13 June 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Personnel for Special Programs

Deputy Director of Personnel for Policy, Analysis, and Evaluations

FROM: Liaison Division
Office of Legislative Liaison

SUBJECT: H.R. 5805: To Amend the CIA Retirement Act of 1964 for Certain Employees to Provide Essential Benefits to Certain Former Spouses not Eligible for Any Benefits Under that Act, and for Other Purposes.

1. Attached for your analysis is a copy of H.R. 5805. I anticipate that hearings will take place this month. Please advise me of the OP position.

2. Background: The intent of this legislation is to provide an annuity to former CIA spouses who were divorced prior to the effective date of the CIA Spouses Retirement Equity Act of 1982--Public Law 97-269. The annuity would be payable directly from Treasury funds, not from the retirement and disability fund. Also, the Bill would readmit former CIA spouses to the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program, from which they were excluded at the time of divorce, upon payment of a sum equal to the Agency and employee share of the health plan premium.

3. Approximately 65 women did not qualify for coverage under Public Law 97-269. Apparently, this move is the result of the lobbying efforts of a CIA spouse group. They argue that because the Agency is unresponsive, it is the responsibility of Congress to right the perceived inequity. Representatives Mazzoli and Whitehurst, sponsors of the Bill, are on the HPSCI.

Attachment: as stated
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OLL:LD:JGW:aw (13 June 1984)