

(C) Subsection (e) (relating to streamlined personnel authority).

With respect to subparagraph (B), the report shall include a provision specifying, for the one-year period for which the report is submitted, the number of persons who were paid amounts greater than \$100,000 and the number of persons who were paid amounts between \$50,000 and \$100,000.

(b) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES REVIEW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than four years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall request the National Academy of Sciences to enter into an agreement for a review of the biomedical countermeasure research and development authorities established in this Act to determine whether and to what extent activities undertaken pursuant to such authorities have enhanced the development of biomedical countermeasures affecting national security, and to recommend any legislative or administrative changes necessary to improve the ability of the Secretary to carry out these activities in the future. The Secretary shall ensure that the results of the study are submitted to the designated congressional committees not later than five years after such date of enactment.

(2) CERTAIN CONTENTS.—The report under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) a summary of the most recent analysis by the Department of Homeland Security and the intelligence community of the domestic threat from chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear agents;

(B) the Academy's assessment of the current availability of countermeasures to address such threats;

(C) the Academy's assessment of the extent to which programs and activities under this Act will reduce any gap between the threat and the availability of countermeasures to an acceptable level of risk; and

(D)(i) the Academy's assessment of threats to national security that are posed by technology that will enable, during the 10-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the development of antibiotic resistant, mutated, or bioengineered strains of biological agents; and

(ii) recommendations on short-term and long-term governmental strategies for addressing such threats, including recommendations for Federal policies regarding research priorities, the development of countermeasures, and investments in technology.

(c) GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE REVIEW.—Four years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall initiate a study—

(1)(A) to review the Secretary of Health and Human Services' utilization of the authorities granted under this Act with respect to simplified acquisition procedures, procedures other than full and open competition, increased micropurchase thresholds, personal services contracts, streamlined personnel authority, and the purchase of security countermeasures under the special reserve fund; and

(B) to recommend any legislative or administrative changes necessary to improve the utilization or effectiveness of such authorities in the future;

(2)(A) to review the internal controls instituted by such Secretary with respect to such authorities, where required by this Act; and

(B) to recommend any legislative or administrative changes necessary to improve the effectiveness of such controls; and

(3)(A) to review such Secretary's utilization of the authority granted under this Act to authorize an emergency use of a biomedical countermeasure, including the

means by which the Secretary determines whether and under what conditions any such authorizations should be granted and the benefits and adverse impacts, if any, resulting from the use of such authority; and

(B) to recommend any legislative or administrative changes necessary to improve the utilization or effectiveness of such authority and to enhance protection of the public health.

The results of the study shall be submitted to the designated congressional committees not later than five years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) REPORT REGARDING BARRIERS TO PROCUREMENT OF SECURITY COUNTERMEASURES.—

(1) BIOCONTAINMENT FACILITIES.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall jointly report to the designated congressional committees whether there is a lack of adequate large-scale biocontainment facilities necessary for the testing of security countermeasures in accordance with Food and Drug Administration requirements.

(2) ADDITIONAL BARRIERS.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, such Secretaries shall jointly report to the designated congressional committees any other potential barriers to the procurement of security countermeasures that have not been addressed by this Act.

(e) STATUS OF PROGRAM FOR CHEMICAL TERRORISM PREPAREDNESS.—Not later than 270 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall submit to the designated congressional committees a report describing the status of the program carried out by the Secretary to enhance the preparedness of the United States to respond to terrorist attacks involving chemical agents.

(f) DESIGNATED CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—For purposes of this section, the term "designated congressional committees" means the following committees of the Congress:

(1) In the House of Representatives: the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the Committee on Appropriations, the Committee on Government Reform, and the Select Committee on Homeland Security (or any successor to the Select Committee).

(2) In the Senate: the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on Government Affairs.

SEC. 6. OUTREACH.

The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall develop outreach measures to ensure to the extent practicable that diverse institutions, including Historically Black Colleges and Universities and those serving large proportions of Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans, or other underrepresented populations, are meaningfully aware of available research and development grants, contracts, cooperative agreements, and procurements conducted under sections 2 and 3 of this Act.

SEC. 7. RECOMMENDATION FOR EXPORT CONTROLS ON CERTAIN BIOMEDICAL COUNTERMEASURES.

Upon the award of any grant, contract, or cooperative agreement under section 2 or 3 of this Act for the research, development, or procurement of a qualified countermeasure or a security countermeasure (as those terms are defined in this Act), the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall, in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, determine whether the countermeasure involved in such grant, contract, or cooperative agreement is subject to existing export-related controls and, if not,

may make a recommendation to the appropriate Federal agency or agencies that such countermeasure should be included on the list of controlled items subject to such controls.

SEC. 8. ENSURING COORDINATION, COOPERATION AND THE ELIMINATION OF UNNECESSARY DUPLICATION IN PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO PROTECT THE HOMELAND FROM BIOLOGICAL, CHEMICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND NUCLEAR AGENTS.

(a) ENSURING COORDINATION OF PROGRAMS.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the activities of their respective Departments coordinate, complement, and do not unnecessarily duplicate programs to identify potential domestic threats from biological, chemical, radiological or nuclear agents, detect domestic incidents involving such agents, analyze such incidents, and develop necessary countermeasures. The aforementioned Secretaries shall further ensure that information and technology possessed by the Departments relevant to these activities are shared with the other Departments.

(b) DESIGNATION OF AGENCY COORDINATION OFFICER.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Secretary of Defense shall each designate an officer or employee of their respective Departments who shall coordinate, through regular meetings and communications, with the other aforementioned Departments such programs and activities carried out by their Departments.

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the original request of the gentleman from Washington?

There was no objection.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 1472

Mr. COLLINS (during debate on motion to instruct on H.R. 1308). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to have my name removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 1472.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

□ 2000

UNITED STATES-CHILE FREE TRADE AGREEMENT—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 108-101)

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. SIMONS) laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, without objection, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on the Judiciary and ordered to be printed:

To the Congress of the United States:

I am pleased to transmit legislation and supporting documents to implement the United States-Chile Free Trade Agreement (FTA). The Agreement will further open Chile's markets for U.S. manufactured goods, agricultural products, services, and investors. It will increase competition and consumer choice. The FTA will enhance prosperity in the United States and Chile, serve the interest of expanding U.S. commerce, and advance our overall national interest.

The U.S.-Chile FTA is the first United States free trade agreement with a South American country. We hope the FTA will add momentum to Chile's continued implementation of the free market economic policies that have made Chile a model for its Latin American neighbors. This Agreement will also encourage other countries in the Western Hemisphere to follow Chile's path, furthering our efforts to establish a Free Trade Area of the Americas.

My Administration is strongly committed to securing a level playing field for America's workers, farmers, and businesses. The Congress helped advance that policy by passing Trade Promotion Authority in the Trade Act of 2002 (the "Trade Act"). The Congress can help us take another important step by approving this Agreement and the implementing legislation. United States workers and businesses are currently at a competitive disadvantage in the Chilean market. Chile is an associate member in Mercosur and has FTAs with many other countries, including Canada, Mexico, and the 15 members of the European Union. Securing an FTA with Chile will ensure that U.S. workers and businesses will receive treatment in the Chilean market that is as good as or better than their competitors.

In negotiating this FTA, my Administration was guided by the negotiating objectives set out in the Trade Act. More than 85 percent of trade in consumer and industrial goods between the United States and Chile will be free of duties immediately upon implementation, and most remaining tariffs on U.S. exports to Chile will be eliminated within 4 years after that. More than three-quarters of U.S. farm goods will enter Chile duty free within 4 years and all duties on such goods will be phased out over 12 years. At the same time, the Agreement includes measures to ensure that U.S. firms and farmers have an opportunity to adjust to imports from Chile.

This Agreement opens opportunities for our services businesses, which now account for nearly 65 percent of our gross domestic product and more than 80 percent of employment in the United States. Chile will grant substantial market access to U.S. firms across nearly the entire spectrum of services, including banking, insurance, securities and related financial services, express delivery services, professional services, and telecommunications.

This Agreement provides for state-of-the-art intellectual property protection and recognizes the importance of trade in the digital age by including significant commitments on trade in digital products. In addition, it ensures that electronic commerce will stay free of duties and discriminatory rules.

United States citizens and businesses that invest in Chile will have significant increased protections. This Agreement promotes the rule of law and enhances transparency and openness in order to foster a more secure environment for trade and investment. Furthermore, Chile will provide U.S. investors with important substantive protections that Chilean investors already enjoy in the United States.

The United States and Chile have also agreed to cooperate on environment and labor issues and to establish mechanisms to support those efforts. A number of important cooperative projects that will promote environmental protection are identified for future work. The FTA encourages the adoption of high labor and environmental standards, obligates each country to enforce its own labor and environmental laws, and makes clear that domestic labor and environmental protections may not be reduced in order to encourage trade or investment. The Agreement also preserves our right to pursue other legitimate domestic objectives, including the protection of health and safety, consumer interests, and national security.

Trade and openness contribute to development, the rule of law, economic growth, and international cooperation. Chile is a close partner of the United States, and this Agreement will strengthen those ties.

With the approval of this Agreement and passage of the implementing legislation by the Congress, we will advance U.S. economic and political interests, while encouraging others to work with us to expand free trade around the world.

GEORGE W. BUSH.
THE WHITE HOUSE, July 15, 2003.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BURNS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 7, 2003, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

BUSH ADMINISTRATION UNDERMINES ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, from clean air and water to wetlands and global warming, this is an administration that is determined to ignore the most pressing environmental problems, dismiss good science that draws attention to these problems and undermine

our most effective environmental laws that address those problems.

It is one thing for the Bush administration to break its promises on environmental issues such as regulating carbon dioxide, but every administration has a responsibility to provide Congress and the American people with sound science that is untainted by politics.

Unfortunately, it is becoming all too common for the Bush administration to compromise the independence and credibility of our government agencies by shelving and suppressing sound science if it does not fit their political agenda.

Most recently, this trend is evident in EPA's actions surrounding the administration's "Clear Skies" proposal which would weaken the Clean Air Act. Earlier this month the EPA intentionally hid data showing that a competing Senate clean air bill would provide far greater long-term health benefits at only a slightly higher cost. While EPA disclosed the cost associated with the Senate bill, it failed to disclose that the proposal would result in 17,800 fewer premature deaths annually than the administration's proposal.

This comes on the heels of last month's release of EPA's State of the Environment Report. The report, commissioned in 2001 by Administrator Whitman, was intended to provide the first comprehensive review of what is known about the various environmental problems, from air pollution to the state of drinking water supplies, where gaps in understanding exist and how we might fill them.

The White House directed a major rewrite of an assessment of climate change, removing references to health and environmental risks posed by rising global temperatures.

According to an EPA memo, the changes demanded by the White House were so extensive that the climate section no longer accurately represents scientific consensus on climate change and characterized the revised draft as an embarrassment to the EPA. If the changes are accepted, the staff memo said, the agency will take severe criticism from the science and environmental communities for poorly representing the science of climate change.

According to the EPA papers, the White House deleted from a summary under the heading of Global Issues the sentence, "Climate changes has global consequences for human health and the environment." A number of scientific reports have also raised those concerns.

The draft also removed the reference and a graphic to a 1999 study showing global temperatures had risen sharply in the past decade compared with the previous 1,000 years. Instead, it cites a new study partly sponsored by the American Petroleum Institute that disputed those findings.