program. The Math and Science Partnership program's inclusion in the reauthorization bill is important to provide both policy guidance and a longterm commitment to the program. This legislation provides increasing funding for math and science partnerships for five years, with a specific recommendation of \$900 million for the first 3 years

These grants will be awarded to universities, businesses, and State agencies to coordinate activities in math and science education for elementary

and secondary school students. For example, funding could be given to a university which is working with a local business to offer workshops to kindergarten through 12th grade teachers, giving them new ideas for teaching science and math classes. Since introducing this initiative, I have visited many West Virginia classrooms, and teachers are excited about the potential for this program. Teachers are eager to partner with engineers and scientists from business and academia to engage students in high quality science and math programs.

The Robert Noyce Scholarship Program will similarly take a big step toward improving math and science education in schools. By awarding college scholarships in exchange for a promise from leading college students to teach in disadvantaged elementary and secondary schools, this program is intended to attract the most motivated students into the teaching profession. This NSF bill provides funding for the Noyce program for 5 years, with a recommendation of \$60 million for the first 3 years.

Together, the Math and Science Partnership Program and the Noyce Scholarship Program will help the country in many ways. Promoting math and science education for our children is the most important investment we can make for the future of science and technology in the United States. I truly appreciate the bipartisan support for these incentives. I particularly want to acknowledge the extraordinary leadership of House Committee Science Chairman SHERWOOD BOEHLERT, who introduced the companion bill in the House and has been an ally for many years on science and education issues.

In addition to bolstering elementary and secondary math and science education, this bill also strives to stimulate scientific research throughout the country with the Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research, EPSCoR. This program targets States, like West Virginia, that have historically had low amounts of science and technology research, and uses a State's own science and technology resources to promote economic development.

Under EPSCoR, disadvantaged states still must develop competitive proposals that pass peer review standards at NSF, but states do get assistance to become competitive and develop their research capacity. It is essential to encourage many states to invest in re-

search. For many years, I have worked closely with the West Virginia EPSCoR program, and I am proud of its work. I know that this program has helped to leverage research and investment in our State. It has also helped to promote partnerships within our state universities and colleges, which is vital.

With this NSF bill, EPSCoR is a declared priority for NSF. Helping West Virginia and other states become competitive in first class research helps the individual States and our country as a whole.

Overall, the most important part of this legislation is the plan to double the NSF budget over the next 5 years, with the increases in the fourth and fifth year contingent on NSF meeting performance measures. This increase in funding will increase the length and amount of all research grants funded through NSF, giving researchers a better opportunity to conduct more indepth studies and concentrate on discovery rather than grant proposals.

These types of grants are essential to technological and scientific advancements, which are the engines for longterm economic prosperity. Indeed, realizing the vital role that NSF plays in the economy's long-term health, some have called for a tripling of the NSF budget. Many of the discoveries currently occurring in other fields, including health care, are linked to the basic research in math, computing, and science that is supported by the NSF. By seeking to increase the agency's budget, the Congress has helped to ensure that the United States remains the world's leader in science and technology research and development.

Once again, I am proud that Congress has passed this valuable, bipartisan legislation, and I look forward to its approval by President Bush.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY PROGRAM PROTECTION ACT OF 2002

Mr. BAUCUS. As I promised when I spoke yesterday during floor action on the Social Security Protection Act of 2002-H.R. 4070, as amended-I am now submitting an unofficial cost estimate from the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office for that bill.

I ask unanimous consent that it be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

PRELIMINARY CBO ESTIMATE OF THE BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF H.R. 4070, THE SOCIAL SECURITY PROTECTION ACT OF 2002 [* * * Preliminary and Unofficial * * * (Tentative conference)]

5-yr. 2003–07 10-yr. 2003-12 2004 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2003 2005 DIRECT SPENDING AND REVENUES Title I. Protection of beneficiaries Authority to reissue benefits misused by certain organizations serving as representative payees Social Security benefits (off-budget) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) Supplemental Security Income benefits Title II. Program protections Authority to impose civil monetary penaties: Revenues (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) (*) PRELIMINARY CBO ESTIMATE OF THE BUDGETARY EFFECTS OF H.R. 4070, THE SOCIAL SECURITY PROTECTION ACT OF 2002—Continued

[* * * Preliminary and Unofficial * * * (Tentative conference)]

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	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	5-yr. 2003–07	10-yr. 2003-12
Denial of Title II benefits to fugitive felons and persons fleeing prosecution: Social Security benefits (off-budget) Medicare Title III. Attorney fee payment system improvements	-2	-28 -7	-42 -12	- 53 - 17	- 57 - 21	- 59 - 24	- 62 - 25	-64 -26	- 66 - 28	- 68 - 29	- 182 - 57	- 501 - 189
\$75 cap (indexed) on attorney assessments in Title III: Proprietary receipts (off-budget) a	5	23	24	25	27	28	30	32	31	33	104	258
Title IV. Miscellaneous and technical amendments												
Application of waiver authority to demonstration projects initiated before sunset date: Social security benefits (off-budget)				(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
Funding of \$1-for-\$2 demonstration projects: Social Security benefits (off-budget)	(*) -1	(*) -1	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*) - 2	(*) -2
barred from divorcing institutionalized spouse: Social Security benefits (off-budget)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)	(*)
Social Security revenues (off-budget) Other revenues (on-budget) Social Security benefits (off-budget)	(*)	1 (*) (*)	2 (*) (*)	2 (*) (*)	2 (*) (*)	3 (*) (*)	3 (*) (*)	4 (*) (*)	4 (*) (*)	5 (*) 1	8 (*)	27 (*) 1
60-month employment requirement for exemption from Government Pension Offset: Social Security benefits (off-budget) Total, direct spending and revenues (effect on deficit)	0	0 13	$-1 \\ -33$	-2 -49	-4 -57	-8 -66	- 15 - 75	- 26 - 88	- 49 116	- 80 - 147	-7 -147	- 185 - 639
On-budget Off-budget	2 3	-6 -7	$-12 \\ -21$	- 17 - 32	- 21 - 36	- 24 - 42	- 25 - 50	- 26 - 62	-28 -88	- 29 - 118	- 64 - 93	- 186 - 453
SPENDING S	UBJECT TO) APPROPR	IATION									
Limitation on administrative expenses, Social Security Authorization	8	6	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	6	27	51

Assumed enactment date: December 2002. Based on draft language dated November 18, 2002 (1:45 p.m.). Estimates are subject to further review by CBO and JCT. * = Less than \$500,000.

AN EMBARRASSING COP-OUT

Mr. KERRY. Mr. President, the Senate should be embarrassed at what we are about to do. It is amazing to me, with the country facing so many important challenges, and a slow economy to boot, that the Senate would consider adjourning for the year without passing the spending bills to fund Government for the next 11 months. We are putting off until January decisions that should have been made months ago—and as a result, many Government agencies at the Federal. State, and local levels will not see the additional money they have been promised until next spring. That is halfway through the fiscal year.

Let's be clear about what is happening. The Federal Government will spend nearly \$2 trillion this year. Yet we have not passed the appropriations bills because the administration objects to \$9 billion in spending. We are about to pass a continuing resolution that runs through mid-January because the President objects to \$9 billion—less than one-half of 1 percent of Federal spending. And his own party supports much of that spending.

I ask my Republican friends, do they think it will be much easier next year to push through significant spending cuts? Of course not. When offered the opportunity to vote no on spending bills, my Republican friends generally don't. We as Democrats must begin to blow a hole in this ridiculous myth that somehow Republicans don't like spending. They like spending just fine. They may claim to be for smaller government and lower spending, yet Republicans in the Senate have supported appropriations bills more than 85 percent of the time since they first took control in 1995. More and more, the differences between the parties are not over major spending decisions, because almost everyone here votes for all the spending.

The main difference between the parties is that Democrats want to pay for the spending, while Republicans are content to borrow from our children to pay for it. Today's GOP believes in the "free lunch" that we were all taught didn't exist. Future generations will suffer as a result.

What does a long-term CR actually mean for the American people? To start, a long-term CR would undermine the war on terror by denying nearly \$40 billion in additional homeland security funds requested by the President. It would delay billions of dollars in planned increases to ramp up the Coast Guard and the Customs Service, hire hundreds of Border Patrol agents, bolster State and local antiterrorism programs, and step up other domestic security programs. The 11,000 FBI agents who are supposed to be combating the war on terrorism will have to wonder whether they have the necessary resources to fight that war. Many of the requirements of the Transportation Security Act require large expenditures, such as explosive detection equipment at airports—but the money won't be there. The Customs Service will have to defer the scheduled hiring of more than 600 agents and inspectors to serve at the Nation's high-risk land and sea points of entry. The President's budget promised \$3.5 billion in new money to 'first responders.'' but those essential funds for emergency workers have not been approved. Thousands of emergency grants for fire departments, communications equipment, emergency operations centers, you name it—these items cannot be funded at fiscal year 2002 levels.

Or take education. The National Conference of State Legislatures has announced that States face a cumulative \$58 billion budget deficit. Many States are already cutting public education funding, and many others are poised to do so—making inaction by the Federal Government extremely costly to our

kids. Passing a long-term CR will delay increases in funding for critically important education programs such as the title I program and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, making it difficult for school districts to plan their budgets for the upcoming school year. The President's budget promised \$3.5 billion in new money to "first responders," but that money for emergency workers hasn't been approved.

Here is what's fascinating. Not a single Republican Senator up for election said they were for less education spending. They all talked about education as a top priority and voiced their support for the No Child Left Behind Act we passed last year. But who are they kidding? Public schools trying to implement the changes required by the law need more funding. For the GOP to support the law that authorizes the spending, but then object to the spending itself, is the height of hypocrisy.

Or take veterans programs, or Federal research spending. If a long-term CR is approved, it would shortchange veterans by funding Veterans Administration medical care at \$2.5 billion less than what is needed to meet their needs. The 4-million veterans who rely on the VA for their health care will have to worry if that care will be available to them. And the Director of the National Institutes of Health has said that he might have to scale back bioterrorism research grants.

Now, we aren't living in a vacuum here. Like many others, I would like to find ways to slow the growth in Federal spending, and I have several ideas for doing so. But this year, the differences are so small relative to the budget that inaction is simply unnacceptable.

And here is what's worse. The Republicans, who exhort us to be mindful of how we are spending "the people's

^{^ =} Less than \$500,000.

"Under current law, the Social Security Administration approves and pays attorney fees to successful Title II claimants and retains 6.3 percent to cover its processing costs. CBO expects receipts from that fee (which are recorded as negative outlays) to climb gradually from \$30 million in 2002 to \$55 million in 2012. Thus, a reduction in those receipts is depicted as a positive outlay.

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