

\$29.6 million in FY 1996 and \$19.6 million in FY 1997 for the U.S. contribution to the International Fund for Ireland (IFI). The amounts made available are authorized to remain available until expended.

The House section also amended the Anglo-Irish Agreement Support Act of 1986 (P.L. 99-415) to require that U.S. contributions "shall" be used in a manner that effectively increases employment opportunities in communities with rates of unemployment "significantly" higher than the local or urban average of unemployment in Northern Ireland (defined as the counties of Antrim, Armagh, Derry, Down, Tyrone, and Fermanagh).

Under this section funding could be provided by the IFI only if individuals or entities receiving such funds are in compliance with the "principles of economic justice." The principles of economic justice are defined as the "MacBride Principles" as modified, include:

(1) Increasing the representation of individuals, from underrepresented religious groups in the workforce, including managerial, supervisory, administrative, clerical, and technical jobs,

(2) Providing adequate security for the protection of minority employees at the workplace,

(3) Banning provocative sectarian or political emblems from the workplace,

(4) Providing that all job openings be advertised publicly and providing that special recruitment efforts be made to attract applicants from underrepresented religious groups,

(5) Providing that layoff, recall and termination procedures do not favor a particular religious group,

(6) Abolishing job reservations, apprenticeship restrictions and differential employment criteria which discriminate on the basis of religion,

(7) Providing for the development of training programs that will prepare substantial numbers of minority employees for skilled jobs, including the expansion of existing programs and the creation of new programs to train, upgrade and improve the skills of minority employees,

(8) Establishing procedures to assess, identify and actively recruit minority employees with the potential for further advancement, and

(9) Proving for the appointment of a senior management staff member to be responsible for the employment efforts of the entity and, within a reasonable period of time, the implementation of the principles described above.

The Senate amendment contains no comparable provision.

The conference substitute (sec. 1615) reduces the funding cap from \$29.6 million to \$19.6 million for fiscal year 1996. The committee of conference also inserted "should" for "shall" in the Anglo-Irish Agreement Act amendment to provide the Administration with more discretion in implementing this section. The term significantly was determined to be redundant and was deleted from the referenced areas of high unemployment.

The section also includes the principles of economic justice to insure that these principles should be applied by those individuals or entities who receive any portion of the U.S. contribution to the International Fund for Ireland.

In addition a new provision was added to insure nothing shall require quotas or reverse discrimination, which is consistent with the intent and purpose of the MacBride principles.

*Republic of China Taiwan participation in GATT and WTO*

The committee of conference (sec. 1709) agreed to this provision (sec. 2709) expressing

a sense of Congress on The Republic of Taiwan's membership in the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and the World Trade Organization.

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN,  
BILL GOODLING,  
HENRY J. HYDE,  
TOBY ROTH,  
DOUG BEREUTER,  
CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH,  
DAN BURTON,  
ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN,

*Managers on the Part of the House.*

JESSE HELMS,  
OLYMPIA SNOWE,  
HANK BROWN,  
PAUL COVERDELL,  
JOHN ASHCROFT,

*Managers on the Part of the Senate.*

#### PEACE AND SECURITY IN TAIWAN MUST BE MAINTAINED

(Mr. FUNDERBURK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FUNDERBURK. Mr. Speaker, the absence of effective American leadership in East Asia is a major contributing factor to the current heightened crisis in the Taiwan Strait. For the past 25 years our relationship with the Communist People's Republic of China has been contingent upon a peaceful resolution of the Taiwan issue. Before the United States Congress enacted the Taiwan Relations Act, the executive branch of all administrations, from Nixon to the present, committed to the peaceful resolution on the future of Taiwan.

The current crisis in the Taiwan Straits seriously jeopardizes this understanding and the condition of the diplomatic relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China. We must send an unambiguous message to Beijing that the United States will not stand by idly while the future of Taiwan is threatened. To this end the United States must stand ready to defend Taiwan against any resort of force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardize Taiwan's security.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members are recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### COMMENDING PRESIDENT CLINTON FOR SUSPENDING USE OF RACE- AND GENDER-BASED SET-ASIDES IN AWARDING OF FEDERAL CONTRACTS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Connecticut [Mr. FRANKS] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FRANKS of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I commend President Clinton for suspending the use of race- and gender-based set-asides for the awarding of Federal contracts. These preferences

are the most onerous aspect of affirmative action.

Last year I fought hard with an amendment to the defense appropriations bill to accomplish this same objective. However, that was not possible.

In October, President Clinton reviewed and quietly ended that practice for defense contracts. But today's broader executive branch decision marks the true beginning of the end for race- and gender-based set-asides.

Mr. Speaker, like all Americans, I want my children, Azia, Jessica, and Gary, Jr., to have an equal opportunity to succeed in this great country of ours. I want to them to know that, when selected, they are not just the best black person for the job, but that they are the best person for the job.

It has to be the goal of this Nation to have more blacks, Hispanics, Asians, and women of all hues on the playing field of economic opportunity and growth. We want to see more bids on Government contracts for minorities and women, not fewer than the handful received today. That will truly enhance the likelihood of more Government contracts going to minorities and women.

Mr. Speaker, outreach programs are essential. They are critical. Cabinet members and other high-level Federal officials must be held accountable for their outreach efforts. Once again, the Government should seek as many bids for minorities and women as possible, but once the bids are opened in the small business category, low bids should prevail regardless of one's gender or one's race.

I thank the President for his actions.

#### MEMBERS OF CONGRESS DO NOT HAVE TO SPEND TAXPAYER DOLLARS JUST BECAUSE THEY HAVE A TAXPAYER-FUNDED EXPENSE ALLOWANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the previous order of the House, the gentleman from Alabama [Mr. BROWDER] is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BROWDER. Mr. Speaker, today is, for me, personally, one of my finest moments on the floor of Congress since my 1989 special election.

Today, I become the founder, president, and only member of my self-declared "Million Dollar Turnback Club."

Just yesterday, I received notice from the Committee on House Oversight that the unspent balance from my representational allowance for 1995 is \$198,990.30.

These 1995 savings, or unspent allowance, bring my total turnback to \$1.2 million since I entered Congress in 1989.

As many people know, congressional offices are allowed approximately \$838,000 a year for office expenses, staff, and postage. The amount when I first came to Congress was about \$500,000. So, my total turnback amount means that I saved, or did not spend, about a