

Committee or a subcommittee thereof and the respondent shall not be included in any report of the subcommittee or the Committee or otherwise publicly disclosed without the consent of the respondent.

(j) Whenever a motion to establish an investigative subcommittee does not prevail, the Committee shall promptly send a letter to the respondent informing him of such vote.

(k) Witnesses shall be afforded a reasonable period of time, as determined by the Committee or subcommittee, to prepare for an appearance before an investigative subcommittee or for an adjudicatory hearing and to obtain counsel.

(l) Prior to their testimony, witnesses shall be furnished a printed copy of the Committee's Rules of Procedure and the provisions of the Rules of the House of Representatives applicable to the rights of witnesses.

(m) Witnesses may be accompanied by their own counsel for the purpose of advising them concerning their constitutional rights. The Chairman may punish breaches of order and decorum, and of professional responsibility on the part of counsel, by censure and exclusion from the hearings; and the Committee may cite the offender to the House of Representatives for contempt.

(n) Each witness subpoenaed to provide testimony or other evidence shall be provided the same per diem rate as established, authorized, and regulated by the Committee on House Administration for Members, officers and employees of the House, and as the Chairman considers appropriate, actual expenses of travel to or from the place of examination. No compensation shall be authorized for attorney's fees or for a witness' lost earnings. Such per diem may not be paid if a witness had been summoned at the place of examination.

(o) With the approval of the Committee, a witness, upon request, may be provided with a transcript of his or her deposition or other testimony taken in executive session, or, with the approval of the Chairman and Ranking Minority Member, may be permitted to examine such transcript in the office of the Committee. Any such request shall be in writing and shall include a statement that the witness, and counsel, agree to maintain the confidentiality of all executive session proceedings covered by such transcript.

RULE 27. FRIVOLOUS FILINGS

If a complaint or information offered as a complaint is deemed frivolous by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members of the Committee, the Committee may take such action as it, by an affirmative vote of its members, deems appropriate in the circumstances.

RULE 28. REFERRALS TO FEDERAL OR STATE AUTHORITIES

Referrals made under clause 3(a)(3) of Rule XI of the Rules of the House of Representatives may be made by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the Committee.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR H.R. 3, TRANSPORTATION EQUITY ACT: A LEGACY FOR USERS

(Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I see that the staff of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, the minority side, is still in place, and I see that they are representing the gentleman from Min-

nesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) and all of the very fine members of that committee. I see the gentleman from Alaska still remaining on the floor. I just simply wanted to add my appreciation for the elements of this transportation bill.

I think it is important for those who are listening to understand that although we swiftly moved through the debate this morning, we will be better for the passage of this bill. Children will be encouraged to bike and walk to school, creating a healthier climate for Americans. A children's museum in Houston will now have a parking facility to allow the guests to come and children to play. Our neighborhoods will have better gradation and more access to hike and bike trails. We will be fixing the main street line in Houston, Texas. But, most importantly, we have made a commitment to jobs in America, creating some 45,000 jobs per increment of money in this transportation bill.

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This is the kind of message we want to send to America in a bipartisan manner, that the Transportation Committee in its bipartisanship, both the House and the Senate, has worked through a commitment to the mobility of Americans.

Mr. Speaker, more environmental support could have been there, but we continued to work toward making America safer, making its transportation system better.

Let me thank the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) for the addition, through other vehicles of dollars for Amtrak; but we must continue to support the safety of our transportation system, bus, train, airplane and, yes, walking, for America is safer and stronger when we are mobile.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PRICE of Georgia). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. GUTKNECHT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. GUTKNECHT addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HONORING THE MEBANE CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor and recognize the important work being done by the Mebane Charitable Foundation, headquartered in Mocksville, North Carolina.

The foundation, which was established by former UNIFI CEO G. Allen Mebane IV, works to promote high-quality early childhood education opportunities for children in North Carolina and supports several nonprofit initiatives in Davie and Yadkin counties.

The foundation awards private grants ranging from \$500 to \$1 million to a number of organizations such as communities and schools in Wilkey County, Davie County Partnership for Children, Davie County Schools, Big Brother Big Sister services, Habitat for Humanity, the Yadkin 4-H, Salem College, and many, many more.

The foundation's founder, Allen Mebane, was inspired to become involved in strengthening education while he was operating a textile plant in the late 1960s. When the time came to hire the plant's workforce, he realized that many applicants were illiterate and unable to run the plant's machinery properly.

Mr. Mebane knew something had to be done. Therefore, he encouraged his staff to improve their literacy by attending day or night classes at the plant. And as an added incentive, he paid them for doing so. Mr. Mebane has long understood that a strong education is vital in today's changing economy, especially as northwest North Carolina is evolving from an agricultural and manufacturing center to a high-tech area.

We are not simply competing with our neighbors in Iredell or Forsyth counties, he explained to the Davie County Enterprise Record. We are competing with other countries. In Japan, children attend school year round. They are required to take algebra in the 9th grade, calculus in the 10th grade. That is our competition, he said.

Mr. Mebane argues that we must strengthen technical education programs in order to remain competitive in today's economy. Alan Mebane started the Mebane Charitable Foundation because he wanted northwest North Carolina to remain well educated. "An educated workforce is the biggest drawing card we have for bringing industry to Davie County, and we have to develop industry to grow the tax base and keep Davie students employed here," he said.

The Mebane Charitable Foundation is taking a number of steps to improve educational opportunities for students in Davie and surrounding counties. Beginning in January 2003, it focused its grant-making on three projects.

The first, an early childhood development program, is working to develop social, emotional, cognitive and physical development of all children, especially those through the third grade. This program seeks to lay a strong educational foundation early on so that children continue to be successful throughout their school years.

The second project, a program for teacher-training and professional development, is establishing accountability goals for teachers and enhances