FINANCE COMMITTEE CONSULTANTS

May 15, 1972.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. Long, from the Committee on Finance, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. Res. 302]

The Committee on Finance reports favorably an original resolution and recommends that the resolution do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT

For many years, it has not been necessary for the Committee on Finance to obtain the services of consultants in connection with work on legislation coming before it. The committee staff and advisors available to the committee, including expert personnel from within the executive departments, have provided the committee with analyses, data and advice necessary to enable it to meet its responsibilities to the Senate and to the Nation.

At the present time, the committee is considering H.R. 1, the Social Security Amendments of 1971. This bill has been characterized as the most important domestic legislation to come before the 92d Congress. A principal feature is its plan to include on welfare many millions of

people previously ineligible for welfare benefits.

At a recent meeting, the committee voted 10 to 4 to substitute for the welfare aspects of H.R. 1 a new system of benefits and incentives geared to work effort. It is the committee's view that emphasizing the importance of employment can do much to reverse present trends toward increasing dependence for sustenance on the welfare system. Recognizing the significance of reliable cost estimates, it is the committee's objective to obtain the best information available as to the budgetary impact of its proposed guaranteed job opportunity program so that the Senate may be adequately advised as debate on the workfare amendments (and alternatives to it) commence.

In this respect, the committee desires to obtain the services of Mr. Robert J. Myers, one of the most noted cost analysts in the country. Mr. Myers, long-time Chief Actuary of the Social Security Adminis-

tration (now retired from Government service), has indicated a willingness to cooperate in the committee's effort to seek independent, reliable cost estimates of its important work incentive amendments. Although he has retired from active public service, Mr. Myers is still engaged in cost analysis work. He presently serves as consultant for the U.S. Air Force, the State Department, the Department of the Interior, the Commission on Railroad Retirement, and for private associations. In addition, he is a professor of actuarial science at Temple University, and president of both the Society of Actuaries and the American Academy of Actuaries.

Mr. Myers worked closely with the Committee on Finance for many years during his public career, and the committee has great confidence in his ability and his objectivity. Having participated in the cost analysis of the original provisions now embodied in H.R. 1, no man is more suited for the task the committee plans than Mr. Myers.

The resolution approved by the committee requests authority to expend \$5,000 to obtain the services of consultants. It is believed that this amount will be adequate for the purpose for which the authority is requested. The committee does not anticipate at this time requiring the services of any consultant other than Mr. Myers.