

(1) That the vaccine used in the Department of Defense anthrax vaccination program does not have an unacceptably high systemic reaction rate.

(2) That the vaccine is effective with respect to noncutaneous transfer of anthrax.

(3) That the vaccine will be produced in a manner acceptable to the Food and Drug Administration.

(e) REQUIREMENT FOR USE OF NEW VACCINE.—If the anthrax vaccination program is resumed under subsection (a), the Secretary of Defense may only use newly produced vaccine for vaccinations after the resumption of the program.

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2000

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM BLILEY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 14, 1999

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2466) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2000, and for other purposes.

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Chairman, section 322 of H.R. 2466 is a funding limitation to prevent monies appropriated under the bill to be used by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for spectrum purposes, GSA Telecommunication Centers, or the President's Council on Sustainable Development. I rise in opposition to this provision's applicability to NTIA's spectrum functions because of its potential impact on telecommunications policy and efficient use of the radio spectrum by government users.

Spectrum management issues fall within the jurisdiction of the Commerce Committee. As our Members have learned over the years, spectrum management is a complex task that requires detailed analysis and consideration. Under the current process, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) oversees the use of spectrum by private entities and NTIA oversees the use of spectrum by government entities, including the Department of Interior.

NTIA currently is required to be reimbursed by all federal agencies for the spectrum management functions NTIA does on behalf of the agencies. Today, federal agencies typically reimburse NTIA for about 80 percent of the costs associated with spectrum management. Since its inception, reimbursement by federal agencies to NTIA for spectrum functions has had a positive impact on the spectrum efficiency of federal agencies. Putting a cost on government spectrum has caused agencies to reassess exactly how much spectrum and what precise frequencies they need to complete their mission. This cost, however, is not an attempt to decrease or interfere with the valuable functions that federal agencies use spectrum for. In practice, the concept has promoted spectrum efficiency and promoted the efficiency of NTIA's spectrum management functions.

Section 322 would, in effect, prohibit the Department of Interior from reimbursing NTIA for spectrum functions. The Department of the Interior has already been required to reimburse NTIA since FY1996 and had to take into account such provisions prior to submitting a budget request to the Congress for FY2000. Section 322 is a direct effort to undermine the reimbursement effort and provides the Department of Interior with extra funding for other purposes for FY2000 that they wouldn't have otherwise. Providing the Department of the Interior with a statutory mechanism to avoid paying its fair share for spectrum management functions is not sound policy.

Further, section 322 could harm the Department of Interior's use of spectrum because under current restrictions NTIA is prohibited from providing any spectrum functions to a federal agency that does not reimburse NTIA for such functions. To the extent that the Department of Interior does not have funding outside of the monies provided in H.R. 2466, the Congress may be limiting the spectrum functions and capabilities of the Department of Interior. In effect, this provision may be prohibiting the Department of Interior from reimbursing NTIA for spectrum functions and as a result preventing the Department of Interior from using spectrum.

The Commerce Committee intends to move legislation reauthorizing NTIA this session. In particular, the Subcommittee on Telecommunications, Trade, and Consumer Protection is considering legislation to codify the current reimbursement practices and expand on the level of reimbursement from federal agencies to 100 percent. If any effort is necessary to adjust, alter, or exempt any federal agency from reimbursing NTIA for spectrum functions it should be through this vehicle and not through an appropriations bill.

Accordingly, I believe that section 322 may have a negative impact on spectrum policy. The Commerce Committee will be active to ensure that the inclusion of any provision within the final version of this bill not interfere or cause harm to telecommunications policy. I respectfully request that these concerns be taken into account during further consideration of this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 19, 1999

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, July 15, I inadvertently voted "nay" when I meant to vote "aye" on rollcall vote 303, the Lowey amendment to H.R. 2490, the Fiscal Year 2000 (FY 00) Treasury-Postal Appropriations Act.

I support the provision in H.R. 2490 to require Federal Employee Health Benefit Plans (FEHBP) which provide prescription plans to include coverage of all FDA-approved contraceptive drugs and devices.

I oppose the amendment offered by Congressman CHRIS SMITH to allow health plans to opt out of providing contraceptive coverage by claiming a "moral conviction." I was happy

to see the passage of the Lowey substitute amendment to strike this exemption for health plans.

It is my hope the Lowey amendment will help reduce unwanted pregnancies while providing women with contraceptive coverage. While the FY 00 Treasury-Postal Appropriations Act covers only women in the FEHBP, I believe it is a positive step forward in ensuring contraceptive coverage is available to women in a majority of health plans.

As an original cosponsor of H.R. 2120, the Equity in Prescription and Contraceptive Coverage Act, introduced by Representatives JIM GREENWOOD and NITA LOWEY, I will continue to work to provide access to family planning services.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 20, 1999 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 21

9:30 a.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings on S. 985, to amend the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act.

SD-106

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings on the nomination of William Rainer to be Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and to conduct an oversight review of the farmland protection program.

SR-328A

Armed Services

To hold hearings on the nomination of F. Whitten Peters, of the District of Columbia, to be Secretary of the Air Force; and the nomination of Arthur L. Money, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Defense.

SR-222

Environment and Public Works

Fisheries, Wildlife, and Drinking Water Subcommittee

To continue hearings on the habitat conservation plans.

SD-406