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Dwight D. Eisenhower Medical Center

Mr. Mitchell. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Veterans' Affairs be discharged from further consideration of H.R. 2987, the Dwight D. Eisenhower Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Leavenworth, Kansas as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows: A bill (H.R. 2987) to rename the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Leavenworth, Kansas as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill.

Mr. Dole. Mr. President, I rise today to support my distinguished colleagues Senator Kassebaum and Congressman Slattery, who introduced the House bill, in renaming the veterans' affairs medical center in Leavenworth, Kansas, after a national hero and Kansas native, who served his country and the world—Dwight David Eisenhower.

Eisenhower's outstanding career was one of Kansas' greatest contributions to the Nation and the world. The unique political skills of this farmboy from Kansas helped forge and hold together an unprecedented world alliance that achieved victory and secured peace for Western democracy.

Eisenhower grew up in Abilene, Kansas. He came from a poor family, working in a creamery and selling vegetables to help his family meet expenses. His distinguished military career began when he was appointed Chief of Staff of the combined allied expeditionary forces in Europe.

In December 1944, Eisenhower was given command of the rank of five-star general, less than a year later becoming Army Chief of Staff. Following this tour of duty, he retired briefly from active service. But his country would not let him retire for long; President Truman called Eisenhower to serve once again—this time as supreme commander of NATO forces in Europe. Some time later, Eisenhower received his most distinguished promotion: the people of the United States elected him their President.

Once again, Eisenhower served his country well. He ran for President promising to go to Korea, and as President saw the end of the war that remains intact today. His term also saw the addition of Alaska and Hawaii to the Union. He sent the Army to Little Rock, Arkansas, to enforce the landmark civil rights decrees of 1957. The "iron-skulled" pilot of weapons verification with the Soviet Union was originally his brainchild.

Mr. President, the life and accomplishments of Dwight Eisenhower are far too distinguished and numerous, and time too limited to recite fully here. This Nation owes him special honor. Naming the Leavenworth VA Medical Center, Kansas, in his memory is a fitting tribute. My good friend and fellow Kansan, Senator Kassebaum, introduced legislation July 25 to render this tribute and honor the medical center. But determination and persistence have played a major part in bringing this effort to completion; Kansans and all veterans owe her thanks for her commitment.

This hospital serves our veterans. It assists those men and women who have given so much for our country, and in fact, to whom we owe the preservation of our freedom and democracy. As a veteran, I understand the needs of my fellow veterans, and the debt that this country owes them. This hospital is one way our Nation attempts to pay this debt.

Mr. President, I believe that Dwight Eisenhower should be proud to have his name on this hospital that serves fellow veterans. I think that Senator Kassebaum and I can speak for all Kansans when I say that we would be honored to rename the Leavenworth VA Medical center after this distinguished hero.

October 14, 1989 is the centennial of Eisenhower's birth. I think the time is fittingly right to honor Dwight Eisenhower in a most-decorous manner, as part of the celebration of the country's 200th birthday. As part of the celebration I am proud to have my friend, Senator Kassebaum, and to join Senator Dole in introducing the bill.

Mrs. Kassebaum. Mr. President, it is with great pleasure that I have this opportunity to vote for final passage of H.R. 2987, the House version of the Senate-passed bill to rename the Leavenworth VA Medical Center, Kansas, as the Dwight D. Eisenhower Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion to lay on the table was agreed to.

Library Services and Construction Act Amendments of 1991

Mr. Mitchell. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar Item No. 233, S. 1291, a bill to extend and amend the Library Services and Construction Act.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the immediate consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the bill which had been reported from the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, with amendments as follows:

(1) in paragraph (2)
(A) by striking "and initial equipment" and inserting "and for the purchase, lease, and installation of equipment";

(C) by striking "energy" and inserting "to ensure safe working environment and to conserve energy"; and

(C) by striking "includes machinery" and inserting "including development and building technologies, video and telecommunications equipment, machinery"; and

(b) the following, and thereafter the following new paragraphs:

"(a) The term 'handicapped individual' means an individual who is physically or mentally unable, seriously impaired, visually impaired, or hearing impaired.

(b) The term 'network' means any local, statewide, regional, or interstate cooperative association of library entities which provide for the systematic and effective coordination of the resources of school, public, academic, and special libraries and information centers for improved supplementary services for the clientele served by each type of library entity.

SEC. 9. APPROPRIATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) Amendments.—Section 4(a) of the Act is amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 4. (a) There are authorized to be appropriated

(1) for the purpose of making grants as provided in title I, $10,000,000 for fiscal year 1989 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years;

(2) for the purpose of making grants as provided in title II, $50,000,000 for fiscal year 1989 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years;

(3) for the purpose of making grants as provided in title III, $35,000,000 for fiscal year 1989 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years;

(4) for the purpose of making grants as provided in title V, $1,000,000 for fiscal year 1989 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years;

(5) for the purpose of making grants as provided in title VI, $9,000,000 for fiscal year 1989 and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years; and

(6) for the purpose of activities as provided in title VII, $500,000 for fiscal year 1989, and such sums as may be necessary for each of the 4 succeeding fiscal years.

There shall be available for the purpose of making grants under section 5(d) of this Act for fiscal years 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, and 1993, 4.5 percent of the amount appropriated pursuant to each of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) for each such fiscal year. There shall be available for the purpose of making grants under section 6(d) for such fiscal years 0.5 percent of the amount appropriated pursuant to each of subsections (a) and (b) for each such fiscal year.

(b) CENSUS OF FUNDS.—Section 6(b) of the Act is amended by inserting "and at the end thereof the following new paragraph:

"(d) and is authorized to remain available until expended.

SEC. 10. ALLOCATIONS.

(a) Amendments.—Section 6(c) of the Act is amended to read as follows:

"(c)(1) From one-half of the sums available pursuant to each such section and subsection, and (c) from any approved application under section 603.

(2) From the remaining one-half of the sums available pursuant to each such section and subsection, the Secretary shall allocate an equal amount to each Indian tribe for the purchase, lease, and installation of equipment.

(2) by inserting after paragraph (1) of this subsection for such fiscal year, and (2) have submitted approved applications under section 603.

(3) in making allocations under paragraph (2)—

(1) no funds shall be allocated to an Indian tribe unless the tribe will be administratively ready and able to begin;

(2) the Secretary shall take into account the needs of Indian tribes for such allocations to carry out the activities described in section 602(b);

(4) in making allocations under this subsection for fiscal year 1988, make such such such allocations as may be necessary to prevent an allocation from being received to serve the same population by any 2 or more of the following entities as defined in, or established pursuant to, the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act:

(a) an Alaskan native village,

(b) a regional corporation, or

(c) a village corporation.

and

(b) in paragraph 6(c)(2), by striking "and furnishing" and inserting "and furnishing";

and

(c) by striking "libraries" and inserting "library services";

and

(d) by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

"(1) in paragraph (1), by striking "and institutionalized individuals";

and

(2) in paragraph (1), by striking "libraries" and inserting "library services".

SEC. 11. MAINTENANCE OF EFFORT.

Section 7 of this Act is amended—

(1) by striking (b) and (c) as subsections (b) and (c), respectively, and

(2) by inserting after subsection (a) the following new paragraph:

"(b) The maintenance of effort requirement under subsection (c) shall be met by a State library agency in providing library services to the population served by such library agency for the previous fiscal year and for the current fiscal year and for the current fiscal year and for the current fiscal year.

(b) In fiscal year 1989, and every fifth fiscal year thereafter, each State library agency shall report to the head of the National Commission of which the determination is made under the programs from State local sources and the Secretary of the statement to establish a current, revised expenditure level to be used for measuring the maintenance of effort required under subsections (a)(1), (b)(1), and (a)(3).

SEC. 12. INTERGENERATIONAL LIBRARY SERVICES.

Section 101 of the Act is amended—

(1) by redesignating paragraphs (5) and (6) as paragraphs (5) and (6), respectively, and

(2) by inserting after paragraph (4) the following new paragraph:

"(5) for assisting libraries in developing intergenerational library programs that will match older adult volunteers with libraries interested in developing after school literacy and reading programs for underprivileged school children during after school hours, and

and

(b) in paragraph 1011 of Title II of this Act, the Act is amended—

(1) by inserting "and TECHNOLOGY ENHANCEMENT ACT" before "CONSTRUCTION" in the heading of such title;
It is the intent of these 1989 amendments to ensure the continuity of these important library services by reauthorizing the LSCA for another 5 years. As the Committee on Labor and Human Resources noted in its report on the LSCA in anticipation of this reauthorization, its was generally agreed that significant changes to the Act should await the recommendations of the White House Conference on Library and Information Services.

The White House Conference, authorized in the last Congress, is to be held not later than September 1991. Preliminary conferences in the States will examine the most significant changes facing the library community will be discussed at length. It is prudent to await the findings generated by this Conference so that they can be part of any future congressional discussions expanded to include library and childcare activities; a new title VII has been added for the evaluation and assessment of LSCA by the Department of Education and various technical amendments have been included to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the two areas of technology and preservation do receive increased emphasis in the bill because the projected needs in these areas are not adequately funded for in current programs. The States are given greater latitude in using LSCA funds for purchasing and maintaining technological equipment and they are given the option of using title III funds for developing programs to provide preservation services. The added emphasis on preservation programs will hopefully encourage libraries to protect endangered materials and preserve them for future generations.

In addition, title I purposes have been expanded to include library and childcare activities; a new title VII has been added for the evaluation and assessment of LSCA by the Department of Education and various technical amendments have been included to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of LSCA programs. Title V, which supports the acquisition of foreign language materials by public libraries, has also been amended by waiving the maximum grant available to major urban resource libraries. This action recognizes the increasing demand on these libraries for such materials and the escalating cost of them.

The original Library Services and Construction Act was signed into law in 1956 for the primary purpose of assisting States in extending library...
services to rural America. For Kansas, this was a very important step. At that time, only one in six Americans had access to a public library. The Library Services and Construction Act, or LSCA, makes a difference. Today, 15 out of 100 families can enjoy the services that public libraries provide. Piled high in the stacks of books are dreams for our youth to hold, ideals to which to aspire. Found behind the doors of the local public library are glitzy waiting rooms, and a family waiting to get home. Aldous Huxley once noted that "Every man who knows how to read has in his power to magnify himself, to multiply the ways in which he exists." I believe that, for the most part, LSCA is operating well. The bill we are considering today reauthorizes the original Library Services and Construction Act, or LSCA, and makes minor modifications and technical changes to the act to help our Nation meet the needs of our changing society. It builds upon the initial purpose of the act to encourage a tradition of providing services while encouraging innovation and preservation of resources.

The Library Services and Construction Act, or LSCA, is composed of seven titles. The first title strengthens State library administrative agencies and major urban resource libraries. The second title, Public Library Construction Grants, is a popular program which provides funds for the construction of public libraries. Title III provides funds for the development of interlibrary cooperation and resource-sharing programs which will permit individuals even greater access to resources currently available to them.

Title IV strengthens the programs available to native Americans and title V provides funds for libraries to purchase materials in foreign languages. Title VI addresses the literacy needs of the Nation, today facing our Nation by designating funds for the development of literacy programs.

The last title is title VII which authorizes the reauthorization and amendment of library programs. The purpose of these funds is to provide a review of programs supported under the authority of the LSCA and the degree to which they are reaching their intended populations. Since the Library Services and Construction Act receives a relatively small share of Federal funds, I think it is important that we account for how those dollars are spent.

The focus of the act as it stands today is to encourage innovation and to reach out to groups such as the disadvantaged, elderly, and handicapped—who might not otherwise be able to access the resources of libraries on their own. These resources are found on library shelves. As Thomas Carlyle so wisely noted, "All that mankind has done, thought, gained or been" is lying in magic preservation in the pages of books.

Mr. COCHRAN. Mr. President, I am pleased to join my colleagues today in voicing any support for S. 291, the Library Services and Construction Act Amendments of 1989. The passage of this bill represents the Senate's continuing commitment to our Nation's libraries.

In reauthorizing the Library Services and Construction Act, the Labor and Human Resources Committee talked to hundreds of librarians across the country who expressed their support for the bill. As a result, the bill we are considering today takes into account their views and suggestions. This bill continues the programs under the act for an additional 5 years and also includes many improvements. I am particularly pleased that we are increasing the authorization level for "Title VI—Literacy Grants," to $10 million. In addition, libraries would be eligible to receive individual grants of $55,000 to provide adult literacy activities, an increase of $10,000.

The "Title I—Library Services Grants" have been used generally to expand programs serving the elderly, handicapped, and underserved areas. The Library Services and Construction Act would be allowed to establish model literacy centers in cooperation with other entities such as public television. I am pleased that title I funds may now be used for these purposes, and I'm sure that the chairman of the subcommittee, Senator Paza and Senator Kasenaw, will be talking about this language in the bill.

Since its enactment in 1956, the Library Services and Construction Act has received the largest amount of Federal assistance for our Nation's libraries. The 1989 reauthorization improves upon the commitment made in 1966. It is my hope that this legislation will be approved by the Senate.

Mr. President, I appreciate the Senate's prompt consideration of this bill. I am a strong supporter of library services and the opportunities they give to Americans throughout the country. The purpose of the original act was to enable citizens, regardless of their location, to have access to library services. This act has encouraged local governments in Utah and elsewhere in the country to expand their library services. As we continue to emphasize the value of literacy in the United States, we have to provide library services to enable all citizens to have access to literature and resources. This is particularly true in urban areas by establishing centrally located libraries. In rural areas this has been accomplished by establishing libraries and by also developing bookmobiles to bring services to the people. The rural areas which cannot build and support a local library.

This bill will allow us to continue to provide these valuable services to the citizens of the country. This bill is just one step in our fight to increase the literacy level of our citizens.

Mr. BOSCHWITZ. Mr. President, I rise today in support of the Library Services and Construction Act Amendments of 1989. The Library Services Act was first signed into law by President Eisenhower to assist States in providing library services to underserved areas.

One of the underserved areas today is the child care provider. Both income providers and center-based providers have funds designated for additional educational material for the children. Providers who work to provide an educationally stimulating environment spend an increasing amount of time and money to obtain the necessary materials. While the public library often times has all the materials that a provider would want, what is the best way to bring the provider and the library together?

It is difficult for providers to take all these materials to the library or to find time after hours to check out the desired materials.

It was for these reasons that I introduced an amendment to allow libraries to use their title I funds to provide their clients with the appropriate vehicles to deliver books, tapes, videos, and educational toys to licensed or certified family providers, child care centers, or other providers that meet State eligibility requirements.

I ask that my colleagues thank the Committee on Labor and Human Resources for accepting my amendment and I look forward to hearing from child care providers on the utilization of this provision.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I rise in support of the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA). This bill represents the largest Federal program which specifically funds libraries to provide services to isolated, or major metropolitan libraries. Yet, while geographically isolated, they are not isolated from access to information, thanks to the services rendered to them through the LSCA.

Title I of the bill provides for the creation of a State of Vermont which would receive education and training for its librarians, 90 percent of whom come to libraries with no training whatsoever.

In 1988, Title II of the bill provided Vermont with $100,000 for building construction and improvement. Last year, Vermont used this money to help finance a new town library where previously none existed. Federal funds only accounted for 10 percent of the costs, but to a small State such as my own 10 percent is crucial.
Title III of the bill is probably the single most important title of LSCA for my State. Title III moneys go to facilitate interlibrary loans and access to information. Because of this money, each of the small libraries throughout the State can access the large research libraries such as the one situated at the University of Vermont. This telecommunications capability is at no expense to the university—all access is done through computer network. Clearly, this effective and essential activity could not have been provided without Federal money.

Furthermore, LSCA has provided Vermont with $50,000 worth of computer printed catalog cards which otherwise would have had to be done by staff. It provided consultant services to libraries for computer training, catalog updates, and general services. Finally, LSCA has provided institutional libraries with long overdue services for the blind and handicapped.

This bill clearly expands services to States. It gives children and adults a glimpse into a whole new world by giving them access to information and books. I have outlined the financial assistance provided to Vermont through the LSCA—what I cannot do so easily but which is far more important is tally the countless number of children and adults who have benefited from this program.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the committee amendments. The committee amendments were agreed to.

AMENDMENT NO. 992
(Purpose: To prevent libraries which receive financial assistance under Library Services Construction Act from discriminating in providing space for public meetings)

AMENDMENT NO. 994
(Purpose: To amend the provision regarding licensing and certification of child-care providers and child-care centers)

Mr. CHAFEE. Mr. President, I send two amendments to the desk on behalf of Senator HELMS, and I ask unanimous consent that they be considered en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senate from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE), for Mr. HELMS, proposes amendments en bloc numbered 993 and 994. The amendments numbered 993 and 994 are as follows:

AMENDMENT NO. 993
On page 6, between lines 5 and 6 insert the following:

SEC. 5. ANTIDISCRIMINATION PROVISION.
Section 6(b) of the Act is amended by—
(1) striking “and” at the end of paragraph (3);
(2) redesignating paragraph (4) as paragraph (5); and
(3) inserting the following new paragraph (4) after paragraph (3):

“(4) provide assurances that libraries within the State shall not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, age, gender, national origin, or handicapping condition in providing space for public meetings; and”.


AMENDMENT NO. 994
On page 8, line 2, strike, “licensed or certified by the State, or otherwise meet the requirements of State law”.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the unanimous-consent request of the Senator from Rhode Island?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on agreeing to the amendments of the Senator from North Carolina.

The amendments (No. 993 and 994) were agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The bill is open to further amendment. If there be no further amendment to be proposed, the question is on agreeing to the committee amendments.

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The question is on the engrossment and third reading of the bill.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading and was read the third time.

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the immediate consideration of Calendar Item No. 237, H.R. 2742, the House companion bill; that all after the enacting clause be stricken; that the text of S. 1291, as amended, be inserted in lieu thereof; that the bill be read the third time, passed, and that the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection? Without objection, it is so ordered.

S. 1291 INDEFINITELY POSTPONED

Mr. MITCHELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that S. 1291 be indefinitely postponed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.