

(12 U.S.C. 1843). Any request for a hearing must be accompanied by a statement of the reasons a written presentation would not suffice in lieu of a hearing, identifying specifically any questions of fact that are in dispute, summarizing the evidence that would be presented at a hearing, and indicating how the party commenting would be aggrieved by approval of the proposal. Unless otherwise noted, nonbanking activities will be conducted throughout the United States.

Unless otherwise noted, comments regarding each of these applications must be received at the Reserve Bank indicated or the offices of the Board of Governors not later than July 5, 1996.

A. Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis (James M. Lyon, Vice President) 250 Marquette Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55480:

1. *Independent Bancshares, Inc.*, Clarkfield, Minnesota, a *de novo* bank; to become a bank holding company by acquiring 100 percent of the voting shares of Granite Holding Corporation, Granite Falls, Minnesota, and thereby indirectly acquire Granite Falls Bank, Granite Falls, Minnesota.

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, June 4, 1996.

Jennifer J. Johnson,

Deputy Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 96-14467 Filed 6-7-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6210-01-F

FEDERAL RETIREMENT THRIFT INVESTMENT BOARD

Sunshine Act Meeting

TIME AND DATE: 10:00 a.m. (EDT) June 17, 1996.

PLACE: 4th Floor, Conference Room, 1250 H Street, NW., Washington, DC.

STATUS: Open.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED:

1. Approval of the minutes of the May 20, 1996, Board meeting.
2. Thrift Savings Plan activity report by the Executive Director.

CONTACT PERSON FOR MORE INFORMATION: Thomas J. Trabucco, Director, Office of External Affairs (202) 942-1640.

Dated: June 5, 1996.

Roger W. Mehle,

Executive Director, Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board.

[FR Doc. 96-14718 Filed 6-6-96; 12:02 pm]

BILLING CODE 6760-01-M

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

Notice of Temporary Grant Regulations

AGENCY: Civil Liberties Public Education Fund Board.

SUMMARY: The Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF) Board of Directors (hereafter referenced as the CLPEF Board), authorized as part of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (Public Law 100-388, enacted on August 10, 1988, hereafter referenced as "the Civil Liberties Act"), is issuing this Notice of Temporary Grant Regulations for its research and educational grant program. This Federal Register announcement includes Supplemental Information and Proposed Criteria for such grants. Consistent with the Civil Liberties Act, the CLPEF Board has adopted the following mission statement:

To sponsor research and public educational activities and to publish and distribute the hearings, findings, and recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC) so that the events surrounding the evacuation, relocation, and internment of United States citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry will be remembered, and so that the causes and circumstances of this and similar events may be illuminated and understood.

DATES: Written comments must be submitted on or before July 10, 1996, to the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund Board.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Written comments and inquiries can be sent to the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund Board c/o U.S. General Services Administration, Attn: Calvin R. Snowden, 7th and D Streets, S.W. Room 7120, Washington, DC 20407. Tel: (202) 708-5702, FAX: (202) 708-4769.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Based on the findings of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians (CWRIC), the purposes of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 (P.L. 100-388 enacted August 10, 1988) include, in part: (1) To acknowledge the fundamental injustice of the evacuation, relocation and internment of the United States citizens and permanent resident aliens of Japanese ancestry during World War II; (2) to apologize on behalf of the people of the United States for the evacuation, internment and relocation of such citizens and permanent resident aliens; (3) to provide for a public education fund to finance efforts to inform the public about the internment so as to prevent the recurrence of any similar event; (4) to make restitution to

those individuals of Japanese ancestry who were interned; (5) to discourage the occurrence of similar injustices and violations of civil liberties in the future; and (6) to make more credible and sincere any declaration of concern by the United States over violations of human rights committed by other nations. In addition to provisions for individuals restitution and other remedial actions, the Civil Liberties Act provides for the establishment of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF) and the CLPEF Board of Directors.

Proposed Criteria

The CLPEF Board will evaluate grant proposals utilizing the following general criteria. This listing is not in priority order.

(1) Projects must be consistent with the stated intent and purposes of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 and the mission of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund (CLPEF) Board.

(2) Applicants must have and demonstrate the capability to administer and complete proposed project within specified timelines and comply with CLPEF Board policies and other applicable federal requirements.

(3) Applicants must have the experience, knowledge and qualifications to conduct quality educational and/or research activities related to the exclusion and detention of Japanese Americans.

(4) Projects should be designed to maximize the long-term educational, research and community development impact of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988.

(5) Projects should build upon, contribute to and expend the existing body of educational and research materials on the exclusion and detention of Japanese Americans during World War II.

(6) Projects should include the variety of experiences of the exclusion and detention of Japanese Americans during World War II.

(7) Projects should link the Japanese American exclusion and detention experience with the experiences of other populations so that the causes, circumstances, lessons, and contemporary applications of this and similar events will be illuminated and understood.

(8) Applicants are encouraged to involve former detainees, those excluded from the military areas, and their descendants in the development and execution of projects.

(9) Applicants are encouraged to develop a national strategy and plan for raising the level of awareness and understanding among the American

public regarding the exclusion and detention of Japanese Americans during World War II so that the causes and circumstances of this and similar events may be illuminated and understood.

(10) Applicants are encouraged to develop a strategy and plan for reaching a broad, multicultural population through project activities.

(11) Applicants are encouraged to develop local and regional consortia of organizations and individuals engaged in similar educational, research and community development efforts.

(12) Applicants are encouraged to coordinate and collaborate with organizations and individuals engaging in similar educational, research and community development endeavors to maximize the effect of grants with respect to (a) Impact on geographic regions; and/or (b) impact on institutions, public policy, or culture; and/or (c) impact on academic field or discipline.

(13) Applicants are encouraged to utilize creative and/or innovative methods and approaches in the development and implementation of their projects.

(14) Applicants are encouraged to seek matching funds, in-kind contributions or other sources of support to enhance their proposal.

Dated: May 29, 1996.

Betty T. Sedgwick,
Program Analyst.

[FR Doc. 96-14481 Filed 6-7-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6820-34-M

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

[Announcement 643]

Cooperative Agreement To Establish Centers of Excellence To Provide Surveillance, Research, Services and Evaluation Aimed at Prevention of Birth Defects

Introduction

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announces the availability of fiscal year (FY) 1996 funds for a cooperative agreement program for Centers of Excellence to provide surveillance, research, services and evaluation aimed at the prevention of birth defects. The CDC is committed to achieving the health promotion and disease prevention objectives of "Healthy People 2000," a national activity to reduce morbidity and mortality and improve the quality of

life. This announcement is related to the priority areas of Alcohol and Other Drugs, Environmental Health, Maternal and Infant Health, and Surveillance and Data Systems. (For ordering a copy of "Healthy People 2000," see the section "Where to Obtain Additional Information.")

Authority

This program is authorized under sections 301 and 317C of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 241 and 247b-4], as amended.

Smoke-Free Workplace

The CDC strongly encourages all grant recipients to provide a smoke-free workplace and to promote the nonuse of all tobacco products, and Public Law 103-227, the Pro-Children Act of 1994, prohibits smoking in certain facilities that receive Federal funds in which education, library, day care, health care, and early childhood development services are provided to children.

Eligible Applicants

Eligible applicants are State and local health departments, or their bona fide agents or instrumentalities. This includes the District of Columbia, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Republic of Palau, and federally recognized Indian tribal governments. Applicant institutions must have ongoing access to data generated from a state-based birth defects surveillance (ascertainment) program based on a population of not less than 30,000 live births per year within a State. This access will provide the source of birth defect cases for participation in the Birth Defects Risk Factor Surveillance Program (BDRFSP).¹ Applicants must also have a suitable source for obtaining controls from the same population from which cases are derived. State health departments or their bona fide agents must also have an ongoing surveillance program with a capability of contributing not less than a total of 400 interviews (300 cases and 100 controls) per year to the ongoing BDRFSP.

Availability of Funds

Approximately \$2,400,000 will be available in FY 1996 to fund three cooperative agreements (includes both direct and indirect costs). It is expected that each award will be approximately

\$800,000. It is expected that the awards will begin on or about September 30, 1996, and will be made for a 12-month budget period within a project period of up to 5 years. The funding estimate may vary and is subject to change.

Continuation awards within the project period will be made on the basis of satisfactory progress and the availability of funds.

Purpose

The purpose of these awards is to assist States to:

1. Bolster their ongoing surveillance activities, including the integration of prenatal diagnoses into their surveillance registry.

2. Develop, implement, and evaluate local studies chosen from among the following categories of activities:

a. Evaluation of methods for primary prevention of birth defects;

b. Evaluation of potential teratogenicity of drugs;

c. Evaluation of potential environmental causes of birth defects;

d. Evaluation of genetic susceptibilities to environmental causes of birth defects;

e. Evaluation of behavioral causes of birth defects;

f. Evaluation of costs of birth defects.

3. Contribute not less than 400 interviews per year to the BDRFSP, using the existing BDRFSP parental interview instrument.

Program Requirements

In conducting activities to achieve the purpose of this program, the applicant shall be responsible for conducting the following activities under A., below, and CDC shall be responsible for conducting activities under B., below:

A. Recipient Activities

1. Develop and implement methods and approaches which will improve and expand the capacity of the applicant's existing surveillance system to ascertain cases and generate timely population-based data of birth defects including the integration of prenatal diagnoses into their registry. This may include provision of background surveillance data generated through recipient's surveillance program for collaborative efforts.

2. Develop a comprehensive plan for implementing studies that are tailored to the applicants activities, and is chosen from one of the following categories:

a. An evaluation of methods related to the primary prevention of birth defects;

b. An evaluation of the potential teratogenicity of drugs related to the possible causes of birth defects;

¹ See "Background" section and "Program Requirements" section of the Program Announcement included in the Application Kit for information about BDRFSP.