

TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR U.S. CITIZENS RETURNED FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

JUNE 16 (legislative day, MARCH 30), 1964.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. BYRD of Virginia, from the Committee on Finance, submitted
the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H.R. 10466]

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 10466) to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to extend the period during which temporary assistance may be provided for United States citizens returned from foreign countries, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to extend for 3 years, from June 30, 1964, until June 30, 1967, the provisions of section 1113(d) of the Social Security Act which authorize provision of temporary assistance to U.S. citizens returned from foreign countries under certain circumstances.

Section 1113 of the Social Security Act authorizes the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to provide temporary assistance to citizens of the United States and to dependents of citizens of the United States if they are identified by the Department of State as having returned, or having been brought, from a foreign country to the United States because of the destitution of the citizen of the United States or the illness of such citizen or any of his dependents or because of war, threat of war, invasion, or similar crisis, and if they are without available resources.

In 1961, following enactment of section 1113, the Federal agencies concerned established a committee to plan for reception, temporary assistance, and related services in the United States for U.S. citizens and their dependents evacuated from foreign countries in emergencies. The committee includes representation from the State Department, the Justice Department, and the Department of Defense. It has

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consulted with the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in the development of materials which provide guidance to State and local agencies in the provision of assistance. Arrangements have been worked out whereby such agencies are notified and the plan developed by the committee put into operation when U.S. citizens and their dependents are arriving from foreign countries in an emergency situation. The individuals affected are identified by the Department of State. When U.S. citizens return because of personal illness or destitution, they are referred by the Department of State to the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare for any needed assistance. The State or local public welfare agencies are then requested by the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare to make necessary arrangements and provide needed assistance according to the materials that have been developed. Persons receiving assistance are placed on notice of the responsibility to repay, to the extent that they are able, all assistance provided. To date actual repayments have been approximately \$2,700.

During the fiscal year 1963 a total of \$180,116 was expended for the program (this includes \$25,000 made available from the President's emergency fund because appropriated funds were not available at the beginning of the fiscal year). A major part of this total (\$150,541) was expended for repatriates from Cuba, most of which (\$130,000) was expended in Florida. During the fiscal year 1963, 218 new cases of U.S. citizens returned from Cuba were provided assistance in Florida and 28 such cases were provided assistance in other States. The average monthly number of cases returned from Cuba that were receiving assistance for maintenance during the fiscal year was 73. Average monthly assistance for maintenance per case (family or lone individual) was approximately \$125.

Despite the numerical preponderance of repatriates from Cuba, a total of 68 cases in fiscal year 1963 came from other countries (45 of these from Europe and the remainder distributed among other continents). Of these 68, 28 received help in planning for their reception in a home community but no financial assistance. Fourteen required only transportation. Twenty received both transportation and some maintenance payments and six required hospitalization. The 20 cases that received maintenance assistance got such assistance for an average of slightly less than 3 months while the 6 cases that required hospitalization averaged 7.4 months of care during the year. The group of returnees from other countries, while small, is a continuing stream.

No assistance is provided under the program until a repatriated U.S. citizen has been identified by the Department of State as having been returned for one of the reasons set forth in section 1113 and such assistance is provided under this act only after the repatriate is actually in the United States. Any funds or transportation required in a foreign country is arranged by the Department of State. All available resources are applied to reduce the amount and duration of assistance granted. The program is administered entirely through State and local public welfare agencies which are reimbursed for the full cost of assistance and services.

Your committee recommends that the provision, which would expire June 30, 1964, be extended until June 30, 1967. The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare recommends the extension of this legislation. An Advisory Council on Public Welfare, to be

appointed in 1964 under the provisions of Public Law 87-543, will have the opportunity to consider this provision along with other provisions scheduled to expire on June 30, 1967, and to give the Congress the benefit of its views well before that date.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE,
June 10, 1964.

HON. HARRY F. BYRD,
*Chairman, Committee on Finance,
U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: This letter is in response to your request of June 1, 1964, for a report on H.R. 10466, a bill to amend title XI of the Social Security Act to extend the period during which temporary assistance may be provided for U.S. citizens returned from foreign countries.

The bill would extend from its scheduled expiration date of June 30, 1964, to June 30, 1967, the provisions of section 1113(d) of the Social Security Act which authorize provision of temporary assistance to U.S. citizens returned from foreign countries under certain circumstances.

Section 1113 of the Social Security Act authorizes the Secretary of Health, Education, and Welfare to provide temporary assistance to citizens of the United States and to dependents of citizens of the United States if they are identified by the Department of State as having returned, or having been brought, from a foreign country to the United States because of the destitution of the citizen of the United States or the illness of such citizen or any of his dependents or because of war, threat of war, invasion, or similar crisis, and if they are without available resources.

During the fiscal year 1963 a total of \$180,116 was expended for the program (this includes \$25,000 made available from the President's emergency fund because appropriated funds were not available at the beginning of the fiscal year). A major part of this total (\$150,541) was expended for repatriates from Cuba, most of which (\$130,000) was expended in Florida. During the fiscal year 1963, 218 new cases of U.S. citizens returned from Cuba were provided assistance in Florida and 28 such cases were provided assistance in other States. The average monthly number of cases returned from Cuba that were receiving assistance for maintenance during the fiscal year was 73. Average monthly assistance for maintenance per case (family or lone individual) was approximately \$125.

No assistance is provided under the program until a repatriated U.S. citizen has been identified by the Department of State as having been returned for one of the reasons set forth in section 1113 and such assistance is provided under this act only after the repatriate is actually in the United States. Any funds or transportation required in a foreign country is arranged by the Department of State. All available resources are applied to reduce the amount and duration of assistance granted. The program is administered entirely through State and local public welfare agencies which are reimbursed for the full cost of assistance and services.

The authority contained in section 1113(d) was originally included by the committee as an amendment to the bill which became the Social

Security Amendments of 1961 (Public Law 87-64). It was extended by the Public Welfare Amendments of 1962 (Public Law 87-543) to its present expiration date of June 30, 1964. We strongly recommend that the provision be extended to June 30, 1967, the date provided in H.R. 10466. A number of the major provisions of Public Law 87-543 are scheduled to expire at that time and an advisory council on public welfare authorized under Public Law 87-543 will thoroughly review and report to the President and the Congress on public welfare legislation prior to that date.

If H.R. 10466 is enacted as we recommend, we would expect that the council would also review and report on the operation of section 1113(d).

We are advised by the Bureau of the Budget that there is no objection to the presentation of this report from the standpoint of the administration's program.

Sincerely,

ANTHONY CELEBREZZE,
Secretary.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection 4 of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted in enclosed in black brackets; new matter is printed in italic; existing law in which no changes is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 1113 OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

ASSISTANCE FOR UNITED STATES CITIZENS RETURNED FROM FOREIGN COUNTRIES

SEC. 1113. (a)(1) The Secretary is authorized to provide temporary assistance to citizens of the United States and to dependents of citizens of the United States, if they (A) are identified by the Department of State as having returned, or been brought, from a foreign country to the United States because of the destitution of the citizen of the United States or the illness of such citizen or any of his dependents or because of war, threat of war, invasion, or similar crisis, and (B) are without available resources.

(2) Except in such cases or classes of cases as are set forth in regulations of the Secretary, provision shall be made for reimbursement to the United States by the recipients of the temporary assistance to cover the cost thereof.

(3) The Secretary may provide assistance under paragraph (1) directly or through utilization of the services and facilities of appropriate public or private agencies and organizations, in accordance with agreements providing for payment, in advance or by way of reimbursement, as may be determined by the Secretary, of the cost thereof. Such cost shall be determined by such statistical, sampling, or other method as may be provided in the agreement.

(b) The Secretary is authorized to develop plans and make arrangements for provision of temporary assistance within the United States to individuals specified in subsection (a)(1). Such plans shall be developed and such arrangements shall be made after consultation

with the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and the Secretary of Defense. To the extent feasible, assistance provided under subsection (a) shall be provided in accordance with the plans developed pursuant to this subsection, as modified from time to time by the Secretary.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "temporary assistance" means money payments, medical care, temporary billeting, transportation, and other goods and services necessary for the health or welfare of individuals (including guidance, counseling, and other welfare services) furnished to them within the United States upon their arrival in the United States and for such period after their arrival as may be provided in regulations of the Secretary.

(d) No temporary assistance may be provided under this section after June 30, **[1964]** 1967.

