

ices, and thus reduce cost. It would probably raise the level of skill of each individual serviceman. It would eliminate the problem of the conscientious objector. And it would remove all problems of uncertainty.

But at least one problem with an all-volunteer army is illustrated by the same U.S. Youth Council poll which showed 61 percent of the students in favor of an all-volunteer army: 58 percent of the students said they personally would not volunteer. There are as well a number of other problems. The estimates of the cost of an all-volunteer army—primarily in higher salaries—range from \$4 billion to \$17.5 billion. Some experts have claimed that an all-volunteer army would be largely Negro. An all-volunteer army may not have the flexibility we need to meet widely changing manpower needs. Finally, there is some danger that an all-volunteer army of professionals, together with the military-industrial complex which would support it, would represent an ever-present threat to political freedom.

At present, we do not have enough specific information to decide whether these problems are more apparent than real. For that reason, my bill requires the President to conduct a 1-year study of the costs, feasibility and desirability of replacing our present combination of voluntary and involuntary inductions with an entirely voluntary system of enlistments. The President would report to the Congress on his findings and recommendations.

The voluntary army concept is of high importance. But we need considerably more information than we now have to determine whether it is the right system for our society. My bill would provide us with this information.

STUDY OF NATIONAL SERVICE ALTERNATIVE

A subject much discussed in the past few years is whether we can devise some form of nonmilitary national service as an alternative to military service. A corollary subject has been the feasibility of compulsory national service for all young Americans, including both military and nonmilitary service.

Both subjects have much merit. Many young people in this country feel a strong obligation to serve their country or their fellow man through some form of public service. Many of these same young people, however, feel strongly that they can make more substantial contributions in nonmilitary service. The overwhelming response from all across the country to the Peace Corps, to VISTA, and to the Teacher Corps indicate that our young people are committed and willing to serve their country.

A number of different specific proposals for national service have been put forward.

Gen. Dwight Eisenhower has suggested that we adopt a system of universal training for all young men. It would be a system of military, physical and remedial training, administered by the Department of Defense. Only those with serious physical and mental defects, and those who volunteered for military service, would be exempt. General Eisenhower's proposal would be designed to promote physical fitness and self-discipline among America's young men.

Some have suggested a system under which all qualified young men would serve in the military or in a variety of civilian programs for 2 years. Those who elected military service would receive either higher pay, or serve a shorter period of time than those in civilian programs. Because this is a compulsory program for all young men, it would reduce the present draft inequities.

Others have suggested a system of voluntary national service. Under this proposal, those who did not want to enter the military services could instead elect an alternative form of service, and they would in this way satisfy their draft obligation. They would serve longer or receive less pay and other incentives than those in the military services, in an effort to equate the two different forms of service. Clearly, this system would have to be discontinued in times of a shooting war, to prevent some young men from opting their way out of the risks of being sent into combat.

All of these proposals have obvious merit. Youths in national service here at home could help solve some of the major problems confronting our society, such as education, conservation, housing, medical care and others. They could do so by providing manpower for neighborhood health centers, legal aid, managerial assistance, a "disaster corps" to help victims of earthquakes, floods and other disasters. Overseas, as the Peace Corps has illustrated, the needs are just as great. In short, there are vast numbers of jobs to be done, and we are now making the manpower we potentially can available to get the jobs done.