

OBJECTIONABLE PROVISIONS CONTAINED IN THE CONFERENCE REPORT

FOR H.R. 3064, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, THE DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS BILL FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2000

November 2, 1999

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Language indicating that the Legalization of Marijuana for Medical treatment Initiative of 1998, also known as Initiative 59, approved by the electors of the District of Columbia on November 3, 1998, shall not take effect.

Language mandating a study by the General Accounting Office (GAO) of the District's criminal justice system. It would be a comprehensive study of all components of the criminal justice system including law enforcement, courts, corrections, probation, and parole. The report would include recommendations for improving the performance of the overall system as well as the individual agencies and programs.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment and Training Administration

Earmark of \$1,500,000 under authority of section 171(d) of the Workforce Investment Act for use by the Organizing Committee for the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Alaska to promote employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities and other staffing needs.

Earmark of \$5,000,000 for carrying out section 166(j)(1) of the Workforce Investment Act, including the provision of assistance to American Samoans who reside in Hawaii for the co-location of federally funded and State-funded workforce investment activities.

Language expecting the Department to make every effort to be flexible in the use of worker training funds for reactivated shipyards such as those in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Quincy, Massachusetts.

Language encouraging the Department to use national emergency grants under the dislocated workers program to supplement available resources for (1) worker training needs at reactivated shipyards that have experienced large-scale worker dislocation, (2) continuing training to utilize the workplace as site for learning, (3) supporting training for American workers at state-of-the-art foreign shipyards, and (4) continuing upgrading of workers skills to increase employability and job retention.

Earmark of \$5,000,000 for Job Corps for the purpose of constructing or rehabilitating facilities on some Job Corps campuses to co-locate Head Start programs to serve Job Corps students and their children.

Language encouraging the Labor Department to continue and provide technical assistance to the Role Models America Academy Demonstration Program.

Language authorizing the use of funds under the dislocated workers program for projects that provide assistance to new entrants in the workforce and incumbent workers. Also language modified to waive a 10 percent limitation in the Workforce Investment Act with respect to the use of discretionary funds to carry out demonstration and pilot projects, multiservice projects and multistate projects with regard to dislocated workers and to waive certain other provisions in that Act.

Earmarks of amounts for the following projects and activities:

Dislocated workers

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the York Skill Center, York, Pennsylvania.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for development of a new model for high-tech workforce development at San Diego State University.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Central Indiana Technology Training Center at Ball State University.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Clayton College and State University in Georgia for a virtual education and training project to improve military-to-civilian employment transition.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for a dislocated farmer retraining project at the University of Idaho.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Chipola Junior College in Florida to retrain dislocated workers.

Earmark of \$500,000 for the State of New Mexico for rural employment in telecommunications.

Earmark of \$500,000 for the Puget Sound Center for Technology to help alleviate the shortage of information technology workers in the Puget Sound Region.

Earmark of \$400,000 for the Philadelphia Area Accelerated Manufacturing Education, Inc.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for the Pennsylvania training consortium.

Earmark of \$600,000 for the Lehigh University integrated product development.

Earmark of \$2,500,000 to train foreign workers, including Russians in oil field management in Alaska.

Pilots and demonstrations

Earmark of \$800,000 for the Center for Workforce Preparation at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Green Thumb for replication in rural areas of a project to train disadvantaged individuals for jobs in the information technology industry.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Focus:HOPE in Detroit for information technology training.

Earmark of \$300,000 for the Bowling Green, Kentucky Housing Authority for workforce preparation and training for low-income youth and adults.

Earmark of \$400,000 for the Collegiate Consortium for Workforce and Economic Development.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for the Springfield Workforce Development Center in Springfield, Vermont for a model regional workforce development.

Earmark of \$200,000 for the Northlands Job Corps Center in Vergennes, Vermont for a center child care project.

Earmark of \$170,000 for the Greater Burlington Industrial Corporation in Burlington, Vermont for a model pre-employment counseling program.

Earmark of \$100,000 for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Labor and Industry, to study the financial impact of professional employer arrangements on the Unemployment Compensation Fund.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Lorain County Community College for a workforce development project.

Earmark of \$800,000 for Jobs for America's Graduates.

Earmark of \$2,500,000 for Alaska Works in Fairbanks, Alaska for construction job training.

Earmark of \$2,500,000 for Hutchinson Career Center in Fairbanks, Alaska to upgrade equipment to provide vocational training.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for training Alaska Native and local low income youth as cultural tour guides and in museum operations for the Alaska Native Heritage Center, Bishop Museum in Hawaii, and Peabody-Essex Museum in Massachusetts.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for the University of Missouri-St. Louis for the design and implementation of the Regional Center for Education and Work.

Earmark of \$400,000 for the Vermont Technical College for a Technology Training Initiative.

Earmark of \$150,000 for the Nebraska Urban League for a welfare-to-work pilot project.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Des Moines Community College for SMART Partners, a public-private partnership which guarantees full-time employment to students who meet the competencies and skill standards required in modern advanced high performance manufacturing.

Earmark of \$500,000 for the American Indian Science and Engineering Society for the Native American Rural Computer Utilization Training Program.

Earmark of \$500,000 for the Maui Economic Development Board for the Rural Computer Utilization Training Program.

Earmark of \$250,000 for the Job Corps of North Dakota for the Fellowship Executive Training Program.

Earmark of \$250,000 for the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center to provide training and assistance through the University's telehealth/telemedicine distance learning.

Language noting that there is awareness of the job training activities of the South Dakota Intertribal Bison

Cooperative. Language urging the Department to consider funding of a proposal for a vocational training program which will provide employment-related skills for native tribes in bison herd management, meat processing, animal husbandry, hide tanning and leather work.

Language expecting the Department of Labor to conduct an analysis of the case backlog in the alien labor certification program and report its findings to Congress by February 1, 2000. It is expected that the Department will submit at the same time its proposed schedule for eliminating this backlog.

Language acknowledging a proposal by the City of Salinas, California to transfer a Department of Labor building to the local government for use as a child care facility. Language urging the Department of Labor to work with the City of Salinas to resolve this matter in a timely manner.

Language instructing the Department of Labor to prepare a report and submit it to Congress as soon as possible that contains options to promote a legal domestic workforce in the agricultural sector, provide for improved compensation and benefits, improved living conditions and better transportation between jobs and address other issues related to agricultural labor that the

Secretary determines to be necessary.

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

Earmark of \$450,000 for a proposed National Academy Sciences study of the proposed standard on tuberculosis.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Resources and Services Administration

HEALTH RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Language identifying \$104,052,000 for the construction and renovation of health care and other facilities instead of \$10,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House bill contained no similar provision. These funds are to be used for the following projects:

Northwestern University/Evanston Hospital Center for Genomics and Molecular Medicine;

Sinai Family Health Centers of Chicago;

Condell Medical Center Regional Center for Cardiac Health Services;

Northwestern Memorial Hospital;

Hackensack University Medical Center;

Brookfield Zoo/Loyola University School of Medicine;

Westcare Fresno Community Healthcare Campus, Fresno, California;

Northern Illinois University Center for the Study of Family Violence and Sexual Assault; Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, Houston, Texas;

George Mason University Center for Services to Families and Schools;

Dominican College Center for Health Sciences;

Marklund Children's Home, Bloomingdale, Illinois;

Lawton and Rhea Chiles Center for Healthy Mothers and Babies Perinatal Data Center;

Aging Health Services Center, Somerset, Kentucky;

St. Joseph's Hospital Health Center, Syracuse, New York;

Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine;

Gateway Community Health Center, Laredo, Texas;

Uvalde County Clinic, Uvalde, Texas;

Vida y Salud Community Health Center, Crystal City, Texas;

Sul Ross State University, Alpine, Texas;

University of Mississippi Medical Center, Guyton Building;

Children's Hospital of Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama;

Edward Health Services, Naperville, Illinois;

Marquette University School of Dentistry;

St. Christopher-Otilie Residential Treatment Center, Sea Cliff, Long Island;

Louisiana State University Feist-Weiller Cancer Center, Shreveport, Louisiana;

Columbus Community Healthcare Center, Buffalo, New York;

Children's Hospital Los Angeles Research Institute;

Englewood Hospital and Medical Center, Englewood, New Jersey;

Marywood University Northeast Pennsylvania Healthy Families Center, Scranton, Pennsylvania; Temple University

Outpatient Facility;

Temple University Children's Medical Center;

Pittsburgh Magee-Women's Hospital Women's Center;

College of Physicians, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;

Drexel University National Chemical and Biological Research Center;

University of Pittsburgh Cancer Center;

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine;

Fairbanks Memorial Hospital, Fairbanks, Alaska;

Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation, Bethel, Alaska;

University of Vermont Cancer Center;

Burlington, Vermont community health center;

Central Wyoming community health center;

Clinical Diabetes Islet Transplantation Research Center at the former NIH/Perrine, Florida Animal Research Facility;

Cooper Green Hospital, Alabama;

Central Ozarks Medical Center, Richland, Missouri;

University of Alabama at Birmingham Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Institute;

Lawton Chiles Foundation, Florida;

Mississippi Institute for Cancer Research;

Jackson Medical Mall Foundation, Mississippi;

Union Hospital, Terre Haute, Indiana;

St. Joe's Hospital of Ohio;

University of Northern Colorado, Rocky Mountain Cancer Rehabilitation Institute;

National Jewish Medical and Research Center;

University of Florida Genetics Institute;

Hidalgo County Health Complex, Lordsburg, New Mexico;

community health centers in Iowa;

Medical University of South Carolina Cancer Center;

Child Health Institute at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey;

Harts Health Center, Harts, West Virginia;

West Virginia University Eye Institute;

University of South Dakota Medical School Research Facility;

Tufts University, Biomedical/Nutrition Research Center;

New York University Program in Women's Cancer;

Laguna Honda Hospital, San Francisco, California;

University of Montana Institute for Environmental and Health Sciences.

Language urging that the demonstration project by the Utah area health education centers identified under community health centers in the Senate report be considered under the area health education centers account.

Earmark of \$500,000 to increase the number of SEARCH grantees so as to include the Illinois Primary Health Care Association. The conference report concurs with the Senate report language concerning increasing health care availability in underserved areas.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 within allied health special projects for expansion of the Illinois Community College Board's program, in coordination with the Illinois Department of Human Services, to train and place welfare recipients in the allied health field using distance technology.

Earmark of \$3,000,000 to continue the Diabetes Lower Extremity Amputation Prevention (LEAP) programs at the University of South Alabama, the Louisiana State University School of Medicine, and the Roosevelt Warm Springs Institute for Rehabilitation.

Within the total provided, \$150,000 is included for the Whole Kids Outreach program in southeast Missouri.

Within the total provided, the agency is encouraged to support the efforts of the Kids Peace program in Orefield, Pennsylvania, that assist children to overcome situational crises.

The conference report provides \$3,500,000 for newborn and infant hearing screening instead of \$2,500,000 as proposed by the House and \$4,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. These funds are to be used to implement title VI of this Act, Early Detection, Diagnosis, and Interventions for Newborns and Infants with Hearing Loss.

Earmark of \$1,200,000 to continue and expand the development of the Center for Acadiana Genetics and Hereditary Health Care at Louisiana State University Medical Center.

Earmark of \$300,000 for the Northern California Telemedicine Network at Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital.

Earmark of \$385,000 for a rural telemedicine distance learning project at Daemen College, Amherst, New York.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for a University of New Mexico and University of Hawaii joint telehealth initiative.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Medical University of South Carolina Center for the joint MUSC/Walter Reed/Sloan Kettering Telemedicine program.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for the Southwest Alabama Rural Telehealth Network at the University of South Alabama College of Medicine.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for the Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center, Seattle, telemedicine project.

Earmark of \$1,650,000 for the University of Maine rural children's health assessment and follow-up program.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for the University of Mississippi Center for Sustainable Health Outreach.

Earmark of \$2,500,000 for the Mississippi State University Rural Health, Safety, and Security Institute.

Earmark of \$3,000,000 for a telehealth deployment research testbed program.

Earmark of \$4,000,000 for the Alaska Federal Health Care Access Network, Anchorage.

Earmark of \$900,000 to support the efforts of the American Federation for Negro Affairs Education and Research Fund of Philadelphia.

Earmark of \$750,000 for the University of Northern Iowa Global Health Corps project.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

DISEASE CONTROL, RESEARCH, AND TRAINING

The conference report repeats bill language included in the fiscal year 1999 appropriations bill to allow the General Services Administration to enter into a single contract or related contracts for the full scope of the infectious disease laboratory and that the solicitation and contract shall contain the clause "availability of funds" found in the Code of

Federal Regulations.

Within the total provided, sufficient funds are included to establish an Appalachian prevention center at the University of Kentucky.

Language urging the agency to give full and fair consideration to the Hale County, Alabama, HERO program.

Language urging the agency to give full and fair consideration to proposals from Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Connecticut.

Earmark of \$200,000 for the City of Waterloo, Iowa, for expansion of Fire PALS, a school-based injury prevention program.

Earmark of \$500,000 for the Trauma Information Exchange Program.

Earmark of \$2,500,000 to expand injury control centers.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the University of South Alabama birth defects monitoring and prevention activities.

Earmark of \$3,000,000 for the Center for Environmental Medicine and Toxicology at the University of Mississippi Medical Center at Jackson.

Language urging the agency to expand the REACH initiative to additional communities and collaborate with Missouri community health centers as well as other worthy centers across the country.

National Institutes of Health

NATIONAL CENTER FOR RESEARCH RESOURCES

The conference agreement also includes bill language designating \$75,000,000 for extramural facilities construction grants. These funds will provide seed money to stimulate greater public and private sector investments in this needed modernization effort.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

The Center's Committee on Child and Adolescent Outcomes has supported the collaboration between Vanderbilt University and Australia in developing such an evaluation system in the United States. Language urging the Department to continue this collaboration.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Northwest Suburban Cook County and Lake County Public Action to Deliver Shelter (PADS) provider organizations to address long-term homelessness through service integration.

CENTER FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

Earmark of \$200,000 for the Center Point Program in Marin County, California, for substance abuse and related services to high-risk individuals and families.

Language urging that the Norton Sound Health Corporation project for substance abuse treatment services be given full and fair consideration for funding.

Center for Substance Abuse Prevention

Earmark of \$750,000 for the Rio Arriba and Santa Fe Counties "black tar" heroin program.

Earmark of \$3,000,000 for a regional consortium of South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, and Montana to provide Fetal Alcohol Syndrome services.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT

The conference report includes \$3,700,000 to initiate and test the effectiveness of Community Assessment and Intervention Centers in providing integrated mental health and substance abuse services to troubled and at-risk children and youth, and their families in four Florida communities.

Health Care Financing Administration

RESEARCH, DEMONSTRATION, AND EVALUATION

Earmark of \$100,000 for Littleton Regional Hospital in New Hampshire to assist in the development of rural emergency medical services.

Earmark of \$250,000 for the University of Missouri-Kansas City to test behavioral interventions of nursing home residents with moderate to severe dementia.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for a nursing home transition initiative.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for a demonstration of residential and outpatient treatment facilities at the AIDS Healthcare Foundation in Los Angeles.

Earmark of \$3,000,000 for the University of Pennsylvania Medical Center, the University of Louisville Sciences Center, and St. Vincent's Hospital in Montana to conduct a demonstration to reduce hospitalizations among high-risk patients with congestive heart failure.

Language urging HCFA to conduct a demonstration project to test the potential savings to the Federal government and to the Medicare program by comparing different products used for diabetic wound-care treatment. Such a demonstration should compare the aggregate costs of wound care treatment using different wound-care gel products as well as different gel application regimens.

Language urging HCFA to conduct a demonstration project addressing the extraordinary adverse health status of native Hawaiians at the Waimanalo health center exploring the use of preventive and indigenous health care expertise.

Language urging HCFA to conduct a demonstration project in Hawaii and Alaska to address the extraordinary adverse health status and limited access to health services of the indigenous people in Hawaii and Alaska natives and others residing in southwest Alaska.

Federal administration

Hospices in Wichita, Kansas will be adversely affected in their Medicare reimbursement in fiscal year 2000 because of an error in a faulty hospital cost report in 1995, over which they had no control, and because of a faulty tabulation by HCFA or its fiscal intermediary. HCFA is expected to correct the error in the publication of the hospice wage index for the Wichita, Kansas MSA by using the July 30, 1999 hospital wage index, published in the Federal Register, for

the current fiscal year, rather than delaying until the following fiscal year, and by publishing a revised notice to reflect this correction.

Administration for Children and Families

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICES PROGRAMS

The conference agreement includes \$500,000 to support the Association's project to provide training, technical assistance and implementation assistance to establishment of NTN programs within public and private foster care agencies in other states and localities.

Language urging the Secretary to give special attention to Native American communities with particular needs, including the Alaskan communities of Chevak, Napakiak, Haines, Marshall, Noorvik, Selawik, Pilot Station, Hooper Bay, and Dillingham.

Within the funds provided for Runaway Youth--Transitional Living, earmark of \$500,000 for the House of Mercy in Des Moines, Iowa.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for a one-stop shopping demonstration for Catholic Social Services in Juneau, Alaska.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for the Healthy Beginnings Program in Alaska.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Children's Advocacy Services Center of Greater St. Louis.

Earmark of \$50,000 for the Taos Community Against Violence for ongoing services for children and victims of domestic violence.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the University of Louisville, Center for Research in Early Childhood Development.

Earmark of \$700,000 for the Cook Inlet Tribal Council, Inc.

Earmark of \$300,000 for Kawerak, Inc.

The conference report includes \$2,000,000 for the Public Children Services Association of Ohio to build a multi-State grassroots network that results in a State infrastructure of local child protection agencies.

Within the funds provided for developmental disabilities, earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Sertoma Center in Knoxville, Tennessee to work in conjunction with other entities to develop a training regime for providers of services for the developmentally disabled.

Administration on Aging

AGING SERVICES PROGRAMS

Earmark of \$3,000,000 for social research into Alzheimer's disease care options, best practices and other Alzheimer's research priorities as specified in the House Report.

Earmark of \$10,000,000 for the "Senior Waste Patrol" pilot project to determine the most effective means of eliminating Medicare fraud, waste and abuse.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for the Texas Tech University Center for Healthy Aging.

Earmark of \$500,000 for the West Virginia University Rural Aging Project.

Earmark of \$850,000 for Elder Services, Inc. in Middlebury, Vermont.

Earmark of \$2,200,000 for the Anchorage, Alaska Senior Center.

Earmark of \$450,000 for the Deaconess Billings Clinic Northwest Area Center for Aging in Montana.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Family Friends.

Earmark of \$100,000 for the Nevada Rural Counties Retired and Senior Volunteer Home Companion Program to provide services to homebound elderly in rural areas.

Office of the Secretary

GENERAL DEPARTMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Albert Einstein Medical Center LIFE elderly care model.

Earmark of \$500,000 for the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital alternative medicine program.

Earmark of \$500,000 for the Thomas Jefferson University Hospital sickle cell program.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the CORE Center at Cook County Hospital in Chicago to develop a model HIV/AIDS Education and Training Center.

Office of Inspector General

Language noting that sufficient funds are available to initiate activities in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania as mentioned in the Senate Report.

Language expressing concern about the lack of OIG coverage in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, region. The Committee understands that the office once had a presence in the city but with the growing number of cases originating in the region, the Committee has included an increase over the administration request to be made available for the re-establishment of an OIG presence, particularly professional staff, in the area.

Policy Research

Earmark of \$850,000 for the East St. Louis Center operated by Southern Illinois University to analyze problems faced by health service providers in administering multiple sources of funding.

Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund

Earmark of \$4,000,000 for conducting independent studies of health and bioterrorism threats, of which:

\$1,000,000 is for the Carnegie Mellon Research Institute;

\$1,000,000 is for the St. Louis University School of Public Health;

\$1,000,000 is for the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston;

\$1,000,000 is for the Johns Hopkins University Center for Civilian Biodefense.

General Provisions

DELAYED OBLIGATIONS

The conference report includes a provision to delay the obligation of \$7,500,000,000 of NIH funds; \$1,120,000,000 of HRSA funds; \$965,000,000 of CDC funds; \$450,000,000 of SAMHSA funds; \$425,000,000 of Social Services Block Grant funds; and \$400,000,000 of Children and Families Services funds until September 29, 2000. The Senate bill contained a provision to delay the obligation of \$3,000,000,000 of NIH funds until September 29, 2000. The House bill contained no similar provision.

WITHHOLDING OF SUBSTANCE ABUSE FUNDS

The conference report includes a provision proposed by the Senate to allow a State to avoid a penalty under section 1926 of the Public Health Service Act (commonly known as the Synar Amendment) if the State agrees to commit new State funding to help ensure compliance with State laws prohibiting youth purchase of tobacco products. It is noted that the provision applies only for fiscal year 2000 and States are expected to continue to try to meet the established Synar Amendment targets for enforcement of their youth tobacco laws. It is also noted that there is increasing sentiment that the Synar Amendment needs to be reexamined and all concerned parties are encouraged to work toward a compromise solution next year with the appropriate authorizing committees. The provision allows the Secretary to exercise discretion in enforcing the timing of the new State expenditures in order to provide flexibility to States that do not immediately have available funds for this purpose. It is expected that within 30 days of accepting an agreement to increase funding for enforcement, the State will provide a report to the Secretary of all State resources spent in fiscal year 1999 on enforcement of the State law by program activity and by May 15, 2000, a report on FY 2000 obligations regarding enforcement unless otherwise negotiated by the Secretary. The Secretary

shall deliver the findings of these reports to Congress. The language provides the Secretary authority to permit a State to commit an amount smaller than its formula amount as described in subsection (b) in order to recognize that an individual state may have been granted "delayed applicability" status under the Synar Amendment by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

MEDICARE INJECTABLE DRUG COVERAGE

The conference report includes a provision not proposed by either House or Senate related to Medicare injectable drug coverage. There is concern that an August 13, 1997 memorandum and subsequent interpretations will inappropriately restrict beneficiary access to injectable drugs that are and have been covered by the Medicare program. It is noted that for many years, Medicare policy (as stated in Section 2049.2 of the Medicare Carriers Manual) has allowed coverage of a drug or biological administered incident to a physician's service where the product is one that is not usually self-administered by the patient. It is intended that HCFA continue to cover such products under Social Security Act section 1861(s)(2) and communicate this policy through a program memorandum to all HCFA regional offices.

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE

The conference report includes a provision to allow the Cancer Therapy and Research Center in San Antonio, Texas to continue to use prior year construction grant funding without fiscal year limitation.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Technology Innovation Challenge Grants

Earmark of \$500,000 for Houston Independent School District for technology infrastructure.

Earmark of \$300,000 for Long Island 21st Century Technology and E-Commerce Alliance.

Earmark of \$8,000,000 for I CAN LEARN.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for Linking Education Technology and Educational Reform (LINKS) for educational technology.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Center for Advanced Research and Technology (CART) for comprehensive secondary education reform.

Earmark of \$250,000 for Vaughn Reno Starks Community Center in Elizabethtown, Kentucky for a technology program.

Earmark of \$125,000 for Wyandanch Compel Youth Academy Educational Assistance Program in New York.

Earmark of \$3,000,000 for Hi-Technology High School in San Bernardino County, California for technology enhancement.

Earmark of \$800,000 for Montana State University for a distance learning initiative.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for Tupelo School District in Mississippi for technology innovation.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Seton Hill College in Greensburg, Pennsylvania for a model education technology training program.

Earmark of \$500,000 for University of Alaska-Fairbanks.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the North East Vocational Area Cooperative in Washington for a multi-district technology education center.

Earmark of \$400,000 for University of Vermont for the Vermont Learning Gateway Program.

Earmark of \$2,500,000 for State University of New Jersey for the RUNet 2000 project at Rutgers for an integrated voice-video-data network to link students, faculty and administration via a high-speed, broad band fiber optic network.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Iowa Area Education Agency 13 for a public/private partnership to demonstrate the effective use of technology in grades one through three.

Earmark of \$235,000 for the Louisville Deaf Oral School for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Bibb County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Calhoun County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Chambers County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Chilton County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Clay County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Cleburne County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Coosa County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Lee County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Macon County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for St. Clair County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Talladega County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Tallapoosa County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Randolph County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Russell County Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Alexander City Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Anniston City Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Lanett City Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Pell City Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Roanoke City Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Talledega City Board of Education for technology enhancements.

Earmark of \$900,000 for University of Alaska at Anchorage for distance learning education.

Earmark of \$200,000 for Alaska Department of Education for the Alaska State Distance Education Technology Consortium.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Mansfield University to continue a technology demonstration

Star Schools

Within the amount provided for Star Schools, the conference report specifies funding for the following activities:

Earmark of \$750,000 for Technology Literacy Center at the Museum of Science & Industry, Chicago.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Oklahoma State University for an on-line math and science training program.

Earmark of \$4,000,000 for Continuation and expansion of the Iowa Communications network statewide fiber optic demonstration.

21st Century Learning Centers

Earmark of \$6,000 for Study Partners Program, Inc. in Louisville, Kentucky.

Earmark of \$12,000 for Shawnee Gardens Tenants Association Inc. in Louisville, Kentucky.

Earmark of \$12,000 for 100 Black Men of Louisville, Kentucky for a mentoring program.

Earmark of \$50,000 for Omaha Nebraska Public Schools for the OPS 21st Century Learning Grant.

Earmark of \$25,000 for Plymouth Renewal Center in Kentucky for a tutoring program.

Earmark of \$25,000 for Canaan Community Development Corporation's Village Learning Center Program.

Earmark of \$25,000 for St. Stephen Life Center After School Program.

Earmark of \$25,000 for Louisville Central Community Centers Youth Education Program.

Earmark of \$15,000 for Trinity Family Life Center tutoring program.

Earmark of \$15,000 for New Zion Community Development Foundation, Inc. after school mentoring program.

Earmark of \$20,000 for St. Joseph Catholic Orphan Society program for abused and neglected children.

Earmark of \$25,000 for Portland Neighborhood House after school program.

Earmark of \$25,000 for St. Anthony Community Outreach Center, Inc. for the Education PAYs program.

EDUCATION FOR THE DISADVANTAGED

The conference report includes advance funding for this account of \$6,204,763,000, the same as both the House and the Senate.

The conference report funding of \$1,158,397,000 for concentration grants is advanced for fiscal year 2001.

The conference report includes the provision contained in the Senate bill regarding a 100% hold harmless for States and LEAs for both basic and concentration grants. The conference report also adopts language included in the Senate bill providing that the Department shall make 100% hold harmless awards to LEAs who were eligible for concentration grants in 1998 but are not eligible to receive grants in fiscal year 2000, ratably reduced if necessary. The House nevertheless opposes the hold harmless provision because it unfairly penalizes underprivileged and immigrant children in growing states, including Arizona, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia and the District of Columbia. These states represent over half of the U.S. population of underprivileged schoolchildren.

IMPACT AID

The conference report provides within the account for construction, \$500,000 for the Ft. Sam Houston ISD, \$800,000 for the Hays Lodgepole School District in MT and \$2,000,000 for the North Chicago Community Unit School District.

The conference report also includes the following language provisions: eligibility for the Central Union, Island, and Hueneme School Districts in California and the Hill City, Wall, and Hot Springs School Districts in South Dakota; timely filing of applications by the Brookeland School District in Texas, the Fallbrook High School District in California and Hydaburg School District in Alaska; forgiveness of overpayment for the Hatboro-Horsham and Delaware Valley School Districts in Pennsylvania; and computing payments for Travis School District in California. Neither the House nor Senate bills contained similar provisions.

School Improvement Programs

CLASS SIZE/TEACHER ASSISTANCE INITIATIVE

The conference report provides \$300,000,000 in fiscal year 2000 and \$900,000,000 in fiscal year 2001 funding for this account.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The conference report provides \$2,294,646,000 in fiscal year 2000 and \$3,742,000,000 in fiscal year 2001 funding for this account.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the completion of the Easter Seal Society's Early Childhood Development Project for the Mississippi River Delta Region.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for the Center for Literacy and Assessment at the University of Southern Mississippi.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Alaska and \$1,000,000 for the VIII Paralympic Winter Games.

REHABILITATION SERVICES AND DISABILITY RESEARCH

Earmark of \$750,000 for Krasnow Institute at George Mason University for a receptive language disorders research center.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for University of Central Florida for a virtual reality-based education and training program for the deaf.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for Seattle Lighthouse for the Blind.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Professional development and Research Institute on Blindness in Louisiana.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for California State University at Northridge for a Western Center for Adaptive Aquatic Therapy.

Earmark of \$600,000 for Alaska Center for Independent Living in Anchorage.

HIGHER EDUCATION

Earmark of \$3,000,000 for University of South Florida for a distance learning program.

Earmark of \$190,000 for New York Global Communication Center in West Islip, New York for a distance learning program.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Alliance for Technology, Learning and Society (ATLAS) at the University of Colorado for technology-enhanced learning.

Earmark of \$1,250,000 for Interactive Learning Environments at the University of Idaho for a distance learning program.

Earmark of \$2,500,000 for Illinois Community College Board to develop a systemwide, on-line virtual degree program for the community college system.

The conference agreement also includes \$1,750,000 for the Underground Railroad Educational and Cultural Program as proposed by the Senate.

FUND FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATION

Earmark of \$500,000 for the continuation and expansion of the Boston Symphony Orchestra's education resource center.

Earmark of \$700,000 for Loyola University Chicago for recruitment and preparation of new teacher candidates for employment in rural and inner-city schools.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Shedd Aquarium/Brookfield Zoo for science education programs.

Earmark of \$3,000,000 for Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America to expand school-based mentoring.

Earmark of \$2,500,000 for Chicago Public School System to support a substance abuse pilot program in conjunction with Elgin and East Aurora School Systems.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for University of Virginia Center for Governmental Studies for the Youth Leadership Initiative.

Earmark of \$800,000 for Institute for Student Achievement at Holmes Middle School and Annandale High School in Virginia for academic enrichment.

Earmark of \$100,000 for Mountain Arts Center in Kentucky for educational programming.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for University of Louisville for research in the area of academic readiness.

Earmark of \$500,000 for WestEd Regional Educational Laboratory for the 24 Challenge and Jumping Levels Math Demonstration Project.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Central Michigan University for a charter schools development and performance institute.

Earmark of \$950,000 for Living Science Interactive Learning Model partnership in Indian River, FL for a science education program.

Earmark of \$825,000 for North Babylon Community Youth Services for an educational program.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Los Angeles County Office of Education/Educational Telecommunications and Technology for a pilot program for teachers.

Earmark of \$650,000 for University of Northern Iowa for an institute of technology for inclusive education.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Youth Crime Watch of America to expand a program to prevent crime, drugs and violence in schools.

Earmark of \$892,000 for Muhlenberg College in Pennsylvania for an environmental science program.

Earmark of \$560,000 for Western Suffolk St. Johns-LaSalle Academy Science and Technology Mentoring Program.

Earmark of \$4,000,000 for National Teaching Academy of Chicago for a model teacher recruitment, preparation and professional development program.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for University of West Florida for a teacher enhancement program.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Virginia Living Museum in Newport News, Virginia for an educational program.

Earmark of \$450,000 for Challenger Learning Center in Hardin County, Kentucky for technology assistance and teacher training.

Earmark of \$250,000 for Crawford County School System in Georgia for technology and curriculum support.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Berrien County School System in Georgia for technology development.

Earmark of \$35,000 for Louisville Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club Diversion Enhancement Program.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for New Mexico Department of Education for school performance improvement and drop-out prevention.

Earmark of \$300,000 for Semos Unlimited Inc. in New Mexico to support bilingual education and literacy programs.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Delta State University in Mississippi for innovative teacher training.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Alaska Humanities Forum, Inc. in Anchorage.

Earmark of \$250,000 for An Achievable Dream in Newport News to improve academic performance of at-risk youths.

Earmark of \$250,000 for Rock School of Ballet in Philadelphia to expand its community-outreach programs for inner-city children and underprivileged youth in Camden, New Jersey and southern New Jersey.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for University of Maryland Center for Quality and Productivity to provide a link for the Blue Ribbon Schools.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Continuing Education Center and Teachers' Institute in South Boston, Virginia to promote participation among youth in the U.S. democratic process.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for National Museum of Women in the Arts to expand its "Discovering Art" program to elementary and secondary schools and other educational organizations.

Earmark of \$400,000 for Alaska Department of Education's summer reading program.

Earmark of \$400,000 for Partners in Education, Inc. to foster successful business-school partnerships.

Earmark of \$250,000 for Kodiak Island Borough School district for development of an environmental education program.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for Reach out and Read Program to expand literacy and health awareness for at-risk families.

Earmark of \$100,000 for Jazz in the Schools program for educational programs.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Mississippi Delta Education Initiative.

Earmark of \$100,000 for Project 2000 D.C. Mentoring Project.

Earmark of \$10,000,000 for National Constitution Center.

Earmark of \$10,000,000 for Continuation of Iowa public school facilities repair demonstration administered by the Iowa Department of Education.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Continuation of Foorman, Frances, and Fletcher NICHD-approved longitudinal project "Early

Interventions for Children with Reading Problems" in public elementary schools in the District of Columbia.

Federal Family Education Loans (FFEL)

The conference report includes a provision regarding the FFEL program that was not contained in either House or Senate bills.

Higher Education Assistance Foundation (HEAF)

The conference report includes a provision regarding HEAF claims reserves that was not contained in either House or Senate bills.

Additional Higher Education Funding

The conference report includes the following amounts for the following projects and activities. Neither the House nor the Senate bills contained this language.

Earmark of \$250,000 for Middle Georgia College for an advanced distributed learning center demonstration program.

Earmark of \$3,000,000 for University Center of Lake County, Illinois.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Oregon University System.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Columbia College in Illinois for a freshman retention program.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for University of Hawaii at Manoa for a globalization research center.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff for technology infrastructure.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for I Have a Dream Foundation.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Demonstration program for activities authorized under part G of title VII of the Higher Education Act.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, Texas to improve teacher capabilities in technology.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Elmira College in New York for a technology enhancement initiative.

Earmark of \$1,650,000 for Rust College in Mississippi for technology infrastructure.

Earmark of \$250,000 for Snelling Center for Government at the University of Vermont for a model school program.

Earmark of \$750,000 for Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi for the operation of the Early Childhood Development Center.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Southeast Missouri State University for equipment and curriculum development associated with the university's Polytechnic Institute.

Earmark of \$800,000 for Washington Virtual Classroom Consortium.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Puget Sound Center for Technology for faculty development activities for the use of technology in the classroom.

Earmark of \$500,000 for Center for the Advancement of Distance Education in Rural America.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for Daniel J. Evans School of Public Policy at the University of Washington.

Earmark \$200,000 for North Dakota State University for the Career Program for Dislocated Farmers and Ranchers.

Earmark of \$350,000 for North Dakota State University for the Tech-based Industry Traineeship Program.

Earmark of \$1,500,000 for Washington State University for the Thomas S. Foley Institute to support programs in congressional studies, public policy, voter education, and to ensure community access and outreach.

Earmark of \$200,000 for Minot State University for the Rural Communications Disabilities Program.

Earmark of \$300,000 for Bryant College for the Linking International Trade Education Program (LITE).

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Concord College, West Virginia for a technology center to further enhance the technical skills of West Virginia teachers and students.

Earmark of \$200,000 for Peirce College in Philadelphia for education and training programs.

Earmark of \$250,000 for Philadelphia Zoo for educational programs.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Philadelphia University Education Center for technology education.

Earmark of \$725,000 for Lock Haven University for technology innovations.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Southeastern Pennsylvania Consortium on Higher Education for education programs.

Earmark of \$400,000 for Lehigh University Iacocca Institute for educational training.

Earmark of \$250,000 for Lafayette College for arts education.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Lewis and Clark College for the Crime Victims Law Institute.

Earmark of \$500,000 for University of Notre Dame for a teacher quality initiative.

Earmark of \$800,000 for Spelman College in Georgia for educational operations.

Earmark of \$2,000,000 for Western Governors University for a distance learning initiative.

RELATED AGENCIES

Institute of Museum and Library Services

Earmark of \$700,000 for Library & Archives of New Hampshire's Political Tradition at the New Hampshire State Library

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Vermont Department of Libraries in Montpelier, Vermont.

Earmark of \$750,000 for Consolidation and preservation of archives and special collections at the University of Miami Library in Coral Gables, Florida.

Earmark of \$1,900,000 for Exhibits and library improvements for the Mississippi River Museum and Discovery Center in Dubuque, Iowa.

Earmark of \$750,000 for Alaska Native Heritage Center in Anchorage.

Earmark of \$750,000 for Peabody-Essex Museum in Salem, Massachusetts.

Earmark of \$750,000 for Bishop Museum in Hawaii.

Earmark of \$200,000 for Oceanside Public Library in California for a local cultural heritage project.

Earmark of \$1,000,000 for Urban Children's Museum Collaborative to develop and implement pilot programs dedicated to serving at-risk children and their families.

Earmark of \$150,000 for Troy State University Dothan in Alabama for archival of a special collection.

Earmark of \$450,000 for Chadron State College in Nebraska for the Mari Sandoz Center.

Earmark of \$350,000 for Alabama A&M University Alabama State Black Archives Research Center and Museum.