

during peacetime. For example, during the California energy crisis, former President Clinton authorized the U.S. Energy Secretary to use the act to compel a continuing supply of natural gas to Pacific Gas & Electric.

Mr. Speaker, the United States is currently fighting wars on two fronts—rebuilding from the damages caused by Hurricane Ike and, regrettably, still rebuilding from Hurricane Katrina. The DPA is a key component of our national security and civil emergency readiness, and we cannot let the act lapse.

I know that some of my colleagues have questions about how the act has been used, if at all, by the current administration during civil emergencies. I share these concerns, but I believe these oversight issues would be best addressed in the next Congress.

Next year, the Financial Services Committee will conduct a comprehensive review of the DPA, specifically looking at proposals to increase the amounts authorized in title III of the act. The 1-year extension will give the committee time to do its work in a thoughtful, bipartisan manner, and I urge the bill's passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6894, the Defense Production Act Extension and Reauthorization of 2008.

In 1950, at the outset of the Korean war and at the behest of President Truman, Congress acted to give the President the ability to meet a specific national security need should we have a shortfall in supplies.

The ability of this Nation to call on private industry to meet the demands of securing a nation are just as prominent today as they were over a half century ago when Congress first enacted this law. In an uncertain world where we face constantly changing threats and remain vulnerable to national disaster, the ability of military and civilian agencies to be given priority service to aid the American people is paramount.

Today, with American soldiers fighting so courageously abroad, we have the same imperative: they must have the resources and equipment they need when they need them.

Similarly, this country has seen the toll natural disasters can take on the Nation. Within the last weeks alone, we have seen Hurricanes Gustav, Hanna and Ike bring destruction to this Nation's shores. Responding to the needs of the families affected should be a priority, and this legislation reauthorizes the President's ability to effectively respond to those needs with priority purchases of supplies, be they water or equipment, to repair damaged railroad switches.

The authorities in this act are too important to be allowed to expire for any amount of time. Yet, Mr. Speaker, without the Congress acting today, these authorities will expire on September 30. The legislation before us

would reauthorize the Defense Production Act in its current form, for 1 year, with no other changes to the DPA's powers. This 1-year extension will continue these authorities while providing the Congress a window to consider any need for updating this act. A recently issued GAO report on the authorities, as well as volumes of other information, will ensure engagement in an important dialogue on how to improve on this authority's taking place. Passing this law today ensures that that debate takes place without the impending pressure of adjournment.

I hope, Mr. Speaker, that we can undertake any needed updates of the act at the beginning of the first session of the next Congress and then extend the authorization for multiple years at that point so that these important authorities remain available to protect America, Americans and American interests, uninterrupted.

In closing, I would like to thank Chairman LUIS GUTIERREZ and full committee Chairman BARNEY FRANK for authoring this bipartisan legislation. Because of their leadership on this issue, Congress has before it today a bill to ensure the American people and their security interests are well served. With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge the passage of H.R. 6894.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTIERREZ. I would ask the gentlelady if there are any requests for time on her side.

Mrs. CAPITO. I have no further speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ALTMIRE). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. GUTIERREZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6894.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES GIFT OF LIFE MEDAL ACT OF 2008

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6950) to establish the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal for organ donors and the family of organ donors.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6950

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDINGS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal Act of 2008".

(b) FINDINGS.—The Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones was dedicated to eliminating health disparities and protecting vulnerable populations.

(2) Through her service on the Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Health, she was a strong voice for those who were poor, elderly, racial and ethnic minorities, and disenfranchised.

(3) Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones' concern for others was demonstrated by the decision to donate her organs, so that as her life ended, the lives of others continued.

(4) There are currently 99,625 candidates for organ donation on the national transplant waiting list. Every 16 minutes, a new name is added to such list. Sixteen persons die each day waiting for a life saving organ transplant.

(5) Minority populations account for nearly 50 percent of those on the national transplant waiting list.

(6) Diseases that can lead to organ failure, such as hypertension and diabetes, are found more frequently in ethnic minority populations than in the general population.

(7) While minorities donate organs in proportion to their population, the rate of organ donations fails to keep pace with the need for transplants in the population. African-Americans, for example, represent about 13 percent of the population and 12 percent of organ donors, but comprise roughly 23 percent of individuals on national transplant waiting list for kidney transplants.

(8) Transplantation success rates are higher when organs are matched between people sharing the same racial and ethnic background.

(9) Because of the disparities in the need for organs, minorities are more likely to wait longer to find a successful match and are more likely to be sicker when an organ is found.

(10) An increase in minority organ donations would decrease the waiting time and increase the likelihood of successful transplantations for minorities.

SEC. 2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES GIFT OF LIFE MEDAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of this section and the availability of funds under this Act, any organ donor, or the family of any organ donor, shall be eligible for a Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal (hereafter in this Act referred to as a "medal").

(b) DOCUMENTATION.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall direct the entity operating the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network to—

(1) establish an application procedure requiring the relevant organ procurement organization through which an individual or family of the individual made an organ donation, to submit to such entity documentation supporting the eligibility of the individual or the family, respectively, to receive a medal;

(2) determine through the documentation provided and, if necessary, independent investigation whether the individual or family, respectively, is eligible to receive such a medal; and

(3) arrange for the presentation to the relevant organ procurement organization all medals struck pursuant to section 4 to individuals or families that are determined to be eligible to receive medals.

(c) LIMITATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), only 1 medal may be presented to a family under subsection (b). Such medal shall be presented to the donating family member, or in the case of a deceased donor, the family member who signed the consent form authorizing, or who otherwise authorized, the donation of the organ involved.

(2) EXCEPTION.—In the case of a family in which more than 1 member is an organ donor, a medal may be presented for each such organ donor.

SEC. 3. SOLICITATION OF DONATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network may collect funds to offset expenditures relating to the issuance of medals authorized under this Act.

(b) PAYMENT OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), all funds received by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network under subsection (a) shall be promptly paid by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for purposes of purchasing medals under this Act for distribution.

(2) LIMITATION.—Not more than 7 percent of any funds received under subsection (a) may be used to pay administrative costs, and fundraising costs to solicit funds under subsection (a), incurred by the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network in carrying out this Act.

SEC. 4. DESIGN AND PRODUCTION OF MEDAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the provisions of this section, the Secretary of the Treasury shall design and strike the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medals, each of which shall—

- (1) weigh 250 grams;
- (2) have a diameter of 3 inches; and
- (3) consist of bronze.

(b) DESIGN.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The design of the medals shall commemorate the compassion and courage manifested by and the sacrifices made by organ donors and their families, and the medals shall bear suitable emblems, devices, and inscriptions.

(2) SELECTION.—The design of medals struck under this section shall be—

(A) selected by the Secretary of the Treasury, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, interested members of the family of Stephanie Tubbs Jones, Dr. William H. Frist, and the Commission of Fine Arts; and

(B) reviewed by the Citizens Coin Advisory Committee.

(c) NATIONAL MEDALS.—The medals struck pursuant to this section are national medals for purposes of chapter 51 of title 31, United States Code.

(d) STRIKING AND DELIVERY OF MINIMUM-SIZED LOTS.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall strike and deliver to the Secretary of Health and Human Services no fewer than 100 medals at any time pursuant to an order by such Secretary.

(e) COST OF MEDALS.—Medals struck under this section and sold to the Secretary of Health and Human Services for distribution in accordance with this Act shall be sold to the Secretary of Health and Human Services at a price sufficient to cover the cost of designing and striking the medals, including labor, materials, dies, use of machinery, and overhead expenses.

(f) NO EXPENDITURES IN ADVANCE OF RECEIPT OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of the Treasury shall not strike or distribute any medals under this Act until such time as the Secretary of Health and Human Services certifies that sufficient funds have been received by such Secretary to cover the cost of the medals ordered.

(2) DESIGN IN ADVANCE OF ORDER.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary of the Treasury may begin designing the medal at any time after the date of the enactment of this Act and take such other action as may

be necessary to be prepared to strike such medals upon receiving the certification described in such paragraph, including preparing dies and striking test pieces.

SEC. 5. MEDALS NOT TREATED AS VALUABLE CONSIDERATION.

A medal under this Act shall not be treated as valuable consideration for purposes of section 301(a) of the National Organ Transplant Act (42 U.S.C. 274e(a)).

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) ORGAN.—The term “organ” has the meaning given such term in section 121.2 of title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, as in effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) ORGAN PROCUREMENT ORGANIZATION.—The term “organ procurement organization” means a qualified organ procurement organization described in section 371(b)(1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 273(b)(1)).

(3) ORGAN PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPLANTATION NETWORK.—The term “Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network” means the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network established under section 372 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 274).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) and the gentlewoman from West Virginia (Mrs. CAPITO) will each control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 6950.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is with great humility and respect that I present for favorable consideration H.R. 6950, the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal Act of 2008.

Our friend, our respected colleague, Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones, worked tirelessly for her district, for her community and for people who are underrepresented. As a constant advocate for justice and peace, as a very proud member of the Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health, she was a fervent supporter and leader of efforts to reduce health disparities in our Nation.

This legislation directs the Treasury Department to design and produce a commemorative medal that the Department of Health and Human Services will award to organ donors or to a surviving family member, which is especially fitting to be named in honor of Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones for a couple of reasons:

Organ donation is an area where dramatic health disparities still exist. She, herself, was an organ donor, and over 50 beneficiaries have benefited from her gift of life.

The number of Americans affected by shortages of suitable organs for dona-

tion is considerable. Nearly 100,000 people are currently waiting for organ transplants, and nearly 2,000 of these are children under 18. The national waiting list grows substantially every year. Since the waiting list began, over 80,000 donation-eligible Americans have died while waiting for an organ to become available. In 2007 alone, over 6,500 people died for lack of a suitable organ.

The men and women who elect to become organ donors are heroes and heroes just like our friend and colleague. They have the opportunity to give the gift of life to thousands of Americans who are suffering from debilitating and lethal diseases.

While the gift of a donor is priceless, the enactment of this bill would have no cost to the Federal Government as funding for the medals would come from charitable donations.

I would reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6950, the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal Act of 2008.

As everyone in this Chamber knows, the late Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones was a wonderful woman and was a tireless public servant. She sought to use her time each day to serve the people of her district and of this Nation, and the extraordinary generosity she exhibited in so many of her actions proves to be one of her lasting legacies. She was also a very joyful woman, and she brought much joy to all of those who were fortunate enough to know her. I include myself in that group.

However, nowhere have her selfless nature and leadership qualities been more apparent than in her decision to be an organ donor. Her untimely death was a tragedy, but because of her decision, others will be fortunate to enjoy the gift of life.

Currently, there are close to 100,000 individuals on the national transplant waiting list. Each hour, this number increases, adding a new name approximately every 16 minutes. Yet, despite how sobering this statistic is and the even harsher statistic that my colleague mentioned, more sobering is the number of people who die while waiting for a life-saving organ transplant. This number is 16 people per day. Understanding that reality, Representative Tubbs Jones did what she always did. She volunteered to give to those in need.

This legislation honors her actions. The bill before us today would establish a Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal, and it would make any organ donor or family of the organ donor eligible to receive the honor. The legislation empowers the Secretary of Health and Human Services to direct the Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network to establish an application and assessment process for donors in order to receive the award.

By agreeing to this legislation, this Congress honors the actions of Representative Tubbs Jones and the actions of so many others who sought to give what they could to those in need. This is an important action, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, many thanks are due to Representative PETE STARK, the chairman of the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, who quickly organized this bill in honor of our colleague.

Also, many thanks go to former Senate majority leader and transplant surgeon Bill Frist for whom this bill was named in an earlier version in this Congress. Now, while in the Senate, Dr. Frist worked hard on behalf of organ donors and their families. He supported renaming the bill for Representative Tubbs Jones. Earlier versions of this bill have been endorsed by the Association of Organ Procurement Organizations, by the American Society of Transplantation, by the American Association of Transplant Surgeons, by the National Kidney Foundation, by the American Association of Kidney Patients, by the Organization of Transplant Professionals, and by the Transplant Recipients International Organization.

I strongly urge passage of this bill.

I would ask the lady if she has any further speakers.

Mrs. CAPITO. I have no further speakers.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of the "Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal Act of 2008," and to thank the many colleagues and friends of Stephanie's who joined together to bring this bill to the floor.

Stephanie's life ended as she lived it; by exemplifying concern for the welfare of others. She donated her organs in the waning hours of her life so that the lives of others could continue. In that spirit, this bill creates a commemorative medal for organ donors and their families, recognizing the brave and selfless act of organ donation.

The need for organ donation is critical. Since the national transplant waiting list began, more than 80,000 donation-eligible Americans have died waiting for an organ to become available; in 2007 alone, more than 6,500 people died for lack of a suitable organ.

As an active member of the Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, Stephanie worked tirelessly to remedy health disparities in our nation. Organ donation is one area where dramatic health disparities exist, which makes this all the more of a fitting tribute.

While minorities donate organs in proportion to their population, the rate of organ donations fails to keep pace with the need for transplants in the population. Minority populations account for close to 50% of the people who are currently waiting for organ transplants.

I'd like to take a moment to recognize the help of former Senate Majority Leader and transplant surgeon Dr. Bill Frist, for whom this bill was named for when it was introduced earlier this year. Dr. Frist is a tireless advocate of

organ donors and their families, and worked on behalf of the Gift of Life Medal Act. I appreciate his graciousness in expressing his strong support for renaming the bill, and I would ask the Chair to have Dr. Frist's letter of support inserted into the RECORD.

I ask my colleagues to help bring an end to transplant waiting lists and recognize the enormous courage displayed by organ donors and their families. This bill honors these brave acts, while publicizing the critical need for increased organ donation, and pays tribute to the selflessness and memory of our colleague. Stephanie's dedication to improving health care should be permanently recognized. I urge passage of the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal Act.

NASHVILLE, TN, September 15, 2008.

Hon. Pete Stark,

Chairman, Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, Longworth House Office Building, Washington, DC.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,

Ranking Member, Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN STARK AND RANKING MEMBER CAMP: Thank you for your leadership on the Gift of Life Congressional Medal.

Like you, I am truly inspired by those that donate their organs. I can think of no act that is more honorable or selfless, and it is befitting of Congress to pass this act to recognize these outstanding individuals and their families. I was pleased to sponsor this legislation in the Senate.

It is also extremely fitting to name this legislation in honor of the late Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones. A tireless advocate for those in need, she cemented her legacy by donating her organs and tissue, which will help over 50 individuals. Her act, and the thousands that have come before it, must be recognized.

Each year, there are nearly 14,000 organs that are donated. As a transplant surgeon, I have seen first hand how lives are transformed through these miraculous gifts. For me, it is a privilege to be part of the transplantation process. I am continually amazed at the advances in technology that make transplants more successful every year.

While advances are being made, there are still too few donors—nearly 100,000 people are waiting on national transplant lists. To encourage more donors, we should make every effort to recognize those that make this life-saving decision. I believe creating a Gift of Life Congressional medal is critically important to increasing awareness on this issue.

Again, please accept my sincere appreciation for your work and strong support for naming the Gift of Life Congressional Medal Act in honor of Congresswoman Stephanie Tubbs Jones. It is a fitting tribute for such an outstanding and committed woman.

Sincerely,

DR. WILLIAM H. FRIST.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I speak today on a very close subject to my heart, House Resolution 6950, a bill to establish the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Gift of Life Medal for organ donors and the family of organ donors. Congresswoman Tubbs Jones was a rare breed of person who not only talked the talk, but walked the walk.

Tragedy struck Congress a few weeks ago when Congresswoman Tubbs Jones was taken from us. This brought attention to an issue of vital importance to her and the Nation. Organ transplantation is the greatest gift a person can give. While a majority of them happen while both the donor and the recipient

are alive, a large number happen after death. Unfortunately these organs, such as the heart, lung, liver, and kidney, among others, are very hard to come by. In the Congresswoman's home State, only 53 percent of the population was a registered organ donor. This is a good start but we must go further.

When a loved one dies, it is never a happy moment; experiences like this always bring sadness and sorrow. When that loved one's death can serve as a beacon of hope for another, it does not lessen the sadness; it allows the family to have a good, if small, memory of the loss of their loved one. When Congresswoman Tubbs Jones passed away, we were all deeply saddened but I think I can speak for more than a few of my fellow Members of Congress when I express the joy and pride I felt when I learned that after years of advocating for organ transplantation, Congresswoman Tubbs Jones left all of her vital organs to those in need.

Organ transplantation needs to increase in this country. With currently over 100,000 people on the transplant list waiting for organs, we can not afford to wait to act any longer. Currently, African Americans make up about 12 percent of the Nation's population and about 12 percent of the patients who donate. However, of all the patients requiring a transplant, 23 percent of them are African American. This disparity is a growing epidemic and must be resolved.

This bill will do three wonderful things and help the cause that the Congresswoman fought for in all her years serving Ohio. One, it will honor the life of an unwavering advocate of transplant. Naming the medal after her will show all those who come later, that this was a woman deep with passion about this important issue. It will shine a light on a life that helped shine a light on others.

Second, this bill will honor those, who like the Congresswoman, have showed their true patriotism to their fellow man or woman and shared with them the greatest gift. These medals are a way that the Federal Government, on behalf of its people, to begin to thank Americans who commit themselves to being organ donors.

Lastly this bill will help raise awareness for minority health issues. It was found that African Americans make up a disproportional number of patients requiring transplants and that they wait, on average, longer to receive an organ. When they do finally receive this opportunity, they are sicker and the success rate is not what it could be. We can, and must, do more.

Mr. Speaker, we can do something to help the millions of men and women around the world waiting for organ transplants. We should also move quickly to honor those who have already given the greatest gift there is. As Albert Einstein once said, "Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile" and no one exemplified this better than Stephanie Tubbs Jones. I urge my colleagues to pass this bill to honor her.

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 6950.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY ACT OF 2007

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3018) to provide for payment of an administrative fee to public housing agencies to cover the costs of administering family self-sufficiency programs in connection with the housing choice voucher program of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3018

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Family Self-Sufficiency Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. ADMINISTRATIVE FEES FOR FAMILY SELF-SUFFICIENCY PROGRAM COSTS.

Subsection (h) of section 23 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437u(h)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following new paragraph:

"(1) SECTION 8 FEES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a fee under section 8(q) for the costs incurred in administering the self-sufficiency program under this section to assist families receiving voucher assistance through section 8(o).

"(B) ELIGIBILITY FOR FEE.—The fee shall provide funding for family self-sufficiency coordinators as follows:

"(i) BASE FEE.—A public housing agency serving 25 or more participants in the family self-sufficiency program under this section shall receive a fee equal to the costs of employing one full-time family self-sufficiency coordinator. An agency serving fewer than 25 such participants shall receive a prorated fee.

"(ii) ADDITIONAL FEE.—An agency that meets minimum performance standards shall receive an additional fee sufficient to cover the costs of employing a second family self-sufficiency coordinator if the agency has 75 or more participating families, and a third such coordinator if it has 125 or more participating families.

"(iii) PREVIOUSLY FUNDED AGENCIES.—An agency that received funding from the Department of Housing and Urban Development for more than three such coordinators in any of fiscal years 1998 through 2007 shall receive funding for the highest number of coordinators funded in a single fiscal year during that period, provided they meet applicable size and performance standards.

"(iv) INITIAL YEAR.—For the first year in which a public housing agency exercises its

right to develop an family self-sufficiency program for its residents, it shall be entitled to funding to cover the costs of up to one family self-sufficiency coordinator, based on the size specified in its action plan for such program.

"(v) STATE AND REGIONAL AGENCIES.—For purposes of calculating the family self-sufficiency portion of the administrative fee under this subparagraph, each administratively distinct part of a State or regional public housing agency shall be treated as a separate agency.

"(vi) DETERMINATION OF NUMBER OF COORDINATORS.—In determining whether a public housing agency meets a specific threshold for funding pursuant to this paragraph, the number of participants being served by the agency in its family self-sufficiency program shall be considered to be the average number of families enrolled in such agency's program during the course of the most recent fiscal year for which the Department of Housing and Urban Development has data.

"(C) PRORATION.—If insufficient funds are available in any fiscal year to fund all of the coordinators authorized under this section, the first priority shall be given to funding one coordinator at each agency with an existing family self-sufficiency program. The remaining funds shall be prorated based on the number of remaining coordinators to which each agency is entitled under this subparagraph.

"(D) RECAPTURE.—Any fees allocated under this subparagraph by the Secretary in a fiscal year that have not been spent by the end of the subsequent fiscal year shall be recaptured by the Secretary and shall be available for providing additional fees pursuant to subparagraph (B)(ii).

"(E) PERFORMANCE STANDARDS.—Within six months after the date of the enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall publish a proposed rule specifying the performance standards applicable to funding under clauses (i) and (iii) of subparagraph (B). Such standards shall include requirements applicable to the leveraging of in-kind services and other resources to support the goals of the family self-sufficiency program.

"(F) DATA COLLECTION.—Public housing agencies receiving funding under this paragraph shall collect and report to the Secretary, in such manner as the Secretary shall require, information on the performance of their family self-sufficiency programs.

"(G) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall conduct a formal and scientific evaluation of the effectiveness of well-run family self-sufficiency programs, using random assignment of participants to the extent practicable. Not later than the expiration of the 4-year period beginning upon the enactment of this paragraph, the Secretary shall submit an interim evaluation report to the Congress. Not later than the expiration of the 8-year period beginning upon such enactment, the Secretary shall submit a final evaluation report to the Congress. There is authorized to be appropriated \$10,000,000 to carry out the evaluation under this subparagraph.

"(H) INCENTIVES FOR INNOVATION AND HIGH PERFORMANCE.—The Secretary may reserve up to 10 percent of the amounts made available for administrative fees under this paragraph to provide support to or reward family self-sufficiency programs that are particularly innovative or highly successful in achieving the goals of the program."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. MOORE) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) will each control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Wisconsin.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous materials on H.R. 3018.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Wisconsin?

There was no objection.

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I enthusiastically endorse for favorable consideration this bill authored by Mrs. JUDY BIGGERT. This, Mr. Speaker, is much needed legislation to enhance and to improve a program that assists families who hold a section 8 housing voucher with the goal of leading to economic independence.

Under the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, public housing agencies work with welfare agencies, schools and businesses to develop a program that gives participating Family Self-Sufficiency families the skills and experiences necessary for them to obtain employment that pays a living wage.

Now, this is not an expensive program. In my State of Wisconsin, for example, eight public housing authorities have successfully competed for Family Self-Sufficiency Programs with awards ranging from \$34,000 up to only \$47,000.

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But while it is expensive, it's inexpensive. It is very successful.

While my home public housing authorities in Milwaukee do not anticipate the section 8 family self-sufficiency programs, they do have a public housing family self-sufficiency program in its second year, which is very similar to the section 8 self-sufficiency program.

They have linked in really creative way to a "Make Your Money Talk" program. It's a wealth-building program that is partnered with the Wisconsin Women's Business Initiative Corporation, and they have 39 families enrolled.

Based on prior outcomes, participants have used their savings generated from family self-sufficiency to start a business or purchase a home. One resident in particular, a resident of the Westlawn housing development, has started her own cleaning business that has become quite successful.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I thank the gentlelady for her comments, and I would yield myself time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as the author of H.R. 3018, the Family Self-Sufficiency Act, I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this important legislation.

First, let me thank Congresswoman WATERS for working with me to include the language of this bill in the section