

arsenal for decades to come. The Committee's careful consideration of these programs led them to decisions that I wholeheartedly support.

As a whole, the bill is good for this nation's defense and it is vitally important in the less-predictable world of today. I am proud to stand with my colleagues on the Committee and the vast majority of the Senate in supporting this bill.●

#### CBO COST ESTIMATE—S. 1403

● Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, when the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources filed its report on S. 1403, the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 1998, the estimate of the Congressional Budget Office was not available. The estimate has since been received and I ask that it be printed in the RECORD for the information of the Senate.

The material follows:

U.S. CONGRESS,  
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
Washington, DC, June 29, 1998.

Hon. FRANK H. MURKOWSKI,  
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for S. 1403, the National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 1998.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contacts are Deborah Reis (for Federal costs) and Marjorie Miller (for the state and local impact).

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL,  
Director.

Enclosure.

S. 1403—National Historic Lighthouse Preservation Act of 1998

Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing S. 1403 would cost the federal government less than \$500,000 annually beginning in fiscal year 1999. Because the bill could increase direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. CBO estimates, however, that any such effects would be negligible. The bill contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and would impose no costs on state, local, or tribal governments.

S. 1403 would create two programs related to historic lighthouses. The first of these would be a program to preserve national historic lighthouses, under which the National Park Service (NPS) would collect information about such facilities and would support related education and research projects. The second would be a process under which the federal government—acting through the NPS and the General Services Administration (GSA)—would convey or sell surplus lighthouses to nonfederal entities. The bill would authorize the appropriation of whatever amounts are necessary to carry out these programs. In addition, proceeds from any sales of lighthouses under the bill could be spent without further appropriation for the NPS's national maritime heritage grant program. Under existing law, proceeds from sales of property such as lighthouses are treated as offsetting receipts and cannot be spent without appropriation action.

The NPS, GSA, and other federal agencies, such as the U.S. Coast Guard, already perform many of the duties that would be required by S. 1403, including both preserving

historic lighthouses and disposing of surplus stations. Based on information provided by the NPS, CBO estimates that the federal government would spend less than \$500,000 annually in appropriated funds to carry out the more formal preservation program required by this legislation and to process lighthouse conveyances under the new disposal process.

CBO estimates that any effect on direct spending would be insignificant because the government would be as unlikely to sell any lighthouses under this legislation as it is under existing authorities. Entities eligible to receive title to historic lighthouses under this bill would include state and local agencies. Participation by such agencies and any related costs would be voluntary on their part.

The CBO staff contacts are Deborah Reis (for federal costs) and Marjorie Miller (for the state and local impact). This estimate was approved by Robert A. Sunshine, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.●

#### REMARKS HONORING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHILDREN'S PROGRAM OF NORTHERN IRELAND

● Mr. WELLSTONE. Mr. President, I rise today to mark a significant milestone: the Minnesota-based Children's Program of Northern Ireland is celebrating its 25th anniversary this summer.

This important program began in 1973 when one nine-year-old from Belfast, David Hughes, traveled to Minnesota and stayed with Roy and Ruth Lerud of Twin Valley.

From this simple beginning, wondrous things have happened.

During the following summer, Rotary Clubs in Hibbing, Minnesota, and Belfast, Northern Ireland, joined together to bring 120 children, ages 10-11, to Minnesota host families.

And now, 25 years later, the program can boast that more than 4,000 children have come to Minnesota and neighboring states. These children have had their lives touched in immeasurable ways. And they have touched the lives of untold thousands of Minnesotans.

The Children's Program of Northern Ireland was the first of its kind in the nation. It is now the blueprint of 25 other, similar programs throughout America which bring children to Minnesota for a summer of peace and understanding.

Something important is at work here—Minnesotans are working to bring about peace, one child at a time. When the good people of Minnesota got involved in this program 25 years ago it was because they saw the need and stepped in to fill it. There were no Presidential Commissions or calls by Congress asking citizens to become involved. Rather, there were everyday heroes and heroines who tried to make their world better by opening their homes to a child from a troubled part of the world.

And they have succeeded.

Rotary is proud, and rightly so, of its motto "Service Above Self." The Hibbing Rotary Club and the Belfast

Rotary Club, in 1974, were living embodiments of this motto, as are all the people throughout Minnesota and Northern Ireland whose hard work and dedication have made this program such an enduring success.

From the beginning these selfless efforts have been driven by volunteers. I would like to recognize, on the floor of the United States Senate, two of those volunteers. Hazel Busby is the coordinator in Belfast. She has been a tireless and enthusiastic volunteer for many, many years. I also would like to recognize Kathy Schultz, who is the current American board president. Both of these women merit the highest recognition for their contributions toward achieving peace in our time.

None of us can know exactly how significant these Minnesota efforts have been in bringing peace and understanding to our world. However, we can know that the work of these fine people has brought a large measure of peace and understanding to untold thousands on both sides of the Atlantic. And that, in and of itself, merits recognition and highest praise.●

#### STROM THURMOND NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999

The Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999 (S. 2057), passed by the Senate on June 25, 1998, is as follows:

S. 2057

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

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina first became a member of the Committee on Armed Services of the United States Senate on January 19, 1959. His continuous service on that committee covers more than 75 percent of the period of the existence of the committee, which was established immediately after World War II, and more than 20 percent of the period of the existence of military and naval affairs committees of Congress, the original bodies of which were formed in 1816.

(2) Senator Thurmond came to Congress and the committee as a distinguished veteran of service, including combat service, in the Armed Forces of the United States.

(3) Senator Thurmond was commissioned as a reserve second lieutenant of infantry in 1924. He served with great distinction with the First Army in the European Theater of Operations during World War II, landing in Normandy in a glider with the 82nd Airborne Division on D-Day. He was transferred to the Pacific Theater of Operations at the end of the war in Europe and was serving in the Philippines when Japan surrendered.

(4) Having reverted to Reserve status at the end of World War II, Senator Thurmond was promoted to brigadier general in the United States Army Reserve in 1954. He served as President of the Reserve Officers Association beginning that same year and ending in 1955. Senator Thurmond was promoted to major general in the United States Army Reserve in 1959. He transferred to the Retired Reserve on January 1, 1965, after 36 years of commissioned service.