Inglee, and Lori Maes, for their tremendous assistance in the handling of this very controversial piece of legislation.

As Members can see, if we work in a bipartisan spirit toward the accomplishment of a goal, we can achieve great numbers success. And certainly the numbers on final passage of this bill today reflect that.

We hope that we will be able to resolve with the Senate some of the differences that we have and are optimistic that we will do so. But without the tremendous success of all of the Members, including my staff person, Nancy Tippins, who worked so tremendously with me on this, we would not be where we are today.

We are going to send to the President and to the administrative branch a good bill. I think under the leadership of the State Department of Madeleine Albright that the administration certainly will have an adequate amount of money to spend in the fashion that they see fit, especially if the Senate sees fit to adopt the procedures that we have sent to them today.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2264) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, and that I may include tabular and extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. HASTERT). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1998

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, July 31, 1997, and rule XXIII, the Chair declares the House in the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill, H.R. 2264.

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IN THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Accordingly, the House resolved itself into the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union for the consideration of the bill (H.R. 2264) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1998, and for other purposes, with Mr. Goodlatte in the chair.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The CHAIRMAN. Pursuant to the order of the House of Thursday, July 31, 1997, the bill is considered as having been read the first time.

Under the rule, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. PORTER] and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY], each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. PORTER].

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Chairman, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Chairman, I want to express my appreciation to the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] for his work and to the gentleman from Louisiana [Mr. LIVINGSTON] who has, with great skill and effort, provided strong support in making this a bipartisan bill. As a result of their efforts, as well as that of many Members, we have resolved many contentious issues such as ergonomics regulations issued by OSHA, methylene chloride regulations and a new Hyde amendment. These initiatives and agreements are the work of many Members of the subcommittee who labored very hard to achieve the compromises reflected in this bill and preserve the broad support for it.

I particularly want to express my gratitude to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HYDE] and the gentlewoman from New York [Mrs. LOWEY] for their tireless efforts in achieving a compromise on revisions to the Hyde language in the bill.

The bill I bring to the floor, Mr. Chairman, is the result of a lengthy process of consideration by the subcommittee. We held 31 days of hearings spanning some 14 weeks. In addition to our normal practice of carefully reviewing estimates with the administration, we had 214 public witnesses and 67 Members testify before the subcommittee.

Mr. Chairman, we cannot govern this country by simple agreement between the congressional leadership and the President. While their suggestions and recommendations are very helpful, these suggestions are no substitute for the legislative process that has served this country well for 200 years. As a result, this bill reflects congressional priorities while at the same time reflecting many of the President's concerns and initiatives.

NIH is provided, Mr. Chairman, for example, with a 6 percent increase. The increased funds are being spent on areas of particular national concern including cancer, diabetes and heart disease. However, all Institutes receive an increase over the President's request. The President's request was for only 1.2 percent; we have provided a 6 percent increase.

The Centers for Disease Control is provided an $87 million increase as compared with the President's proposal in the budget agreement to cut CDC by $19 million. Increases in the bill include preventive health, chronic and environmental disease prevention and infectious disease surveillance.

The Community Health Center program is increased by $25 million, and for health professions we rejected the President's proposed cuts and added $13 million over the last year. Ryan White AIDS treatment is increased by $172 million over last year and $132 million over the President's requested level.

In education, the bill provides funding very close to the President's request, but again reflects congressional priorities. The Chapter VI program, the former education block grant which provides broad discretion to local officials to meet local needs, is increased by $40 million to $350 million. The President proposed to terminate it.

IDEA State grant funding, that is, funding for special education, is increased by $305 million over last year. In fiscal 1997, Members will recall, we increased funding by $790 million, making for a total increase of over $1.1 billion in the last 2 years and taking some of the pressure off local school taxes.

College work-study is increased by $30 million. We have also funded a ''whole school reform'' effort which I believe the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. OBEY] will discuss in his remarks.

We have also tried to reflect the President's priorities in the bill. Head Start, education technology, job training and the Job Corps are all fully funded.

The maximum Pell grant is set at $3000.

Funds are set aside for the President's Opportunity Areas for Youth, Literacy and the expansion of Pell grant eligibility, all pending separate authorizations.

I would note that with all the rhetoric coming from the administration on the Results act and performance-based management, not one of these new initiatives was based on improvements and outcomes and not one has included the measures by which we will measure these new programs.

The bill also continues efforts at reform. Funding for block and State grant programs are increased by $500 million over the President's requested levels. These programs represent a Republican approach giving greater local control and fewer Washington strings. Conversely, while not all I would want, the bill terminates 25 programs with 1997 funding totaling $250 million.

Programs that cannot justify funding levels on the basis of effectiveness are frozen or cut in the bill. Goals 2000 State grants are cut by $18 million below last year and $145 million below the President's request. Safe and Drug Free Schools and Eisenhower Professional Development are both frozen at last year's level.

Mr. Chairman, as Members well know, the legislative riders present the committee with some of the most difficult issues that we face. They have made passing bills very difficult and have often served to complicate negotiations with the Senate and with the administration. They make broad, consensus-based bills like the one we bring to Members today virtually impossible. As chairman, I worked very hard in conjunction with the gentleman from