

FOR THE RELIEF OF THE ESTATE OF GAIL E. DOBERT

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SEPTEMBER 20, 1996.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and  
ordered to be printed

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Mr. HYDE, from the Committee on the Judiciary,  
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H.R. 4025]

[Including cost estimates of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 4025) for the relief of the estate of Gail E. Dobert, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

PURPOSE

H.R. 4025 would provide a lump sum payment to the estate of Gail Dobert equal to twice the gross annual pay of Ms. Dobert at the time of her death. That sum will be approximately the amount the estate would have received had Ms. Dobert had basic Federal life insurance.

BACKGROUND

Gail Dobert was the Deputy Director of the Office of Business Liaison at the Commerce Department. She was tragically killed when the plane carrying Secretary of Commerce Ron Brown and his Balkan trade mission crashed into a Croatian hillside.

As the Deputy Director of Business Liaison, Ms. Dobert traveled around the world helping Secretary Brown promote U.S. business interests. Prior to working at the Department of Commerce, Ms. Dobert had worked with Secretary Brown at the Democratic National Committee. Ms. Dobert had also worked as a legislative aide for Congressman Gus Yatron (D-Pa.) in the 1980s.

Gail Dobert had clearly devoted her life to public service and looked forward to a promising career before being cut down in the prime of her life. Unfortunately, she had not obtained life insur-

ance at the time of her death. H.R. 4025 provides a one-time lump sum payment equal to twice Ms. Dobert's gross annual pay which is approximately the amount her estate would have received had she had basic Federal life insurance. While this payment certainly cannot compensate for the enormous personal loss suffered by Ms. Dobert's family, the Committee intends it to be recognition of Ms. Dobert's contribution to public service.

#### COMMITTEE ACTION

On September 18, 1996, the Committee on the Judiciary ordered reported favorably H.R. 4025 without amendment by voice vote, a quorum being present.

#### COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

In compliance with clause 2(1)(3)(A) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee reports that the findings and recommendations of the Committee, based on oversight activities under clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, are incorporated in the descriptive portions of this report.

#### COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT REFORM AND OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

No findings or recommendations of the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight were received as referred to in clause 2(1)(3)(D) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

#### NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY AND TAX EXPENDITURES

Clause 2(1)(3)(B) of House Rule XI is inapplicable because this legislation does not provide new budgetary authority or increased tax expenditures.

#### CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

In compliance with clause 2(1)(3)(C) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee sets forth, with respect to the bill, H.R. 4025, the following estimate and comparison prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office under section 403 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974:

U.S. CONGRESS,  
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,  
*Washington, DC, September 19, 1996.*

Hon. HENRY J. HYDE,  
*Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary,  
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has reviewed H.R. 4025, a bill for the relief of the estate of Gail E. Dobert, as ordered reported by the House Committee on the Judiciary on September 18, 1996. The bill would require the Secretary of the Treasury to make a payment of about \$129,000, which we expect would be made in fiscal year 1997. Because the bill would increase direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is John R. Righter.

Sincerely,

JUNE E. O'NEILL, *Director*.

INFLATIONARY IMPACT STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 2(1)(4) of rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee estimates that H.R. 4025 will have no significant inflationary impact on prices and costs in the national economy.

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