United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007 No. 175

House of Representatives

The House met at 10:30 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. SIRES).

DESIGNATION OF SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 13, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable ALBIO SIRES to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

MORNING-HOUR DEBATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the order of the House of January 4, 2007, the Chair will now recognize Members from lists submitted by the majority and minority leaders for morning-hour debate.

The Chair will alternate recognition between the parties, with each party limited to 30 minutes and each Member, other than the majority and minority leaders and the minority whip, limited to 5 minutes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until noon today.

Accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 32 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until noon.

□ 1200

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR) at noon.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

God of power and mercy, blessed to be citizens of these United States of America and called by Your people to serve as their honored representatives in the 110th Congress, we pray that by Your mighty arm You protect this Nation, keep us from all harm and deliver us from all evil. Give us freedom of spirit, that we may live, work, and worship as the free children of God. May we enjoy good health of mind and body and so address the responsibilities set upon us, so our service may give You greater glory now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Record votes on postponed questions will be taken after 6:30 p.m. today.

ACT COMMEMORATING THE LITE, OR LIFETIME INNOVATIONS OF THOMAS EDISON

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2627) to establish the Thomas Edison National Historic Park in the State of New Jersey as the successor to the Edison National Historic Site.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2627

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Act Commemorating the LITE, or Lifetime Innovations of Thomas Edison''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The Edison National Historic Site, located in West Orange, New Jersey, is a vital part of America's national system of parks which preserves Thomas Alva Edison's research and development laboratories, library, papers, and artifacts, as well as his home.

(2) The Site is a national historic treasure and contains the world's largest collection of materials related to Thomas Edison, encompassing an estimated 5,000,000 pages of documents, over 400,000 artifacts, approximately 35,000 sound recordings, and 10,000 books from Edison's personal library.

(3) Thomas Edison is one of America's greatest inventors, whose inexhaustible energy and genius produced 1,093 patents in his lifetime, more than any other American, including patents for the incandescent light bulb, the motion picture camera, and the phonograph.

(4) In 1928, Thomas Edison was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal for the ''development and application of inventions that have revolutionized civilization in the last century.''

Printed on recycled paper.

(5) In 1998, Congress again honored Thomas Edison by directing the Secretary of the Treasury to mint a commemorative coin celebrating the 125th anniversary of Edison's invention of the light bulb, celebrated in 2004.

(6) The Edison National Historic Site is one of America's most endangered historic places. The National Park Service, in its General Management Plan and Development Concept Plan, identified the need for numerous actions to preserve, protect, restore, and enhance the Site and determined that sufficient government funds are not likely to be appropriated to complete these necessary actions in the foreseeable future.

(7) On November 6, 1997, the National Park Service signed an agreement with the Thomas Alva Edison Preservation Foundation (now the Edison Preservation Foundation), establishing a public-private partnership to jointly raise money to fund identified improvements at the Edison National Historic Site so as to leave the Site unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are—

(1) to recognize and pay tribute to Thomas Alva Edison and his innovations; and

(2) to preserve, protect, restore, and enhance the Edison National Historic Site to ensure public use and enjoyment of the Site as an educational, scientific, and cultural center.

SEC. 3. THOMAS EDISON NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the Thomas Edison National Historical Park as a unit of the National Park System (hereafter the ''Historical Park'').

(b) BOUNDARIES.—The Historical Park shall be comprised of—

(1) all property owned by the United States in the Edison National Historic Site as well as all property authorized to be acquired by the Secretary of the Interior for inclusion in the Edison National Historic Site before the date of the enactment of this Act, as generally depicted on the map entitled the ''Edison National Historic Site'', numbered 20003B, and dated April 1977; and

(2) all property authorized to be acquired for inclusion in the Historical Park by this Act or other law enacted after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(c) MAP.—The map of the Historical Park shall be on file and available for public inspection in the appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

SEC. 4. ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall administer the Historical Park in accordance with this Act and with the provisions of law generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including the Acts entitled ''An Act to establish a National Park Service, and for other purposes,'' approved August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535; 16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.) and ''An Act to provide for the preservation of historic American sites, buildings, objects, and antiquities of national significance, and for other purposes,'' approved August 21, 1935 (16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).

(b) ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY.—

(1) REAL PROPERTY.—The Secretary may acquire land or interests in land within the boundaries of the Historical Park, from willing sellers only, by donation, purchase with donated or appropriated funds, or exchange.

(2) PERSONAL PROPERTY.—The Secretary may acquire personal property associated with, and appropriate for, interpretation of the Historical Park.

(c) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary may consult and enter into cooperative agreements with interested entities and individuals to provide for the preservation, development, interpretation, and use of the Historical Park.

(d) REPEAL OF SUPERSEDED LAW.—Public Law 87–628 (76 Stat. 428), regarding the establishment and administration of the Edison National Historic Site, is repealed.

(e) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the ''Edison National Historic Site'' shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Thomas Edison National Historical Park''.

SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There is authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, Thomas Edison is a towering figure in American history, a man whose genius continues to impact our world more than 75 years after his death.

Thanks to Mr. Edison's generosity, both his laboratory and his home in West Orange, New Jersey, are included within the National Park System and open to the public.

H.R. 2627 simply changes the name of this unit from the Edison National Historic Site to the Thomas Edison National Historic Park. The new name is more appropriate for a unit that includes multiple properties. Nearly identical legislation passed the House by a vote of 399–1 in February 2006, but, Mr. Speaker, it was never considered by the Senate.

The sponsor of H.R. 2627, the Representative from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE), is to be commended for his outstanding work on this legislation, along with other cosponsors from the New Jersey delegation.

I urge all our colleagues to support H.R. 2627.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2627, which designates the Edison National Historic Site as the Thomas Edison National Historic Park. Supporters of the park anticipate this redesignation will improve the visitation revenue to the Edison historic site.

I would like also to recognize the critical contributions to this legislation made by Congressman SCOTT GARRETT. Last year, Mr. GARRETT successfully moved this bill through the Resources Committee in the House. I urge my colleagues to support this effort, and hopefully it will go all the way through both Houses at this time.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield to my colleague from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) for such time as he may consume.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Lifetime Innovations of Thomas Edison Act, originally sponsored by my colleague Mr. PAYNE from New Jersey, with others of us from New Jersey joining him. The legislation before us would reclassify the Edison home and laboratory as a National Historic Park.

First dedicated as the Edison National Historic site by the National Park Service in 1962, the site is badly in need of restoration. Dedicating this site as a National Historic Park and authorizing funding for the preservation of the Edison home and laboratory will preserve a national treasure. As you have heard from my colleague, the collection there, as well as the buildings themselves, are of great historical national importance.

Thomas Edison was one of America's most prominent inventors. From starting one of the first industrial laboratories, something that is often forgotten, to inventing the first incandescent light bulb, the motion picture, the phonograph, et cetera, Edison played an integral role in the technological advances that helped spur America's industrial revolution.

Mr. Edison held over 1,000 patents in the United States and other countries, was named by Life magazine as the man of the millennium, and awarded the Congressional Gold Medal by the Congress in 1928 for his development and application of inventions that have revolutionized civilization. Thomas Edison certainly deserves to be remembered and his collection deserves to be preserved.

The 13.5 acre site will make an outstanding national historic park. It will draw people from all across the country to see the important collection there, as well as the site of the first really major scientific industrial laboratory in the United States.

Despite being designated a national historic site, it has fallen into disrepair, and in 1992 the National Trust for Historic Preservation listed this as one of the Nation's most endangered historic places. This redesignation is of great importance. Mr. Speaker, we are not only recognizing Thomas Edison's numerous contributions to American society, but we will, with this, be preserving the Edison National Historic Site as a leading educational, scientific, and cultural center.

I thank the gentlelady.

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing one of New Jersey's own—Thomas Alva Edison. H.R. 2627, the Lifetime Innovations of Thomas Edison, LITE, Act, is a testament to Edison, whose impact is still being felt today. Congress, in 1928, honored Edison with the Congressional Gold Medal for the ''development and application of inventions that have

revolutionized civilization in the last century.'' In 1997, Life magazine named Edison ''Man of the Millennium'' in recognition of his inventions that have transformed modern society, including the incandescent light bulb, the motion picture camera, and the phonograph. The LITE Act will preserve the intellectual and physical accomplishments of Thomas Edison by commemorating his lifetime achievements; re-designating the Edison National Historic Site, located in West Orange, NJ, my congressional district, as a national historic park; and authorizing appropriations to support the site.

The Edison site is actually comprised of two separate sites—Edison's home of 45 years, known as Glenmont, and his laboratory complex. The Edison site houses over 5 million pages of documents, over 400,000 artifacts, approximately 35,000 sound recordings, and over 10,000 books from Edison's personal library. Like this priceless collection of documents and artifacts, Edison's laboratory complex and home are also historical treasures. With buildings dating back to 1887, the laboratory complex was one of America's first research and development facilities, and is where Edison earned over half of his 1,093 patents. Moreover, Mr. Edison's gravesite is located on the grounds of his beloved Glenmont, a 29-room home built in 1880 that contains original furnishings and other family items.

H.R. 2627 is critical to efforts to protect the Thomas Edison National Historic Site. The Edison site has enormous historical significance for America and for the world, and is badly in need of restoration. The need for major infrastructure improvements at the Edison site has been documented as early as 1972. Additionally, the site was listed, in 1992, by the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of the Nation's most ''endangered historic places.'' The laboratory complex is currently closed to the public because of an extensive restoration effort. It is estimated that the first phase of the restoration effort will be completed next year and that the laboratory complex will re-open to the public some time between June and September of 2008. Renovations at Glenmont have been completed and the site is open to the public and fully functioning. Plans also exist for a second phase of the restoration project. Currently, National Park Service, NPS, staff are housed in historic buildings under less than ideal circumstances. The second phase will focus on getting NPS staff out of the historic buildings and into office space that better supports their critical mission of preserving Edison's historical legacy.

When the Edison site was fully operational, approximately 95,000 people visited the site each year. It is estimated that the number of visitors will nearly triple when the first phase of the restoration project is completed next year. H.R. 2627 would ensure this commitment by re-designating the Edison site as a ''national historical park''—consistent with National Park Service guidelines—and authorizing appropriations for restoration work. These measures will preserve Thomas Edison's historical legacy, enhance the educational experience of visitors to the site, and hopefully, encourage more private funding for restoration projects.

Although private benefactors—most notably the Edison Preservation Foundation—have generously donated significant resources to restore the site, the Federal Government's long-term commitment to the site is critical to its longevity and educational mission. This legislation recognizes Thomas Edison's numerous contributions to American society and preserves the Edison National Historic Site as a leading educational, scientific and cultural center.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is non-controversial. Similar legislation in the 109th Congress was supported by the National Park Service and approved by the House by a vote of 399–1. I respectfully urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2627.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROMOTING THE CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE ATLANTIC BLUEFIN TUNA

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 229) expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should seek a review of compliance by all nations with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas' conservation and management recommendations for Atlantic bluefin tuna and other species, and should pursue strengthened conservation and management measures to facilitate the recovery of the Atlantic bluefin tuna, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 229

Whereas Atlantic bluefin tuna are a valuable commercial and recreational fishery of the United States and many other countries;

Whereas the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (hereinafter referred to as ''the Convention'') was signed in 1966;

Whereas the Convention established the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (hereinafter referred to as ''the Commission'') to coordinate international research and develop conservation and management recommendations on Atlantic bluefin tuna and other highly migratory species in the Atlantic Ocean and the adjacent seas, including the Mediterranean Sea;

Whereas in 1974, the Commission adopted its first conservation and management recommendation to ensure the sustainability of Atlantic bluefin tuna throughout the Atlantic Ocean and Mediterranean Sea, while allowing for the maximum sustainable catch for food and other purposes;

Whereas in 1981, for management purposes, the Commission adopted a working hypothesis of two Atlantic bluefin tuna stocks, with one occurring west of 45 degree west longitude (hereinafter referred to as the ''western Atlantic stock'') and the other occurring east of 45 degree west longitude (hereinafter referred to as the ''eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock'');

Whereas since 1981, the Commission has adopted additional and more restrictive conservation and management recommendations for the western Atlantic stock, and these recommendations have been implemented by nations fishing west of 45 degree west longitude;

Whereas despite adoption and full implementation of a science-based rebuilding program for the western Atlantic stock by countries fishing west of 45 degree west longitude, catches and catch rates remain very low;

Whereas in contrast to the conservation and management measures implemented for the western Atlantic stock, total allowable catches for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock have been consistently set at levels significantly above scientific recommendations intended to maintain bluefin tuna populations at levels that will permit the maximum sustainable catch;

Whereas compliance with eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock quotas by parties to the Convention that harvest that stock has been very poor, most recently with harvests exceeding such total allowable catch levels by over 50 percent for each of the last 4 years;

Whereas poor management and compliance with recommendations for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock are of grave concern because the condition of the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock could adversely affect recovery of the western Atlantic stock due to mixing between the two stocks;

Whereas recent scientific data shows considerable mixing of the two stocks and additional research on stock mixing will improve the understanding of the relationship between the two stocks and the fisheries for such stocks, which will assist in the management of these species throughout their ranges;

Whereas poor data reporting on eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock quotas has frequently thwarted efforts by the Commission to assign quota overharvests to specific countries;

Whereas many Commission members fishing east of 45 degree west longitude do not comply with other Commission recommendations to control eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fisheries and conserve this overfished resource and, more generally, lack of compliance with Commission recommendations is an ongoing problem;

Whereas the Commission's Standing Committee on Research and Statistics (hereinafter referred to as ''SCRS'') noted in its 2006 report that the fishing mortality rate for the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean stock may be more than three times the level that would permit the stock to stabilize at the maximum sustainable catch level, and continuing to fish at the level of recent years ''is expected to drive the spawning biomass to a very low level'' giving ''rise to a high risk of fishery and stock collapse'';

Whereas the SCRS has recommended that the annual harvest levels for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna be reduced from 32,000 metric tons to approximately 15,000 metric tons to halt decline of the resource and initiate recovery;

Whereas in 2006, the Commission adopted the ''Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-Annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean'' (hereinafter referred to as the ''Recovery Plan'') containing a wide range of management and monitoring and

control measures designed to facilitate the recovery of the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna stock; and

Whereas the Recovery Plan is inadequate and allows overfishing and stock decline to continue, and initial information indicates that implementation of the plan in 2007 by many eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna-harvesting countries has been poor, reflecting a business-as-usual attitude from the countries harvesting this stock that is unacceptable in light of the 2006 SCRS assessment showing a high risk of a fishery and stock collapse: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That it is the sense of the Congress that the United States, through the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (hereinafter in this concurrent resolution referred to as the ''Commission''), should—

(1) pursue a review and assessment of compliance with conservation and management measures adopted by the Commission and in effect for the 2006 eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna fishery, occurring east of 45 degree west longitude, and other fisheries that are subject to the jurisdiction of the Commission, including data collection and reporting requirements;

(2) seek to address noncompliance by nations with such measures through appropriate actions, including, as appropriate, deducting a proportion of a future quota for a country to compensate for such country exceeding its quota in prior years;

(3) pursue a meaningful discussion of the implementation and effectiveness of the Commission recommendation entitled ''Recommendation by ICCAT to Establish a Multi-Annual Recovery Plan for Bluefin Tuna in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean'' (Recommendation 06–05), including seeking detailed explanations from Commission members that have failed to fully implement the terms of the recommendation; and

(4) seek to strengthen the conservation and management of the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna by making recommendations to halt the decline of the stock and begin to rebuild it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

House Concurrent Resolution 229 sends a message encouraging the 42 member nations attending the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas to take actions to stop the overfishing of bluefin tuna.

Since 1981, fishermen in the United States and other nations in the Western Atlantic have curtailed fishing to help the bluefin recover. At the same time, other nations in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean have continued to fish at levels exceeding limits recommended by the scientists. If serious conservation actions are not taken, we will lose the bluefin tuna.

House Concurrent Resolution 229 demonstrates our support for the U.S. delegation and other nations attending the meeting in Turkey to act decisively to conserve bluefin tuna.

I commend Congressman FRANK PALLONE for introducing this resolution, and I urge all Members to support it.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Concurrent Resolution 229, promoting the conservation and management of the Atlantic bluefin tuna.

The United States has been instrumental in working towards a viable and successful rebuilding plan for western Atlantic bluefin tuna. Unfortunately, the countries fishing on the eastern bluefin tuna stock have repeatedly ignored the recommendations of the scientific committee and set quotas for eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna at unsustainable levels. To add insult to injury, those countries have not even complied with these unsustainable quotas, having continued to fish at levels far over the unsustainable quota level.

This concurrent resolution is very timely, within the 20th meeting of the Tuna Commission, occurring this week in Turkey. The U.S. delegation should continue its leadership role and propose additional conservation measures for eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna. Moreover, the delegation should work to get the Commission to adopt viable compliance measures and, if necessary, sanctions for those countries that continue to ignore the conservation and management recommendations of the Commission.

I urge a ''yes'' vote on this particular bill.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, again, I request that my colleagues support this House Concurrent Resolution 229, as amended.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 229, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN CERTAIN WATER PROJECTS IN CALIFORNIA

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2614) to amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in certain water projects in California.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2614

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. PROJECT AUTHORIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act (Public Law 102–575, title XVI; 43 U.S.C. 390h et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 163__. YUCAIPA VALLEY REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY RENEWAL PROJECT.

''(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Yucaipa Valley Water District, may participate in the design, planning, and construction of projects to treat impaired surface water, reclaim and reuse impaired groundwater, and provide brine disposal within the Santa Ana Watershed as described in the report submitted under section 1606.

''(b) COST SHARING.—The Federal share of the cost of the project described in subsection (a) shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost of the project.

''(c) LIMITATION.—Funds provided by the Secretary shall not be used for operation or maintenance of the project described in subsection (a).

''(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $20,000,000.

''SEC. 163__. CITY OF CORONA WATER UTILITY, CALIFORNIA, WATER RECYCLING AND REUSE PROJECT.

''(a) AUTHORIZATION.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the City of Corona Water Utility, California, is authorized to participate in the design, planning, and construction of, and land acquisition for, a project to reclaim and reuse wastewater, including degraded groundwaters, within and outside of the service area of the City of Corona Water Utility, California.

''(b) COST SHARE.—The Federal share of the cost of the project authorized by this section shall not exceed 25 percent of the total cost of the project.

''(c) LIMITATION.—The Secretary shall not provide funds for the operation and maintenance of the project authorized by this section.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The table of sections in section 2 of Public Law 102–575 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 163__ the following:

''Sec. 163__. Yucaipa Valley Regional Water Supply Renewal Project.

''Sec. 163__. City of Corona Water Utility, California, water recycling and reuse project.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. BISHOP) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Guam.

□ 1215

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Guam?

There was no objection.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 2614, as introduced by our colleague, Representative KEN CALVERT, would authorize the Secretary of the Interior to provide financial and technical assistance for new water recycling projects in Southern California. Funding these and other water recycling projects may be the only way that Southern California can protect itself from future droughts.

Similar legislation passed the House in the two previous Congresses.

Mr. Speaker, we fully support this noncontroversial bill, and I ask that my colleagues join me in support of H.R. 2614.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2614, a bill sponsored by the former chairman of the Water and Power Subcommittee, Mr. CALVERT of California.

Since Southern California is dependent upon imported water, many communities are pursuing ways to develop local water supplies through water recycling. This bill will help the Yucaipa Valley and the town of Corona in California reduce their dependence on imported water through water recycling.

This bill, which is cosponsored by our distinguished colleague, JERRY LEWIS of California, will also help protect these communities from drought and environmental lawsuits aimed at shutting off water deliveries.

I urge my colleagues to support this important measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, again, I urge our colleagues to support this very important piece of legislation, and I yield back.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Guam (Ms. BORDALLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2614.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

PROVIDING THAT THE GREAT HALL OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER SHALL BE KNOWN AS EMANCIPATION HALL

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3315) to provide that the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center shall be known as Emancipation Hall.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3315

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DESIGNATION OF GREAT HALL OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER AS EMANCIPATION HALL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center shall be known and designated as ''Emancipation Hall'', and any reference to the great hall in any law, rule, or regulation shall be deemed to be a reference to Emancipation Hall.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section shall apply on and after the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) and the gentleman from Arkansas (Mr. BOOZMAN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on H.R. 3315.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia?

There was no objection.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3315 is a bill to designate the great hall located in the Capitol Visitor Center as ''Emancipation Hall.'' As we all know, the new Capitol Visitor Center is the most recent and largest addition to the United States Capitol in its 212-year history.

The great hall will include information and ticketing desks and provide an area where Americans from across the country and where people from all over the world can gather to take in scenic views of the Capitol or prepare to tour the 580,000 square foot Visitor Center.

The great hall will also serve as a central gathering space in the Capitol Visitor Center. It encompasses 20,000 square feet and its dimensions are 100 feet by 200 feet, with a ceiling height of 35 feet. It is indeed a majestic addition to the Capitol. There will be statues from Statuary Hall on display throughout the great hall, if I may so, hopefully, finally, statues from the Capitol of the United States; the District of Columbia. The plaster model of the Statue of Freedom from the Senate Russell building will be featured in the cellar rotunda. The wall and column stone in the great hall is sandstone from Pennsylvania. The floor stone is marble from Tennessee and dolomite from Wisconsin. The black granite in the water features of the great hall comes from California. It is remarkable and impressive as a public space befitting this Capitol.

In 2004, congressional leaders directed the Architect of the Capitol to produce a report on the history of slave labor in the construction of the Capitol itself. The completed 29-page report examined the efforts of slaves that helped build the Capitol, other Federal buildings, and the White House, which at the time was known as the President's House. Although the record was incomplete because of limited documentation of slave labor, the evidence available and historical context in the report provided several indications that slaves and freed African Americans played a significant role in building the physical symbols and the Capitol itself.

H.R. 3315 was introduced to acknowledge the work of many who were forced to work on building the U.S. Capitol. On Wednesday, November 7, the congressional task force completed its work and included in its list of recommendations a specific recommendation to honor slaves who built the Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, I am a third-generation Washingtonian. My great grandfather, Richard Holmes, was a runaway slave from a plantation in Virginia. He arrived here in the 1850s, and that's how our family began here. He was freed in a congressional emancipation 9 months before the Emancipation Proclamation. This emancipation was a Civil War emancipation bill issued earlier than the more famous Emancipation Proclamation.

He worked on the streets of the capital. I have no evidence that he worked on the Capitol itself. Indeed, there was no mention of the work of slaves or African Americans on this Capitol even in official Capitol histories until recent decades.

This Capitol has stood for 212 years without even acknowledging, in some small way, perhaps a marker, something to indicate that slaves, many of them quite skilled because they were hired out as ''hired Negroes'' in order to bring the greatest revenue to their slave owners, and therefore, it behooved him or her to hire out those Negro hires, as they were called, who could benefit the slave owner the most.

These are nameless African Americans. Nothing in the Emancipation Hall and nothing that we do now will make us understand who they are. The very least we can do, if we are adding to this Capitol, is to finally acknowledge their work in building this extraordinary building that was called from its earliest beginnings, the Temple of Liberty, or perhaps now that we have founded the great hall, it will be more worthy of that name.

When I visited the center, I was very impressed by it; but in the early days of its construction, I asked, How are you going to commemorate the fact that slaves worked on the original Capitol? And there was something, along with many other historical remembrances, that did indicate that slaves had built or helped build the original Capitol, along with, of course, many working-class and skilled whites who participated in the effort. But that was going to be the sum total of it.

One of the difficulties may be, how do you do something so late in the history of our country that is large enough to encompass what we had not remembered for two centuries?

In my judgment, there is no place, there is no marker, there is no piece of ground that can adequately, finally remember their contribution. And so we don't name a hall, we don't name a room, we don't have a statue. We say

enter this space. When you enter this space, it will be called Emancipation Hall.

□ 1230

And in that way we will perhaps emancipate our Capitol from more than two centuries of ignoring the contribution of these slaves who helped build this majestic building.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 3315 provides that the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center be known as Emancipation Hall. The bill was introduced by Representative ZACH WAMP of Tennessee on August 2, 2007.

At nearly 580,000 square feet, the Capitol Visitor Center is the largest project undertaken by the Office of the Architect of the Capitol in the Capitol's 212-year-old history. It is one of the most important projects since the extensions to the Capitol and the Dome were built more than 140 years ago. As an extension of the Capitol, the Capitol Visitor Center will welcome visitors to the seat of the American Government.

Within the Capitol Visitor Center, the great hall is a large 20,000-square-foot room where visitors will gather as they enter the Capitol. This promising gathering space will serve as the gateway for the public's experience of the Capitol and American democracy.

The Capitol Visitor Center will provide visitors to the Capitol the opportunity to learn about and more fully understand the Constitution, the Congress, and the history of the Capitol, including the contribution of slaves who helped build the Capitol and the country. It will help deepen the understanding of all who visit about our Nation's long struggle with slavery and its ultimate abolition.

It is fitting and appropriate to recognize the seminal moment of the Emancipation Proclamation in American history. We should recognize the sacrifice and contribution of the many slaves who helped build the Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, with that, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON).

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. Let me express my great appreciation to the chairman and to the ranking member of this committee.

Today we have come to this temple of democracy on this momentous occasion to write a new chapter in the unfolding story of human freedom. The event of emancipation marks one of the most if not the most significant event in American history.

Emancipation was more than an act; it was a process. Emancipation was not a date but a period. Emancipation was not an event but the fulfillment of providence that the arc of history may be long but it bends towards justice and human freedom.

When the American city war erupted, both North and South defended their causes as morally just, legally right, and constitutionally sound. Northerners and southerners saw themselves as the true Americans following in the tradition and the footsteps of the Founding Fathers. North and South used the Constitution as their source of moral and legal authority for conducting a war against each other. Both sides saw themselves as standing in the tradition of the American Revolution.

Each side contended that it was fighting for freedom and liberty, though certain facts contradicted the beliefs of both. The South said it was fighting to preserve the freedom, while owning slaves. The North said it was fighting for liberty, while not initially fighting to grant liberty to the slaves. President Abraham Lincoln's address to the Sanitary Fair in Baltimore on April 18, 1864, summed up the quandary.

He said, ''We all declare for liberty; but in using the same word, we do not mean the same thing. With some the word 'liberty' may mean for each man to do as he pleases with himself and the product of his labor; while with others the same word may mean for some men to do as they please with other men and the product of other men's labor. Here are two not only different but incompatible things called by the same name: liberty. And it follows that each of these things is, by their respective parties, called by two different and incompatible names: liberty and tyranny.''

Today women, lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgendered Americans, African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, and students see in the word ''liberty'' one thing. Today for the Titans of Industry, it still means quite another. For the disposed, it means for each person to do with himself as they please. For the Titans, it means for them to do as they please with other men and the product of other men's labor anywhere in the world. As Lincoln said, ''And it follows that each of the things is, by the respective parties, called by two different and incompatible names: liberty and tyranny.''

That is why the efforts to name the great hall Liberty Hall will settle for some but still not settle for others the fundamental question of human freedom. For millions of Americans to pass through Emancipation Hall and not Liberty Hall is an important acknowledgment about the process for attaining human freedom in the American historical context.

Mr. Speaker, it is most appropriate that the distinguished gentleman from Tennessee, Mr. ZACH WAMP, offered this amendment, in conjunction with the gentleman from Illinois, to help establish a marker in the Capitol of the United States about the significant role that these Americans, these Africans, played in the process not only in constructing the temple of our democracy but in strengthening America.

Madam Chair, it is probably most appropriate that the Emancipation Hall designation be established during this Thanksgiving period, as the first Thanksgiving established by proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln was during the American Civil War when President Lincoln, on October 3, 1863, looked out over a Nation torn by war, ravaged by internecine, intrafamily and interfamily struggles, and concluded that because of the extraordinary efforts of the North and the South, men and women who thought their causes were just, that we needed a national day of thanks. And so on October 3, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln affixed to a national proclamation a national day of thanks to say thank you for now until eternity for all of the blessings that have been bestowed upon our Nation.

Thanksgiving has a lot less to do, Mr. Speaker, with Pilgrims in 1620 and much more to do with the emancipation of human freedom.

I thank the gentlewoman for the time.

Lincoln understood for his time and ours that we must not be confused about the language and process of human freedom.

Much has been said about Lincoln and his ambivalence about emancipation. I believe when placed in context greater clarity emerges in Lincoln's calculation of emancipation.

In 1862, Lincoln's announced support of colonization, along with his lack of public support for emancipation, was generating sometimes vicious attacks from militant abolitionists, including a ''Prayer for Twenty Millions'' editorial urging emancipation that appeared in Horace Greeley's New York Tribune. On August 22, a month after the private announcement to his cabinet on July 22 that he intended to issue an Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln replied to Greeley's editorial with a masterfully written open letter:

> If there be those who would not save the Union, unless they could at the same time save slavery, I do not agree with them. If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time destroy slavery, I do not agree with them. My paramount objective in this struggle is to save the Union, and is not either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing any slave I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing all the slaves I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that. What I do about slavery, and colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save the Union; and what I forbear, I forbear because I do not believe it would help to save the Union. I shall do less whenever I shall believe what I am doing hurts the cause, and I shall do more whenever I shall believe doing more will help the cause.

Lincoln was reiterating his central thesis, that the purpose of the war was preservation of the Union, but in light of the intransigence of the border States, he was publicly hinting that he might have to do something more, including emancipation, to save the Union. In this open letter, Lincoln was saying "if," but he had already concluded in his own mind "that" the only way to save the Union was to free the slaves.

After the emancipation proposal became public, Lincoln was sometimes ridiculed in political oratory and newspaper editorials about

his Emancipation Proclamation, which would free the slaves only where the president had no power to do so—in the rebel southern States—but preserve the institution everywhere else. But Lincoln's enemies either misunderstood the president, lacked his understanding of the Constitution, or ignored his politics. On saving the Union, Lincoln had additional flexibility under the Constitution. Politically, he could sometimes get away with violating it by engaging in arbitrary arrests and suspending the writ of habeas corpus. On the question of ending slavery, however, Lincoln saw no such flexibility. His understanding of the Constitution committed him to acting within both it and the law, for neither had yet been changed. Under the Constitution, slavery was still legal in the United States.

On the first question, Lincoln and all Republicans agreed that a Thirteenth Amendment outlawing slavery must be added to the Constitution. The Senate quickly passed such an amendment, but the House—which had gained thirty-four Democrats in the 1862 midterm elections—was opposed.

Lincoln understood, if others didn't, that issuing the Emancipation Proclamation would convert a struggling Union army, trying to hold a Nation together, into a liberation army to free the slaves. The newly freed slaves could help win the struggle by fighting alongside the Union soldiers. Of course, the liberation of slaves would happen only if the North won the war. Militant abolitionists still thought the proclamation weak, southerners thought it an outrage, but most antislavery advocates, both black and white, understood its revolutionary implications. It was the one act that changed the entire character of the war. It gave the war a moral purpose—human freedom—to bolster the political goal of saving the Union. And a purpose with such deep emotional power condemned the Confederacy to sure defeat.

The question now was, having transformed the conflict into a war of liberation, would the northern Union soldiers still fight? Some said no. ''An Ohio Democrat amended the party's slogan to proclaim, 'the Constitution as it is, the Union as it was, the Niggers where they are.' '' But most said yes! ''A Democratic private in the Army of the Potomac whose previous letters had railed against abolitionists and blacks now expressed support for 'putting away any institution if by so doing it will put down the rebellion, for I hold that nothing should stand in the way of the Union—niggers, nor anything else.' ''

With the July 4, 1863 victory at Gettysburg and Vicksburg northern hopes rose and southern spirits sank.

The burial of the Gettysburg dead was originally planned for October 23 but rescheduled to November 19 because the principal orator, Edward Everett of Massachusetts, could not be ready before then. Lincoln, by comparison, was casually invited to attend and make a few remarks. ''No insult was intended. Federal responsibility or participation was not assumed, then, in state activities. And Lincoln took no offense. Though specifically invited to deliver only 'a few appropriate remarks' to open the cemetery, he meant to use this opportunity. The partly mythical victory of Gettysburg was important to his administration's war propaganda.''

There are mythical accounts that Lincoln wrote his Gettysburg Address on the back of an envelope. Even though the 272-word speech probably took less than three minutes to deliver—interrupted with applause five times by the twenty thousand in attendance—such cavalier preparation would have been totally uncharacteristic of Lincoln, who took such opportunities very seriously.

Lincoln intended to use this occasion and speech to lift the Nation's eyes above the death and carnage of Gettysburg ''to a level of abstraction that purges it of grosser matter . . . Lincoln did for the whole Civil War what he accomplished for the single battlefield.'' He transformed its meaning and in so doing transformed what it meant to be an American.

Lincoln mentioned neither slavery nor Gettysburg. He drained his speech of all particulars in order to lift up an ideal. Lincoln intended to create something good and new out of this tragic and bloody episode. Both North and South strove to interpret Gettysburg to further their own war interests. Lincoln was after an even bigger victory—winning the ideological as well as the military war. And he succeeded. ''The Civil War is, to most Americans, what Lincoln wanted it to mean. Words had to complete the word of the guns.''

When we wave the flag and celebrate on July 4, Independence Day, we are not so much celebrating our American-ness in terms of our independence from England. We are celebrating the meaning of the flag and America as Lincoln interpreted them in his Gettysburg Address. At Gettysburg, Lincoln reinterpreted the Constitution. Looking past slavery in the Constitution, he appealed to the Declaration of Independence and its claim that ''all men are created equal.'' Conservative political ''heirs to his outrage still attack Lincoln for subverting the Constitution at Gettysburg.''

Lincoln is here not only to sweeten the air at Gettysburg, but to clear the infected atmosphere of American history itself, tainted with official sins and inherited guilt. He would cleanse the Constitution—not, as William Lloyd Garrison had, by burning an instrument that countenanced slavery. He altered the document from within, by appeal from its letter to the spirit, subtly changing the recalcitrant stuff that legal compromise, bringing it to its own indictment. By implicitly doing this, he performed one of the most daring acts of open-air sleight-of-hand ever witnessed by the unsuspecting. Everyone in that vast throng of thousands was having his or her intellectual pocket picked. The crowd departed with a new thing in its ideological luggage, that new Constitution Lincoln has substituted for the one they brought there with them. They walked off, from those curving graves on the hillside, under a changed sky, into a different America. Lincoln has revolutionized the Revolution, giving people a new past to live with that would change their future indefinitely.

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was transforming the United States from a plural to a singular noun—from the United States are into the United States is a free government.

According to Garry Wills, Lincoln, by his words and action, converted the Union from a mystical hope into a constitutional reality.

July 4, 1776—only white men could vote; July 4, 1863—Gettysburg; July 4, 2007: Barack Obama, an African American, Hillary Clinton, a woman, Mitt Romney, a Mormon, All are candidates for President; America and what it means to be an American today will not be the same definition of what it means to be an American tomorrow. We are all part of the Emancipation process.

A bit of trivia, when was the first Thanksgiving? 1620. Why? Landing of Plymouth Rock. Interesting, because the first slaves arrived in Jamestown in 1619.

In November 1863, Abraham Lincoln looked out over a Nation ravaged by war, internecine warfare, intra and inter family feuding, and saw light at the end of the tunnel for Northern victory and proclaimed the 3rd Thursday in November as a national day of thanks. Proclamation of Thanksgiving:

WASHINGTON, DC,
October 3, 1863.

This is the proclamation which set the precedent for America's national day of Thanksgiving. During his administration, President Lincoln issued many orders like this. For example, on November 28, 1861, he ordered government departments closed for a local day of thanksgiving.

Sarah Josepha Hale, a prominent magazine editor, wrote a letter to Lincoln on November 28, 1863, urging him to have the ''day of our annual Thanksgiving made a National and fixed Union Festival. '' She wrote, ''You may have observed that, for some years past, there has been an increasing interest felt in our land to have the Thanksgiving held on the same day, in all the States; it now needs National recognition and authoritive fixation, only, to become permanently, an American custom and institution. '' The document below sets apart the last Thursday of November ''as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise. ''

According to an April 1, 1864, letter from John Nicolay, one of President Lincoln's secretaries, this document was written by Secretary of State William Seward, and the original was in his handwriting. On October 3, 1863, fellow Cabinet member Gideon Welles recorded in his diary that he complimented Seward on his work. A year later the manuscript was sold to benefit Union troops.

By the President of the United States of America.

A PROCLAMATION

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequaled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign States to invite and to provoke their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except in the theatre of military conflict; while that theatre has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and of strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defence, have not arrested the plough, the shuttle or the ship; the axe has enlarged the borders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals, have yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camp, the siege and the battle-field; and the country, rejoicing in the consiousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with

us in anger for our sins, hath nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and one voice by the whole American People. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquillity and Union.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

By the President: Abraham Lincoln.

WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

The question for contemporary American memory is why would we appropriate the memory for Thanksgiving as ''Plymouth Rock'' an event that has its formation in quite a different story.

The same can be said for the story of our capitol. From the moment a visitor enters this building the unfolding process of emancipation, the players in this drama, the actors, the people, the heroes and the sheroes have been hidden, denied a fair and accurate account of these unfolding events.

Rotunda: Story of America from pilgrims to the Wright Brothers. Not a story of America; Statuary Hall: Emancipation is ignored in Statuary Hall as we count among our honored dead Confederate President Jefferson Davis, Confederate Vice President Alexander Hamilton Stephens, Confederate General Robert E. Lee, and Confederate Commander Joseph Wheeler—still in uniform; Rather than discuss this history we reduce the story of this Nation to acoustics; Old Senate Chamber: Charles Sumner, Preston Brooks, Plessy v. Ferguson; Old Supreme Court Chamber: Dred Scott, Amistad Africa.

It is the emancipation process that led to the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments. And as descendants of Slaves we believe that as Americans are better educated on this history that process will lead to our twenty-eighth amendment, our twenty-ninth and thirtieth: Health care for all; Education of equal and high quality for all; Cleaner environment; Fix our Nation's voting system; Provide equality for women.

It is our Nation's historical process and only that process can provide emancipation for all.

Interpreting Lincoln's life and work is extremely important. Recently there have been questions raised as to whether Lincoln should be credited with freeing the slaves. The argument goes: Given some of Lincoln's history, his racial attitudes and stalemates, his moderate views on the subject, his noninterference with slavery where it already existed, his one proposed solution of colonization, his gradualist approach to ending the institution, his hesitancy with respect to issuing the Emancipation Proclamation and using colored troops in the war, his late conversion to limited voting rights for blacks, and more, why should he be given credit with freeing the slaves? Some have even argued that it was various actions taken by the slaves—including the power given to the Union cause as a result of the moral case for overturning slavery, plus the actual military role of working and fighting in Union campaigns—that actually freed them. By forcing the emancipation issue onto the agenda, first of military officers, then of Congress, and finally of Lincoln, it was their actions that led to freedom.

Clearly, just as the Congress and Lyndon Johnson would not have been able to pass and sign the civil rights and social legislation of the 1960s apart from a modern civil and human rights movement, so too the military commanders, the Congress, and Lincoln would not have been able to achieve what they did without the agitation and movement of the slaves and their allies. On the other hand, the slaves would not have become freedmen apart from what these leaders did. Because historical interpretation has played up the role of white male leaders while playing down the role of mass movements and leaders of color and women, our understanding of history has been skewed. Some of the current ''putdown'' of traditional historical interpretation is legitimate rejection and reaction to his past limited and distorted understanding and interpretation of our history. The search now, it seems to me, should be for a more balanced interpretation, which includes striving to put many forces and multiple players in proper balance and perspective. That, I think, is what is at issue with regard to the question: Did Lincoln free the slaves?

To answer this question James M. McPherson says in Drawn With the Sword that we must first ask: What was ''the essential condition, the one thing without which it would not have happened? The clear answer is the war.'' Slavery had existed for nearly two and a half centuries, it was more deeply entrenched in the South than ever, and every effort at self-emancipation—and there were plenty—had failed. ''Without the Civil War there would have been no confiscation act, no Emancipation Proclamation, no Thirteenth Amendment (not to mention the Fourteenth and Fifteenth) . . . and almost certainly no end of slavery for several more decades at least.''

As to the first question, what brought on the war, there are two interrelated answers. What brought on the war was slavery. What triggered the war was disunion over the issue of slavery. Disunion resulted because initially seven and ultimately eleven southern States saw Lincoln as an antislavery advocate and candidate, running in an antislavery party on an antislavery platform, who would be an antislavery president. Rather than abide such a ''Black President'' and ''Black Republican Party,'' southern States led by the Democratic Party severed their ties to the Union. Through secession, which Lincoln and the Union refused to accept, they went to war over preserving the Union. While Lincoln was willing to allow slavery to stand where it stood from 1854 when he reentered politics onward, Lincoln never wavered or compromised on one central issue—extension of slavery into the territories. And while gradualist in approach, Lincoln (and the slave states of the South) knew this would eventually mean the end of slavery. It was Lincoln who brought out and sustained all of these factors.

Thus, while Lincoln's primary emphasis throughout was on saving the Union, the result of saving the Union was emancipation for the slaves. If the Union has not been preserved, slavery would not have been ended and may even have been strengthened. Strategically, Lincoln understood that the Union was a common-ground issue around which he could rally the American people, while slavery and antislavery were divisive. And looked at in perspective, by holding his coalition together around the issue of the Union, enough Unionists eventually saw the connection between the two issues that he could ease into emancipation in the middle of the war—when it gave the North a huge boost.

Even when Lincoln believed he was going to lose the presidency in August 1864, he said, ''There have been men who proposed to me to return to slavery the black warriors'' who had fought for the Union. 'I should be damned in time and eternity for so doing. The world shall know that I will keep my faith to friends and enemies, come what will . . . In effect, he was saying that he would rather be right than president . . . As matters turned out . . . he was both right and president.

Clearly, many slaves did self-emancipate through the Underground Railroad before the war, and through flight during the war. Even so, that is not the same as bringing an end to the peculiar institution of slavery, which only the Civil War and Lincoln's leadership did. By pronouncing slavery a moral evil that must come to an end and then winning the presidency in 1860, provoking the South to secede, by refusing to compromise on the issue of slavery's expansion or no Fort Sumter, by careful leadership and timing that kept a fragile Union.

Toby—Kunta Kinte.
Toby—Kunta Kinte.
Toby—Kunta Kinte.
Boy your name is Toby!

Today we begin the process of educating America on who Mr. Kinte was! Today we acknowledge in a small way Mr. Kinte's contribution to the Union making it more perfect.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of the bill, Mr. WAMP of Tennessee.

Mr. WAMP. I thank the distinguished ranking member and the chairwoman and Mr. JACKSON.

I love this Capitol. I love every square inch of it. I have spent many, many hours walking people through this Capitol and talking about the extraordinary history of this place. About 1,700 times I have taken groups through the Capitol over the last 13 years.

Some of the stories that I have learned about as I share them just send chills up and down my spine. To think that there were 4,000 Union troops during the Civil War stationed on Capitol Hill, that 4,000 troops were here at the Capitol during the Civil War.

And when you go up inside of the Dome, the magnificent Dome, which around the world is the beacon of freedom, the symbol of hope, recognizable everywhere in this world, you go up inside of it, and you ask what the little hooks are hanging there, and they will tell you that is where they hung the lanterns when Union soldiers would work side by side with slaves to build that Rotunda in the depths of the Civil War.

That is a fact that few people know because, as Ms. NORTON said, the story was never told. It was never archived, the incredible commitment and the irony of the people fighting for the slaves' freedom were working side by side during the Civil War to build this temple of freedom. All the history books point out that that is one great and grave omission in the Capitol history.

A guy named Oz Guiness once told me that the power to convene is greater than the power to legislate. And we convene here in the Capitol, people from all over the world, for good causes. The floor space of the Rotunda, which is the most prominent room in Capitol, is about 7,500 square feet. As Ms. NORTON said, the floor space of this new hall, which has been called the great hall, is almost three times that size. It's a magnificent space designed to bring all of the visitors there to convene them before they enter this temple of freedom.

I want to answer the question why not the Great Hall, because it has been referred to as the great hall. But the Great Hall for over 100 years is the foyer, the Great Hall, at the Library of Congress in the Jefferson building. It is one of the most ornate spaces in the United States of America. I think it is the most beautiful room in Washington, D.C. And it is called the Great Hall. The Librarian of Congress told us, as soon a I became the ranking member of the Legislative Branch Appropriations Subcommittee in January, that this was a conflict because the CVC construction adds a tunnel between the Great Hall and the great hall. On two sides of the tunnel is going to be two great halls. Are you kidding me? How did we do that? That's confusing. That's problematic. That diminishes the name and the history for over a century of the Great Hall of the Library of Congress, which everyone in this city, Presidents, Vice Presidents, Speakers of the House, know as the Great Hall. So you can't call this the great hall. So what shall it be called?

Emancipation brings us all together at a time in this country where we need things to bring us together. This is a way to honor this incredible process that led to an event that liberated all people in this country under our Constitution, not just some. And it was Abraham Lincoln who was the great emancipator.

So our parties come together today, and I ask the House to join us in this most important naming. It is important what you name things. It's important what we name each other. It's important what we call things. It's important what we call each other. Words matter.

Emancipation liberates us today, the thought of Emancipation Hall, the largest and most prominent room in this 580,000-square-foot addition to the Capitol.

Come together, House of Representatives. Come together, United States Senate. Let us send the message to all who come to this temple of freedom that emancipation lives on. And with such an important moment in the learning process of this experiment in freedom and democracy known as the American Republic, let's come together today.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BOOZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT).

Mr. GOHMERT. It is so true that slavery was an abomination and is even today an abomination. It was a blight on this country's collective soul, and we can thank God that it has been eliminated.

Emancipation Hall, it does have a great ring to it. It sounds beautiful and it sounds like it's high time that such a hall were so named, and it does sound like an appropriate hall.

As I go back, though, and think through the comments and the speeches of those who were able to get rid of this abomination in this country, I think about the reasoning they had. Some have said that if there is no universal standard of right and wrong, if there is no force in the universe beyond ourselves that is unwavering as to right and wrong, then people can treat others the way they wish. If we are each god in our own way, then we can treat each other as we wish.

But I believe, as those who fought so hard to eliminate slavery, that there is a universal standard of right and wrong, and that is the God that's referenced ''In God We Trust.''

But as we look throughout the Congressional Visitor Center, we find the Emancipation Hall will be a great addition, but there ought to be a basis, some reference, so people know why the emancipation was so important.

□ 1245

Yet, as I understand it, the term ''Creator,'' ''we are endowed by a Creator with certain inalienable rights,'' that's nowhere in the hall; that's been eliminated. There is no reference to the Lord. The Constitution is dated in the year of our Lord in 1787. We find out a couple of weeks ago that ''Laus Deo'' that's on the capstone of the Washington Monument, meaning ''praise be to God'' has been obliterated and changed from the display so that people don't know what's up there. And the capstone itself, the monument replica, is turned where people can't see it.

We are categorically removing God and references to Creator, to God, to Lord, from all of these things. And Lincoln, in his addresses, repeatedly said we pray to the same God, it's in his second inaugural address, and yet the efforts these days are to eliminate that.

John Quincy Adams' eloquent speeches on the floor of Statuary Hall over and over and over demanding an end to this abomination, that God will judge America harshly if we don't eliminate it, Lincoln said, after he became President, wasn't much happening during those 2 years he was in the House except for those ''great sermons from that dear man Adams.''

So I hope that not only can we move forward with naming the hall more appropriately Emancipation Hall, I think that's wonderful, but I think that we ought to restore to the plans God, who made it all possible.

Mr. BOOZMAN. I just want to close by thanking Mr. WAMP, the gentleman from Tennessee, and Mr. JACKSON for his help in moving this forward. This certainly is a very fitting honor. And I ask all of my colleagues for a resounding ''yes'' vote to this so that we might move forward.

I also want to thank the chairman of the subcommittee for her hard work in pushing this forward and getting it on the floor.

With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. I would like, also, to thank Mr. WAMP and Mr. JACKSON, who worked very diligently on this bill to reach this point.

I would like to read from the recently released report of the Task Force on Slavery, on the use of slaves in the Capitol:

''The issue of slavery, in particular, was an embarrassing subject that did not sit well with squeamish writers. Early histories of the Capitol were focused on architecture, architects and superintendents, and not on the workmen who actually implemented the plans and orders. This situation has changed dramatically in more recent accounts, which reflect a new respect for all who played a role in the Capitol's history, including lower-class laborers and slaves. This is the result of a more inclusive view of history by modern scholars and a relatively new interest in multi-cultural subjects.''

The report also says, and here, again, I'm quoting: ''It is not possible to examine the documents of the National Archives related to the Capitol's early construction without being impressed by the sheer number of references to 'negro hire.' ''

Mr. Speaker, according to the records, the financial records of the District of Columbia, hundreds of local residents of the District of Columbia received payments for the work of the slaves they owned here. Remember, the Capitol of the United States retained slavery until just before the end of the Civil War. But we should not forget

that, while it is well enough to acknowledge that slaves were instrumental in building this building, there is no building from the 19th century that was constructed in this town, no public building, no building of any note, that was not built in part through the labor of slaves. This was true throughout the United States. Faneuil Hall in Boston, the so-called ''Cradle of Liberty,'' was built by slave labor. The homes of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison were constructed with the help of slaves.

They will never be commemorated. What Emancipation Hall will do is to make Americans want to know more about how much of our country was built on the backs of slave labor that have never been recognized. And Emancipation Hall is the place to do it because the visitor center itself is going to be a giant temple for education about our country, about our Capitol, and about what has happened in this building. So when people visit the Capitol and come through Emancipation Hall, there should be a marker indicating why the great entrance to the visitor center is named Emancipation Hall. And throughout their visit, as they travel down the history of our country, which is going to be recorded there in so many ways, they will be educated about much that has happened in our country; and for most Americans, this will be the first time they will have been educated about slaves and their contribution to the United States of America.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker I rise in strong support of H.R. 3315, a bill to designate the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center (''CVC'') as ''Emancipation Hall''. I commend the work of the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) for their work in support of this bill.

The United States Capitol and its iconic dome are symbols of democracy around the world; symbols of the deliberative legislative process, a place where people debate in the realm of ideas not with arms, swords, or bombs but with minds and ideas. As America has grown and changed over its history, so has the Capitol. Beginning next year, the Capitol will have an extraordinary new addition, the Capitol Visitor Center. The CVC represents the largest addition to the U.S. Capitol in its 212-year history.

This facility will host the more than three million people who visit the Capitol on an annual basis. The great hall will include information and ticketing desks, and provide an area where Americans from all over the country can gather to take in scenic views of the Capitol or prepare to explore the 580,000-square-foot Visitor Center. The CVC will also include an exhibition gallery, a 550-seat cafeteria, gift shops, and orientation theaters.

The CVC will provide an opportunity for visitors to learn about the construction of the Capitol from its very beginning. This education would not be complete without an acknowledgement of the contribution slave labor.

In 2004, Congress directed the Architect of the Capitol to produce a report on the history of slave labor in the construction of the United States Capitol. Although the record is incomplete because of limited documentation of slave labor, the evidence available and historical context provide several indications that slaves and free African Americans played a significant role in building these historical monuments.

The U.S. Capitol was constructed during a time when the Potomac region's population was sparse, but the concentration of slave laborers was the highest in the nation. Slave labor was an integral component of the region's workforce. Slave labor was utilized in all aspects of construction of the Capitol and slaves often worked alongside free blacks and whites in the areas of carpentry, masonry, carting, and painting. Many of the products of slave labor are still visible in the Capitol buildings today and they serve as a reminder of the significant and undeniable contribution that these individuals made to our nation.

In 2005, the Slave Laborers Task Force was established to study and recognize the contributions of enslaved African Americans in building the U.S. Capitol. On November 7, 2007, the Slave Laborers Task Force, chaired by Representative JOHN LEWIS, specifically recommended that the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center be designated as ''Emancipation Hall''.

H.R. 3315 acknowledges the historic contributions of slaves and freedman to the building of the United States Capitol. This bill is a fitting tribute to those who worked tirelessly, but especially to those who were slaves and who gave their labor in this citadel of freedom and democracy.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3315.

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I support recognizing emancipation and honoring the contributions of slaves in the construction of the Capitol. However, as I discussed in the subcommittee hearing and full committee markup, I have concerns about renaming the Great Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center.

Throughout the history of the Capitol, none of the monumental spaces, such as the House and Senate chambers or the Rotunda, have been named after specific individuals or events in history. Instead, these great spaces of the Capitol have long been called by their functional names. By doing so, all people regardless of their race, ethnic heritage, contributions, or human travails are equally recognized.

These spaces are dramatic because of their physical settings and the unique historical events that took place within their walls. Similarly, the Great Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center will become a monumental space with its own unique history; and just as those spaces have not been named, I believe the Great Hall should be reserved and left to honor all Americans.

While I do not believe it is appropriate to rename the Great Hall, I do believe that it is important for Congress to acknowledge and honor the contributions slaves made to the Capitol. In the hearing held by the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management and again in the full committee markup of this legislation, I recommended that other spaces could better acknowledge emancipation and honor the slaves that helped build the Capitol.

It would be most appropriate to name the exhibition hall that will provide an important historical context to the name Emancipation Hall. It would also provide visitors an opportunity to learn about and pay tribute to emancipation. One of the first recommendations I made as a member of the Capitol Preservation Commission was to create a first class museum space within the CVC. I proposed the highest level museum space so America could exhibit some of the Nation's treasurers—like the Emancipation Proclamation—which are rarely viewed by the public.

The exhibition hall will be 16,500 square feet. Outside of the National Archives Building, this will be our Nation's finest exhibition space. This hall will not only honor those who built the Capitol, but provide information about their contributions to American history. This exhibition hall will display and prominently house the catafalque that was built to support the casket of Abraham Lincoln—the Great Emancipator. This is the original funeral bier used as the Great Emancipator lay in state in the Capitol Rotunda. This hall will contain permanent exhibits on the Constitution and the post-Civil War amendments proposed by Congress and ratified by the States to abolish slavery, to guarantee equal protection under the law, and to ensure the right to vote.

This beautiful hall will have strong historical and contextual links to emancipation. It will be the primary venue for acknowledging and commemorating the slaves who helped build the Capitol and the country. It will help deepen the understanding of our Nation's long struggle with slavery and its ultimate abolition for all who visit here. For all of these reasons, nothing could be more appropriate or significant than naming this area of the Capitol Visitor Center Emancipation Hall.

Another possible Emancipation naming CVC venue would be the congressional auditorium. While it does not have the strong links to emancipation as the exhibition hall, it is the most significant functional space in the facility, a place where leaders will gather to discuss important ideas of their time. The auditorium is a grand space that is being designed to serve as an alternative House Chamber. Except for the current House and Senate Chambers, no other venue in the Capitol has such an important purpose. The name Emancipation Hall would serve as a valuable reminder of courage, leadership, and our unique commitment to advance the cause of human freedom and fulfill the promise of the Declaration of Independence and Constitution. As such, I believe it would be appropriate and fitting to name the facility Emancipation Hall.

In sum, I believe there are more appropriate areas in the Capitol Visitor Center to name Emancipation Hall. Additionally, we have a tradition of leaving the monumental spaces of the Capitol un-named. As a monumental space in, and an introduction to, the Capitol, the Great Hall should retain its current functional name like the other great spaces within the Capitol.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3315, to provide that the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center shall be known as Emancipation Hall, and to commend the Slave Laborers Task Force, led by Congressman JOHN LEWIS, and its important work. As the Task Force concluded, H.R. 3315 helps to fill an important gap in the history of the Capitol. It is a fitting, albeit overdue, tribute to the slaves—gifted carpenters, skilled stone masons, woodworkers, clay makers and other craftsmen—

who built the Capitol that the Capitol Visitor Center be renamed Emancipation Hall and celebrate the freeing of all Americans from bondage, oppression, and restraint.

The Capitol symbolizes our nation's core values of freedom and liberty and the basic rights of all humans. It symbolizes who we are as a nation. However, though countless visitors walk its halls each day, few know the important role slaves played in the construction of the Capitol.

Many slaves worked in quarries, extracting the stone used to construct this building. Others were used as carpenters. Women and children often molded clay in kilns. District of Columbia financial records show that hundreds of local residents received payment for the work of slaves, recorded in the ledger as "Negro hire." In all, hundreds of slaves helped build the Capitol from the late 1700s until the mid-1800s.

Indeed, it was Philip Reid, a slave laborer who figured out how to take apart the plaster mold for the "Freedom" statue, which still crowns the dome, beneath which we toil, to allow it to be cast in bronze. What irony, what symbolism: Slaves built our monument to freedom; and the "Freedom" statue was cast in bronze by a man who was not free.

Today we have an opportunity to celebrate freedom; to make sure that every person who visits the Capitol knows that it is for preserving and protecting freedom that we, as Members of Congress, gather in this building and work every day; and that it is for liberty, democracy and freedom—emancipation—that our nation stands.

Emancipation Hall is an important reminder that the floors on which we walk, the walls that surround us and, yes, the "Freedom" statue atop the Capitol dome, were constructed in significant part by men and women who knew no liberty and were not free. We should never forget that.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3315—legislation which would designate the great hall of the new Capitol Visitor Center as Emancipation Hall. As Vice Chair of the Legislative Branch Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, I must note that similar language was added to H.R. 2771—the House-passed 2008 Legislative Branch appropriations bill.

Mr. Speaker, this recognition is long over due. For nearly two centuries, the slaves who helped to build our Capitol have been overlooked, brushed aside, and denied their just recognition. How ironic that this great building that is viewed world-wide as a symbol of freedom, a symbol of justice, and a symbol of democracy, was constructed in part, piece by piece, by those who did not know freedom nor justice.

That is why I would like to thank the Slave Laborers Task Force, chaired by Rep. JOHN LEWIS, for their diligence and commitment in ensuring that the slaves who labored to build our Nation's Capitol are both recognized and honored.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this historic legislation.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3315.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMPACTS OF FREE ASSOCIATION AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2007

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2705) to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2705

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Compacts of Free Association Amendments Act of 2007".

SEC. 2. APPROVAL OF AGREEMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 101 of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence of subsection (a), by inserting before the period at the end the following: ", including Article X of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia, as amended under the Agreement to Amend Article X that was signed by those two Governments on June 30, 2004, which shall serve as the authority to implement the provisions thereof"; and

(2) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by inserting before the period at the end the following: ", including Article X of the Federal Programs and Services Agreement Between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, as amended under the Agreement to Amend Article X that was signed by those two Governments on June 18, 2004, which shall serve as the authority to implement the provisions thereof".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be effective as of April 30, 2008.

SEC. 3. FUNDS TO FACILITATE FEDERAL ACTIVITIES.

Unobligated amounts appropriated before the date of the enactment of this Act pursuant to section 105(f)(1)(A)(ii) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 shall be available to both the United States Agency for International Development and the Federal Emergency Management Agency to facilitate each agency's activities under the Federal Programs and Services Agreements.

SEC. 4. CONFORMING AMENDMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 105(f)(1)(A) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d(f)(1)(A)) is amended to read as follows:

"(A) EMERGENCY AND DISASTER ASSISTANCE.—

"(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), section 221(a)(6) of the U.S.–FSM Compact and section 221(a)(5) of the U.S.–RMI Compact shall each be construed and applied in accordance with the two Agreements to Amend Article X of the Federal Programs and Service Agreements signed on June 30, 2004, and on June 18, 2004, respectively, provided that all activities carried out by the United States Agency for International Development and the Federal Emergency Management Agency under Article X of the Federal Programs and Services Agreements may be carried out notwithstanding any other provision of law. In the sections referred to in this clause, the term 'United States Agency for International Development, Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance' shall be construed to mean 'the United States Agency for International Development'.

"(ii) DEFINITION OF WILL PROVIDE FUNDING.—In the second sentence of paragraph 12 of each of the Agreements described in clause (i), the term 'will provide funding' means will provide funding through a transfer of funds using Standard Form 1151 or a similar document or through an interagency, reimbursable agreement.".

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall be effective as of April 30, 2008.

SEC. 5. CLARIFICATIONS REGARDING PALAU.

Section 105(f)(1)(B) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d(f)(1)(B)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii)(II), by striking "and its territories" and inserting ", its territories, and the Republic of Palau";

(2) in clause (iii)(II), by striking ", or the Republic of the Marshall Islands" and inserting ", the Republic of the Marshall Islands, or the Republic of Palau"; and

(3) in clause (ix)—

(A) by striking "Republic" both places it appears and inserting "government, institutions, and people";

(B) by striking "2007" and inserting "2009"; and

(C) by striking "was" and inserting "were".

SEC. 6. AVAILABILITY OF LEGAL SERVICES.

Section 105(f)(1)(C) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d(f)(1)(C)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: ", which shall also continue to be available to the citizens of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands who legally reside in the United States (including territories and possessions)".

SEC. 7. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) TITLE I.—

(1) SECTION 177 AGREEMENT.—Section 103(c)(1) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921b(c)(1)) is amended by striking "section 177" and inserting "Section 177".

(2) INTERPRETATION AND UNITED STATES POLICY.—Section 104 of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921c) is amended—

(A) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting "the" before "U.S.–RMI Compact,";

(B) in subsection (e)—

(i) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A) of paragraph (8), by striking "to include" and inserting "and include";

(ii) in paragraph (9)(A), by inserting a comma after "may"; and

(iii) in paragraph (10), by striking "related to service" and inserting "related to such services"; and

(C) in the first sentence of subsection (j), by inserting "the" before "Interior".

(3) SUPPLEMENTAL PROVISIONS.—Section 105(b)(1) of the Compact of Free Association

Amendments Act of 2003 (48 U.S.C. 1921d(b)(1)) is amended by striking ''Trust Fund'' and inserting ''Trust Funds''.

(b) TITLE II.—

(1) U.S.–FSM COMPACT.—The Compact of Free Association, as amended, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia (as provided in section 201(a) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (117 Stat. 2757)) is amended—

(A) in section 174—

(i) in subsection (a), by striking ''courts'' and inserting ''court''; and

(ii) in subsection (b)(2), by striking ''the'' before ''November'';

(B) in section 177(a), by striking '', or Palau'' and inserting ''(or Palau)'';

(C) in section 179(b), by striking ''amended Compact'' and inserting ''Compact, as amended,'';

(D) in section 211—

(i) in the fourth sentence of subsection (a), by striking ''Compact, as Amended, of Free Association'' and inserting ''Compact of Free Association, as amended'';

(ii) in the fifth sentence of subsection (a), by striking ''Trust Fund Agreement,'' and inserting ''Agreement Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Federated States of Micronesia Implementing Section 215 and Section 216 of the Compact, as Amended, Regarding a Trust Fund (Trust Fund Agreement),'';

(iii) in subsection (b)—

(I) in the first sentence, by striking ''Government of the'' before ''Federated''; and

(II) in the second sentence, by striking ''Sections 321 and 323 of the Compact of Free Association, as Amended'' and inserting ''Sections 211(b), 321, and 323 of the Compact of Free Association, as amended,''; and

(iv) in the last sentence of subsection (d), by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''and the Federal Programs and Services Agreement referred to in section 231'';

(E) in the first sentence of section 215(b), by striking ''subsection(a)'' and inserting ''subsection (a)'';

(F) in section 221—

(i) in subsection (a)(6), by inserting ''(Federal Emergency Management Agency)'' after ''Homeland Security''; and

(ii) in the first sentence of subsection (c), by striking ''agreements'' and inserting ''agreement'';

(G) in the second sentence of section 222, by inserting ''in'' after ''referred to'';

(H) in the second sentence of section 232, by striking ''sections 102 (c)'' and all that follows through ''January 14, 1986)'' and inserting ''section 102(b) of Public Law 108–188, 117 Stat. 2726, December 17, 2003'';

(I) in the second sentence of section 252, by inserting '', as amended,'' after ''Compact'';

(J) in the first sentence of the first undesignated paragraph of section 341, by striking ''Section 141'' and inserting ''section 141'';

(K) in section 342—

(i) in subsection (a), by striking ''14 U.S.C. 195'' and inserting ''section 195 of title 14, United States Code''; and

(ii) in subsection (b)—

(I) by striking ''46 U.S.C. 1295(b)(6)'' and inserting ''section 1303(b)(6) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. 1295b(b)(6))''; and

(II) by striking ''46 U.S.C. 1295b(b)(6)(C)'' and inserting ''section 1303(b)(6)(C) of that Act'';

(L) in the third sentence of section 354(a), by striking ''section 442 and 452'' and inserting ''sections 442 and 452'';

(M) in section 461(h), by striking ''Telecommunications'' and inserting ''Telecommunication'';

(N) in section 462(b)(4), by striking ''of Free Association'' the second place it appears; and

(O) in section 463(b), by striking ''Articles IV'' and inserting ''Article IV''.

(2) U.S.–RMI COMPACT.—The Compact of Free Association, as amended, between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands (as provided in section 201(b) of the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003 (117 Stat. 2795)) is amended—

(A) in section 174(a), by striking ''court'' and inserting ''courts'';

(B) in section 177(a), by striking the comma before ''(or Palau)'';

(C) in section 179(b), by striking ''amended Compact,'' and inserting ''Compact, as amended,'';

(D) in section 211—

(i) in the fourth sentence of subsection (a), by striking ''Compact, as Amended, of Free Association'' and inserting ''Compact of Free Association, as amended'';

(ii) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by striking ''Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands Regarding Miliary Use and Operating Rights'' and inserting ''Agreement Regarding the Military Use and Operating Rights of the Government of the United States in the Republic of the Marshall Islands concluded Pursuant to Sections 321 and 323 of the Compact of Free Association, as Amended (Agreement between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands Regarding Military Use and Operating Rights)''; and

(iii) in the last sentence of subsection (e), by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''and the Federal Programs and Services Agreement referred to in section 231'';

(E) in section 221(a)—

(i) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''Section 231'' and inserting ''section 231''; and

(ii) in paragraph (5), by inserting ''(Federal Emergency Management Agency)'' after ''Homeland Security'';

(F) in the second sentence of section 232, by striking ''sections 103(m)'' and all that follows through ''(January 14, 1986)'' and inserting ''section 103(k) of Public Law 108–188, 117 Stat. 2734, December 17, 2003'';

(G) in the first sentence of section 341, by striking ''Section 141'' and inserting ''section 141'';

(H) in section 342—

(i) in subsection (a), by striking ''14 U.S.C. 195'' and inserting ''section 195 of title 14, United States Code''; and

(ii) in subsection (b)—

(I) by striking ''46 U.S.C. 1295(b)(6)'' and inserting ''section 1303(b)(6) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. 1295b(b)(6))''; and

(II) by striking ''46 U.S.C. 1295b(b)(6)(C)'' and inserting ''section 1303(b)(6)(C) of that Act'';

(I) in the third sentence of section 354(a), by striking ''section 442 and 452'' and inserting ''sections 442 and 452'';

(J) in the first sentence of section 443, by inserting '', as amended.'' after ''the Compact'';

(K) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) of section 461(h)—

(i) by striking ''1978'' and inserting ''1998''; and

(ii) by striking ''Telecommunications'' and inserting ''Telecommunication Union''; and

(L) in section 463(b), by striking ''Article'' and inserting ''Articles''.

SEC. 8. TRANSMISSION OF VIDEOTAPE PROGRAMMING.

Section 111(e)(2) of title 17, United States Code, is amended by striking ''or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands'' and inserting ''the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of Palau, or the Republic of the Marshall Islands''.

SEC. 9. PALAU ROAD MAINTENANCE.

The Government of the Republic of Palau may deposit the payment otherwise payable to the Government of the United States under section 111 of Public Law 101–219 (48 U.S.C. 1960) into a trust fund if—

(1) the earnings of the trust fund are expended solely for maintenance of the road system constructed pursuant to section 212 of the Compact of Free Association between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Palau (48 U.S.C. 1931 note); and

(2) the trust fund is established and operated pursuant to an agreement entered into between the Government of the United States and the Government of the Republic of Palau.

SEC. 10. CLARIFICATION OF TAX-FREE STATUS OF TRUST FUNDS.

In the U.S.–RMI Compact, the U.S.–FSM Compact, and their respective trust fund subsidiary agreements, for the purposes of taxation by the United States or its subsidiary jurisdictions, the term ''State'' means ''State, territory, or the District of Columbia''.

SEC. 11. TRANSFER OF NAVAL VESSELS TO CERTAIN FOREIGN RECIPIENTS.

(a) TRANSFERS BY GRANT.—The President is authorized to transfer vessels to foreign countries on a grant basis under section 516 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2321j), as follows:

(1) TURKEY.—To the Government of Turkey—

(A) the OLIVER HAZARD PERRY class guided missile frigates GEORGE PHILIP (FFG–12) and SIDES (FFG–14); and

(B) the OSPREY class minehunter coastal ship BLACKHAWK (MHC–58).

(2) LITHUANIA.—To the Government of Lithuania, the OSPREY class minehunter coastal ships CORMORANT (MHC–57) and KINGFISHER (MHC–56).

(b) TRANSFERS BY SALE.—The President is authorized to transfer vessels to foreign recipients on a sale basis under section 21 of the Arms Export Control Act (22 U.S.C. 2761), as follows:

(1) TAIWAN.—To the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office in the United States (which is the Taiwan instrumentality designated pursuant to section 10(a) of the Taiwan Relations Act (22 U.S.C. 3309(a))), the OSPREY class minehunter coastal ships ORIOLE (MHC–55) and FALCON (MHC–59).

(2) TURKEY.—To the Government of Turkey, the OSPREY class minehunter coastal ship SHRIKE (MHC–62).

(c) GRANTS NOT COUNTED IN ANNUAL TOTAL OF TRANSFERRED EXCESS DEFENSE ARTICLES.—The value of a vessel transferred to a recipient on a grant basis pursuant to authority provided by subsection (a) shall not be counted against the aggregate value of excess defense articles transferred in any fiscal year under section 516(g) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961.

(d) COSTS OF TRANSFERS.—Any expense incurred by the United States in connection with a transfer authorized by this section shall be charged to the recipient.

(e) REPAIR AND REFURBISHMENT IN UNITED STATES SHIPYARDS.—To the maximum extent practicable, the President shall require, as a condition of the transfer of a vessel under this section, that the recipient to which the vessel is transferred have such repair or refurbishment of the vessel as is needed before the vessel joins the naval forces of the recipient performed at a shipyard located in the United States, including a United States Navy shipyard.

(f) EXPIRATION OF AUTHORITY.—The authority to transfer a vessel under this section shall expire at the end of the 2-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from American Samoa?

There was no objection.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I would first like to recognize a distinguished colleague and dear friend of mine, the gentlelady who currently chairs the Subcommittee on International Affairs, the gentlelady from the Virgin Islands, Mrs. DONNA CHRISTENSEN, for introducing this legislation.

This bill makes conforming, clarifying, and technical amendments to the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003, which are important to ensuring that we maintain our obligations under the act to our friends in Micronesia.

This bill also approves agreements made pursuant to the act which determines how disaster relief will be handled for the Federated States of Micronesia and the Republic of the Marshall Islands.

In addition, Mr. Speaker, through amending the Compact of Free Association, this legislation before us today transfers excess military equipment to friendly foreign governments for their legitimate defense needs. It is a strong statement of trust and cooperation from the United States when we transfer excess U.S. military naval vessels.

While excess to our own needs, these refurbished vessels conserve significant and deeply appreciated roles in the navies of the recipient nations.

Mr. Speaker, this bill also authorizes the transfer of excess U.S. naval vessels to three of our most important friends and allies, Turkey, Lithuania and Taiwan.

As my colleagues well know, Turkey is one of our most valued NATO members, and is one of the United States' closest allies. Turkey serves as one of the most important conduits for the transit of supplies to our forces in Iraq. The transfer of these missiles, two guided missile frigates and two minesweepers, will again reinforce our close relationship with Istanbul and our common commitments to each other's security needs.

Lithuania has been a staunch U.S. ally in the global war on terror. It makes an outside contribution to global security, contributing troops to military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, and the leading provincial reconstruction team in Afghanistan.

The two minesweeper vessels in this bill will allow Vilnius to clear leftover sea mines from the two world wars in the Baltic Sea and supports Lithuania's commitment to NATO's Mine Counter-Measures Forces North mission.

Taiwan is a thriving and energetic democracy. Our two nations share a complex web of economic, political, and strategic ties that only deepens over time. Taiwan is a bulwark of democracy in the Asia-Pacific region, and we must do all we can to further strengthen our political, security and economic ties. This bill authorizes the sale of two minesweepers to Taiwan.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2705, the Compacts of Free Association Amendments Act of 2007.

The United States shares a uniquely close history and friendship with the Pacific Island nations of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, and Palau.

In the aftermath of World War II, the United States administered those islands as Trust Territories until they became independent, sovereign nations in the 1980s and the 1990s. Our relations with those countries are governed by compacts of free association which guarantees certain forms of U.S. assistance and cooperation in exchange for defense rights and obligations that are unique in the world.

Those Pacific nations remain stalwart friends of the United States and dependable partisans in the United Nations General Assembly. Some of their citizens continue to serve with great distinction and personal sacrifice in the United States Armed Forces, including Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 108th Congress extended and significantly restructured the compacts of free association with Micronesia and the Marshall Islands in the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003. This bill makes technical corrections, updates, and minor changes to that act, as well as to the Palau Compact. Most importantly, it improves the disaster assistance agreements required by section 105 of the act, which were subsequently negotiated between the parties and presented to Congress.

I want to thank the author, the gentlelady from the U.S. Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN) for providing us this opportunity to reaffirm our friendship with the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau.

The measure before us today has also been modified to include the text of H.R. 3912, the Naval Vessel Transfer Act of 2007, which was requested by the Department of Defense and introduced by the gentleman from California, our great chairman, TOM LANTOS.

According to the Secretary of the Navy, authority to transfer surplus vessels is an important aspect of our ship disposition strategy. It enables the Navy to manage its inventory while strengthening the ties with our allies by transferring the ships that enhance their defense capabilities.

This bill authorizes the transfer of eight decommissioned naval vessels to certain friends and allies of the United States, specifically Lithuania and Turkey and Taiwan. Five ships will be transferred on a grant basis, as excess defense articles, and three will be transferred through foreign military sales under section 21 of the Arms Export Control Act.

Importantly, the legislation also requires that any expense incurred by the United States in connection with a transfer authorized by this bill shall be charged to the recipient. Likewise, it states that, to the maximum extent feasible, repair and refurbishment of these vessels shall take place in U.S. shipyards.

I urge support of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1300

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield 10 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from the Virgin Islands (Mrs. CHRISTENSEN).

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Thank you for your generosity with time. I will not use anywhere near that much.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2705, the Compacts of Free Association Amendments Act, as amended by the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

This legislation I sponsored is important to usher in a new regime of how disaster assistance is provided to the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia. In addition, it clarifies access to educational programs for the Republic of Palau. Lastly, the legislation makes technical corrections to Compacts of Free Association with the RMI and the FSM as was suggested by the administration.

I want to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues on the Committee on Foreign Affairs for their attention to this legislation. Especially I would like to thank the chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA); and the subcommittee's ranking member, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO). I would also like to thank Chairman LANTOS and Ranking Member ROS-LEHTINEN for their leadership in moving this legislation forward.

I urge my colleagues to support the passage of H.R. 2705.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want first to compliment my good friend the gentleman from Florida on the other side of the aisle for part of our management of this proposed legislation.

I want to note for the record how important these islands in Micronesia were so critical in our Nation's history, and I might want to note as a matter of record that it was from Micronesia that the famous aircraft, the Enola Gay, took the two atom bombs to Nagasaki and Hiroshima which eventually ended the war against Japanese military forces. It was also in Micronesia that we initiated and conducted tests of some 67 nuclear devices that were exploded in the Marshall Islands. I think sometimes we don't seem to give a sense of appreciation of the fact that the whole Marshall archipelago, the whole Marshall Islands, were totally exposed to nuclear radiation as a result of our nuclear testing program, some 67 nuclear bombs, including the first hydrogen bomb that was exploded in the Marshall Islands, 1,000 times more powerful than the bombs that we exploded in Nagasaki and Hiroshima.

I am saddened to say, Mr. Speaker, that our government has not made a definite commitment to help, to meet the medical needs of the several hundred of the Marshallese people who were exposed to nuclear radiation. To this day we still have not done enough to help the Marshallese people in this regard. We have also not helped the Marshallese people to compensate them properly for the loss of their property when we conducted these tests in Micronesia.

I just want to note that for the record, Mr. Speaker. I hope that in the coming months that appropriate legislation will be introduced to address these very serious issues. I think we owe it to the Marshallese people. Our government surely should be grateful for the sacrifices that the Marshallese people have had to make as a result of conducting our nuclear testing program in this area of the world.

With that, Mr. Speaker, again I thank my good friend from Florida.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2705, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND PLEDGING SUPPORT FOR VICTIMS OF FLOODING IN SOUTHERN MEXICO

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 812) expressing the sympathy and pledging the urgent support of the House of Representatives and the people of the United States for the victims of the devastating flooding in southern Mexico, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 812

Whereas in late October 2007, a series of storms brought torrential rainfall to southern Mexico, especially the States of Tabasco and Chiapas, causing the Grijalva, Carrizal, and Puxcatan Rivers to overflow their banks;

Whereas early reports have branded the resulting floods as the worst in Mexico in 50 years and Mexican President Calderon has called it ''one of the worst natural disasters in the history of our country. Not only because of the size of the area affected, but because of the number of people affected'';

Whereas the flooding is estimated to have affected 1,000,000 people so far;

Whereas Mexico's Federal Social Development Department now estimates that the homes of over 500,000 people were damaged or destroyed;

Whereas more than 300,000 people are reported to still be trapped inside their homes or on their rooftops, with uncertain access to food, medicine, and safe drinking water;

Whereas forecasts call for even more rain in the days ahead;

Whereas the Governor of the State of Tabasco Andres Granier stated that 100 percent of the states crops were lost and that 80 percent of the State of Tabasco is under water;

Whereas the capital of Tabasco, Villahermosa, has been particularly devastated, being compared to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina;

Whereas the flooding has hampered the capacity of Mexico's oil industry;

Whereas in the State of Chiapas, authorities have declared a state of emergency in 22 municipalities and at least 7,000 people have been evacuated to shelters;

Whereas Red Cross workers in Mexico have called for urgent supplies of water, food, and basic materials to assist in the rescue efforts; and

Whereas health officials have begun warning against the serious possibility of cholera and waterborne diseases: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses its heartfelt sympathy for the victims of the devastating flooding affecting southern Mexico;

(2) conveys its sincere support to the people and Government of Mexico;

(3) urges the United States Government to immediately make available all appropriate assistance requested by the Mexican authorities; and

(4) reaffirms its commitment to provide relief aid to the victims as the effects of the flooding continue to unfold.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from American Samoa?

There was no objection.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to first thank my colleague and dear friend, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ), and also the chairman of our House Foreign Affairs Committee and the distinguished senior ranking member, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, for their support and leadership; and again especially my good friend, Congresswoman LINDA SÁNCHEZ, for her authorship of this resolution. This is very, very critical, Mr. Speaker. We cannot support Mexico enough during one of the worst natural disasters in their history.

A series of storms have brought torrential rainfall to southern Mexico, especially the States of Tabasco and Chiapas, causing the Grijalva, Carrizal, and Puxcatan Rivers to overflow their banks. The homes of an estimated half a million people have been damaged or destroyed, and at least that many more people have been affected by severed utilities and transportation corridors.

Mr. Speaker, Mexican President Felipe Calderon has called it ''one of the worst natural disasters in the history of our country. Not only because of the size of the area affected but because of the number of people affected.''

The Governor of the State of Tabasco, Andres Granier, stated that 100 percent of the State's crops were lost and that 80 percent of the State of Tabasco is underwater. Over a million Tabascans, half the State's population, have been directly affected, with at least half a million losing their homes and even more losing all of their material possessions. The capital of Tabasco, Villahermosa, has been particularly devastated, being compared to New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina.

Mr. Speaker, an estimated 60,000 to 70,000 people were being housed in shelters, Interior Minister Francisco Ramirez Acuna said recently in a television interview. He estimated that some 400,000 people in Tabasco would need some kind of government aid to get back on their feet. The floodwaters' descent could lead to outbreaks of diseases like malaria, dengue fever and cholera.

Mr. Speaker, we must commend President Calderon, who has led Mexico's rapid response to its worst flooding in recent history and who has personally played a major role in averting a catastrophe on the level of Katrina. Amid heavy rains, President Calderon ordered in thousands of soldiers, marines, pilots and federal police on October 29, 2 days before the most damaging flooding hit. When the riverbanks finally burst, inundating some 70 percent

of the city of Villahermosa on October 31, there were more than 60 helicopters ready to carry out nonstop rescue and relief missions. President Calderon and half his cabinet were on the ground, giving televised updates on everything from how to use satellite phones in shelters to the drop points of millions of bottles of water. The President's reaction is most impressive, and I take this opportunity here on the House floor to applaud this leader's efforts.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution expresses the empathy of the United States House of Representatives during this time and pledges our continued assistance. We applaud the prompt humanitarian response of the Mexican government, international organizations, and relief bodies. We must continue to support these efforts as long as they are necessary.

In this resolution, it is resolved that the House of Representatives urge the U.S. Government to immediately make available all possible assistance to Mexican authorities and reaffirms its commitment to provide relief aid to the victims as the effects of the flooding continue to unfold.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I stand to join my colleague, my good friend from American Samoa, today to express my sincere sympathy and support for those who have suffered as a result of the recent torrential storms in southern Mexico. The damage has been devastating. It is reported that as many as 1 million people have been affected by the flooding, with the homes of an estimated 500,000 people being destroyed or damaged. The Governor of the State of Tabasco has stated that 100 percent of the State's crops have been lost and 80 percent of his state is underwater. What a shame.

Sadly, with more than 300,000 people reported trapped inside their homes or on rooftops and additional downpour predicted, it is still too early to quantify the total destruction wrought by these unrelenting rains. Just over 2 months ago, Mexico was ravaged by Hurricanes Dean and Henriette. Now what President Calderon has characterized, and I quote, one of the worst natural disasters in the history of Mexico has followed.

I am awed by the perseverance of our friends in Mexico and commend the courage they continue to demonstrate in their efforts to overcome the damage of these storms. Furthermore, I admire the contributions made by relief organizations and private citizens from around the world to assist in the aftermath. My prayers are with the families and friends of those harmed by the perils of this storm.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield 10 minutes to the distinguished gentlewoman from California (Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ).

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. I want to thank the gentleman for graciously yielding me so much time. I would also like to thank the distinguished chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Congressman TOM LANTOS, and the distinguished ranking member, Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, for supporting this important resolution that I am offering today.

The U.S. has had its share of natural disasters recently, from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005 to this year's southern California wildfires, some of which are still burning as I speak. As we have learned, it is difficult even for the United States, one of the wealthiest nations in the world, to adequately care for our victims and rebuild our communities once we have experienced one of these natural disasters.

In both of those disasters, our neighbor was there to help us with emergency relief units and firefighters. Now Mexico faces the challenge of a devastating natural disaster within its own borders.

This resolution recognizes the plight of our Mexican neighbors and expresses our desire and commitment to support Mexico during one of the worst natural disasters in its history, a disaster which the country's President has described as one of the worst not only because of the size of the area affected but because of the number of people affected.

As many Americans already know, a series of storms brought torrential rainfall to southern Mexico, especially the States of Tabasco and Chiapas, causing various rivers to overflow their banks.

At least half a million people's homes have been damaged or destroyed and perhaps double that number are without utilities or cut off from transportation routes.

In the State of Tabasco, as was already mentioned, 100 percent of the agricultural crops have been lost and 80 percent of the state is underwater. It's incredible.

Truly, this is a disaster of epic proportions. In this agricultural area, even those who were able to stay safe during the storm will face many challenges in the weeks ahead. Having lost their crops, which for many are their sole source of income, surviving and keeping their families fed and intact will be difficult.

In addition to picking up the pieces of their lives after losing their homes and crops and everything that they owned, the flood survivors face increased threats from diseases like malaria, dengue fever and cholera.

As a good neighbor, it is imperative that we do all that we can to help Mexico ensure that the flood victims can indeed get back on their feet. It is the least we can do for a neighbor who did what it could to help us in our times of need when we experienced natural disasters.

I also want to take a moment to commend and comment on Mexican President Felipe Calderon for leading his country's rapid response to this devastation and for the work that he did before the rains fell to avert an even greater catastrophe. The President's swift reaction avoided even greater disaster, and I applaud his efforts. They really were impressive.

This resolution today expresses the sympathy of the U.S. House of Representatives during this time and pledges our continued assistance. We want to acknowledge the prompt humanitarian response that has come from many quarters, not just the Mexican Government but international organizations and relief bodies. We must continue to support these efforts as long as they are necessary.

I urge my colleagues not only to support this resolution but to work together to ensure that its goals are realized. I urge us to continue to work in a bi-partisan manner to address this humanitarian crisis. We must not just speak of our good intentions; we must act on them. We must immediately make assistance available to Mexican authorities so that Mexico can continue to provide relief aid to the victims as the effects of the flooding continue to unfold.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to support this resolution.

□ 1315

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentlewoman for her most eloquent remarks before the floor of this House and, again, I want to urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 812, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

A message in writing from the President of the United States was communicated to the House by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

SUPPORT FOR THE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS ACT OF 2007

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass

the bill (H.R. 3320) to provide assistance for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw, Poland.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3320

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Support for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) Current and future generations benefit greatly by visible reminders and documentation of the historical and cultural roots of their society.

(2) It is in the national interest of the United States to encourage the preservation and protection of artifacts associated with the heritage of United States citizens who trace their forbearers to other countries and to encourage the collection and dissemination of knowledge about that heritage.

(3) According to the 2000 United States Census, nearly 9,000,000 Americans are of Polish ancestry.

(4) At the beginning of World War II, Poland had the largest Jewish population in Europe.

(5) In 1996, Yeshayahu Weinberg, a founding director of Tel Aviv's Diaspora Museum and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, created an international team of experts with the goal of establishing a Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

(6) The Museum of the History of Polish Jews will preserve and present the history of the Jewish people in Poland and the wealth of their culture spanning a period of 1,000 years.

(7) In 1997, the City of Warsaw donated a parcel of land, opposite the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Memorial, for the explicit use for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

(8) In 2005, the Government of Poland and the City of Warsaw agreed to provide 40,000,000 Polish zlotys for the construction of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

(9) In 2005, an international architectural competition selected a Finnish firm to design the building for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

(10) In 2006, the building for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews moved into the last phase of project design.

SEC. 3. ASSISTANCE FOR THE MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF POLISH JEWS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Assistance provided by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the Department of State shall be made available to assist in the development of the permanent collection of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

(b) AUTHORIZATION FOR ASSISTANCE.—To carry out the purposes of subsection (a), the Secretary of State is authorized to provide $5,000,000, which shall remain available until expended, to the Museum for the History of Polish Jews.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from American Samoa?

There was no objection.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill and yield myself such time as I may consume.

First of all, I would like to commend and thank the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), my good friend and my colleague, for his sponsorship of this important legislation, and I also want to thank the distinguished gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, and the gentlewoman from Florida, our senior ranking member of the Foreign Affairs Committee, for their support of this legislation.

This bill that was introduced by my good friend, the gentleman from New Jersey, is a bill that seeks to preserve the cultural heritage of Poland's Jewish population. Mr. Speaker, the history of the Jewish people in Poland dates back over a millennium, when the country initially provided one of Europe's most tolerant homes for the Jewish people and housed one of the world's most vibrant Jewish communities. This tolerance waned from the 17th century onwards, as incidents of political and personal anti-Semitism began to increase.

However, when Poland regained its independence in the early 20th century, its Jewish population remained one of the largest in the world. Indeed, in 1939, over 3 million of the Jewish people lived in Poland, comprising the largest Jewish population of any country in Europe. Mr. Speaker, this situation changed radically when the Nazis occupied Poland, as over 90 percent of Poland's Jewish population was brutally killed or murdered and tortured during the Holocaust. Of the few who survived, around 200,000 people, most emigrated from Poland. Many came to the United States, while others fled to Israel and South America.

Mr. Speaker, estimates of Poland's Jewish population range from 3,500 to 15,000, out of a total population of over 38 million. This dramatically reduced post-war Jewish population has led to some false claims that there were no Jews in Poland. Given the long history of Poland's Jews, combined with the tragic decline of their population during the Holocaust, it is singularly important that steps are taken to preserve and protect their cultural heritage. Indeed, the nearly 9 million Americans who claim Polish lineage will benefit from visible reminders of their forebearers.

Mr. Speaker, for almost over 10 years now, a team of international experts has worked tirelessly to establish a Museum of the History of the Polish Jews for this very purpose. This museum aims to preserve the history and culture of Jewish people in Poland over the last 1,000 years, beginning with their 11th century emigration from Western Europe to escape persecution in their vibrant community between the world wars.

Mr. Speaker, the City of Warsaw and the Polish Government have been active supporters and contributors to this project. In 1997, the city donated the land near the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Memorial on which to construct this new museum. This area is located in Warsaw's former Jewish quarter, which previously housed a thriving community of about 400,000 Jewish people.

Mr. Speaker, in 2005, two years ago, the city and the government donated 40 million zlotys, currently worth about $14.5 million, for the museum's construction. In the year 2005, again, two years ago, a Finnish architectural firm was selected to design the project. In June of this year, Polish authorities broke ground at the site. Construction is expected to take two years, enabling the museum to open by the year 2010.

This bill authorizes U.S. funding to assist in the development of the permanent collection of the museum. This money will ensure the protection of artifacts documenting the heritage of the Jewish Polish people and many of their descendants who currently live in the United States.

Museum organizers have already asked the people of Poland to donate memorabilia to the project, collecting photographs, documents, and other remaining items. One such object includes a penknife provided by a woman whose father, a forced laborer in a Nazi arms factory, obtained from a fellow prisoner who had received it as a bar mitzvah gift. American funding will help these efforts.

I strongly support this bill and ask my colleagues to join me in ensuring the preservation of such a rich cultural legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3320, a measure to provide support for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, which was introduced by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH), my good friend. This bill would authorize funding to assist in the development of the permanent collection of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

As we all know, the knowledge of history is tremendously important, both to understand our heritage and to our efforts to ensure that mistakes made in the past are avoided now and in the future. The Jewish people have a long and rich history in Poland. In fact, at the beginning of World War II, Poland had the largest Jewish population in Europe. Tragically, almost all of that population in Poland was murdered in the Holocaust.

The Polish Government has donated land and has also agreed to provide

millions of dollars for construction of the museum. I ask my colleagues to support this bill, which would go on to assist in the development of the museum's collection. The tremendously rich 1,000-year history of the Jewish people in Poland should not be forgotten, Mr. Speaker. I urge my colleagues to pass this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this bill, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH).

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend and colleague Mr. BILIRAKIS for yielding and Chairman FALEOMAVAEGA for his very strong words in support of this legislation; TOM LANTOS, the chairman of our committee; and ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN, who were very strong supporters and backers of the bill before us today as well.

Mr. Speaker, at the beginning of World War II, Poland had the largest Jewish population in Europe. Over 50 percent of world Jewry has family ties to this pre-war community. Tragically, as a result of the Holocaust, a once thriving community was virtually destroyed.

In 1996, a group of people developed the idea for a museum dedicated to the culture, art and history of Poland's Jews. As one of the founders of the museum told me when I visited Warsaw a couple of years ago, We often learn how Jews died, but rarely how they lived. The Museum of the History of Polish Jews will change this. Indeed, it will solemnly remember the 3 million Polish Jews who died during the Holocaust and World War II, but also it will celebrate the rich 1,000 years of Polish Jewish life.

The interactive museum will allow visitors to view the long history of Jews in Poland in context, examining their lives through nine thematic galleries that illustrate their culture, their accomplishments, and the challenges they faced. The museum will measure 14,000 square feet and incorporate state-of-the-art multimedia installations that showcase the museum's collection, an archive of over 60,000 computer files of images collected from around the world. The nine galleries that house the museum's core exhibition provide 43,000 square feet of space that will be equipped with the latest technology to showcase a variety of multimedia displays. These exhibitions are being developed by a team of scholars, historians and museum experts from Poland, Israel, and the United States.

A crown jewel of the museum and a key element to serving the public will be the 5,400 square-foot state-of-the-art education center that includes a resource center for visitors. Multimedia displays and Web-based kiosks will share the museum's data base of 60,000 documents and objects with visitors, who will also have access to a reading room as well as a library.

Today, Mr. Speaker, despite the robust efforts of many good people, anti-Semitism remains a dangerous and a growing force in Europe and elsewhere in the world. By looking at the life of Polish Jewry and also documenting the events of the Holocaust, the museum and its educational center will make a major contribution in combating anti-Semitism. A better understanding of the great contributions that Polish Jews have made to society will help fight off the ignorance and the lies that bring about this bigotry.

There is no better time for a living monument to stand against anti-Semitism than now, and no better place than in the heart of Europe, the place where the Nazis put so many Jews to death. In 1997, the City of Warsaw donated land adjacent to the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising Monument for the construction of this museum. In June of 2007, authorities broke ground for its construction. It is now slated for opening in 2010, but there still is a significant deficit in funding.

It is one of the first institutions in post-European Poland to be built through a partnership of public and private support. The Government of Poland and the City of Warsaw have each designated some $15 million for the museum, and a number of private corporations and individuals from Israel, the United Kingdom, Sweden, the Netherlands, and elsewhere, of course that includes the United States, have also agreed to contribute. Just yesterday, the Government of Germany signed an agreement to donate over $7 million to the effort. All donors are united in preserving the memory of a magnificent people, who have made such a positive difference, and to combat the rising ugly tide of anti-Semitism.

As you can imagine, it's a costly and difficult project to assemble artifacts and memorabilia from Polish Jewry. Not only did the Nazis systematically destroy Jewish men, women and children, they sought to erase all memory of a noble people. The Nazis also decimated most of the City of Warsaw. Our contribution of $5 million will be more than just a symbol of American commitment to these principles, although that is important. It will be more than a reminder of the historical ties that bind many descendants of Polish Jews in the United States and elsewhere to Polish Jewry, although that, too, is a worthy goal. This contribution will be an important aid in making this project a reality. It will help bring it to completion.

I urge support for H.R. 3320. As one supporter called this, this is a ''restitution of memory.''

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I want to compliment and commend my good friend from New Jersey for a most eloquent statement. Whenever he speaks, I listen; not only as a great advocate and champion of human rights throughout the world, but I cannot think of a more appropriate piece of legislation where his mark is made to the fact that the persecutions that took place among the Jewish people during World War II. Again, I thank the gentleman from New Jersey for his efforts in bringing this piece of legislation to the floor for consideration.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 3320, introduced by my friend and colleague, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. This bill would authorize the United States to provide $5 million to assist in the development of the permanent collection of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews.

This past May, I had the opportunity to travel to Poland and, while there, met with Jerzy Halbersztadt, the director of the museum, and Ewa Wierzynska, the deputy director. The museum they are helping to establish is truly an historical undertaking and one that deserves the support of the United States.

Warsaw was once home to the largest Jewish community in Europe, and if we are to truly understand what was lost in the Holocaust, we must try to wrap our minds not only around the figure of 6 million, but around the 1,000 years of Polish Jewish life that preceded that tragedy. Poland is not only a place where Jews died, but a place where they lived and flourished. Moreover, it is estimated that 80 percent of all Jews and over nine million Americans trace some of their ancestry to the Polish Jewish community. This museum has the potential to touch the lives of our own citizens in deeply personal ways.

As chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I am heartened by the educational role this museum can play in fulfilling the goals that the OSCE participating States have undertaken in the field of combating anti-Semitism. I believe this museum will contribute to tolerance and mutual respect in Poland, will help counter the broader phenomenon of anti-Semitism in Europe, and will serve as an inspiration to the thousands of visitors who will come every year. The historical record of the Polish Jewish community must be preserved and shared with future generations.

Unfortunately, my own schedule did not permit me to return to Poland for the June 26 groundbreaking ceremony for the museum, which will be located in the heart of the pre-World War II Jewish district and next to the monument to the Jews who resisted the Nazis during the 1943 ghetto uprising. However, I did send a member of the Helsinki Commission staff, who witnessed firsthand the extraordinary turnout for this event. Among those present was the Chief Rabbi of Tel Aviv Meir Lau, whose parents were from Poland and who suggested that invited Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who has denied the Holocaust, be among the first to visit the museum.

I don't know if the Iranian President will accept this invitation, but I have no doubt that many Americans will be among the 500,000 people who are expected to visit the museum on an annual basis. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this extraordinary museum, with an extraordinary mission.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3320.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

□ 1330

CONDEMNING THE NOVEMBER 6, 2007, TERRORIST BOMBING IN AFGHANISTAN

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 811) condemning the November 6, 2007, terrorist bombing in Afghanistan and expressing condolences to the people of Afghanistan and the members of the Wolesi Jirga.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 811

Whereas on November 6, 2007, a terrorist carried out a suicide bombing in the Baghlan province of Afghanistan that deliberately targeted a delegation of 18 members of the Wolesi Jirga, the directly elected chamber of the National Assembly of Afghanistan;

Whereas this horrific bombing was the deadliest suicide attack since the liberation of Afghanistan from the brutal Taliban regime in 2001, reportedly killing at least 50 Afghan citizens, including several schoolchildren, and wounding dozens of others;

Whereas at least six members of the Wolesi Jirga were killed in the attack, including Sayed Mustafa Kazemi, Chair of the Economic Commission of the Wolesi Jirga and former Minister of Commerce; Engineer Abdul Matin, a member from the province of Helmland; Sibgatullah Zaki, a member from the province of Takhar; Haji Sahib Rahman Hemat, a member from the province of Kunar; Nazik Mir Sarferaz, a member from the Kunduz province; and Mohammad Arif Zarif, a member from Kabul;

Whereas the legislative delegation transcended political, ethnic, and regional divisions and was targeted by this heinous act while carrying out its official duties in service to the Afghan people;

Whereas nearly six years after the liberation of Afghanistan from the Taliban, who provided al-Qaeda with a safe haven for planning the attacks of September 11, 2001, Afghanistan remains under siege, and the democratically elected Government of Afghanistan remains subject to attacks from remnants of the Taliban who have regrouped along with other insurgent groups, including al-Qaeda;

Whereas poppy cultivation and opium production, which directly support, sustain, and finance insurgents, militias, and terrorist organizations operating in Afghanistan, continue to dramatically increase;

Whereas the security of Afghanistan is closely intertwined with the security of its regional neighbors, and therefore cooperation and support from its neighbors in defeating insurgents and establishing security is urgently required;

Whereas the international community, including the Government of the United States, has expressed its ongoing commitment to supporting the efforts of the Government and people of Afghanistan to build a stable, secure, and democratic nation with the achievement of the Afghanistan Compact in 2006;

Whereas Afghanistan remains a critical front in the global struggle against terrorism, and supporting the development of democratic institutions in Afghanistan is critical to defeating this threat; and

Whereas the House Democracy Assistance Commission of the United States House of Representatives has worked in partnership with the Wolesi Jirga to strengthen its institutional capacity, and remains committed to a strong and mutually-beneficial partnership: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) condemns in the strongest terms the November 6, 2007, attack in the Baghlan province of Afghanistan and all other attacks against the democratic freedom and sovereignty of the Afghan people;

(2) expresses its condolences to the people of Afghanistan and the members of the Wolesi Jirga;

(3) supports the efforts of the Government of Afghanistan to investigate the attack and bring the perpetrators to justice;

(4) reaffirms the long-term commitment of the United States to the establishment of security, the strengthening of democratic and civil institutions, and the promotion of economic opportunity as the basis for a stable, secure, and democratic Afghanistan; and

(5) calls upon the United States and other responsible nations to strengthen their efforts to further the goals and standards set forth in the Afghanistan Compact for improvements in security, governance, and economic development.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. BILIRAKIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from American Samoa.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this proposed legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from American Samoa?

There was no objection.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, first of all, I want to recognize the chief sponsor and author of this important legislation, my good friend, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE) and I also want to thank the chairman of our Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. LANTOS, and our ranking member, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN of Florida, for their support and leadership in bringing this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, last week the United States was reminded once again that amongst the weekly sacrifices of Americans in Iraq, the continuing concern of Iran and the recent developments in Pakistan, there still exists in the geographic center of the Middle East and South Asia a country that faces a growing insurgency that directly threatens its stability and the national security and interests of the United States and its allies.

On November 6, a suicide bomber targeted a delegation of members of the Afghanistan National Assembly, or the Wolesi Jirga, killing at least 50 Afghans, including school children, ordinary citizens and half a dozen elected members. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to strongly condemn this attack and to echo again our unified commitment to the stabilization and development of Afghanistan.

This House shares a special bond with the Wolesi Jirga, which participates in a partnership in our House Democracy Assistance Commission, and it is indeed a tragedy to see our fellow legislators or parliamentarians be murdered in such a way.

A few months ago, this House passed on an overwhelming and bipartisan basis the Afghanistan Freedom Support and Security Act of 2007. This act reaffirmed our long-term commitment to the security and development of Afghanistan by reauthorizing a comprehensive package of assistance to a country in dire need of the international community's support.

Mr. Speaker, if there is any lesson to be taken from the tragic events like these, it is that now is the time to act. Poppy cultivation is up multifold, suicide attacks have increased dramatically in the past year, and Afghanistan still suffers as being one of the poorest countries in the world. In that regard, I urge my colleagues in the Senate, the other body, to take up an Afghanistan reauthorization bill as early as possible so that we may help that country drive out the forces of extremism and intolerance and bring the forces of moderation and progress in.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bipartisan resolution before us condemning the cowardly suicide bombings in Baghlan, Afghanistan, recently which killed at least six members of the Afghan Parliament and dozens of innocent men and women and children. Countless others were wounded.

Those who oppose the emergence of a free, democratic and stable Afghanistan mistakenly believe that through such nefarious acts they can deter the Afghan people from realizing their goal of a viable and independent Afghanistan that is secure and free from terrorism. This cowardly act will not deter us, nor will it deter the people of

Afghanistan from achieving those vital goals. It only strengthens the will of the Afghan people to not revert back to the days of totalitarian rule by the Taliban and its radical allies.

Last month, the committee met with the Speaker of the Afghan Parliament here in Washington and we discussed the challenges and common goals we all face and share in Afghanistan. I am confident that he and his colleagues, both men and women democratically elected by the people, will carry on, despite the loss of their colleagues in this brutal attack.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that President Karzai of Afghanistan spoke for all of us when he condemned the attacks and noted it was against Islam and said, ''It is the work of the enemies of peace and security in Afghanistan.''

This brutal attack is a solemn reminder that Afghanistan continues to be subjected to a campaign of unrelenting violence by the Taliban, Hizb-I Islami, and other terrorist organizations. The security climate has the potential to further compromise reconstruction and relief efforts by the United States, our allies and the international community.

In particular, the poppy cultivation and opium production, which directly supports local warlords and sustains and finances insurgents, militias and terrorist organizations behind these attacks, continues to increase at a staggering rate. In response, this critical resolution demonstrates the continued commitment from the United States and the international community to support the people of Afghanistan in their time of need.

I want to thank Congressman PRICE and Congressman DREIER for their leadership in ensuring that this resolution was considered by the House in a unified, expeditious manner.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, it is with pleasure that I yield 6 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. PRICE), the author of this proposed bill.

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 811, to offer a message of solidarity to the people of Afghanistan.

The House Democracy Assistance Commission, which I chair at present and which our colleague Mr. DREIER chaired in the previous Congress, has worked in partnership with the Wolesi Jirga, the Afghan Parliament's equivalent of the House of Representatives, for the last 2 years.

In the course of that partnership, we have had the opportunity to travel to Afghanistan and meet with a range of Afghan leaders, including numbers of members of the Wolesi Jirga. We have been profoundly impressed by the courage and commitment of the Afghan people, who are striving against long odds to radically transform their society. Their nation has been at war or under attack for nearly all of the last 30 years, and yet they have faced down those who deny them their personal and political freedoms and have continued on course, to build a democratic and secure nation.

None have demonstrated this dedication more than the members of the Wolesi Jirga. Afghan voters have selected individuals representing every aspect of the Afghan culture—Islamic scholars, western businessmen, former communists, progressive women, and everything in between, for this remarkable assembly. They have approached their differences in a truly democratic fashion, settling disputes through debate, rather than violence. As their Speaker, Yunus Qanooni, likes to say, they now settle their differences by holding up voting cards instead of guns. And now they stand together, conservatives and progressives, men and women, Tajiks and Pashtuns, all working for a better Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, one week ago today, the Afghan democracy suffered its deadliest terrorist attack since the fall of the brutal Taliban regime. Over 50 Afghan citizens, including school children, tribal elders and other bystanders, were killed, and over 100 more were injured.

The main target of the attack was a delegation of members of the Wolesi Jirga, a delegation that strongly represented the new democratic spirit I have just described. The 18 members of the delegation represented diverse ethnic groups and religious affiliations. They included men and women, and covered the full political spectrum. It was a delegation traveling to Baghlan province to reach out to the constituents that the members have sworn to serve.

After the bombing, six Wolesi Jirga members lay dead. Sayed Mustafa Kazemi, Chair of the Economic Commission of the Wolesi Jirga and former Minister of Commerce; Engineer Abdul Matin, a member from the province of Helmland; Sibgatullah Zaki, a member from the province of Takhar; Haji Sahib Rahman Hemat, a member from the province of Kunar; Nazik Mir Sarferaz, a member from the Kunduz province; and Mohammad Arif Zarif, a member from Kabul.

Many more were injured. Some of the members killed and injured were members that our House Democracy Assistance Commission met with only last fall. We offer our deepest sympathies to the families and friends of these members who died in service to their country.

But I rise to say to those behind these attacks that despite your cowardly actions, Afghanistan's democracy remains strong, and our support for Afghanistan remains unwavering.

The resolution before us condemns this horrific attack and expresses our deep condolences to the Afghan people, who have sacrificed so much for the cause of a free and democratic nation. It also calls upon our Nation and the international community to redouble our efforts in support of Afghanistan, to turn back the forces within that country and beyond that are capable of the barbarism we witnessed last week.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the coauthor of this resolution.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend for yielding. It is with a great deal of sadness that I rise in support of this resolution.

Our colleagues, Messrs. FALEOMAVAEGA, BILIRAKIS and PRICE, have very adequately outlined the circumstances around which this attack took place on November 6. But if there is one message that has come forward from the tragedy of a week ago, it is that if there is any doubt whatsoever that our enemies in Afghanistan are seeking to undermine democracy, liberalization and the cause of peace for the Afghan people, one needs look no further than what took place on November 6. This was a very sophisticated attack that took place, and it is one by those who clearly do want to undermine everything that we as Americans take for granted and for which the Afghan people aspire.

My dear friend and colleague Mr. PRICE has correctly pointed to the fact that just last week we had the opportunity as members of the House Democracy Assistance Commission to meet with our counterparts, members of the Wolesi Jirga, who have in many ways modeled their Parliament, their House of Representatives, after ours.

I know that we are not always the best model for everything. We are in fact a model to which many around the world, including the Afghan people and members of the Afghan Parliament, aspire. And that is why, as Mr. PRICE has correctly said, if anyone believes that this attack that took place on November 6 would in any way, in any way, diminish the commitment of the United States Congress and our 20-member bipartisan House Democracy Assistance Commission to our assistance to the Afghan people and to the future of peace, stability, democracy and political and economic liberalization in Afghanistan, they are wrong. In fact, Mr. Speaker, the tragedy of one week ago, on November 6, in my mind, stands to reaffirm and strengthen the commitment of the House Democracy Assistance Commission.

Now, while Mr. PRICE went through and talked about naming the six parliamentarians who tragically were killed and, as was pointed out, 50 people killed and many, many people wounded, I think it is important to note that Sayed Mustafa Kazemi was in fact a very bright 45-year-old leader who has, through his career, been responsible for bringing together a wide range of very, very diverse interests within Afghanistan. As Mr. PRICE pointed to the diversity that exists

within the Wolesi Jirga, it is important to note that Mr. Kazemi was in fact, if not the paramount leader, one of the top leaders in bringing these very diverse groups together.

□ 1345

Now, this delegation was in the Baghlan province doing their work, as we as Members of the House of Representatives do our work when we have delegations going to visit and work on different projects. This was the Economics Commission. As Mr. PRICE said, we had seen Mr. Kazemi as the head of the Economics Commission in the past. These were members of the Wolesi Jirga, parliamentarians just as we are, working on the project of trying to bring about greater reform and success to the people of Afghanistan. And to have them attacked in such a way is something that will in fact go down in history.

My friend from North Carolina said this was the worst attack to take place since the Taliban has come to power. Mr. Speaker, just today the British Broadcasting Corporation reported that the attack on November 6 was the single worst attack and the largest loss of life in the history of Afghanistan. Never before has such a large number of people been killed in an attack such as this.

So that is why I am very pleased that Mr. PRICE asked me to join with him working on this resolution. That is why we stand together, Democrats and Republicans, reaffirming our commitment to the future of Afghanistan. We know it was September 11 of 2001 and the attacks that emerged from Osama bin Laden and the Taliban, support for that effort, and al Qaeda that led to the work that we have done in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, we remain committed. Our resolve is in fact strengthened by this tragedy. I urge my colleagues to join in support of this resolution.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I deeply appreciate the remarks of my good friend and colleague from California and also the author of this legislation. Truly, I echo his sentiments. This is bipartisan proposed legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Does my colleague from Florida have any further speakers?

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 811, Condemning the November 6, 2007, terrorist bombing in Afghanistan and expressing condolences to the people of Afghanistan and the members of the Wolesi Jirga, introduced by my distinguished colleague from North Carolina, Representative DAVID PRICE. As we all know, the situation in Afghanistan is critical, and it is essential that we maintain and strengthen our support of Afghanistan for the sake of the Afghan people and our own national security.

Mr. Speaker, it was almost exactly 6 years ago that, in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the United States launched a military operation against Afghanistan, with the intent to capture Osama bin Laden, to destroy the al-Qaeda terrorist network, and to remove the Taliban regime that had provided support and safe harbor for al-Qaeda. Though the Taliban has been removed from power, they have since regrouped and are an increasingly resurgent force, while al-Qaeda remains a significant threat and Osama bin Laden continues to evade capture.

Meanwhile, Afghanistan continues to suffer from the chronic instability that has plagued the nation for much of its modern history. Its infrastructure and economy have been devastated by decades of conflict, the fledgling democratic government continues to face a very real threat from the resurgent Taliban, and the people of Afghanistan continue to live in a climate of ongoing turmoil, particularly in the southern regions of the country, where there are ongoing and dangerous clashes between coalition-led forces and insurgents.

This most recent attack that occurred on November 6, 2007 was the deadliest suicide attack since the liberation of Afghanistan from the Taliban in 2001. This attack deliberately targeted the members of the Wolesi Jirga, the directly elected chamber of the National Assembly of Afghanistan, which transcended political, regional, and ethnic divisions within this war-torn nation. The suicide attack killed at least 6 members of the Wolesi Jirga as well as at least 50 Afghan citizens, including women and children, and wounded dozens of others.

Mr. Speaker, it is essential that we provide considerable aid for Afghanistan, a region which we have consistently underfunded despite its critical needs. While we have thrown away billions of taxpayers' dollars in Iraq, the real security threat of Afghanistan, home to the al-Qaeda and the Taliban, has gone relatively unchecked. This is a problem not simply for the United States to handle, but for NATO. We must work with our NATO allies to put increased pressure on them to step up to the task of addressing the most serious security issues. Security is essential to not only economic growth but also makes it easier for humanitarian organizations to accomplish their tasks. Creating a stable security situation in Afghanistan is an international concern.

Furthermore, trends of opium production in Afghanistan have changed. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), "opium cultivation in Afghanistan is no longer associated with poverty." This is largely due to the fact that the poorer northern provinces are seeing a downward trend in poppy cultivation, while production and trafficking are growing in the eastern and southern provinces. As these are the areas of the, country currently experiencing the greatest amount of conflict, UNODC now associates the opiate trade with insurgency. According to UNODC, the Taliban have "started to extract from the drug economy resources for arms, logistics, and militia pay." This horrific attack may be directly linked to poppy cultivation and opium production, which has as of late been used to directly "support, sustain, and finance insurgents, militias, and terrorist organizations operating in Afghanistan."

In the 110th Congress, we have already passed important legislation that, I believe, will help promote peace and freedom in Afghanistan. However, it is necessary for us to continue to work together with the Afghan government and other members of the international community to address the outstanding challenges that continue to threaten the nation. As stated in this legislation, the United States must reaffirm its long-term commitment to Afghanistan, "to the establishment of security, the strengthening of democratic and civil institutions, and the promotion of economic opportunity as the basis for a stable, secure, and democratic Afghanistan.

The security and stability of Afghanistan is crucial to the current war on terror. The United States must strengthen and sustain its support of Afghanistan, we must continue in our commitment to this nation at this critical turning point. I am proud cosponsor of this legislation and I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. BILIRAKIS. I have no further speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from American Samoa (Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 811.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ALLOWING EXCEPTION FROM $1 COIN DISPENSING CAPABILITY REQUIREMENT

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3703) to amend section 5112(p)(1)(A) of title 31, United States Code, to allow an exception from the $1 coin dispensing capability requirement for certain vending machines.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3703

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 5112(p)(1)(A) of title 31, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

"(A) any business operations conducted by any such agency, instrumentality, system, or entity that involve coins or currency will be fully capable of—

"(i) accepting $1 coins in connection with such operations; and

"(ii) other than vending machines that do not receive currency denominations higher than $1, dispensing $1 coins in connection with such operations; and".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. PRICE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within

which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material therein.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3703. This is a very timely and important piece of legislation because as you may recall, the Presidential $1 Coin Act of 2005 requires retailers, including vending machines that are located on Federal property, to both accept and disburse $1 coins by January of 2008. We are talking about 7 weeks from now. That brings about the urgency and the timeliness of the matter.

This requirement additionally applies to transit systems, military bases, and those that take Federal subsidies. Now, while most vending machines are already programmed and able to accept $1 coins, there are very few that are programmed to dispense $1 coins. So that is why this legislation is needed, to exempt those vending machines from dispensing requirements that do not have a reason to dispense the $1 coins in the first place.

So that in effect, Mr. Speaker, if we do not pass this bill, we will have unintendedly affected a hindrance of the circulation of the coins by compelling them to be stored in vending machines that will never dispense them. This legislation targets machines that have only $1 in currency and exchange. So you can see there will never be a need for the machine to dispense $1 coins.

We believe that these Presidential $1 coins are very important. They should be circulated. The public should circulate them, but certainly having them stored in a vending machine from which they will never be dispensed is not the way to do that. That is why we need this bill. I ask that the House urgently pass this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleague from Georgia in support of this legislation. This legislation is simple and direct, and as my colleague stated, is necessary. It is basically a technical correction for the Presidential $1 Coin Act enacted in December 2005. That bill sought to use the mechanism of a regularly changed design on the $1 coin to draw that coin into circulation, and it had specific language directing that retail operations on Federal property, including vending machines, accept and dispense $1 coins. It makes sense since the coin is an official form of U.S. exchange, and not to handle the coin would be inappropriate.

But certain vending machines, such as soda machines, only accept change and bank notes of no greater value than $1. Logically, there would be no reason for these machines to dispense a $1 coin. To convert them to do so and to stock them with a stack of coins that never would be dispensed clearly would be unnecessary and not intended by the original bill.

Worse, as my friend from Georgia mentioned, oftentimes that cost for doing so would fall on our servicemen and women. So there really is no point to this change that was mandated, and we can easily fix that today.

Mr. Speaker, the language of this bill exempts solely those $1 vending machines from the requirement to dispense $1 coins. I urge all Members to support this bill, and I commend my colleague from Georgia for bringing this bill to the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I urge immediate passage of this bill and transmittal to the Senate.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3703.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF THE HOUSE THAT THE PRESIDENT SHOULD DECLARE LUNG CANCER A PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITY

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 335) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the President should declare lung cancer a public health priority and should implement a comprehensive interagency program to reduce the lung cancer mortality rate by at least 50 percent by 2015, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 335

Whereas lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death for both men and women, accounting for 28 percent of all cancer deaths;

Whereas lung cancer kills more people annually than breast cancer, prostate cancer, colon cancer, liver cancer, melanoma, and kidney cancer combined;

Whereas, since the National Cancer Act of 1971 (Public Law 92–218; 85 Stat. 778), coordinated and comprehensive research has raised the 5-year survival rates for breast cancer to 88 percent, for prostate cancer to 99 percent, and for colon cancer to 64 percent;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for lung cancer is still only 15 percent and a similar coordinated and comprehensive research effort is required to achieve increases in lung cancer survivability rates;

Whereas 60 percent of lung cancer cases are now diagnosed in nonsmokers or former smokers;

Whereas ⅔ of nonsmokers diagnosed with lung cancer are women;

Whereas certain minority populations, such as Black males, have disproportionately high rates of lung cancer incidence and mortality, notwithstanding their lower smoking rate;

Whereas members of the baby boomer generation are entering their sixties, the most common age at which people develop cancer;

Whereas tobacco addiction and exposure to other lung cancer carcinogens such as Agent Orange and other herbicides and battlefield emissions are serious problems among military personnel and war veterans;

Whereas the August 2001 Report of the Lung Cancer Progress Review Group of the National Cancer Institute stated that funding for lung cancer research was ''far below the levels characterized for other common malignancies and far out of proportion to its massive health impact'';

Whereas the Report of the Lung Cancer Progress Review Group identified as its ''highest priority'' the creation of integrated, multidisciplinary, multi-institutional research consortia organized around the problem of lung cancer rather than around specific research disciplines; and

Whereas the United States must enhance its response to the issues raised in the Report of the Lung Cancer Progress Review Group: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes lung cancer as a public health priority and the importance of taking steps toward reducing the lung cancer mortality rate by at least half by 2015;

(2) acknowledges the importance of the recommendations of the Lung Cancer Progress Review Group of the National Cancer Institute;

(3) encourages increased investment for lung cancer research and other lung cancer-related programs;

(4) supports efforts to develop a broad-based lung cancer screening and disease management program among members of the Armed Forces and veterans; and

(5) recognizes the benefit of graduate medical education programs in thoracic medicine and cardiothoracic surgery.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 335, and I would like to thank the lead cosponsors of the resolution, ED WHITFIELD and DONNA CHRISTENSEN. I also wish to strongly commend the Lung Cancer Alliance and other organizations that have supported this resolution. I am so pleased

we could pass this resolution during Lung Cancer Awareness Month.

House Resolution 335 calls on the President to declare lung cancer a public health priority and encourages a greater investment in lung cancer research. This could not come at a more important time.

We have just seen newly released statistics that show, while overall cancer mortality rates are dropping quicker than ever, lung cancer mortality rates in women are actually increasing. As our Nation is committed to working towards the goal of eliminating all cancer deaths by 2015, the statistics for lung cancer are extremely disappointing.

Mr. Speaker, lung cancer is the number one cancer killer of both men and women, yet we are perhaps making the least amount of progress in effectively treating it. We must put greater investment into prevention and early diagnosis of lung cancer. This is the only way to improve outcomes.

One of the most effective ways to reduce lung cancer incidence is, of course, smoking cessation. I am proud of the remarkable achievements our Nation has made to encourage smokers to quit, and better yet, to teach people never to begin at all.

Disappointingly, some of America's leading women's magazines don't share that goal. As many of you have heard and seen, they continue running ads for cigarettes like Camel No. 9 which are clearly targeted at young women.

After years of steady decline, smoking rates have remained stagnant from 2004 to 2006. Launching an aggressive marketing campaign targeting young people is a terrible step backwards in our national efforts to reduce smoking. I hope this resolution today will reinforce our commitment to smoking cessation.

But one of the lesser known facts of lung cancer is that 8 percent of men and an astonishing 20 percent of women with lung cancer have never smoked. I am very aware of this fact through my own personal experience as my daughter became one of these statistics. I think the Nation as a whole became more aware with more visible cases, such as Dana Reeve. It often takes a high-profile case to propel us into action, and I hope that the growing awareness and action over the past 2 years will continue to improve our understanding of and our ability to confront lung cancer.

With a greater investment into integrated, multidisciplinary research organized around lung cancer, we do have a chance of reducing death. Let us use the opportunity of passing this resolution to reaffirm our shared commitment to combating lung cancer deaths, truly making it a public health priority for our Nation. I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 335.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my colleague, Mrs. CAPPS. And I also want to thank Chairman DINGELL and Ranking Member BARTON, and others who have had a real hand in moving this legislation before us.

I rise today in support of this resolution, a resolution recognizing the impact of lung cancer and the recent recommendations of the Lung Cancer Progress Review Group of the National Cancer Institute. This group's process is a comprehensive, collaborative, integrated approach to control and eliminate lung cancer. The group was tasked with making recommendations, strategizing, and reporting on progress made in an effort to control and eliminate lung cancer.

□ 1400

The group was able to identify scientific priorities and needs and set forth a national agenda for research on lung cancer.

This Progress Review Group made the recommendation to foster the creation of scientifically integrated multi-institutional research consortia organized around the problem of lung cancer rather than around specific research disciplines. The recommendation speaks to the ongoing work at the NIH as well as in the private sector for cross-cutting research. And as a Congress, it is our responsibility to endow these researchers to best pursue answers. This report clarifies the benefits of broad science. Putting disease research into silos so that, as so many authorizing bills often do, is not always helpful to the greater goal. Let's take these recommendations to pursue a multilevel, multidisciplinary science in an effort to find a cure for lung cancer or thousands of other diseases that afflict the world. Reducing the mortality rate of lung cancer is an objective to which we all can subscribe. It is our responsibility to make sure that the scientists have the tools and the access necessary to pursue a cure.

So many of us here have been with someone at a bedside that is suffering from this awful disease, one of the worst. It is a great step forward that we can pass this legislation, to see the research come about, the funding with it, so that some day in fact we will have a cure to prevent this tragedy in families across the globe.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPPS. In closing, I just want to urge our colleagues to pass this resolution and to press forward with the research on lung cancer. I do this in the name of my daughter and of Dana Reeve and other people whose lives have not been saved but who could be promoting others to be encouraged to eradicate this most deadly of cancer scourges.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PASTOR). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 335, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title was amended so as to read: ''Resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to lung cancer as a public health priority and the recommendations of the Lung Cancer Progress Review Group of the National Cancer Institute.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF CHILDREN'S HEALTH MONTH

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 760) supporting the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 760

Whereas children comprise one quarter of the population of the United States;

Whereas nearly 1 in 5 children in the United States are overweight;

Whereas 7 percent of children in the United States have limitations on activity due to chronic health conditions;

Whereas an estimated 12 percent of high school seniors put themselves at risk by smoking cigarettes daily;

Whereas children account for 30,000,000 annual visits to the emergency room to receive care for injuries or illnesses;

Whereas asthma affects nearly 5,000,000 American children;

Whereas allergies affect about 50,000,000 American children;

Whereas motor vehicle crashes are the number one cause of death for children and adolescents ages 1 to 21;

Whereas dental caries is the most common chronic disease affecting American children, and is 5 times more common than asthma and 7 times more common than hay fever;

Whereas during fiscal year 2005, an estimated 899,000 children in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico were determined to be victims of abuse or neglect; and

Whereas every year since 1928 the President has issued a proclamation designating the month October as ''Children's Health Month'': Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month;

(2) invites the chief executive officers of the States, territories, and possessions of the United States to issue proclamations recognizing the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month;

(3) commends the efforts of States, territories, and possessions of the United States, localities, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and the people of the United States who support the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month;

(4) recognizes and reaffirms our Nation's commitment to providing access to health care, ensuring preventative care, seeking cures for debilitating diseases and chronic conditions, and promoting healthy living habits for America's children;

(5) recognizes and salutes the health care professionals who provide care and treatment for childhood illnesses and afflictions;

(6) recognizes and salutes the officials who protect children from environmental health and safety risks;

(7) recognizes and salutes the officials who educate parents, schools, and communities about health risks and related issues for children; and

(8) encourages States, territories, and possessions of the United States to educate children about healthy living habits when they are young so that they will be more likely to lead healthy lives as adults.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. COSTA). Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of House Resolution 760 which supports the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month. I commend my colleagues, Kathy Castor of Florida and Dave Reichert of Washington, for introducing this important resolution. A school nurse myself for 20 or more years, I can't emphasize enough the importance of reaffirming a stronger commitment to provide better access to health care for children.

We absolutely must take greater steps in providing preventive care, promoting healthy habits, and finding cures to chronic conditions that are becoming more prevalent in our Nation's children.

Perhaps one of the greatest steps we can take is to finally reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Programs. As this resolution notes, one of the greatest contributors to unhealthy outcomes in our children is a lack of access to care. Our Children's Health Insurance Program would provide health care access to an additional 4 million children who are eligible but not now covered. This bill was supported by 265 House Members and 64 Senators. I hope we will soon see this bill signed into law. Though we know there are other steps we must also take, this is the primary one.

There are steps in addition to this legislation that we can take. When one in five children in the United States are overweight, 5 million children are affected by asthma, and 50 million children suffer from allergies, we know we must take steps to improve healthy environments as well as healthy habits. With this resolution, we applaud the efforts of the many families, communities, health care professionals, and others in our communities, and officials as well, who are taking these steps already; and we encourage in this resolution that States be proactive in promoting healthy living habits to children so that they can lead healthy lives as adults.

Most importantly, perhaps, this resolution reminds us of what our priorities in this Congress should be. Undoubtedly, our children should be number one. I commend this resolution for reaffirming that.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I might consume.

I want to again thank Chairman DINGELL, Ranking Member BARTON, and certainly LOIS CAPPS for her leadership on this issue. I again rise in support of H. Res. 760, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month.

The overarching goal of designating October each year as Children's Health Month is to draw attention to the need to provide access to health care, insuring preventative care, seek cures for diseases and chronic conditions, and promote healthy living habits for all of America's children.

There has been much discussion recently both on the floor and in the media about children's health care. The objective, obviously, to cover the health needs of children is of paramount concern, particularly with low-income children. Children's Health Month should remind us of that important message. I stand in support, and ask that my colleagues support the resolution as well.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CASTOR).

Ms. CASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my good friend and colleague, Mrs. CAPPS from California, for yielding the time, and thank her for her ongoing efforts and advocacy on behalf of the health of America's children and all Americans all across this country.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 760, supporting the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month. As cochair of the Congressional Children's Health Care Caucus, I am pleased to offer this resolution along with my colleague from the other side of the aisle, Mr. REICHERT of Washington, who is the cochair of the caucus.

This has been an important year for work on children's health issues. As grandparents and parents and teachers and doctors and nurses and all community members understand, our work on behalf of children's health is constant, notwithstanding the fact that we are going to recognize a certain month here today.

We are working on behalf of children's health in so many collaborative ways, and we want to encourage more. We are encouraging families and schools to focus on healthy living habits and healthy nutrition for children. We are working to combat childhood obesity and to promote exercise and physical activity. We are continuing our concerted efforts to keep our children and teens from smoking. We are working to educate families and raise medical awareness about critical childhood illnesses such as asthma and diabetes. And, so many across this country are working to help parents and other families sign their kids up for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program, and those activities must continue.

But our concerns are not limited only to the physical health of our children, but also to their mental health and their behavioral health. I note just today that two new studies were released relating to early childhood behavior. We have got to remain at the cutting edge, and we have got to continue to encourage our talented researchers in my home State in Florida, Mrs. CAPPS' State of California, and all across the country to continue their work.

In addition, all too often our children are victims of abuse and neglect and do not receive the special care required to meet their health care needs and their mental health care needs. Here in the Congress, we are working to ensure that these disparities are eliminated and that our children receive all the support that they need. We would like our neighbors back home to know that we care about their families and the well-being of their children, and we will continue to draw attention to these issues and work hard to amend these problems.

Mr. Speaker, today as we acknowledge Children's Health Month and the importance of its meaning, we remind our neighbors and this body of the special attention needed for children's health. We salute the parents, pediatricians, nurses, and all community members that work every day to care for our kids, for their physical and mental well-being. We commend those institutions that have honored the goals of this special month, and we acknowledge the importance of supporting America's children by reinforcing our sincere dedication to providing access to health care for our kids, ensuring preventative care, seeking cures for debilitating diseases and chronic conditions, and promoting healthy lifestyles for America's children.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to urge adoption of this resolution which goes to the heart of a major priority that we have in this Congress, which is to support our children's health. This is for the sake of our children, of course, but it is also on behalf of their families, the most important people in their lives, on behalf of our communities. And really, in truth, it is about our future, because, after all, our children are our future, and a healthy future is that much better for all of us.

Mrs. CAPPS. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. CAPPS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 760, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING THE GOAL AND MISSION OF AMERICA RECYCLES DAY

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 122) supporting the goal and mission of America Recycles Day, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

H. CON. RES. 122

Whereas America Recycles Day is on November 15th of each year;

Whereas America Recycles Day is an annual national awareness event, the mission of which is promoting the social, environmental, and economic benefits of recycling and buying recycled-content products;

Whereas the goal of America Recycles Day is to increase the purchase of recycled-content products and recycling throughout America;

Whereas Americans have a long tradition of recycling;

Whereas in 1896, the first recycling center was established in New York City, and, by 1989, the Environmental Protection Agency had set a national waste reduction and recycling goal, and 26 States had enacted laws making recycling an integral part of their solid waste management plans;

Whereas in 2003, homes, businesses, and institutions in the United States produced more than 236,000,000 tons of municipal solid waste;

Whereas this amounts to approximately 4.5 pounds of waste per person in the United States per day, and is almost triple the amount of municipal solid waste generated in 1960;

Whereas the Environmental Protection Agency reports that 30 percent of municipal solid waste is recovered for recycling or composting, 14 percent is incinerated, and the remaining 56 percent is discarded in landfills;

Whereas a significant amount of this disposed solid waste can be recovered for recycling or composting through source separation, mechanical separation, and community-based recycling programs;

Whereas recycling saves energy, which in turn can reduce American dependence on foreign oil and prevent pollution; reduces the need for certain natural resources; can create more jobs; can cost communities less than other waste disposal options; supplies valuable raw materials to industry; stimulates green technology development; and reduces the need for new landfills and combustors;

Whereas over the past 10 years, many new markets for recycled products have been created, including remanufacturing plastic containers into other plastic containers, fleece, carpet, car parts, strapping, stuffing, bottles, pipe, lawn and garden products, injection molded products, and plastic lumber;

Whereas while there are many new markets for recycled products, community curbside pickup programs have decreased and recycling rates for certain recyclable household products, like plastic and aluminum containers, have decreased or stayed the same;

Whereas Federal, State, and local governments should encourage increased recycling of recyclable household products; and

Whereas there remains significant opportunity to increase recycling in the United States, and Americans should be encouraged to participate in endeavors that promote waste separation methods, community-based recycling programs, and expanded utilization of recovered materials: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) supports the goal and mission of America Recycles Day; and

(2) encourages all Americans to participate in promoting the social, environmental, and economic benefits of recycling and buying recycled-content products.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, I rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 122, to support the goal and mission of America Recycles Day.

A strong commitment to recycling is needed in this country. Recycling saves energy consumption and can reduce our dependence on foreign oil, prevent pollution, provide valuable raw materials, and, most importantly, create more jobs. I think this is an excellent resolution, and I urge my colleagues to support its passage.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the chief Republican cosponsor of this resolution, Mr. SHAYS from Connecticut.

Mr. SHAYS. I thank the gentleman for yielding me time.

I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 122, introduced by JAY INSLEE of Washington State, a resolution supporting the goal and mission of America Recycles Day.

November 15, 2007, marks the 10th anniversary of this nationally recognized day dedicated to encouraging Americans to recycle and buy recycled products. This bill expresses support for this day of recognition, and encourages all of us to participate in promoting the social, environmental, and economic benefits of recycling and buying recycled-content products.

□ 1415

America Recycles Day informs millions of Americans about the importance of daily recycling and asks us to commit ourselves to increasing our recycling habits at home and at work.

Across the country, the National Recycling Coalition organizes community awareness and education campaigns about the benefits of recycling, and volunteers work with communities and schools to organize recycling awareness events in conjunction with their local municipalities.

Recycling is one of the easiest ways anyone can work to improve the world we live in on a daily basis. Recycling saves energy and reduces greenhouse gas emissions that cause global warming.

The EPA estimates that recycling a ton of mixed recyclables avoids emissions equivalent to 2.8 tons of carbon dioxide. Today there are more than 10,000 curbside recycling programs in the United States, which serve approximately half of the population.

These programs are also good for our economy. Recycling is a $236 billion a year industry, and more than 56,000 recycling and reuse enterprises employ 1.1 million workers.

I believe we should increase our recycling for ourselves and future generations because we simply will not have a world to live in if we continue our neglectful ways. Recycling and buying recycled products create demand for more recycled products, decreasing waste, protecting our natural resources, and helping our environment and economy.

America Recycles Day asks that we pledge ourselves to recycle and buying recycled products, and I strongly urge support of this resolution and the recognition that this is not just a resolution about nothing. It is about something very important. It's about getting us, as human beings, to think about wasting less and economizing and helping to save our planet in the process.

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, at this time I am pleased to yield to the sponsor of this resolution, a leader on environmental matters in this Congress, the distinguished gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE).

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support passage of H. Con. Res. 122, a resolution to support America Recycles Day, the only nationally recognized day dedicated to recycling.

And I want to thank the Chair, Chairman AL WYNN, for getting this to the floor; and my cosponsor, Republican CHRIS SHAYS, who has been a leader on so many environmental issues, for working on this issue.

You know, the economic ramifications of recycling are well known. It creates 1.1 million jobs. It has annual sales of $236 billion gross sales, and has $37 billion in annual payrolls.

But I want to focus my comments for the moment on why recycling is so much even more important than it was

originally. We know it has been the most successful environmental initiative in the country's history. It allows people to take individual action to preserve the environment.

But now that global warming is upon us, the wisdom, prudence, and genius of recycling is even more apparent. When 1 million square miles of the arctic melted, the size of six Californias this summer, the need for recycling has become even more apparent.

Because recycling substantially reduces carbon dioxide emissions when it's associated with raw material extraction, with product manufacture, with emissions from landfills or burning carbon based waste, when we conserve material, we don't waste energy, and we don't put global warming gases into the atmosphere.

In fact, the Environmental Protections Agency estimates that recycling a ton of mixed recyclables saves 2.8 tons of carbon dioxide from going into the atmosphere. If we simply increased our recycle efforts from the current 30 percent level to 35 percent, we would reduce global greenhouse gas emissions by an amount equal to the average emissions from 4.6 million households. There is real savings still available to us.

We also have a growing problem with electronic material waste. We only have 1 percent of the 130 million phones currently owned by consumers recycled. We're going to do something about that. I can report in Seattle, at America Recycles Day, Dell, Microsoft and InTechra will raise awareness for recycling of electronics at Safeco Field, home of the Seattle Mariners.

Here on Capitol Hill, the Office of Greening has helped promote the House America Recycling Day. So passage of this bill will certainly support these ongoing efforts. We need to build on them.

It's time for Congress to recognize this important day. I urge my colleagues to support this bill and find something to recycle, and recycle it.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 3 minutes.

Again, I want to thank Mr. INSLEE, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. WYNN, Mr. BARTON, Mr. DINGELL as well.

Recycling is an important environmental concept that predates, by decades, the first Earth Day and talk of global climate change. In fact, according to the National Recycling Coalition, before the 1920s, 70 percent of U.S. cities ran programs to recycle certain materials. And during World War II, 60 years ago, American industry reused and recycled 25 percent of the waste system. Today we're recycling and reusing about 33 percent of our Nation's waste.

Moreover, the need for serious recycling takes on an added dimension when one considers the state of America's landfill capacity. According to the EPA, since 1980 the total annual generation of municipal solid waste, otherwise known as regular household trash, has increased by more than 60 percent to its 2005 level of nearly 246 million tons every year.

And further, according to the EPA, over the last 15 years, 9 percent less, or about 9 million tons, of household garbage is going to our Nation's landfills. That means that the increased recycling efforts must step in to bridge the gap.

And while many folks may think that promoting recycling is confined just to picking up a newspaper printed on recycled papers, or buying a soft drink or beer in a recycled bottle, our domestic recycling industry is even more sophisticated and diverse than those perceptions. I've seen it firsthand in my district. In fact, domestic paper recycling helps create everything from cereal boxes, Kelloggs in Michigan, to furniture, recycled plastic soda bottles yield fibers that produce T-shirts, recycled carpet forms the basic fill for ski jackets. Recycling is not just a good environmental practice; it's also a great way to help grow our economy.

So, Mr. Speaker, this resolution is simply not just a remind of the virtue of a good stewardship. It's also a charge to every one of us that taking time to recycle does indeed make a difference for the world. And I would urge that my colleagues support this resolution encouraging every American to participate in promoting the social, environmental, and economic benefits of recycling and buying recycled-content products.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I don't believe I have any further speakers, and we do have the right to close.

Mr. UPTON. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would only say that I think we have at force a very important, a very practical, and a very creative bill encouraging all Americans to participate in recycling. This is a wonderful bipartisan opportunity for all of us to do something good for the environment. I urge the adoption of the resolution.

Mr. WYNN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 122, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MERCURY EXPORT BAN ACT OF 2007

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1534) to prohibit the sale, distribution, or transfer of mercury, to prohibit the export of mercury, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1534

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Mercury Export Ban Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) mercury is highly toxic to humans, ecosystems, and wildlife;

(2) as many as 10 percent of women in the United States of childbearing age have mercury in the blood at a level that could put a baby at risk;

(3) as many as 630,000 children born annually in the United States are at risk of neurological problems related to mercury;

(4) the most significant source of mercury exposure to people in the United States is ingestion of mercury-contaminated fish;

(5) the Environmental Protection Agency reports that, as of 2004—

(A) 44 States have fish advisories covering over 13,000,000 lake acres and over 750,000 river miles;

(B) in 21 States the freshwater advisories are statewide; and

(C) in 12 States the coastal advisories are statewide;

(6) the long-term solution to mercury pollution is to minimize global mercury use and releases to eventually achieve reduced contamination levels in the environment, rather than reducing fish consumption since uncontaminated fish represents a critical and healthy source of nutrition worldwide;

(7) mercury pollution is a transboundary pollutant, depositing locally, regionally, and globally, and affecting water bodies near industrial sources (including the Great Lakes) and remote areas (including the Arctic Circle);

(8) the free trade of elemental mercury on the world market, at relatively low prices and in ready supply, encourages the continued use of elemental mercury outside of the United States, often involving highly dispersive activities such as artisanal gold mining;

(9) the intentional use of mercury is declining in the United States as a consequence of process changes to manufactured products (including batteries, paints, switches, and measuring devices), but those uses remain substantial in the developing world where releases from the products are extremely likely due to the limited pollution control and waste management infrastructures in those countries;

(10) the member countries of the European Union collectively are the largest source of elemental mercury exports globally;

(11) the European Commission has proposed to the European Parliament and to the Council of the European Union a regulation to ban exports of elemental mercury from the European Union by 2011;

(12) the United States is a net exporter of elemental mercury and, according to the United States Geological Survey, exported 506 metric tons of elemental mercury more than the United States imported during the period of 2000 through 2004; and

(13) banning exports of elemental mercury from the United States will have a notable effect on the market availability of elemental mercury and switching to affordable mercury alternatives in the developing world.

SEC. 3. PROHIBITION ON SALE, DISTRIBUTION, OR TRANSFER OF ELEMENTAL MERCURY.

Section 6 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2605) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(f) MERCURY.—

''(1) PROHIBITION ON SALE, DISTRIBUTION, OR TRANSFER OF ELEMENTAL MERCURY BY FEDERAL AGENCIES.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), effective beginning on the date of enactment of this subsection, no Federal agency shall convey, sell, or distribute to any other Federal agency, any State or local government agency, or any private individual or entity any elemental mercury under the control or jurisdiction of the Federal agency.

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to a transfer between Federal agencies of elemental mercury for the sole purpose of facilitating storage of mercury to carry out this Act.''.

SEC. 4. PROHIBITION ON EXPORT OF ELEMENTAL MERCURY.

Section 12 of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2611) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a) by striking ''subsection (b)'' and inserting ''subsections (b) and (c)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) PROHIBITION ON EXPORT OF ELEMENTAL MERCURY.—

''(1) PROHIBITION.—Effective January 1, 2010, the export of elemental mercury from the United States is prohibited.

''(2) INAPPLICABILITY OF SUBSECTION (a).—Subsection (a) shall not apply to this subsection.

''(3) REPORT TO CONGRESS ON MERCURY COMPOUNDS.—

''(A) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date of enactment of the Mercury Export Ban Act of 2007, the Administrator shall publish and submit to Congress a report on mercuric chloride, mercurous chloride or calomel, mercuric oxide, and other mercury compounds, if any, that may currently be used in significant quantities in products or processes. Such report shall include an analysis of—

''(i) the sources and amounts of each of the mercury compounds imported into the United States or manufactured in the United States annually;

''(ii) the purposes for which each of these compounds are used domestically, the amount of these compounds currently consumed annually for each purpose, and the estimated amounts to be consumed for each purpose in 2010 and beyond;

''(iii) the sources and amounts of each mercury compound exported from the United States annually in each of the last three years;

''(iv) the potential for these compounds to be processed into elemental mercury after export from the United States; and

''(v) other relevant information that Congress should consider in determining whether to extend the export prohibition to include one or more of these mercury compounds.

''(B) PROCEDURE.—For the purpose of preparing the report under this paragraph, the Administrator may utilize the information gathering authorities of this title, including sections 10 and 11.

''(4) ESSENTIAL USE EXEMPTION.—(A) Any person residing in the United States may petition the Administrator for an exemption from the prohibition in paragraph (1), and the Administrator may grant by rule, after notice and opportunity for comment, an exemption for a specified use at an identified foreign facility if the Administrator finds that—

''(i) nonmercury alternatives for the specified use are not available in the country where the facility is located;

''(ii) there is no other source of elemental mercury available from domestic supplies (not including new mercury mines) in the country where the elemental mercury will be used;

''(iii) the country where the elemental mercury will be used certifies its support for the exemption;

''(iv) the export will be conducted in such a manner as to ensure the elemental mercury will be used at the identified facility as described in the petition, and not otherwise diverted for other uses for any reason;

''(v) the elemental mercury will be used in a manner that will protect human health and the environment, taking into account local, regional, and global human health and environmental impacts;

''(vi) the elemental mercury will be handled and managed in a manner that will protect human health and the environment, taking into account local, regional, and global human health and environmental impacts; and

''(vii) the export of elemental mercury for the specified use is consistent with international obligations of the United States intended to reduce global mercury supply, use, and pollution.

''(B) Each exemption issued by the Administrator pursuant to this paragraph shall contain such terms and conditions as are necessary to minimize the export of elemental mercury and ensure that the conditions for granting the exemption will be fully met, and shall contain such other terms and conditions as the Administrator may prescribe. No exemption granted pursuant to this paragraph shall exceed three years in duration and no such exemption shall exceed 10 metric tons of elemental mercury.

''(C) The Administrator may by order suspend or cancel an exemption under this paragraph in the case of a violation described in subparagraph (D).

''(D) A violation of this subsection or the terms and conditions of an exemption, or the submission of false information in connection therewith, shall be considered a prohibited act under section 15, and shall be subject to penalties under section 16, injunctive relief under section 17, and citizen suits under section 20.

''(5) CONSISTENCY WITH TRADE OBLIGATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection affects, replaces, or amends prior law relating to the need for consistency with international trade obligations.

''(6) EXPORT OF COAL.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit the export of coal.''.

SEC. 5. LONG-TERM STORAGE.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—Not later than January 1, 2010, the Secretary of Energy (in this section referred to as the ''Secretary'') shall accept custody, for the purpose of long-term management and storage, of elemental mercury generated within the United States and delivered to a facility of the Department of Energy designated by the Secretary.

(b) FEES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—After consultation with persons who are likely to deliver elemental mercury to a designated facility for long-term management and storage under the program prescribed in subsection (a), and with other interested persons, the Secretary shall assess and collect a fee at the time of delivery for providing such management and storage, based on the pro rata cost of long-term management and storage of elemental mercury delivered to the facility. The amount of such fees—

(A) shall be made publically available not later than October 1, 2009;

(B) may be adjusted annually; and

(C) shall be set in an amount sufficient to cover the costs described in paragraph (2).

(2) COSTS.—The costs referred to in paragraph (1)(C) are the costs to the Department of Energy of providing such management and storage, including facility operation and maintenance, security, monitoring, reporting, personnel, administration, inspections, training, fire suppression, closure, and other costs required for compliance with applicable law. Such costs shall not include costs associated with land acquisition or permitting of a designated facility under the Solid Waste Disposal Act or other applicable law. Building design and building construction costs shall only be included to the extent that the Secretary finds that the management and storage of elemental mercury accepted under the program under this section cannot be accomplished without construction of a new building or buildings.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the end of each Federal fiscal year, the Secretary shall transmit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate a report on all of the costs incurred in the previous fiscal year associated with the long-term management and storage of elemental mercury. Such report shall set forth separately the costs associated with activities taken under this section.

(d) MANAGEMENT STANDARDS FOR A FACILITY.—

(1) GUIDANCE.—Not later than October 1, 2009, the Secretary, after consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and all appropriate State agencies in affected States, shall make available, including to potential users of the long-term management and storage program established under subsection (a), guidance that establishes procedures and standards for the receipt, management, and long-term storage of elemental mercury at a designated facility or facilities, including requirements to ensure appropriate use of flasks or other suitable shipping containers. Such procedures and standards shall be protective of human health and the environment and shall ensure that the elemental mercury is stored in a safe, secure, and effective manner. In addition to such procedures and standards, elemental mercury managed and stored under this section at a designated facility shall be subject to the requirements of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, including the requirements of subtitle C of that Act, except as provided in subsection (g)(2) of this section. A designated facility in existence on or before January 1, 2010, is authorized to operate under interim status pursuant to section 3005(e) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act until a final decision on a permit application is made pursuant to section 3005(c) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act. Not later than January 1, 2012, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (or an authorized State) shall issue a final decision on the permit application.

(2) TRAINING.—The Secretary shall conduct operational training and emergency training for all staff that have responsibilities related to elemental mercury management, transfer, storage, monitoring, or response.

(3) EQUIPMENT.—The Secretary shall ensure that each designated facility has all equipment necessary for routine operations, emergencies, monitoring, checking inventory, loading, and storing elemental mercury at the facility.

(4) FIRE DETECTION AND SUPPRESSION SYSTEMS.—The Secretary shall—

(A) ensure the installation of fire detection systems at each designated facility, including smoke detectors and heat detectors; and

(B) ensure the installation of a permanent fire suppression system, unless the Secretary determines that a permanent fire suppression system is not necessary to protect human health and the environment.

(e) INDEMNIFICATION OF PERSONS DELIVERING ELEMENTAL MERCURY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B) and subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall hold harmless, defend, and indemnify in full any person who delivers elemental mercury to a designated facility under the program established under subsection (a) from and against any suit, claim, demand or action, liability, judgment, cost, or other fee arising out of any claim for personal injury or property damage (including death, illness, or loss of or damage to property or economic loss) that results from, or is in any manner predicated upon, the release or threatened release of elemental mercury as a result of acts or omissions occurring after such mercury is delivered to a designated facility described in subsection (a).

(B) To the extent that a person described in subparagraph (A) contributed to any such release or threatened release, subparagraph (A) shall not apply.

(2) CONDITIONS.—No indemnification may be afforded under this subsection unless the person seeking indemnification—

(A) notifies the Secretary in writing within 30 days after receiving written notice of the claim for which indemnification is sought;

(B) furnishes to the Secretary copies of pertinent papers the person receives;

(C) furnishes evidence or proof of any claim, loss, or damage covered by this subsection; and

(D) provides, upon request by the Secretary, access to the records and personnel of the person for purposes of defending or settling the claim or action.

(3) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—(A) In any case in which the Secretary determines that the Department of Energy may be required to make indemnification payments to a person under this subsection for any suit, claim, demand or action, liability, judgment, cost, or other fee arising out of any claim for personal injury or property damage referred to in paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary may settle or defend, on behalf of that person, the claim for personal injury or property damage.

(B) In any case described in subparagraph (A), if the person to whom the Department of Energy may be required to make indemnification payments does not allow the Secretary to settle or defend the claim, the person may not be afforded indemnification with respect to that claim under this subsection.

(f) TERMS, CONDITIONS, AND PROCEDURES.—The Secretary is authorized to establish such terms, conditions, and procedures as are necessary to carry out this section.

(g) EFFECT ON OTHER LAW.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), nothing in this section changes or affects any Federal, State, or local law or the obligation of any person to comply with such law.

(2) EXCEPTION.—(A) Elemental mercury that the Secretary is storing on a long-term basis shall not be subject to the storage prohibition of section 3004(j) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6924(j)). For the purposes of section 3004(j) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, a generator accumulating elemental mercury destined for a facility designated by the Secretary under subsection (a) for 90 days or less shall be deemed to be accumulating the mercury to facilitate proper treatment, recovery, or disposal.

(B) Elemental mercury that is stored at a facility with respect to which a permit has been issued under section 3005(c) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6925(c)) shall not be subject to the storage prohibition of section 3004(j) of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6924(j)) if—

(i) the Secretary is unable to accept the mercury at a facility designated by the Secretary under subsection (a) for reasons beyond the control of the owner or operator of the permitted facility;

(ii) the owner or operator of the permitted facility certifies in writing to the Secretary that it will ship the mercury to the designated facility when the Secretary is able to accept the mercury; and

(iii) the owner or operator of the permitted facility certifies in writing to the Secretary that it will not sell, or otherwise place into commerce, the mercury.

This subparagraph shall not apply to mercury with respect to which the owner or operator of the permitted facility fails to comply with a certification provided under clause (ii) or (iii).

(h) STUDY.—Not later than July 1, 2011, the Secretary shall transmit to the Congress the results of a study, conducted in consultation with the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, that—

(1) determines the impact of the long-term storage program under this section on mercury recycling; and

(2) includes proposals, if necessary, to mitigate any negative impact identified under paragraph (1).

SEC. 6. REPORT TO CONGRESS.

At least 3 years after the effective date of the prohibition on export of elemental mercury under section 12(c) of the Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. 2611(c)), as added by section 4 of this Act, but not later than January 1, 2014, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency shall transmit to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Environment and Public Works of the Senate a report on the global supply and trade of elemental mercury, including but not limited to the amount of elemental mercury traded globally that originates from primary mining, where such primary mining is conducted, and whether additional primary mining has occurred as a consequence of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1534, the Mercury Export Ban Act of 2007. The bill will place an export ban on elemental mercury beginning in the year 2010; prevent Federal agencies from selling, distributing or transferring elemental mercury, except for its transfer between Federal agencies to facilitate storage; and it will create a long-term storage option for private sources of elemental mercury at a facility to be designated by the Secretary of Energy. The location of the designated facility where the elemental mercury will be stored is within the sole discretion of the Secretary of Energy. The bill does not designate a facility location.

Let me begin by congratulating Mr. ALLEN of Maine, the sponsor of this bill, along with Mr. SHIMKUS, the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Environmental and Hazardous Materials, for their hard work in developing this bipartisan legislation which has attained endorsement from the environmental community, the mining industry, the chemical industry, as well as the States.

Mercury is a potent neurotoxin that is harmful even at low exposure levels. It disrupts biological processes critical for brain development in developing fetuses and young children.

Mercury emissions can be transported over long distances and remain airborne for more than a year. These emissions deposit into water bodies where they are transformed into methylmercury that accumulates in fish and subsequently in humans who eat mercury-contaminated fish. Forty-eight States, including my own State of Maryland, have issued fish advisories warning residents to limit consumption of mercury-contaminated fish.

Currently, excess elemental mercury is exported from developed countries to developing countries where it is used in artisanal and small-scale gold mining, mainly in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. This rudimentary mining process releases most of the mercury into the environment, creating thousands of polluted sites and exposing miners and nearby residents to toxic fumes that can cause neurological damage. Data from the EPA and other research groups indicate that 60 to over 70 percent of all mercury deposited in the United States comes from global sources.

The United States has an excess supply of elemental mercury that will only increase in future years as the demand for mercury-containing products continues to decline. As of 2010, there are expected to be only four chlor-alkali plants using mercury cell technology in the United States. The decommissioning of these plants would result in an estimated surplus of 1,200 to 1,500 metric tons of elemental mercury.

The Department of Defense and the Department of Energy combined are storing close to 6,000 metric tons of elemental mercury and are not selling it on the open market because of the EPA's concerns about the impacts of mercury releases on human health and the environment.

This legislation is necessary because the elemental mercury that we export overseas returns to our country in the atmosphere as toxic pollution contaminating our air, soil and water and fish, demonstrating the fact that pollution knows no borders.

I urge my colleagues to support passage of this very important and bipartisan bill.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to thank, in particular, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. DINGELL, Mr. BARTON, obviously Mr. WYNN for helping to manage this bill this afternoon. You know, this bill culminates an agreement that took many weeks of talks between the majority and minority members and their staffs. I want to thank all of the stakeholders that were involved in those discussions. Significant improvements clearly were made as that legislation moved through our committee, Energy and Commerce, as it winds its way to the floor this afternoon.

The bill tackled the serious concern that elemental mercury pollution in other countries will eventually convert to methylmercury pollution in the United States. Methylmercury is the

most potent form of mercury poisoning, and a serious, very serious neurotoxin.

And, obviously, as Mr. WYNN indicated, this bans the export of such mercury, elemental mercury in the year 2010.

This legislation directs the Department of Energy, which has experience storing elemental mercury, to set up a domestic storage option.

□ 1430

The legislation does not preclude any private storage solutions from occurring. Private entities wishing to take advantage of the DOE-sponsored storage option must pay the Department of Energy for that privilege, but in return they are indemnified against any environmental damage that is caused once DOE takes possession of that mercury.

The bill only covers elemental mercury. It does not cover coal exports. It is not intended to cover fly ash exports, from coal combustion, or small amounts of mercury in manufactured consumer products.

The bill requires that EPA monitor the global implications of a U.S. export ban on elemental mercury. EPA is also required to report back to the Congress on any negative consequences caused by that export ban.

The legislation permits EPA to grant targeted, temporary waivers for individual shipments of elemental mercury to other countries. And I would note that groups that are supporting this bill include the American Chemistry Council; the National Mining Association; the Chlorine Institute; the Environmental Council of the States; and the NRDC, the Natural Resources Defense Council.

Again, I compliment all those Members and staff that worked so hard to make this truly a bipartisan bill. I would like to think that we can pass this with unanimous support this afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, at this time it gives me great pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the distinguished gentleman from Maine (Mr. ALLEN) who is the sponsor of this legislation and who has done a wonderful job in moving this bill forward and working on a bipartisan basis.

Mr. ALLEN. I thank the gentleman for yielding and thank him for his outstanding work on this piece of legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my legislation, H.R. 1534, the Mercury Export Ban Act. I want to thank not just Mr. WYNN but Mr. DINGELL, Mr. SHIMKUS, and Mr. BARTON, all of those who have worked so hard on this particular legislation.

It is a well-established fact that mercury is a powerful neurotoxin harmful at even low exposure levels. Mercury is harmful whether it is inhaled, ingested, or absorbed through the skin. Once exposed to water, elemental mercury is transformed to methylmercury, which is highly toxic and which has a tendency to bio-accumulate in both fish and the humans who eat the fish. Very young children with developing nervous systems are particularly at risk. In addition, pregnant mothers who are exposed to mercury pollution can transmit mercury to their unborn children, increasing the chances of miscarriage and birth defects. Mercury can also be found in high concentrations in mothers' breast milk.

My bill seeks to combat a large source of mercury pollution worldwide: namely, the export of elemental mercury from the United States to developing countries. This mercury is used largely for artesinal mining. Exposure occurs when miners handle the mercury. It enters the water when miners pan for gold, and it enters the air through the smelting process which emits mercury vapor.

According to the U.N. Environmental Programme, approximately 15 million people worldwide, including 4.5 million women and 1 million children, engage in artesinal mining with mercury, exposing them to the poisons that mercury produces. Some of this mercury is exported from the United States. That should be unacceptable to us as a Nation.

Further, the export of mercury for artesinal mining harms Americans who are exposed through the global air transport of mercury pollution or through the consumption of mercury-contaminated fish. Scientists have estimated that up to one-third of U.S. mercury air pollution has traveled to the U.S. from Asia, where mercury pollution is extensive, including from mercury exported for artesinal mining. Much of the fish that we eat, including tuna, is imported from off the coast of Asian and South American countries where the use of mercury in artesinal mining is widespread.

The Departments of Defense and Energy are the two largest holders of mercury in the United States. The EPA has urged DOE and DOD not to sell its mercury stockpiles due to the serious human health and environmental risks associated with mercury. DOD and DOE have agreed. However, that ban is not in law, which is why my bill prohibits the Federal Government from exporting mercury. In addition, private companies may still export this poisonous and hazardous material, which is why my legislation is necessary.

Together with my friend Mr. SHIMKUS at the full committee markup, I offered an amendment to create a long-term mercury storage repository. This amendment was the result of a stakeholder process over the last several months to develop a consensus product. Stakeholders included NRDC, the Environmental Council of the States, the American Chemistry Council, the Chlorine Institute, and the National Mining Association, all of whom have endorsed this amendment.

Mr. Speaker, I will place in the RECORD a letter from these groups in support of this legislation.

NOVEMBER 8, 2007.

Re: H.R. 1534.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: H.R. 1534, the ''Mercury Export Ban Act of 2007'', which bans the export of surplus elemental mercury into global commerce, was reported out of the House Energy & Commerce Committee on October 30, 2007, by an overwhelmingly bipartisan vote of 45–2. The undersigned organizations support this negotiated version of H.R. 1534 and urge its passage under Suspension of the Rules.

Collectively, our organizations negotiated in good faith to produce the bill as reported, which addresses our individual concerns, advances our shared objective of reducing global mercury pollution, and reflects good public policy.

Specifically, the Committee-reported version of H.R. 1534 establishes a practical and workable domestic framework for sequestering the elemental mercury prohibited from export under the legislation. To develop this framework, our organizations worked diligently and collectively to reach consensus, each of us agreeing not to raise related mercury matters which may have prevented a successful outcome. Therefore, we hope the full House of Representatives will acknowledge the compromises made and approve H.R. 1534 without further changes.

In closing, the undersigned organizations urge your ''YES'' vote on H.R. 1534 in the coming days.

Sincerely,

FRANCES G. BEINECKE,
President, Natural Resources Defense Council.

JACK N. GERARD,
President & CEO, American Chemistry Council.

KRAIG R. NAASZ,
President & CEO, National Mining Association.

R. STEVEN BROWN,
Executive Director, Environmental Council of States.

ARTHUR E. DUNGAN,
President, The Chlorine Institute Inc.

The bill requires DOE to designate a facility to accept mercury from private sector sources, particularly the chlor-alkali industry and the mining industry, when the export ban in the underlying bill takes effect on January 1, 2010. The bill does not require that all excess mercury be transferred to DOE; rather, it gives the private sector the option of placing mercury into storage at DOE. If there is a more practical or cost-effective private sector solution, the affected industries are more than welcome to pursue that option.

DOE will be allowed to charge a fee to recoup the government's cost of storing this waste. As CBO has shown, enactment of this bill will have no effect on the taxpayers. All applicable and appropriate environmental laws apply with respect to this facility.

The legislation will allow the chlor-alkali industry to place into safe storage the roughly 1,500 tons of mercury still to be used at aging plants. It will also allow the mining industry to store the approximately 50 to 100 tons of

mercury it generates annually as a byproduct of air filtration systems.

The process used to develop this legislation can be a model. On a bipartisan basis, we sat down together, we worked out our differences, and brought interested and affected parties to the table to hammer out a compromise.

Again, I want to thank Chairman WYNN, Chairman DINGELL, Ranking Member BARTON, and Mr. SHIMKUS for the work they have done on this legislation. I also want to thank Dick Frandsen, Caroline Ahearn, and Ann Strickland from the majority staff, as well as Dave McCarthy and Jerry Couri from the minority staff, Jim Bradley from my staff, and Mo Zilly on Mr. SHIMKUS' staff for their hard work as well.

Mr. Speaker, this is good legislation, and I urge all Members to support its passage.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, at this point, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP).

Mr. WAMP. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

All I want to do is rise to raise some concerns, because I think this is a case where clearly these motives of this legislation are meritorious, worthy. But at the Commerce Committee, when this bill was reported out, some concerns were raised, and I want to reraise those concerns on the floor of the House today because I think everything that has been said is accurate, but I think the likely place that this mercury is going to come is to my district, Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Everybody within DOE and the NNSA, the National Nuclear Security Administration, expects this mercury to come to the Y–12 National Security Complex.

We are in the middle of modernization, sweeping modernization, new facilities, because we are the Fort Knox for highly enriched uranium for our country, and we basically received a mandate from the Congress to more properly secure this material. We've got a new design basis threat. We have new security challenges. This is about a $42 million price tag. I understand there are ways to pay for it, but it's going to go somewhere, and when you push on one side of the balloon, out pops the other. We just want to raise the concern because probably no place in America wants to be the place that this mercury comes to.

You've raised the concerns about mercury. We can safely store it and we do. We have got an excellent record and reputation. But we want to make sure that this is done properly. And I am not going to speak in opposition to the legislation because I think that the merits of the legislation are justified, but I am raising these concerns because we need to address this.

The administration has issued a SAP, Statement of Administration Policy, today against this bill. So we need to solve some of these problems as we go forward.

With that I applaud your efforts, the work that you've done, raise these concerns because we are probably going to end up with this stuff, and I thank you for your work. And with that, I am not going to object; I am just going to raise these concerns.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 1 minute.

I only want to indicate that we are sensitive to the concerns that have been raised, but I do want to clarify that the bill does not specify any particular location, and DOE certainly would be in a position to take into consideration any concerns with regard to where the mercury is ultimately stored.

But the point is we do need to make sure that we do not continue exporting this mercury which then comes back to our own shores.

I would conclude by saying that I would like to thank Mr. ALLEN again for his leadership and thank our committee chairman, Mr. DINGELL, as well as our ranking member, Mr. BARTON. I would like to thank Mr. UPTON for his kind words in support of this bipartisan legislation. I would like to recognize the contribution of Mr. SHIMKUS in working with us and also the role of the stakeholders in bringing together a bipartisan bill that works across the spectrum, both the environmental community and the business community, to give us a bill that I think we can all be proud of.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Illinois for giving me a few moments to speak on this bill.

I want to congratulate the sponsor of this bill, as well as the Chairman and Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials on coming to agreement on this legislation. Their consensus work is the culmination of 6 weeks of talks among majority and minority Members and staff as well as affected private stakeholders. Significant improvements have been made that make this legislation workable from a realistic and practical standpoint. I support these changes and urge my colleagues to do so as well.

A hearing before the Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials made clear the serious domestic health concerns that elemental mercury pollution presents when it is mishandled in other, less developed countries. Specifically, this form of mercury converts into neuro-toxic, methyl-mercury that comes back to the United States in the form of tainted fish and polluted air.

This legislation attempts to break this global transport cycle by banning the export of elemental mercury in 2010. It does not cover coal exports and is not intended to cover fly ash exports from coal combustion, or elemental mercury in manufactured consumer products.

This bill also, importantly, assures that domestic stocks of elemental mercury—which currently are a valuable commodity—have some place to safely go. Under the consensus language we are considering, the Department of Energy—which has experience storing elemental mercury—is directed to set up a domestic storage option that will open when the ban commences. Further, the legislation does not preclude private storage solutions. I am glad that this bill allows enterprising folks to facilitate good environmental policy.

In addition, I am pleased this bill recognizes that we should not punish people who do the right thing. Under the legislation we are considering today, private entities wishing to take advantage of the DOE-sponsored storage option must pay DOE for the privilege, but in return are indemnified against any environmental damage that is caused once DOE takes possession of the elemental mercury. This is common sense policy and a key feature of ensuring that the proper handling and safe long-term storage of elemental mercury occur.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that the Energy and Commerce Committee has produced another example of compromise, bipartisan legislation. It represents serious give and take by all parties. I hope that efforts like this will continue to be more the norm than the exception throughout this Congress.

I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 1534.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1534, the Mercury Export Ban of 2007. This bill is a bipartisan effort that will effectively reduce the amount of elemental mercury in the atmosphere.

Mercury is a neurotoxin that is very harmful to children, fetuses, and pregnant women. It took us many years to realize there are negative health effects associated with mercury. Once the true health effects of mercury were realized in the US its use for manufacturing and products was decreased.

The decrease in the use of mercury has left us burdened with reserves of commercial mercury that is being sold to recyclers who have no means of disposing of the mercury. The recyclers sell this mercury to brokers who distribute this mercury on the global market.

Once on the global market this mercury is used by small scale gold miners who unknowingly allow their miners to unsafely expose themselves to mercury.

Once the mercury is released into the atmosphere or water we are allowing other countries to contribute to a global mercury contamination problem.

We essentially are selling mercury to other countries in an attempt to get rid of it only to have the mercury come back to us in the form of contamination.

This bill would ban exporting elemental mercury by 2010 and the sale, distribution, or transfer of elemental mercury between state and local government, Federal agency, or private entity except for storage purposes.

It would also require the EPA issue a report to Congress one year after the ban to address the issue of mercury in the U.S. and create an Excess Mercury Storage Committee so that we can address the storage and health issues related to elemental mercury in the U.S.

This is a good bill and I strongly urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. WYNN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. WYNN) that the House suspend the

rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1534, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: ''A bill to prohibit certain sales, distributions, and transfers of elemental mercury, to prohibit the export of elemental mercury, and for other purposes.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

911 MODERNIZATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY ACT OF 2007

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3403) to promote and enhance public safety by facilitating the rapid deployment of IP-enabled 911 and E–911 services, encouraging the nation's transition to a national IP-enabled emergency network and improve 911 and E–911 access to those with disabilities, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3403

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007''.

TITLE I—911 SERVICES AND IP–ENABLED VOICE SERVICE PROVIDERS

SEC. 101. DUTY TO PROVIDE 911 AND E–911 SERVICE.

The Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 is amended—

(1) by redesignating section 6 (47 U.S.C. 615b) as section 7;

(2) by inserting after section 5 the following new section:

''SEC. 6. DUTY TO PROVIDE 911 AND E–911 SERVICE.

''(a) DUTIES.—It shall be the duty of each IP-enabled voice service provider to provide 911 service and E–911 service to its subscribers in accordance with the requirements of the Federal Communications Commission (in this section referred to as the 'Commission'), as in effect on the date of enactment of the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007 and as such requirements may be modified by the Commission from time to time.

''(b) PARITY FOR IP-ENABLED VOICE SERVICE PROVIDERS.—An IP-enabled voice service provider that seeks capabilities from an entity with ownership or control over such capabilities to comply with its obligations under subsection (a) shall, for the exclusive purpose of complying with such obligations, have the same rights, including rights of interconnection, and on the same rates, terms, and conditions, as apply to a provider of commercial mobile service (as such term is defined in section 332(d) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d))), subject to such regulations as the Commission prescribes under subsection (c).

''(c) REGULATIONS.—The Commission—

''(1) within 90 days after the date of enactment of the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007, shall issue regulations implementing such Act, including regulations that—

''(A) ensure that IP-enabled voice service providers have the ability to exercise their rights under subsection (b);

''(B) take into account any technical, network security, or information privacy requirements that are specific to IP-enabled voice services; and

''(C) provide, with respect to any capabilities that are not required to be made available to a commercial mobile service provider but that the Commission determines under subparagraph (B) of this paragraph or paragraph (2) are necessary for an IP-enabled voice service provider to comply with its obligations under subsection (a), that such capabilities shall be available at the same rates, terms, and conditions as would apply if such capabilities were made available to a commercial mobile service provider; and

''(2) may modify such regulations from time to time, as necessitated by changes in the market or technology, to ensure the ability of an IP-enabled voice service provider to comply with its obligations under subsection (a) and to exercise its rights under subsection (b).

''(d) DELEGATION OF ENFORCEMENT TO STATE COMMISSIONS.—The Commission may delegate authority to enforce the regulations issued under subsection (c) to State commissions or other State agencies or programs with jurisdiction over emergency communications. Nothing in this section is intended to alter the authority of State commissions or other State agencies with jurisdiction over emergency communications, provided that the exercise of such authority is not inconsistent with Federal law or Commission requirements.

''(e) IMPLEMENTATION.—

''(1) LIMITATION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit the Commission to issue regulations that require or impose a specific technology or technology standard.

''(2) ENFORCEMENT.—The Commission shall enforce this section as if this section was a part of the Communications Act of 1934. For purposes of this section, any violations of this section, or any regulations promulgated under this section, shall be considered to be a violation of the Communications Act of 1934 or a regulation promulgated under that Act, respectively.

''(f) STATE AUTHORITY OVER FEES.—

''(1) AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this Act, the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 151 et seq.), the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007, or any Commission regulation or order shall prevent the imposition and collection of a fee or charge applicable to commercial mobile services or IP-enabled voice services specifically designated by a State, political subdivision thereof, or Indian tribe for the support or implementation of 911 or E-911 services, provided that the fee or charge is obligated or expended only in support of 911 and E-911 services, or enhancements of such services, as specified in the provision of State or local law adopting the fee or charge. For each class of subscribers to IP-enabled voice services, the fee or charge may not exceed the amount of any such fee or charge applicable to the same class of subscribers to telecommunications services.

''(2) FEE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT.—To ensure efficiency, transparency, and accountability in the collection and expenditure of fees for the support or implementation of 911 or E-911 services, the Commission shall submit a report within 1 year after the date of enactment of the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007, and annually thereafter, to the Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives detailing the status in each State of the collection and distribution of 911 fees, and including findings on the amount of revenues obligated or expended by each State or political subdivision thereof for any purpose other than the purpose for which any fee or charges are presented.

''(g) AVAILABILITY OF PSAP INFORMATION.—The Commission may compile a list of public safety answering point contact information, contact information for providers of selective routers, testing procedures, classes and types of services supported by public safety answering points, and other information concerning 911 elements, for the purpose of assisting IP-enabled voice service providers in complying with this section, and may make any portion of such information available to telecommunications carriers, wireless carriers, IP-enabled voice service providers, other emergency service providers, or the vendors to or agents of any such carriers or providers, if such availability would improve public safety.

''(h) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007 shall be construed as altering, delaying, or otherwise limiting the ability of the Commission to enforce the rules adopted in the Commission's First Report and Order in WC Docket Nos. 04–36 and 05–196, as in effect on the date of enactment of the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007, except as such rules may be modified by the Commission from time to time.''; and

(3) in section 7 (as redesignated by paragraph (1) of this section) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) IP-ENABLED VOICE SERVICE.—The term 'IP-enabled voice service' has the meaning given the term 'interconnected VoIP service' by section 9.3 of the Federal Communications Commission's regulations (47 CFR 9.3).''.

SEC. 102. MIGRATION TO IP-ENABLED EMERGENCY NETWORK.

Section 158 of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 942) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(1), by inserting before the period at the end the following: ''and for migration to an IP-enabled emergency network'';

(2) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as subsections (e) and (f), respectively; and

(3) by inserting after subsection (c) the following new subsection:

''(d) MIGRATION PLAN REQUIRED.—

''(1) NATIONAL PLAN REQUIRED.—No more than 270 days after the date of the enactment of the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007, the Office shall develop and report to Congress on a national plan for migrating to a national IP-enabled emergency network capable of receiving and responding to all citizen-activated emergency communications and improving information sharing among all emergency response entities.

''(2) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan required by paragraph (1) shall—

''(A) outline the potential benefits of such a migration;

''(B) identify barriers that must be overcome and funding mechanisms to address those barriers;

''(C) include a proposed timetable, an outline of costs, and potential savings;

''(D) provide specific legislative language, if necessary, for achieving the plan;

''(E) provide recommendations on any legislative changes, including updating definitions, to facilitate a national IP-enabled emergency network;

''(F) assess, collect, and analyze the experiences of the public safety answering points and related public safety authorities who are conducting trial deployments of IP-enabled emergency networks as of the date of enactment of the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007;

''(G) identify solutions for providing 911 and E–911 access to those with disabilities

and needed steps to implement such solutions, including a recommended timeline; and

''(H) analyze efforts to provide automatic location for E-911 purposes and recommendations on regulatory or legislative changes that are necessary to achieve automatic location for E–911 purposes.

''(3) CONSULTATION.—In developing the plan required by paragraph (1), the Office shall consult with representatives of the public safety community, groups representing those with disabilities, technology and telecommunications providers, IP-enabled voice service providers, Telecommunications Relay Service providers, and other emergency communications providers and others it deems appropriate.''.

SEC. 103. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

Section 3011(b) of the Digital Television Transition and Public Safety Act of 2005 (Public Law 109-171; 47 U.S.C. 309 note), and section 158(b)(4) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 942(b)(4)) are each amended by striking ''the 911 Modernization Act'' and inserting ''the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007''.

TITLE II—PARITY OF PROTECTION

SEC. 201. LIABILITY.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 4 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47 U.S.C. 615a) is amended—

(1) by striking ''**PARITY OF PROTECTION FOR PROVISION OR USE OF WIRELESS SERVICE**'' in the section heading and inserting ''**SERVICE PROVIDER PARITY OF PROTECTION**'';

(2) in subsection (a)—

(A) by striking ''wireless carrier,'' and inserting ''wireless carrier, IP-enabled voice service provider, or other emergency communications provider,'';

(B) by striking ''its officers'' the first place it appears and inserting ''their officers'';

(C) by striking ''emergency calls or emergency services'' and inserting ''emergency calls, emergency services, or other emergency communications services'';

(3) in subsection (b)—

(A) by striking ''using wireless 9–1–1 service shall'' and inserting ''using wireless 9–1–1 service, or making 9–1–1 communications via IP-enabled voice service or other emergency communications service, shall''; and

(B) by striking ''that is not wireless'' and inserting ''that is not via wireless 9–1–1 service, IP-enabled voice service, or other emergency communications service''; and

(4) in subsection (c)—

(A) by striking ''wireless 9–1–1 communications, a PSAP'' and inserting ''9–1–1 communications via wireless 9–1–1 service, IP-enabled voice service, or other emergency communications service, a PSAP''; and

(B) by striking ''that are not wireless'' and inserting ''that are not via wireless 9–1–1 service, IP-enabled voice service, or other emergency communications service''.

(b) DEFINITION.—Section 7 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (as redesignated by section 101(1) of this Act) is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraphs:

''(9) OTHER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE.—The term 'other emergency communications service' means the provision of emergency information to a public safety answering point via wire or radio communications, and may include 911 and enhanced 911 services.

''(10) OTHER EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term 'other emergency communications service provider' means—

''(A) an entity other than a local exchange carrier, wireless carrier, or an IP-enabled voice service provider that is required by the Federal Communications Commission consistent with the Commission's authority under the Communications Act of 1934 to provide other emergency communications services; or

''(B) in the absence of a Commission requirement as described in subparagraph (A), an entity that voluntarily elects to provide other emergency communications services and is specifically authorized by the appropriate local or State 911 governing authority to provide other emergency communications services.''.

TITLE III—AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE CUSTOMER INFORMATION FOR 911 PURPOSES

SEC. 301. AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE CUSTOMER INFORMATION.

Section 222 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 222) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''or the user of an IP-enabled voice service (as such term is defined in section 7 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47 U.S.C. 615b))'' after ''section 332(d))'' each place it appears in subsections (d)(4) and (f)(1);

(2) by striking ''WIRELESS'' in the heading of subsection (f); and

(3) in subsection (g)—

(A) by inserting ''or a provider of IP-enabled voice service (as such term is defined in section 7 of the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999 (47 U.S.C. 615b))'' after ''telephone exchange service'';

(B) by striking ''Notwithstanding subsections (b)'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsections (b)''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) PROHIBITED USE OF LOCATION INFORMATION DATABASES.—No administrator of any database used for the purpose of facilitating the provision of emergency services may use for any competitive purpose data obtained from unaffiliated telecommunications carriers or IP-enabled voice service providers in the course of maintaining and operating that database. Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit government agencies otherwise authorized under law from requesting information contained in any such database.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3403, introduced by Representative BART GORDON, is designed to ensure that a consumer calling 911 in an emergency from an Internet phone, using so-called ''Voice over Internet Protocol,'' or VoIP service, can do so with a degree of confidence matching that of traditional phone service and wireless service.

The bill seeks to achieve this goal through two key provisions: The first provision extends liability protections to VoIP service providers. The Federal Communications Commission lacks authority to grant liability protection to VoIP service providers, and, therefore, Congress must take action to achieve this policy objective. This is similar to action this subcommittee took in 1999 when such liability protection was accorded to wireless providers.

The second key provision in the bill establishes the right of VoIP providers to access the parts of the 911 infrastructure they need in order to complete 911 calls for consumers. This is an important provision because while the FCC has acted to require VoIP providers to meet enhanced 911 service obligations, the commission did not order that such VoIP providers had a legal right to the components of the 911 infrastructure they would need to fulfill their E–911 obligations under the commission's own rules.

□ 1445

I want to commend Representative GORDON for his excellent work and leadership on this bill. We have endeavored, over the last several months, to work on a bipartisan basis through several issues, and the bill we bring to the House floor this afternoon reflects the results of these discussions. It is an excellent step forward.

I also want to salute Ms. ESHOO, Mr. SHIMKUS and Mr. PICKERING for their work on this legislation and, as always, to commend the chairman of the full committee, Mr. DINGELL; the ranking member of the full committee, Mr. BARTON; and my good friend, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) for their excellent efforts as well.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I want to take particular time to thank Mr. MARKEY, my good friend, Mr. DINGELL, as well as Mr. GORDON, the bill's sponsor, as well as Mr. SHIMKUS and Ms. ESHOO for their really outstanding leadership on this issue.

This is a good bill. All of us here know stories, many of us can relate personally to stories, using 911. This goes a bit further when we talk about E–911.

There is a recent news story that highlighted the importance of this service. A mother in Washington State was playing with her 2-year-old daughter, Alana, one night when suddenly a migraine hit her. She collapsed, she took a few painkillers, she felt dizzy, collapsed to the floor, and yet the 2-year-old daughter, Alana, watching her mom collapse, walked over to the coffee table, picked up the phone, and dialed 911.

While she was on the phone, all she said was ''mommy, ouch.'' Those two words alone were enough to send the paramedics to their home. Inside they found the mom on the floor and the daughter in the other room getting a blanket for her mom who was shivering. Thankfully, she was released the very next day. But without that technology, who knows how the situation, or many others like it, would end up.

Our 911 system continues to evolve. We've made a lot of progress on enhanced 911 deployment, but E–911 can provide the actual phone number and location of a caller, which can be essential in reaching people who need the

help, especially if they're having trouble communicating.

The FCC helped move the ball forward in June of 2005 by requiring that VoIP providers offer 911 services to their customers. And while technologically it is more complicated for VoIP providers to provide the service, it certainly is of equal importance.

We've all heard the horror stories in the past of people trying unsuccessfully to use 911 from their homes or mobile phones, and I'm hopeful that with the leaps taken so far, along with this legislation, all consumers, regardless of the phone service or their location, will be better served in an emergency.

This bill, H.R. 3403, the 911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007, is certainly a significant public safety bill. I would urge my colleagues to vote for it. And, again, I want to thank the bipartisan cooperation that we've seen every step along the way, not only in this body, but in the Senate as well.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I would, once again, like to commend the bill to the Members. I also want to thank the staff, Mark Seifert, Amy Levine, David Vogel, Courtney Reinhard, and Dana Lichtenberg on the Democrat and Republican staffs for their excellent work on this legislation.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3403, the "911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007."

Each time a new communications technology arrives on the market, we must adapt our 911 system and our laws to accommodate it. In 1999, Congress passed the Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act to ensure that emergency 911 calls made from wireless phones would go to the nearest Public Safety Answering Point or "PSAP".

Today, Voice-over-Internet-Protocol is revolutionizing the way we communicate by adding the flexibility and innovation of the Internet to the traditional phone call. However, unlike wireless carriers, VoIP providers have no rights to interconnect with the 911 infrastructure and only a handful of 911 centers were prepared to receive VoIP calls, until recently. This left VoIP providers with no easy way to deliver 911 or E–911 service to their subscribers.

After people using VoIP phones were unable to call 911 when they needed help, the FCC responded in June 2005 by requiring VoIP providers to incorporate E–911 capability into their service. While this forced VoIP providers to deploy E–911 access to almost all of their subscribers through commercial agreements with third parties, the FCC did not have the authority to address all of the important issues.

That is why the House Energy and Commerce Committee passed H.R. 3403. This bill seeks to better ensure that consumers using VoIP service can access enhanced 911 emergency services. It puts VoIP providers on the same legal footing as wireless carriers and gives providers the same access as wireless, at the same rates, terms and conditions. It gives VoIP carriers and PSAPs receiving the VoIP 911 calls the same liability protection that is afforded to wireless calls. The bill allows VoIP providers to join wireless carriers in a narrow exemption from the Customer Proprietary Network Information Laws, so that they can transmit customer name and location information during an emergency call. The bill also allows the FCC to delegate to states enforcement of regulations implementing VoIP 911, without disrupting the interstate nature of VoIP service.

In addition to ensuring the success of VoIP E–911, H.R. 3403 takes strong steps to improve our 911 system going forward. First, the bill will stop states from raiding their 911 funds by prohibiting states from spending the 911 line-item fee they collect on phone bills for any purpose other than improvements to the 911 system. Second, the bill directs the E–911 Coordination and Implementation Office to develop a nationwide migration plan to an IP-enabled network. An Internet-based emergency network will enhance public safety by allowing for greater flexibility in the types and amount of information that may be transmitted to emergency service providers. Finally, H.R. 3403 alters an existing grant program to allow PSAPs to obtain federal funding for IP-enabled emergency networks.

H.R. 3403, the "911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007" is about public safety. I want to praise the work of the bill's sponsor, Congressman BART GORDON, who has provided strong leadership in addressing the VoIP E–911 challenge. I also commend the House co-chairs of the Congressional E–911 Caucus: Congresswoman ESHOO and Congressman SHIMKUS, for their determined work to advance all 911 issues. I would also like to thank the Telecommunications Subcommittee Chairman Mr. ED MARKEY and the chairman of the full committee, Mr. JOHN DINGELL, and their staffs, for their leadership and commitment to working with our side in a bipartisan fashion on this bill.

H.R. 3403 is an important piece of legislation and I urge my colleagues to vote for it to become law.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3403, the "911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007".

This legislation ensures that consumers using Voice over Internet Protocol or VoIP technology can access the 911 system. It also requires the development of a national plan to ensure that the 911 system continues to evolve.

Consumers expect that when they place a call to 911 using a wireline phone, wireless phone, or any other type of technology, the emergency operator who answers will send the right type of first responder to the correct location in the shortest time possible. The ability to dial 911 and reach an emergency operator is so integral to our daily lives that we teach our children from the earliest moment how to dial 911.

As our communications system has evolved, so too has the 911 system. We have seen this before with the introduction of wireless phone service. As more consumers began using cell phones, Congress passed legislation to ensure that the 911 system could accommodate emergency calls made over the wireless network.

Over the last few years, VoIP technology has provided a new way for consumers to make calls using the Internet. H.R. 3404 ensures that consumers using VoIP service are able to access 911 as easily as consumers using wireline or wireless services. H.R. 3403 will give VoIP providers access to the components they need to provide 911 service and will extend the liability protections afforded to wireline and wireless carriers today to VoIP providers, public safety officials, and end users in relation to VoIP 911 calls.

The constantly evolving nature of technology can present a challenge to legislators. H.R. 3403 meets that challenge by ensuring that our 911 system continues to adapt. It requires the development of a national plan to migrate to an Internet Protocol-enabled 911 system. It also amends an existing grant program to allow funding for public safety answering points that are moving to an IP-enabled system.

As technology evolves, it is important that public safety communications also evolve. Too often public safety is left behind, burdened by yesterday's technology and yesterday's network. H.R. 3403 therefore requires that public safety representatives participate in the formation of the national plan. This will help ensure that public safety has access to the communications platform of the future.

Moving to an IP-enabled 911 system will also benefit consumers with disabilities. H.R. 3403 requires that the national plan address solutions for providing 911 and enhanced 911 services to members of the disabilities community who may not be able to speak to or hear an emergency operator. By including those representing the disabilities community in the formation of the national plan, we will ensure that all consumers are able to access emergency services.

Because consumers rely on 911, Congress must ensure that the 911 system is reliable. H.R. 3403 fulfills this duty by addressing the addition of VoIP service to the marketplace and by establishing a pathway to the future of the 911 system. This important measure has strong bipartisan support, including the support of the Committee on Energy and Commerce Ranking Member, Representative BARTON, and the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Telecommunications and Internet, Representative UPTON.

I commend Representative GORDON for his excellent work on this legislation. I also thank the other members of the 911 Caucus, and Representatives ESHOO, SHIMKUS, and PICKERING for their important and ongoing work in the area of Emergency communications.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3403.

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I've been working on 911 issues for over a decade. We've come a long way during this time, and this bill is another step toward full interoperability. It is essential for our constituents to have access to emergency services whether they're using a mobile phone or using a VOIP service. Confidence that our network will be able to access emergency services when they are needed is fundamental.

My thanks to Representative GORDON and the Energy and Commerce Committee for their work on this 911 legislation which I'm a cosponsor of. The bill places a duty on VOIP services to provide 911 for their customers. This gives customers a guarantee that they will have emergency services when they need it. Importantly, this legislation requires that carriers allow VOIP providers to interconnect with

their facilities. In return, carriers will be compensated at the same rate that wireless carries pay to interconnect. This interconnection mandate is necessary so that consumers will have timely access to 911 services.

This legislation will connect the 98 million Americans that live in areas where VOIP providers do not yet have access to the 911 network and are unable to receive reliable VOIP 911 services.

My colleague Mr. SHIMKUS and I are cochairs of the E–911 Caucus and I thank him for his terrific work on this issue. We've worked closely together and passed legislation to provide federal grants to enhance our emergency communications system. So far no funding has been appropriated for this purpose but we were successful in passing an amendment to the Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations that added $5 million for this grant program. The funding ''plants the seed'' for advanced E–911 equipment so necessary in our communities.

This is a good bill and I strongly support it and urge Members to vote for it.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3403, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

BROADBAND CENSUS OF AMERICA ACT OF 2007

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3919) to provide for a comprehensive nationwide inventory of existing broadband service, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3919

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Broadband Census of America Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. CENSUS OF BROADBAND SERVICE DEPLOYMENT.

(a) DUTY TO COLLECT AND REPORT.—

(1) ANNUAL ASSESSMENT AND REPORT.—The Commission shall, on an annual basis, conduct an assessment and publish a report on the nature and deployment of, and subscription to, broadband service capability throughout the States.

(2) BANDWIDTH SERVICE TIERS.—The Commission shall designate bandwidth service tiers by identifying tiers of increasing data transmission speeds of broadband service capability that will provide useful information about the nature and extent of deployment of broadband service capability. At a minimum, the tiers in the aggregate shall encompass all data transmission speeds deployed, and shall consist of multiple combinations of upstream and downstream data transmission speeds. Each tier shall be designated, to the extent possible, to correspond to the ability to support qualitatively different applications and services, which the Commission shall also identify.

(3) INFORMATION COLLECTION.—The Commission shall collect, or provide for the collection of, information from all commercial and public providers of broadband service capability under its jurisdiction in each State. Such information shall include—

(A) for each area encompassed by a United States postal zip code of the 5 digit level—

(i) information concerning the types of technology used to provide broadband service capability in such area;

(ii) the tiers designated under paragraph (2) used to provide such capability in such area; and

(iii) the actual number of residential subscribers and the actual number of business subscribers in such area; and

(B) for each State, the actual number of residential subscribers and the actual number of business subscribers for each tier of service designated under paragraph (2).

(4) INFORMATION REPORTED.—In the annual report required by paragraph (1), the Commission shall provide to the public—

(A) for each area encompassed by a United States postal zip code of the 5 digit level—

(i) a list of the types of technology used to provide such capability in such area; and

(ii) the actual number of residential subscribers and the actual number of business subscribers to broadband service capability in such area, each in the aggregate; and

(B) for each State, the actual number of residential subscribers and the actual number of business subscribers for each tier of service designated under paragraph (2), each in the aggregate.

(b) EVOLUTION OF ASSESSMENT.—The Commission shall periodically review both the bandwidth service tiers and the types of technology utilized in its assessment under subsection (a) to take into account changes in technology and marketplace conditions.

(c) INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON.—

(1) INTERNATIONAL COMPARISON.—As part of the assessment and report required by this section, the Commission shall include information comparing the extent of broadband service capability (including data transmission speeds and price for broadband service capability) in a total of 75 communities in at least 25 countries abroad for each of the tiers designated pursuant to subsection (a)(2).

(2) CONTENTS.—The Commission shall choose communities for the comparison under this subsection in a manner that will offer, to the extent possible, communities of a population size, population density, topography, and demographic profile that are comparable to the population size, population density, topography, and demographic profile of various communities within the United States. The Commission shall include in the comparison under this subsection—

(A) a geographically diverse selection of countries; and

(B) communities including the capital cities of such countries.

(3) SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES.—The Commission shall identify relevant similarities and differences in each community, including their market structures, the number of competitors, the number of facilities-based providers, the types of technologies deployed by such providers, the applications and services those technologies enable, and the regulatory model under which broadband service capability is provided.

(d) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—Except for the information provided to the public by the Commission in its annual report pursuant to subsection (a)(4), nothing in this section shall reduce or remove any obligation the Commission has to protect proprietary information, nor shall this section be construed to compel the Commission to make publicly available any proprietary information. Any information collected by the Commission pursuant to subsection (a)(3) that reveals any competitively sensitive information of an individual provider of broadband service capability shall not be disclosed by the Commission under subsection (a)(4) or otherwise.

(e) REGULATIONS.—The Commission shall, within 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, promulgate regulations to implement this section.

(f) ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY.—The Commission shall enforce this section as if such section was a part of the Communications Act of 1934. For the purpose of this section, any violations of this section, or any regulations promulgated under this section, shall be considered to be a violation of the Communications Act of 1934 or a regulation promulgated under that Act, respectively.

SEC. 3. BROADBAND INVENTORY MAP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—To provide a comprehensive nationwide inventory of existing broadband service capability and availability, the NTIA shall develop and maintain a broadband inventory map of the United States that identifies and depicts the geographic extent to which broadband service capability is deployed and available from a commercial provider or public provider throughout each State.

(b) INFORMATION SHOWN.—The broadband inventory map developed and maintained pursuant to this section shall be capable of identifying and depicting, nationwide, for each State, and for each county or parish of each State—

(1) each area encompassed by a United States postal zip code of 9 digit level, census tract level, or functional equivalent in which broadband service capability is deployed at that time, including—

(A) each commercial or public provider of broadband service capability within such area; and

(B) subject to subsection (f)(5)—

(i) each type of technology used to provide broadband service capability within such area; and

(ii) which bandwidth service tiers designated pursuant to section 2(a)(2) are available within such area for each provider of broadband service capability; and

(2) each area encompassed by a United States postal zip code of 9 digit level, census tract level, or functional equivalent in which broadband service capability is not deployed at that time.

(c) DATA USE ENCOURAGED.—The NTIA shall—

(1) seek to overlay demographic data obtained from other sources in the Department of Commerce and elsewhere for use with such broadband inventory map; and

(2) make available such map, and the information on which it is based, to such other sources in the Department for demographic purposes, subject to section 7.

(d) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY AND INTERACTIVITY.—Not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the NTIA shall make the broadband inventory map developed and maintained pursuant to this section accessible by the public on a World Wide Web site of the NTIA in a form that is interactive and searchable.

(e) UPDATING.—The NTIA shall update the broadband inventory map developed and maintained pursuant to this section to ensure that the information provided by the broadband inventory map is timely and accurate.

(f) OBTAINING INFORMATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The NTIA shall request and obtain such information as may be necessary to carry out this section from the following:

(A) eligible entities under section 4;

(B) the Commission; and

(C) commercial and public providers of broadband service capability.

(2) PRIORITY OF INFORMATION REQUESTS.—If the NTIA has not otherwise obtained such information pursuant to paragraph (3), the NTIA shall—

(A) first request and try to obtain such information from such eligible entities before requesting and obtaining such information from the Commission; and

(B) only request such information from commercial and public providers of broadband service capability if such information cannot be obtained in a timely fashion from such eligible entities or the Commission.

(3) COMPATIBLE FORMAT.—Such entities or such providers may elect to provide the NTIA with the information necessary for displaying a statewide map, provided that such map meets, at a minimum, the requirements of subsection (b) for that State and such information is in a format that NTIA is able to incorporate into the broadband inventory map required under this section. Nothing in this paragraph precludes such providers or any such entity, with agreement of the providers concerned, from providing to the NTIA, or using for its own purposes, more geographically-specific information than required by subsection (b).

(4) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, INCLUDING WIFI HOTSPOTS.—The NTIA shall also try to obtain accurate information from reliable publicly available sources about broadband service capability that is offered to the public but that is not provided by either a commercial provider or a public provider directly to the public.

(5) OPT-OUT BY PROVIDERS.—Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1)(B), if a provider of broadband service capability requests that the map developed and maintained pursuant to this section shall not depict the information in clause (i) or (ii), or both, of such subsection for a particular area or areas, the NTIA shall comply with such request.

(g) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—Except for the information provided to the public by the NTIA in subsection (d), nothing in this section shall reduce or remove any obligation the NTIA has to protect proprietary information, nor shall this section be construed to compel the NTIA to make publicly available any proprietary information. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, any information obtained by NTIA pursuant to subsection (f) that reveals competitively sensitive information of an individual provider of broadband service capability shall not be disclosed by NTIA.

SEC. 4. GRANTS TO STATES FOR BROADBAND MAP DEVELOPMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The NTIA may, to the extent amounts are made available pursuant to section 10(b) for use under this section, make grants to an eligible entity to assist in providing the NTIA with information to facilitate the development of the broadband inventory map required under section 3.

(b) STATE ENTITY APPLICATION AND DESIGNATION.—An eligible entity in any State that seeks to obtain a grant under this section shall submit an application to the NTIA at such time, in such form, and containing such information and assurances as the NTIA may require.

(c) USE.—Amounts from a grant under this section may be used only for costs involved in developing and obtaining information for the broadband inventory map required under section 3.

(d) CONDITIONS.—

(1) INFORMATION SHARING.—As a condition of receipt of a grant under this section, the eligible entity shall agree to provide to the NTIA the information developed or obtained using such grant amounts and necessary for the broadband inventory map required under section 3.

(2) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—An eligible entity may not obtain a grant under this section to carry out the activities under this section unless such entity agrees to provide, from non-Federal funds, an amount equal to not less than 20 percent of the amount of the grant toward the costs of carrying out such activities.

(e) GRANT CRITERIA.—The NTIA shall select an eligible entity to receive a grant under this section based upon criteria that shall include—

(1) whether such entity requesting a grant is organized on a statewide basis and prepared to develop information for use by NTIA on a timely basis;

(2) the need of such entity for financial support, taking into account the financial support from State or other sources, to fulfill the objectives of this Act; and

(3) whether the denial of such entity's grant request would—

(A) result in the inability of such entity to develop information on a timely or comprehensive basis; and

(B) result in a gap in the information for that State or otherwise thwart the objectives of this Act.

(f) REGULATIONS.—The NTIA shall issue such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the functions assigned under this section.

(g) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—For the purposes of this section, the term ''eligible entity'' for any State means—

(1) an entity that is either—

(A) an agency or instrumentality of that State, or a municipality or other subdivision (or agency or instrumentality of a municipality or other subdivision) of that State; or

(B) a nonprofit organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code; and

(2) the entity is the single eligible entity in such State that has been designated by the State to receive a grant under this section.

SEC. 5. GRANTS FOR DEMAND-SIDE BROADBAND SERVICE IDENTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENTS.

(a) GRANT AUTHORITY.—From the amounts appropriated under section 10(c), the NTIA shall establish a grant program to create and facilitate the work of local technology planning entities that represent a broad cross-section of their community, including representatives of business, telecommunications labor organizations, consumer organizations, elementary and secondary education, health care providers, libraries, higher education, community-based organizations, tribal organizations, and local government.

(b) STATE ENTITY APPLICATION AND DESIGNATION.—Each eligible planning entity in any State that seeks to obtain a grant under this section shall submit an application to the NTIA at such time, in such form, and containing such information and assurances as the NTIA may require. Such application shall contain a demonstration that—

(1) the entity is an eligible planning entity; and

(2) the eligible planning entity—

(A) is the single eligible planning entity in such State that has been designated by the State for an exclusive geographic area within the State to receive a grant under this section; or

(B) is the single eligible planning entity that is designated by the governing body of an Indian tribe to receive a grant under this section.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts from a grant under this section shall be used to assist an eligible planning entity to—

(1) assess the current use of broadband service capability across relevant community sectors;

(2) set goals for improving or maximizing such use within each sector;

(3) develop a plan for achieving the eligible planning entity's goals, with specific recommendations for identifying and spurring demand for such capability;

(4) collaborate with providers of broadband service capability and other high technology companies to encourage the deployment and use of broadband service capability in unserved and underserved areas;

(5) identify local demand for broadband service capability and aggregate such demand;

(6) establish programs, but not acquire equipment or facilities, to improve computer ownership and Internet access for unserved and underserved populations; and

(7) facilitate the exchange of information regarding the use and demand for broadband service capability between the public and private sectors.

(d) PROHIBITION.—Funds made available by a grant under this section shall not be used for the provision of broadband service capability or the acquisition of equipment or facilities for such capability, except that this prohibition shall not prohibit an eligible planning entity's use of such funds to acquire broadband service capability or equipment or facilities for such capability for use by such entity in its own conduct of planning activities.

(e) REGULATIONS.—The NTIA shall issue such regulations as may be necessary to carry out the functions assigned under this section.

(f) ELIGIBLE PLANNING ENTITY.—For the purposes of this section, the term ''eligible planning entity'' for any State means—

(1) an agency or instrumentality of that State, a municipality or other subdivision (or agency or instrumentality of a municipality or other subdivision) of that State, or an Indian tribe; or

(2) a nonprofit organization that is described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

SEC. 6. CONSUMER SURVEY OF BROADBAND SERVICE CAPABILITY.

(a) AUTHORITY.—For the purpose of evaluating, on a statistically significant basis, the national characteristics of the use of broadband service capability, the Commission shall conduct and make public periodic surveys of consumers in urban, suburban, and rural areas in the large business, small business, and residential consumer markets to determine the following:

(1) The types of technology used to provide the broadband service capability to which consumers subscribe.

(2) The amounts consumers pay per month for such capability.

(3) The actual data transmission speeds of such capability.

(4) The types of applications and services consumers most frequently use in conjunction with such capability.

(5) For consumers who have declined to subscribe to broadband service capability,

the reasons given by such consumers for declining such capability.

(6) Other sources of broadband service capability which consumers regularly use or on which they rely.

(7) Any other information the Commission deems appropriate for such purpose.

(b) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.—The Commission shall make publicly available the results of surveys conducted under this section at least once per year.

SEC. 7. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CONSUMER INFORMATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Commission shall, within 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, promulgate regulations—

(1) to protect the confidentiality of personal consumer information collected for the purposes of this Act;

(2) to require the Commission, the NTIA, and each other entity that collects or controls such information for the purposes of this Act (including any eligible entity under section 4, eligible planning entity designated under section 5(b)(2), and commercial and public provider of broadband service capability) to protect the confidentiality of such information; and

(3) to permit such information to be disclosed by such entities only to the extent consistent with the provisions and for the purposes of this Act, or with the prior express authorization of the consumer to whom it pertains.

(b) LIMITATION.—The regulations promulgated under subsection (a) shall not preclude the ability of any consumer or other person or entity to search, by individual street address, the broadband inventory map developed and maintained pursuant to section 3, or any of the individual State maps that may compose it.

SEC. 8. STATE OR LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Except as provided in section 7, nothing in this Act shall be construed to expand or limit the authority of States, Indian tribes, or units of local government to compel the collection of information.

SEC. 9. SUNSET PROVISIONS.

(a) BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT INFORMATION & CONSUMER SURVEY.—Sections 2 and 6 shall cease to be effective after the end of the 6-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(b) BROADBAND INVENTORY MAP.—Section 3 shall cease to be effective after the end of the 7-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 10. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out sections 3 and 4 of this Act—

(1) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

(2) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and

(3) $20,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

(b) BROADBAND MAP INFORMATION DEVELOPMENT GRANTS.—Of any amounts appropriated in each fiscal year pursuant to subsection (a), not less than $15,000,000 shall be available only for grants under section 4.

(c) LOCAL TECHNOLOGY PLANNING GRANTS.—In addition to the amount appropriated under subsection (a), there is authorized to be appropriated to make grants under section 5—

(1) $50,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

(2) $100,000,000 for fiscal year 2009; and

(3) $125,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

SEC. 11. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) BROADBAND SERVICE CAPABILITY.—The term ''broadband service capability'' means an Internet Protocol-based transmission service that is offered to end users to enable such end users to send and receive voice, video, data, graphics, or a combination, to or from the Internet without regard to any transmission media or technology.

(2) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the Federal Communications Commission.

(3) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term ''Indian tribe'' has the meaning given in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e)).

(4) NTIA.—The term ''NTIA'' means the National Telecommunications and Information Administration of the Department of Commerce.

(5) PERSONAL CONSUMER INFORMATION.—The term ''personal consumer information''—

(A) means information that allows a human being to be identified individually;

(B) includes the following information with respect to an individual:

(i) the first and last name;

(ii) a home or physical address;

(iii) a date or place of birth;

(iv) an email address or a telephone number;

(v) a Social Security account number, tax identification number, birth certificate number, passport number, driver's license number, or any other any government-issued identification number; or

(vi) a credit card number or bank account or card number; and

(C) does not include any record of aggregate information that does not permit the identification of particular individuals.

(6) PROVIDER.—

(A) PUBLIC PROVIDER.—The term ''public'' when used with respect to a provider of broadband service capability means a provider that is an agency or instrumentality of a State, or a municipality or other subdivision (or agency or instrumentality of a municipality or other subdivision) of a State, regardless of the facilities used.

(B) COMMERCIAL PROVIDER.—The term ''commercial'' when used with respect to a provider of broadband service capability means a provider that offers broadband service capability for a fee, or on an advertising-supported basis, directly to the public or to such classes of users as to be effectively available to the public, regardless of the facilities used.

(7) STATE.—The term ''State'' means the States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands, and any other territory and possession of the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise to suspend the rules and to pass the Broadband Census of America Act of 2007 because, Mr. Speaker, the overarching telecommunications policy goal of the United States is achieving ubiquitously available, competitive, high-speed, affordable broadband service to all Americans. Such broadband service capability is indispensable to various aspects of the United States economy, including public safety, education, entrepreneurial investment, innovation, job creation, health care delivery, and energy efficiency.

The ability of the United States to promote and achieve a competitive high-speed broadband infrastructure will also be a key factor in determining our Nation's success in the fiercely competitive global economy.

International competitors to the United States are achieving progress in broadband deployment and adoption. Many countries have broadband service capabilities superior to the United States in terms of choice, speed, and price.

For the United States, offering broadband service capability at ever higher transmission speeds could spur new growth in investment in cutting-edge applications, services, and technologies that utilize higher bandwidth functionality.

This bill represents an indispensable first step in developing an overarching blueprint for broadband policy in the United States. In brief, the Broadband Census of America Act tasked the Federal Communications Commission with collecting data from providers of broadband service capability throughout the country, and with developing a series of tiers for categorizing the speeds of such services.

The data collected will be disclosed to the public in an annual report that will include: one, the actual number of residential and business subscribers within each five-digit ZIP code with a list of the broadband technologies present in each ZIP code: and, two, the actual number of residential and business subscribers, correlated to each broadband speed tier identified by the FCC on a statewide basis.

This bill also encompasses a broadband mapping effort as well as community organization initiatives for unserved and underserved areas to increase knowledge of where, what type, and what speed of broadband service may be available.

The bill requires the National Telecommunications Information Agency to develop a national broadband availability map which will include the availability of broadband service capability at the nine-digit ZIP code level, census track level, or functional equivalent.

This is a very consumer-friendly mapping function and ''demand side'' identification initiative that consumer groups, the high-tech community and the telecommunications industry all support.

This map will be interactive and searchable by consumers, and at the providers' discretion will also indicate the type of technology and speed of service offered in that area.

The legislation also includes authorizations for grants to local planning entities and communities around the country. These grants are designed to increase broadband availability and usage in local communities through so-called ''demand side'' identification and other initiatives.

To better gauge how the country is performing compared to international competitors, the bill also requires the FCC to conduct a comparison of the extent of broadband service capability

abroad in 75 foreign communities with equivalent American communities.

This legislation reflects several months of negotiations. And I want to thank Mr. UPTON from Michigan for his patient attention to this legislation. No legislation in telecommunications has received the detailed attention that this legislation has on a bipartisan basis, and for that I want to thank Mr. UPTON.

I also want to thank the ranking member of the full committee, Mr. BARTON, for his work on this legislation. And of course on our side, Mr. DINGELL and I worked with the minority towards achieving this legislation. And with the thanks of Mr. DINGELL and myself, we once again want to point out how cooperative all of our working relationships were on this legislation.

It also has the support of consumer groups, the Communications Workers of America, NARUC Connect Kentucky, Qwest, and organizations representing the high-tech industry, the cable industry, the telephone industry, and the wireless industry.

I want to again thank Mr. UPTON and Mr. BARTON for their cooperation in working through the differences on this legislation, and to thank Mr. DINGELL for his excellent work on this legislation.

I urge Members of the House to support this bill.

At this point, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Someone watching this debate and they hear the nice words between the two of us, they are, for sure, very genuine. We had many hand-holding scenes and meetings over the last number of months.

I am a cosponsor of H.R. 3919, and I want to thank the gentleman from Massachusetts for allowing our thoughtful and constructive input into this process because clearly I think we ended up with a good piece of legislation. And I commend the gentleman's patience on our side as we were able to work out a consensus that, in fact, has brought us to the floor this afternoon.

I also want to thank Chairman DINGELL and Mr. BARTON for working with all of us to ensure that the bill was able to move forward in a bipartisan way. And Mr. WHITFIELD, who I remember at our first hearing on this as he talked about Connect Kentucky and the positive impact that it had there. He obviously added some good things as well to legislation. And I would urge all of my colleagues to support the legislation as it moves through this process.

I view the thrust of this legislation as an effort to get a better idea of the U.S. broadband penetration, not as a window to increased regulation of the already competitive broadband marketplace.

We were quite fortunate to learn from the successful statewide broadband mapping plan in Kentucky called Connect Kentucky. And it isn't often that we have the advantage of looking at a successful model such as this one, which could implement in a bipartisan way again there on a national level what we're able to do on this legislation in H.R. 3919.

Connect Kentucky demonstrated perfectly how a public/private partnership can work with industry in a nonregulatory manner that benefits not only consumers, but also provides a catalyst to greater broadband investments.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. SPACE), who has spent a considerable amount of time working on this legislation.

□ 1500

Mr. SPACE. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Mr. Ranking Member, for your work on this legislation important for America and especially important for rural America. We who live in rural America understand that there are special challenges we face, whether it be in health care delivery or education, economic infrastructure. This bill will help bridge the gap that exists between rural America and urban and suburban America.

By providing a comprehensive mapping plan, we will enable access to these issues that are so vital. Many of us think about broadband in terms of economic development and the importance that it brings to economic infrastructure. Certainly, that is a big part of what access to high-speed Internet is all about. But it is more than that. It affects quality of life in many ways.

We have heard about distance learning and the affect that it has on the educational process. We have heard about telemedicine and the ability to deliver quality health care. Certainly it affects the ability of our first responders to coordinate efforts in the event of disasters or emergencies.

This is a good bill for rural America. I commend our leadership, as well as the ranking member for his leadership in helping to enact its passage.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further Members wishing to be allocated time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I, as well, have no additional requests for speaking time. I would like to thank the staff who worked on this bill, Tim Powderly, Amy Levine, David Vogel, Neil Fried, Courtney Reinhard, thank you, Michael Beckerman, and I would like to thank Maureen Flood from my staff for her excellent work on this legislation. And to correct an oversight from the last piece of legislation, I would like to thank Colin Crowell, who has worked on both this bill and the last bill which just passed as well. I can't say enough about Colin and his work on all of these issues to bring them to a conclusion that is truly bipartisan and nonideological.

GENERAL LEAVE

I also ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3403, as amended, and H.R. 3919, as amended.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. MARKEY. So with that, I again, highly recommend this piece of legislation to the Members. It is something that will give us the broadband overview that our country needs. We have been falling over the last 6 years in our international rankings. It is time for us to find out exactly where we are because it will help us to put together the policies that will make us No. 1 looking over our shoulders at No. 2 and 3 in the world.

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3919, the "Broadband Census of America Act of 2007".

This bipartisan legislation marks an important step in bringing us closer to affordable, robust broadband service for all Americans.

Currently the Government does not adequately collect information on the extent of broadband deployment and usage in the United States. H.R. 3919 addresses this knowledge gap by improving the quality and quantity of data that the Government is authorized to collect concerning broadband availability and subscribership. Armed with this information, Government decision-makers. will have the in-depth information necessary to craft informed, coherent broadband policy.

H.R. 3919 calls for the creation of a national broadband inventory map. This map will depict, at granular levels, where broadband service is available. We are informed by the efforts of States such a Kentucky that have successfully developed similar maps. State-level experience tells us that this map will likely spur the deployment of additional broadband facilities and will be a valuable resource for consumers.

H.R. 3919 will also jump start efforts by local communities to improve broadband deployment and usage through the creation of grant programs to facilitate the collection of data for the broadband inventory map and local technology planning. These programs will help bring broadband facilities to communities that currently have little or no service.

This is a good bill produced through positive, bipartisan efforts. I commend Ranking Member BARTON, Subcommittee Chairman MARKEY, and Subcommittee Ranking Member UPTON for their leadership and contributions to this legislation. I am proud to support it, and I urge my colleagues to vote for it.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3919, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SAFEGUARDING AMERICA'S FAMILIES BY ENHANCING AND REORGANIZING NEW AND EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES ACT OF 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3461) to establish a public awareness campaign regarding Internet safety, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3461

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Safeguarding America's Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. INTERNET SAFETY.

For purposes of this Act, the issue of Internet safety includes issues regarding use of the Internet in a manner that promotes safe online activity, including safe transactions involved in online commerce, and protects against threats to financial information and privacy, threats from cyber-crime, and threats to juveniles, including cyber-predators and material that is inappropriate for minors.

SEC. 3. PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.

The Federal Trade Commission shall carry out a nationwide program to increase public awareness and provide education regarding Internet safety, for families, businesses, organizations, and other users, that utilizes existing resources and efforts of the Federal Government, State and local governments, nonprofit organizations, private technology and financial companies, Internet service providers, World Wide Web-based resources, and other appropriate entities, that includes—

(1) identifying, promoting, and encouraging best practices for Internet safety;

(2) establishing and carrying out a national outreach and education campaign regarding Internet safety utilizing various media and Internet-based resources;

(3) facilitating access to, and the exchange of, information regarding Internet safety to promote up-to-date knowledge regarding current issues; and

(4) facilitating access to Internet safety education and public awareness efforts the Commission considers appropriate to States, units of local government, schools, police departments, nonprofit organizations, and such other entities.

SEC. 4. ANNUAL REPORTS.

The Commission shall submit a report to Congress not later than March 31 of each year that describes the activities carried out under section 3 by the Commission during the preceding calendar year.

SEC. 5. ONLINE SAFETY AND TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information shall establish an Online Safety and Technology working group comprised of representatives of relevant sectors of the business community, public interest groups, and other appropriate groups and Federal agencies to review and evaluate—

(1) the status of industry efforts to promote online safety through educational efforts, parental control technology, blocking and filtering software, age-appropriate labels for content or other technologies or initiatives designed to promote a safe online environment for children;

(2) the status of industry efforts to promote online safety among providers of electronic communications services and remote computing services by reporting apparent child pornography under section 13032 of title 42, United States Code;

(3) the practices of electronic communications service providers and remote computing service providers related to record retention in connection with crimes against children; and

(4) the development of technologies to help parents shield their children from inappropriate material on the Internet.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the working group established under subsection (a) is first convened, it shall submit a report to the Assistant Secretary and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives that—

(1) describes in detail its findings, including any information related to the effectiveness of such strategies and technologies and any information about the prevalence within industry of educational campaigns, parental control technologies, blocking and filtering software, labeling, or other technologies to assist parents; and

(2) includes recommendations as to what types of incentives could be used or developed to increase the effectiveness and implementation of such strategies and technologies.

SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) INTERNET.—The term ''Internet'' means collectively the myriad of computer and telecommunications facilities, including equipment and operating software, which comprise the interconnected world-wide network of networks that employ the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol, or any predecessor or successor protocols to such protocol, to communicate information of all kinds by wire or radio.

SEC. 7. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

For carrying out the public awareness campaign under section 3, there is authorized to be appropriated to the Commission $5,000,000 for fiscal year 2008, which shall remain available until until September 30, 2009.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. UPTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3461, the Safeguarding America's Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act of 2007, or the SAFER NET Act as we refer to it, was introduced by Congresswoman MELISSA BEAN from Illinois. The bill, Mr. Speaker, has 41 cosponsors, and it was reported out of the Energy and Commerce Committee with unanimous, bipartisan support just 2 weeks ago, I believe it was, on October 30. As a member of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Trade and Consumer Protection, I want to thank the gentlelady for her ongoing and tireless efforts to protect children from the lurking dangers on the Internet.

Earlier this year, the distinguished gentlewoman (Ms. BEAN) introduced H. Res. 455, which was a resolution supporting the goals of National Internet Safety Month, which passed the House on June 12. As such, the bill on the floor today is a quality legislative extension of her previous work on Internet safety.

H.R. 3461, the SAFER NET Act, directs the Federal Trade Commission to carry out a nationwide public awareness campaign about Internet safety and directs the Commission to annually report to Congress on its activity to promote Internet safety. The bill, as amended, authorizes $5 million for 1 year to carry out this public awareness campaign.

Currently, Mr. Speaker, the Federal Trade Commission is engaged in numerous activities to promote awareness and on-line safety habits. The Commission has established a toll-free number which serves as a help line where consumers can file their complaints. Moreover, the FTC has set up a very special Web site, www.OnGuardOnline.gov, that is all one word, to provide tips to consumers in protecting themselves and their children from Internet fraud.

Lastly, the Federal Trade Commission is engaged in a public awareness campaign to promote Internet safety through a child friendly mascot named Dewie the Turtle, much the same way that Smokey the Bear successfully promoted the prevention of forest fires many years ago. The office responsible for managing these initiatives is the Division of Consumer and Business Education. And Congresswoman BEAN's bill will aid the FTC in its laudable efforts to protect children from inappropriate content and from the predators that would do them harm.

Mr. Speaker, the Internet is one of the most significant technological developments in the history of humankind, and my friend, Mr. MARKEY, who spoke just moments before me, made that point in a profound way. The way people obtain information and communicate with each other has been completely revolutionized in a manner unthinkable just 20 years ago. However, with this great revolution comes a price. Our children are now more vulnerable to the despicable creatures that would prey on them by exploiting the powers of the Internet. It is, therefore, imperative that we in Congress do everything we can to fulfill our duties to promote healthy and safe environments for our children. The SAFER NET Act is a quality step in the right direction. I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on this legislation and pass the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I retain the balance of my time.

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I want to again thank Chairman DINGELL and Mr. BARTON, the ranking member of the committee. I remember 2 weeks ago when we moved this through our committee, it was a very important piece of legislation. Ms. BEAN is the author of this. I know Mary Bono on our side helped immensely in getting it through the subcommittee. We all rise in support of H.R. 3461, Safeguarding America's Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act of 2007.

This bill directs the FTC, the Federal Trade Commission, to carry out a nationwide public awareness campaign about Internet safety, provides a 1-year authorization of $5 million to carry out that campaign, and directs the FTC to report annually to the Congress on its activities to promote Internet safety. I look forward to those reports as the ranking member of the Telecommunications and Internet Subcommittee.

The FTC has been very active in the area, and its current computer security education campaign is built around an innovative multimedia Web site, www.OnguardOnline.gov, with special tips and features for children, teens and their parents. H.R. 3461 expands these underway. Moreover, the Internet defines Internet safety to include threats to juveniles, including cyber predators and material that is inappropriate for minors, criminal activity beyond the FTC's authority and scope. And to fulfill that directive, the FTC would then partner with the FBI and the U.S. Postal Service and with prominent nongovernmental organizations such as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

Mr. Speaker, I visit a school almost every week, actually more than once a week, and often when I speak to an elementary school, I will ask those third or fourth graders, ''How many of you have seen something inappropriate on the Internet?'' It didn't used to be. It used to be that my question was, ''How many of you have a computer at home?'' Now practically everyone has a computer at home. But now when I ask that question, ''Have you seen something inappropriate?'' every hand goes up, including mine.

Mr. Speaker, I hosted an event in our district two Mondays ago on Internet safety in our intermediate school district in Berrien County, was attended by hundreds of people. We had votes that night so I couldn't be there. But it is a concern. Parents have to know what is going on. And that is why this new Web site, OnGuardOnline.gov is very important so that the word can get out, because the Internet is a double-edged sword. Yes, it helps our lives in so many different ways, but we have to look out for the nightmare that could come into that home from someone who we would not want in as a decent parent.

So this is good legislation. It is going to have a positive impact. There is a reason that it passed by unanimous vote among Republicans and Democrats. I hope that the Senate can move along quickly. We will be willing to give them a kick if they don't do that.

I don't have any other speakers requesting time, and I yield back my time.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I don't have any further speakers on this side. I am ready to close this out and to yield back my time. Before doing so, I again want to thank Ms. BEAN for this legislation and thank Mr. UPTON for his advocacy and his passion for this issue. These legislators work very hard to bring this issue to the forefront, and they have done a magnificent job in doing this today.

Ms. BEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of my bill, H.R. 3461, The Safeguarding America's Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act or SAFER NET. I want to thank Chairman DINGELL and Chairman RUSH for their help in bringing this bill to the floor today. I also to thank Congressman BARON HILL, the lead cosponsor of this bill, and Congresswoman MARY BONO for her contributions to this legislation.

The Internet is a wonderful resource for our children. Over 90 percent of school age children use the Internet on a regular basis. They use it to expand their knowledge beyond what they can learn in the classroom and use it to stay connected with their friends when not at school.

The Internet has increased productivity and opened new opportunities to our children, but while doing so, it has created new threats. These threats whether it be unwanted online solicitations, Internet scams, or cyber-bullying are dangerous and real.

In order for our children to be protected from the dangers of the Internet, we must work together to raise awareness and educate them about Internet safety. As noted in a study conducted by the National Assessment Center:

41 percent of middle and high school students do not share with their parents what they do on the Internet.

61 percent of students admit to using the Internet unsafely or inappropriately.

And of most concern, 20 percent of middle school and high school students have met face-to-face with someone they first met online.

In recent studies conducted by the Department of Justice in conjunction with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, one in seven children between the ages of 10 and 17 received a sexual solicitation online.

And one in 25 or one per classroom receives an aggressive sexual solicitation when a predator calls them on the phone, sends them gifts, or requests a meeting.

Informing parents is just as important to keep our kids safe online. Unfortunately, approximately half of parents surveyed admit that they do not properly monitor their children's Internet activity and do not use filter, blocking, or monitoring software on their home computers.

Parents need to be engaged and ask their children what they are doing online. Unfortunately, nearly half of parents surveyed do not believe that they are able to properly monitor their children's actions online.

As a parent, you wouldn't let your son or daughter play with a friend without knowing who was in charge and where they would be playing. The same should be the case with the Internet. The Internet is a large virtual playground and just like on the playground at the park, kids need to be supervised.

Fortunately, our schools, non-profits, local, state, and federal governments, and concerned corporate citizens have been actively engaging children on Internet safety. Programs vary but all emphasize the importance of protecting personal information, keeping parents informed of Internet actions, and being careful who you talk to online.

Although these resources are great, not enough kids and parents are aware of them. Internet safety is an issue of national importance that deserves a national response.

That is why passing The SAFER NET Act today is so important.

The SAFER NET Act would authorize $5 million for the Federal Trade Commission to conduct a national public awareness campaign to promote Internet Safety.

In addition, the bill will direct the Federal Trade Commission to build on the efforts of its Onguard Online website so it can better serve as a virtual clearinghouse of Internet safety information.

Finally the SAFER NET Act would establish a working group through the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to review and evaluate industry efforts to promote online safety and protect children from inappropriate material online.

In closing, I want to thank the staff on the Energy & Commerce Committee, J.D. Grom on my staff, and Nathan Fenstermacher who previously served in my office and helped draft the original SAFER NET Act last Congress for their assistance.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3461.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3461, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE PROTECTION ACT OF 2007

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3013) to provide appropriate protection to attorney-client privileged communications and attorney work product, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3013

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Attorney-Client Privilege Protection Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) Justice is served when all parties to litigation are represented by experienced diligent counsel.

(2) Protecting attorney-client privileged communications from compelled disclosure fosters voluntary compliance with the law.

(3) To serve the purpose of the attorney-client privilege, attorneys and clients must have a degree of confidence that they will not be required to disclose privileged communications.

(4) The ability of an organization to have effective compliance programs and to conduct comprehensive internal investigations is enhanced when there is clarity and consistency regarding the attorney-client privilege.

(5) Prosecutors, investigators, enforcement officials, and other officers or employees of Government agencies have been able to, and can continue to, conduct their work while respecting attorney-client and work product protections and the rights of individuals, including seeking and discovering facts crucial to the investigation and prosecution of organizations.

(6) Despite the existence of these legitimate tools, the Department of Justice and other agencies have increasingly employed tactics that undermine the adversarial system of justice, such as encouraging organizations to waive attorney-client privilege and work product protections to avoid indictment or other sanctions.

(7) An indictment can have devastating consequences on an organization, potentially eliminating the ability of the organization to survive post-indictment or to dispute the charges against it at trial.

(8) Waiver demands and other tactics of Government agencies are encroaching on the constitutional rights and other legal protections of employees.

(9) The attorney-client privilege, work product doctrine, and payment of counsel fees shall not be used as devices to conceal wrongdoing or to cloak advice on evading the law.

(b) PURPOSE.—It is the purpose of this Act to place on each agency clear and practical limits designed to preserve the attorney-client privilege and work product protections available to an organization and preserve the constitutional rights and other legal protections available to employees of such an organization.

SEC. 3. DISCLOSURE OF ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE OR ADVANCEMENT OF COUNSEL FEES AS ELEMENTS OF COOPERATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 201 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after section 3013 the following:

''§ 3014. Preservation of fundamental legal protections and rights in the context of investigations and enforcement matters regarding organizations

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE.—The term 'attorney-client privilege' means the attorney-client privilege as governed by the principles of the common law, as they may be interpreted by the courts of the United States in the light of reason and experience, and the principles of article V of the Federal Rules of Evidence.

''(2) ATTORNEY WORK PRODUCT.—The term 'attorney work product' means materials prepared by or at the direction of an attorney in anticipation of litigation, particularly any such materials that contain a mental impression, conclusion, opinion, or legal theory of that attorney.

''(b) IN GENERAL.—In any Federal investigation or criminal or civil enforcement matter, an agent or attorney of the United States shall not—

''(1) demand, request, or condition treatment on the disclosure by an organization, or person affiliated with that organization, of any communication protected by the attorney-client privilege or any attorney work product;

''(2) condition a civil or criminal charging decision relating to a organization, or person affiliated with that organization, on, or use as a factor in determining whether an organization, or person affiliated with that organization, is cooperating with the Government—

''(A) any valid assertion of the attorney-client privilege or privilege for attorney work product;

''(B) the provision of counsel to, or contribution to the legal defense fees or expenses of, an employee of that organization;

''(C) the entry into a joint defense, information sharing, or common interest agreement with an employee of that organization if the organization determines it has a common interest in defending against the investigation or enforcement matter;

''(D) the sharing of information relevant to the investigation or enforcement matter with an employee of that organization; or

''(E) a failure to terminate the employment of or otherwise sanction any employee of that organization because of the decision by that employee to exercise the constitutional rights or other legal protections of that employee in response to a Government request; or

''(3) demand or request that an organization, or person affiliated with that organization, not take any action described in paragraph (2).

''(c) INAPPLICABILITY.—Nothing in this Act shall prohibit an agent or attorney of the United States from requesting or seeking any communication or material that such agent or attorney reasonably believes is not entitled to protection under the attorney-client privilege or attorney work product doctrine.

''(d) VOLUNTARY DISCLOSURES.—Nothing in this Act is intended to prohibit an organization from making, or an agent or attorney of the United States from accepting, a voluntary and unsolicited offer to share the internal investigation materials of such organization.

''(e) NOT TO AFFECT EXAMINATION OR INSPECTION ACCESS OTHERWISE PERMITTED.—This Act does not affect any other federal statute that may authorize, in the course of an examination or inspection, an agent or attorney of the United States to require or compel the production of attorney-client privileged material or attorney work product.

''(f) CHARGING DECISIONS NOT TO INCLUDE DECISIONS TO CHARGE UNDER INDEPENDENT PROHIBITIONS.—It is not conditioning a charging decision under subsection (b)(2) of this section to charge an organization or person affiliated with that organization for conduct described in subparagraphs (B), (C), or (D) of that subsection under a federal law which makes that conduct in itself an offense.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for chapter 201 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''3014. Preservation of fundamental legal protections and rights in the context of investigations and enforcement matters regarding organizations.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous materials on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Virginia?

There was no objection.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I introduced H.R. 3013, the Attorney-Client Privilege Protection Act of 2007 on July 12 of this year. At the time, I was joined by eight original bipartisan cosponsors, including the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Mr. CONYERS; ranking member of the full committee, Mr. SMITH; Crime Subcommittee ranking member, Mr. FORBES; and other members, Mr. COBLE, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. LUNGREN, Mr. FEENEY and Mr. ROSKAM. I would like to take a moment to personally thank each of them for their support.

The purpose of H.R. 3013 is fairly simple and straightforward. It is designed to prevent a practice that has regrettably become too common in many of Federal Government's recent investigations into corporate wrongdoing. I am specifically referring to the government's use of what are called ''coercive waivers'' to gain access to privileged communications that otherwise would remain private and protected under the constitutional doctrine of attorney-client privilege.

□ 1515

Coercing waivers of corporate attorney-client privilege has not always been the practice among Federal prosecutors. Formerly, a company could produce evidence of its ''cooperation'' with prosecutors by providing insight into relevant corporate information, as well as by providing general access to the company's workplace and its employees. Unfortunately, since that time, memoranda issued by the Department of Justice suggest that the policy has changed to one which now exposes corporations to an increased risk of prosecution if they claim this constitutionally protected privilege.

One of the first such memoranda was issued in 1999. The Holder memorandum was designed to provide prosecutors with factors to be considered when determining whether to charge a corporation with criminal activity, and specifically allowed prosecutors, in gauging the extent of a corporation's cooperation, to consider the corporation's willingness to waive attorney-client privilege and work-product privilege.

This memorandum was superceded in 2003 by the Thompson memorandum. This memorandum contained the same language regarding the waiver of attorney-client privilege and work-product privileges and also addressed the adverse weight that might be given to a corporation's participation in a joint defense agreement with its officers or employees and its agreement to pay legal fees.

Today, the current Department policies relating to corporate attorney-client privilege and work-product privileges are embodied in the McNulty memorandum, issued in December of last year. While this new memorandum does state that the waiver requests should be the exception rather than the rule, it continues to threaten the viability of attorney-client privilege in business organizations by allowing prosecutors to request a waiver of privilege upon the finding of so-called ''legitimate need.''

I fully recognize the Department may face hurdles when undertaking investigations and prosecutions of corporate malfeasance. We look at the victims of Enron's collapse, the nearly 10,000 individuals who lost their jobs and pensions, their plans for their future, and know how vital it is for Federal prosecutors to have the tools necessary to prosecute these crimes and hold accountable wrongdoers who profit at the expense of ordinary working men and women. However, I also believe that facilitating and even encouraging such investigations should not come at the expense of vital constitutionally protected rights.

H.R. 3013 therefore prohibits the demanding of constitutionally protected materials as a necessary condition of receiving favorable consideration in decisions relating to prosecution and sentencing. This bill is supported by diverse groups such as the American Bar Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the American Civil Liberties Union, and the Heritage Foundation. That said, Mr. Speaker, I would like to once again thank the bipartisan members of the committee who have joined me in supporting this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of H.R. 3013, the Attorney-Client Privilege Protection Act of 2007. H.R. 3013 bars Federal prosecutors from requiring corporations and individuals to waive their attorney-client privilege as a condition of cooperation or for avoiding criminal charges. H.R. 3013 would not prohibit a corporation from voluntarily waiving the attorney-client privilege.

This bill is designed to remedy overreaching by Federal prosecutors. It protects the attorney-client privilege, which is deeply rooted in our jurisprudence and the legal profession. The attorney-client privilege encourages frank and open communication between clients and their attorneys so that clients can receive effective advice and counsel.

In the corporate context, as we saw in the case of Arthur Andersen, the life of a corporation can turn on a prosecutor's discretionary decision to charge a corporation. That decision can have profound consequences on our economy, the employees and the community; and it should not turn on whether or not a company waives its attorney-client privilege.

Cooperation in the criminal justice system is an important engine of truth. However, prosecutors should not require privileged waivers as a routine matter.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I enter into the RECORD a letter from the American Bar Association outlining their support for this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I would hope that the House would adopt the bill.

AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION,
Chicago, IL, November 8, 2007.

Re H.R. 3013, the ''Attorney-Client Privilege Protection Act of 2007.''

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of the American Bar Association (''ABA'') and its more than 415,000 members, I write to express our strong support for H.R. 3013, the ''Attorney-Client Privilege Protection Act of 2007.'' This bipartisan bill, sponsored by Representatives Bobby Scott, John Conyers, Lamar Smith, Randy Forbes, and eight other Members of Congress from both parties, was approved unanimously by the House Judiciary Committee on August 1 and will be considered by the full House next week under suspension of the rules. We urge you to vote in favor of this important legislation.

H.R. 3013 is a comprehensive reform measure designed to roll back a number of harmful federal agency policies that are seriously eroding the attorney-client privilege, the work product doctrine and the constitutional rights of employees. Although all of these federal policies raise concerns, the most problematic is the Department of Justice's policy—set forth in the 2003 ''Thompson Memorandum'' and 2006 ''McNulty Memorandum''—that pressures companies and other organizations to waive their privileges as a condition for receiving cooperation credit, and hence leniency, during investigations. In addition, these federal policies contain separate provisions that violate employees' Sixth Amendment right to counsel and Fifth Amendment right against self-incrimination by pressuring companies to not pay their employees' legal fees during investigations, to fire the employees for not waiving their rights, or to take other punitive actions against them long before any guilt has been established.

Despite the serious concerns raised by congressional leaders, former Justice Department officials, and the legal and business communities, the Department of Justice and other federal agencies have refused to reverse or fundamentally change their harmful privilege waiver or employee rights policies. Although the Department reluctantly issued new cooperation guidelines on December 12, 2006 as part of the McNulty Memorandum, the new policy falls far short of what is needed to prevent further erosion of fundamental attorney-client privilege, work product, and employee legal protections.

As demonstrated by the report that former Delaware Chief Justice Norman Veasey recently sent to congressional leaders, the McNulty Memorandum has not significantly reduced the incidence of government coerced waiver, and federal prosecutors continue to routinely demand waiver of the privilege during investigations despite the new policy. (The Veasey Report is available at *http://www.abanetorg/poladv/priorities/privilegewaiver/cjveaseyletter.pdf.*) As a result, the Department's new policy continues to seriously weaken the confidential attorney-client relationship between companies and their lawyers, which, in turn, impedes the lawyers' ability to conduct thorough internal investigations and effectively counsel compliance with the law. This harms companies, employees and the investing public as well.

In addition, while the McNulty Memorandum bars prosecutors from requiring companies to not pay their employees' legal fees in some cases, it continues to allow the practice in many instances. The new Department policy and other similar federal policies also continue to deny cooperation credit to companies that assist employees with their legal defenses or decline to fire them for exercising their Fifth Amendment rights. By forcing companies to punish employees long before any guilt has been shown, these federal policies weaken the constitutional presumption of innocence and undermine principles of sound corporate governance.

H.R. 3013 would reverse these harmful policies by prohibiting federal agencies from pressuring companies or other organizations to waive their privileges or take certain unfair punitive actions against their employees as conditions for receiving cooperation credit during investigations. At the same time, however, the bill specifically preserves the ability of prosecutors and other federal officials to obtain the important, non-privileged factual material they need to punish wrongdoers and enforce the law. In our view, H.R. 3013 would strike the proper balance between effective law enforcement and the preservation of essential attorney-client privilege, work product and employee legal protections, and we urge you to support the bill during next week's floor vote.

Thank you for considering the views of the American Bar Association on this subject, which is of such vital importance to our system of justice. If you have any questions regarding the ABA's views or need more information, please ask your staff to contact Larson Frisby of the ABA Governmental Affairs Office at (202) 662–1098.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM H. NEUKOM,
President.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3013, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1593) to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, to

improve reentry planning and implementation, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1593

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Second Chance Act of 2007: Community Safety Through Recidivism Prevention'' or the ''Second Chance Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.
Sec. 2. Table of contents.
Sec. 3. Purposes; findings.
Sec. 4. Definition of Indian tribe.
Sec. 5. Submission of reports to Congress.
Sec. 6. Rule of construction.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS RELATED TO THE OMNIBUS CRIME CONTROL AND SAFE STREETS ACT OF 1968

Subtitle A—Improvements to Existing Programs

Sec. 101. Reauthorization of adult and juvenile offender State and local reentry demonstration projects.
Sec. 102. Improvement of the residential substance abuse treatment for State offenders program.
Sec. 103. Definition of violent offender for drug court grant program.
Sec. 104. Use of violent offender truth-in-sentencing grant funding for demonstration project activities.

Subtitle B—New and Innovative Programs To Improve Offender Reentry Services

Sec. 111. State, tribal, and local reentry courts.
Sec. 112. Prosecution drug treatment alternative to prison programs.
Sec. 113. Grants for family-based substance abuse treatment.
Sec. 114. Grant to evaluate and improve education at prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities.
Sec. 115. Technology Careers Training Demonstration Grants.

TITLE II—ENHANCED DRUG TREATMENT AND MENTORING GRANT PROGRAMS

Subtitle A—Drug Treatment

Sec. 201. Offender reentry substance abuse and criminal justice collaboration program.

Subtitle B—Mentoring

Sec. 211. Mentoring grants to nonprofit organizations.
Sec. 212. Responsible reintegration of offenders.
Sec. 213. Bureau of prisons policy on mentoring contacts.
Sec. 214. Bureau of prisons policy on chapel library materials.

Subtitle C—Administration of Justice Reforms

CHAPTER 1—IMPROVING FEDERAL OFFENDER REENTRY

Sec. 231. Federal prisoner reentry initiative.
Sec. 232. Bureau of prisons policy on restraining of female prisoners.

CHAPTER 2—REENTRY RESEARCH

Sec. 241. Offender reentry research.
Sec. 242. Grants to study parole or post-incarceration supervision violations and revocations.
Sec. 243. Addressing the needs of children of incarcerated parents.
Sec. 244. Study of effectiveness of depot naltrexone for heroin addiction.
Sec. 245. Authorization of appropriations for research.

CHAPTER 3—CORRECTIONAL REFORMS TO EXISTING LAW

Sec. 251. Clarification of authority to place prisoner in community corrections.
Sec. 252. Residential drug abuse program in Federal prisons.
Sec. 253. Contracting for services for post-conviction supervision offenders.

CHAPTER 4—MISCELLANUOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 261. Extension of national prison rape elimination commission.

SEC. 3. PURPOSES; FINDINGS.

(a) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Act are—

(1) to break the cycle of criminal recidivism, increase public safety, and help States, local units of government, and Indian Tribes, better address the growing population of criminal offenders who return to their communities and commit new crimes;

(2) to rebuild ties between offenders and their families, while the offenders are incarcerated and after reentry into the community, to promote stable families and communities;

(3) to encourage the development and support of, and to expand the availability of, evidence-based programs that enhance public safety and reduce recidivism, such as substance abuse treatment, alternatives to incarceration, and comprehensive reentry services;

(4) to protect the public and promote law-abiding conduct by providing necessary services to offenders, while the offenders are incarcerated and after reentry into the community, in a manner that does not confer luxuries or privileges upon such offenders;

(5) to assist offenders reentering the community from incarceration to establish a self-sustaining and law-abiding life by providing sufficient transitional services for as short of a period as practicable, not to exceed one year, unless a longer period is specifically determined to be necessary by a medical or other appropriate treatment professional; and

(6) to provide offenders in prisons, jails or juvenile facilities with educational, literacy, vocational, and job placement services to facilitate re-entry into the community.

(b) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) In 2002, over 7,000,000 people were incarcerated in Federal or State prisons or in local jails. Nearly 650,000 people are released from Federal and State incarceration into communities nationwide each year.

(2) There are over 3,200 jails throughout the United States, the vast majority of which are operated by county governments. Each year, these jails will release more than 10,000,000 people back into the community.

(3) Recent studies indicate that over ⅔ of released State prisoners are expected to be rearrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor within 3 years after release.

(4) According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, expenditures on corrections alone increased from $9,000,000,000 in 1982, to $59,600,000,000 in 2002. These figures do not include the cost of arrest and prosecution, nor do they take into account the cost to victims.

(5) The Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative (SVORI) provided $139,000,000 in funding for State governments to develop and implement education, job training, mental health treatment, and substance abuse treatment for serious and violent offenders. This Act seeks to build upon the innovative and successful State reentry programs developed under the SVORI, which terminated after fiscal year 2005.

(6) Between 1991 and 1999, the number of children with a parent in a Federal or State correctional facility increased by more than 100 percent, from approximately 900,000 to approximately 2,000,000. According to the Bureau of Prisons, there is evidence to suggest that inmates who are connected to their children and families are more likely to avoid negative incidents and have reduced sentences.

(7) Released prisoners cite family support as the most important factor in helping them stay out of prison. Research suggests that families are an often underutilized resource in the reentry process.

(8) Approximately 100,000 juveniles (ages 17 years and under) leave juvenile correctional facilities, State prison, or Federal prison each year. Juveniles released from secure confinement still have their likely prime crime years ahead of them. Juveniles released from secure confinement have a recidivism rate ranging from 55 to 75 percent. The chances that young people will successfully transition into society improve with effective reentry and aftercare programs.

(9) Studies have shown that between 15 percent and 27 percent of prisoners expect to go to homeless shelters upon release from prison.

(10) Fifty-seven percent of Federal and 70 percent of State inmates used drugs regularly before going to prison, and the Bureau of Justice statistics report titled ''Trends in State Parole, 1990–2000'' estimates the use of drugs or alcohol around the time of the offense that resulted in the incarceration of the inmate at as high as 84 percent.

(11) Family-based treatment programs have proven results for serving the special populations of female offenders and substance abusers with children. An evaluation by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of family-based treatment for substance-abusing mothers and children found that 6 months after such treatment, 60 percent of the mothers remained alcohol and drug free, and drug-related offenses declined from 28 percent to 7 percent. Additionally, a 2003 evaluation of residential family-based treatment programs revealed that 60 percent of mothers remained clean and sober 6 months after treatment, criminal arrests declined by 43 percent, and 88 percent of the children treated in the program with their mothers remained stabilized.

(12) A Bureau of Justice Statistics analysis indicated that only 33 percent of Federal inmates and 36 percent of State inmates had participated in residential in-patient treatment programs for alcohol and drug abuse 12 months before their release. Further, over one-third of all jail inmates have some physical or mental disability and 25 percent of jail inmates have been treated at some time for a mental or emotional problem.

(13) State Substance Abuse Agency Directors, also known as Single State Authorities, manage the publicly funded substance abuse prevention and treatment system of the Nation. Single State Authorities are responsible for planning and implementing statewide systems of care that provide clinically appropriate substance abuse services. Given the high rate of substance use disorders among offenders reentering our communities, successful reentry programs require close interaction and collaboration with each Single State Authority as the program is planned, implemented, and evaluated.

(14) According to the National Institute of Literacy, 70 percent of all prisoners function at the lowest literacy levels.

(15) Less than 32 percent of State prison inmates have a high school diploma or a higher level of education, compared to 82 percent of the general population.

(16) Approximately 38 percent of inmates who completed 11 years or less of school were not working before entry into prison.

(17) The percentage of State prisoners participating in educational programs decreased by more than 8 percent between 1991 and 1997, despite growing evidence of how educational programming while incarcerated reduces recidivism.

(18) The National Institute of Justice has found that 1 year after release, up to 60 percent of former inmates are not employed.

(19) Transitional jobs programs have proven to help people with criminal records to successfully return to the workplace and to the community, and therefore can reduce recidivism.

SEC. 4. DEFINITION OF INDIAN TRIBE.

In this Act, the term ''Indian Tribe'' has the meaning given that term in section 901 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3791).

SEC. 5. SUBMISSION OF REPORTS TO CONGRESS.

Not later than January 31 of each year, the Attorney General shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives each report required by the Attorney General under this Act or an amendment made by this Act during the preceding year.

SEC. 6. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Nothing in this Act or an amendment made by this Act shall be construed as creating a right or entitlement to assistance or services for any individual, program, or grant recipient. Each grant made under this Act or an amendment made by this Act shall—

(1) be made as competitive grants to eligible entities for a 12-month period, except that grants awarded under section 113, 201, 211, and 212 may be made for a 24-month period; and

(2) require that services for participants, when necessary and appropriate, be transferred from programs funded under this Act or the amendment made by this Act, respectively, to State and community-based programs not funded under this Act or the amendment made by this Act, respectively, before the expiration of the grant.

TITLE I—AMENDMENTS RELATED TO THE OMNIBUS CRIME CONTROL AND SAFE STREETS ACT OF 1968

Subtitle A—Improvements to Existing Programs

SEC. 101. REAUTHORIZATION OF ADULT AND JUVENILE OFFENDER STATE AND LOCAL REENTRY DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS.

(a) ADULT AND JUVENILE OFFENDER DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS AUTHORIZED.—Section 2976(b) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w(b)) is amended by striking paragraphs (1) through (4) and inserting the following:

''(1) providing offenders in prisons, jails, or juvenile facilities with educational, literacy, vocational, and job placement services to facilitate re-entry into the community;

''(2) providing substance abuse treatment and services (including providing a full continuum of substance abuse treatment services that encompasses outpatient and comprehensive residential services and recovery);

''(3) providing coordinated supervision and comprehensive services for offenders upon release from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility, including housing and mental and physical health care to facilitate re-entry into the community, and which, to the extent applicable, are provided by community-based entities (including coordinated reentry veteran-specific services for eligible veterans);

''(4) providing programs that—

''(A) encourage offenders to develop safe, healthy, and responsible family relationships and parent-child relationships; and

''(B) involve the entire family unit in comprehensive reentry services (as appropriate to the safety, security, and well-being of the family and child);

''(5) encouraging the involvement of prison, jail, or juvenile facility mentors in the reentry process and enabling those mentors to remain in contact with offenders while in custody and after reentry into the community;

''(6) providing victim-appropriate services, encouraging the timely and complete payment of restitution and fines by offenders to victims, and providing services such as security and counseling to victims upon release of offenders; and

''(7) protecting communities against dangerous offenders by using validated assessment tools to assess the risk factors of returning inmates and developing or adopting procedures to ensure that dangerous felons are not released from prison prematurely.''.

(b) JUVENILE OFFENDER DEMONSTRATION PROJECTS REAUTHORIZED.—Section 2976(c) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w(c)) is amended by striking ''may be expended for'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting ''may be expended for any activity described in subsection (b).''.

(c) APPLICATIONS; REQUIREMENTS; PRIORITIES; PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS.—Section 2976 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (o); and

(2) by striking subsections (d) through (g) and inserting the following:

''(d) APPLICATIONS.—A State, unit of local government, territory, or Indian Tribe, or combination thereof, desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Attorney General that—

''(1) contains a reentry strategic plan, as described in subsection (h), which describes the long-term strategy and incorporates a detailed implementation schedule, including the plans of the applicant to pay for the program after the Federal funding is discontinued;

''(2) identifies the local government role and the role of governmental agencies and nonprofit organizations that will be coordinated by, and that will collaborate on, the offender reentry strategy of the applicant, and certifies the involvement of such agencies and organizations;

''(3) describes the evidence-based methodology and outcome measures that will be used to evaluate the program funded with a grant under this section, and specifically explains how such measurements will provide valid measures of the impact of that program; and

''(4) describes how the project could be broadly replicated if demonstrated to be effective.

''(e) REQUIREMENTS.—The Attorney General may make a grant to an applicant under this section only if the application—

''(1) reflects explicit support of the chief executive officer of the State, unit of local government, territory, or Indian Tribe applying for a grant under this section;

''(2) provides extensive discussion of the role of State corrections departments, community corrections agencies, juvenile justice systems, or local jail systems in ensuring successful reentry of offenders into their communities;

''(3) provides extensive evidence of collaboration with State and local government agencies overseeing health, housing, child welfare, education, substance abuse, victims services, and employment services, and with local law enforcement agencies;

''(4) provides a plan for analysis of the statutory, regulatory, rules-based, and practice-based hurdles to reintegration of offenders into the community; and

''(5) includes the use of a State, local, territorial, or Tribal task force, described in subsection (i), to carry out the activities funded under the grant.

''(f) PRIORITY CONSIDERATIONS.—The Attorney General shall give priority to grant applications under this section that best—

''(1) focus initiative on geographic areas with a disproportionate population of offenders released from prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities;

''(2) include—

''(A) input from nonprofit organizations, in any case where relevant input is available and appropriate to the grant application;

''(B) consultation with crime victims and offenders who are released from prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities; and

''(C) coordination with families of offenders;

''(3) demonstrate effective case assessment and management abilities in order to provide comprehensive and continuous reentry, including—

''(A) planning while offenders are in prison, jail, or a juvenile facility, prerelease transition housing, and community release;

''(B) establishing prerelease planning procedures to ensure that the eligibility of an offender for Federal or State benefits upon release is established prior to release, subject to any limitations in law, and to ensure that offenders obtain all necessary referrals for reentry services; and

''(C) delivery of continuous and appropriate drug treatment, medical care, job training and placement, educational services, or any other service or support needed for reentry;

''(4) review the process by which the applicant adjudicates violations of parole, probation, or supervision following release from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility, taking into account public safety and the use of graduated, community-based sanctions for minor and technical violations of parole, probation, or supervision (specifically those violations that are not otherwise, and independently, a violation of law);

''(5) provide for an independent evaluation of reentry programs that include, to the maximum extent possible, random assignment and controlled studies to determine the effectiveness of such programs; and

''(6) target high-risk offenders for reentry programs through validated assessment tools.

''(g) USES OF GRANT FUNDS.—

''(1) FEDERAL SHARE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the Federal share of a grant received under this section may not exceed 50 percent of the project funded under such grant in fiscal year 2009.

''(B) WAIVER.—Subparagraph (A) shall not apply if the Attorney General—

''(i) waives, in whole or in part, the requirement of this paragraph; and

''(ii) publishes in the Federal Register the rationale for such waiver.

''(C) IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (ii), the recipient of a grant under this section may meet the matching requirement under subparagraph (A) by making in-kind contributions of goods or services that are directly

related to the purpose for which such grant was awarded.

''(ii) MAXIMUM PERCENTAGE.—Not more than 50 percent of the amount provided by a recipient of a grant under this section to meet the matching requirement under subparagraph (A) may be provided through in-kind contributions under clause (i).

''(2) SUPPLEMENT NOT SUPPLANT.—Federal funds received under this section shall be used to supplement, not supplant, non-Federal funds that would otherwise be available for the activities funded under this section.

''(h) REENTRY STRATEGIC PLAN.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving financial assistance under this section, each applicant shall develop a comprehensive strategic reentry plan that contains measurable annual and 5-year performance outcomes, and that uses, to the maximum extent possible, random assigned and controlled studies to determine the effectiveness of the program funded with a grant under this section. One goal of that plan shall be to reduce the rate of recidivism (as defined by the Attorney General, consistent with the research on offender reentry undertaken by the Bureau of Justice Statistics) by 50 percent over a 5-year period for offenders released from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility who are served with funds made available under this section.

''(2) COORDINATION.—In developing a reentry plan under this subsection, an applicant shall coordinate with communities and stakeholders, including persons in the fields of public safety, juvenile and adult corrections, housing, health, education, substance abuse, children and families, victims services, employment, and business and members of nonprofit organizations that can provide reentry services.

''(3) MEASUREMENTS OF PROGRESS.—Each reentry plan developed under this subsection shall measure the progress of the applicant toward increasing public safety by reducing rates of recidivism and enabling released offenders to transition successfully back into their communities.

''(i) REENTRY TASK FORCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—As a condition of receiving financial assistance under this section, each applicant shall establish or empower a Reentry Task Force, or other relevant convening authority, to—

''(A) examine ways to pool resources and funding streams to promote lower recidivism rates for returning offenders and minimize the harmful effects of offenders' time in prison, jail, or a juvenile facility on families and communities of offenders by collecting data and best practices in offender reentry from demonstration grantees and other agencies and organizations; and

''(B) provide the analysis described in subsection (e)(4).

''(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The task force or other authority under this subsection shall be comprised of—

''(A) relevant State, Tribal, territorial, or local leaders; and

''(B) representatives of relevant—

''(i) agencies;

''(ii) service providers;

''(iii) nonprofit organizations; and

''(iv) stakeholders.

''(j) STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Each applicant shall identify in the reentry strategic plan developed under subsection (h), specific performance outcomes relating to the long-term goals of increasing public safety and reducing recidivism.

''(2) PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES.—The performance outcomes identified under paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to offenders released back into the community—

''(A) reduction in recidivism rates, which shall be reported in accordance with the measure selected by the Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics under section 234(c)(2) of the Second Chance Act of 2007;

''(B) reduction in crime;

''(C) increased employment and education opportunities;

''(D) reduction in violations of conditions of supervised release;

''(E) increased payment of child support;

''(F) increased housing opportunities;

''(G) reduction in drug and alcohol abuse; and

''(H) increased participation in substance abuse and mental health services.

''(3) OTHER OUTCOMES.—A grantee under this section may include in the reentry strategic plan developed under subsection (h) other performance outcomes that increase the success rates of offenders who transition from prison, jails, or juvenile facilities.

''(4) COORDINATION.—A grantee under this section shall coordinate with communities and stakeholders about the selection of performance outcomes identified by the applicant, and shall consult with the Attorney General for assistance with data collection and measurement activities as provided for in the grant application materials.

''(5) REPORT.—Each grantee under this section shall submit to the Attorney General an annual report that—

''(A) identifies the progress of the grantee toward achieving its strategic performance outcomes; and

''(B) describes other activities conducted by the grantee to increase the success rates of the reentry population, such as programs that foster effective risk management and treatment programming, offender accountability, and community and victim participation.

''(k) PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, in consultation with grantees under this section, shall—

''(A) identify primary and secondary sources of information to support the measurement of the performance indicators identified under this section;

''(B) identify sources and methods of data collection in support of performance measurement required under this section;

''(C) provide to all grantees technical assistance and training on performance measures and data collection for purposes of this section; and

''(D) consult with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration and the National Institute on Drug Abuse on strategic performance outcome measures and data collection for purposes of this section relating to substance abuse and mental health.

''(2) COORDINATION.—The Attorney General shall coordinate with other Federal agencies to identify national and other sources of information to support performance measurement of grantees.

''(3) STANDARDS FOR ANALYSIS.—Any statistical analysis of population data conducted pursuant to this section shall be conducted in accordance with the Federal Register Notice dated October 30, 1997, relating to classification standards.

''(l) FUTURE ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section in any fiscal year after the fiscal year in which a grantee receives a grant under this section, a grantee shall submit to the Attorney General such information as is necessary to demonstrate that—

''(1) the grantee has adopted a reentry plan that reflects input from nonprofit organizations, in any case where relevant input is available and appropriate to the grant application;

''(2) the reentry plan of the grantee includes performance measures to assess progress of the grantee toward a 10 percent reduction in the rate of recidivism over a 2-year period;

''(3) the grantee will coordinate with the Attorney General, nonprofit organizations (if relevant input from nonprofit organizations is available and appropriate), and other experts regarding the selection and implementation of the performance measures described in subsection (k); and

''(4) the grantee has made adequate progress, as determined by the Attorney General, toward reducing the rate of recidivism by 10 percent over a 2-year period.

''(m) NATIONAL ADULT AND JUVENILE OFFENDER REENTRY RESOURCE CENTER.—

''(1) AUTHORITY.—The Attorney General may, using amounts made available to carry out this subsection, make a grant to an eligible organization to provide for the establishment of a National Adult and Juvenile Offender Reentry Resource Center.

''(2) ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATION.—An organization eligible for the grant under paragraph (1) is any national nonprofit organization approved by the Interagency Task Force on Federal Programs and Activities Relating to the Reentry of Offenders Into the Community, that provides technical assistance and training to, and has special expertise and broad, national-level experience in, offender reentry programs, training, and research.

''(3) USE OF FUNDS.—The organization receiving a grant under paragraph (1) shall establish a National Adult and Juvenile Offender Reentry Resource Center to—

''(A) provide education, training, and technical assistance for States, tribes, territories, local governments, service providers, nonprofit organizations, and corrections institutions;

''(B) collect data and best practices in offender reentry from demonstration grantees and others agencies and organizations;

''(C) develop and disseminate evaluation tools, mechanisms, and measures to better assess and document coalition performance measures and outcomes;

''(D) disseminate information to States and other relevant entities about best practices, policy standards, and research findings;

''(E) develop and implement procedures to assist relevant authorities in determining when release is appropriate and in the use of data to inform the release decision;

''(F) develop and implement procedures to identify efficiently and effectively those violators of probation, parole, or supervision following release from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility who should be returned to prisons, jails, or juvenile facilities and those who should receive other penalties based on defined, graduated sanctions;

''(G) collaborate with the Interagency Task Force on Federal Programs and Activities Relating to the Reentry of Offenders Into the Community, and the Federal Resource Center for Children of Prisoners;

''(H) develop a national reentry research agenda; and

''(I) establish a database to enhance the availability of information that will assist offenders in areas including housing, employment, counseling, mentoring, medical and mental health services, substance abuse treatment, transportation, and daily living skills.

''(4) LIMIT.—Of amounts made available to carry out this section, not more than 4 percent of the authorized level shall be available to carry out this subsection.

''(n) ADMINISTRATION.—Of amounts made available to carry out this section—

''(1) not more than 2 percent of the authorized level shall be available for administrative expenses in carrying out this section; and

''(2) not more than 2 percent of the authorized level shall be made available to the National Institute of Justice to evaluate the effectiveness of the demonstration projects funded under this section, using a methodology that—

''(A) includes, to the maximum extent feasible, random assignment of offenders (or entities working with such persons) to program delivery and control groups; and

''(B) generates evidence on which reentry approaches and strategies are most effective.''.

(d) GRANT AUTHORIZATION.—Section 2976(a) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w(a)) is amended by striking ''States, Territories'' and all that follows through the period at the end and inserting the following: ''States, local governments, territories, or Indian Tribes, or any combination thereof, in partnership with stakeholders, service providers, and nonprofit organizations.''.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 2976(o) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w), as so redesignated by subsection (c) of this section, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''$15,000,000 for fiscal year 2003'' and all that follows and inserting ''$55,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.''; and

(2) by amending paragraph (2) to read as follows:

''(2) LIMITATION; EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—

''(A) LIMITATION.—Of the amount made available to carry out this section for any fiscal year, not more than 3 percent or less than 2 percent may be used for technical assistance and training.

''(B) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—The Attorney General shall ensure that grants awarded under this section are equitably distributed among the geographical regions and between urban and rural populations, including Indian Tribes, consistent with the objective of reducing recidivism among criminal offenders.''.

SEC. 102. IMPROVEMENT OF THE RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FOR STATE OFFENDERS PROGRAM.

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR AFTERCARE COMPONENT.—Section 1902(c) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796ff–1(c)), is amended—

(1) by striking the subsection heading and inserting ''REQUIREMENT FOR AFTERCARE COMPONENT''; and

(2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

''(1) To be eligible for funding under this part, a State shall ensure that individuals who participate in the substance abuse treatment program established or implemented with assistance provided under this part will be provided with aftercare services, which may include case management services and a full continuum of support services that ensure providers furnishing services under that program are approved by the appropriate State or local agency, and licensed, if necessary, to provide medical treatment or other health services.''.

(b) DEFINITION.—Section 1904(d) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796ff–3(d)) is amended to read as follows:

''(d) RESIDENTIAL SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT PROGRAM DEFINED.—In this part, the term 'residential substance abuse treatment program' means a course of comprehensive individual and group substance abuse treatment services, lasting a period of at least 6 months, in residential treatment facilities set apart from the general population of a prison or jail (which may include the use of pharmacological treatment, where appropriate, that may extend beyond such period).''.

(c) REQUIREMENT FOR STUDY AND REPORT ON AFTERCARE SERVICES.—The Attorney General, through the National Institute of Justice, and in consultation with the National Institute on Drug Abuse, shall conduct a study on the use and effectiveness of funds used by the Department of Justice for aftercare services under section 1902(c) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended by subsection (a) of this section, for offenders who reenter the community after completing a substance abuse program in prison or jail.

SEC. 103. DEFINITION OF VIOLENT OFFENDER FOR DRUG COURT GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITION.—Section 2953(a)(1) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797u–2(a)(1)) is amended by inserting ''that is punishable by a term of imprisonment exceeding one year'' after ''convicted of an offense''.

(b) PERIOD FOR COMPLIANCE.—Notwithstanding Section 2952(2) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797u–1(2)), each grantee under part EE of such Act shall have not more than 3 years from the date of the enactment of this Act to adopt the definition of ''violent offender'' under such part, as amended by subsection (a) of this section.

(c) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall revise any regulations or guidelines described in section 2952 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797u–1) in accordance with the amendments made by subsection (a). Such regulations shall specify that grant amounts under part EE of such Act shall be reduced for any drug court that does not adopt the definition of ''violent offender'' under such part, as amended by subsection (a) of this section, within 3 years after such date of enactment.

SEC. 104. USE OF VIOLENT OFFENDER TRUTH-IN-SENTENCING GRANT FUNDING FOR DEMONSTRATION PROJECT ACTIVITIES.

(a) PERMISSIBLE USES.—Section 20102(a) of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13702(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2) by striking ''and'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (3) by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) to carry out any activity referred to in section 2976(b) of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w(b)).''

(b) USE OF FUNDS APPROPRIATED.—Section 20108(b)(4) of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994 (42 U.S.C. 13708(b)(4)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''Funds obligated, but subsequently unspent and deobligated, may remain available, to the extent as may provided in appropriations Acts, for the purpose described in section 20102(a)(4) for any subsequent fiscal year. The further obligation of such funds by an official for such purpose shall not be delayed, directly or indirectly, in any manner by any officer or employee in the executive branch.''

Subtitle B—New and Innovative Programs To Improve Offender Reentry Services

SEC. 111. STATE, TRIBAL, AND LOCAL REENTRY COURTS.

Part FF of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3797w et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 2978. STATE, TRIBAL, AND LOCAL REENTRY COURTS.

''(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General may award grants, in accordance with this section, of not more than $500,000 to—

''(1) State, Tribal, and local courts; and

''(2) State agencies, municipalities, public agencies, nonprofit organizations, territories, and Indian Tribes that have agreements with courts to take the lead in establishing a reentry court (as described in section 2976(b)(19)).

''(b) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—Grant funds awarded under this section shall be administered in accordance with such guidelines, regulations, and procedures as promulgated by the Attorney General, and may be used to—

''(1) monitor juvenile and adult offenders reentering the community;

''(2) provide juvenile and adult offenders reentering the community with coordinated and comprehensive reentry services and programs such as—

''(A) drug and alcohol testing and assessment for treatment;

''(B) assessment for substance abuse from a substance abuse professional who is approved by the State or Indian Tribe and licensed by the appropriate entity to provide alcohol and drug addiction treatment, as appropriate;

''(C) substance abuse treatment from a provider that is approved by the State or Indian Tribe, and licensed, if necessary, to provide medical and other health services;

''(D) health (including mental health) services and assessment;

''(E) aftercare and case management services that—

''(i) facilitate access to clinical care and related health services; and

''(ii) coordinate with such clinical care and related health services; and

''(F) any other services needed for reentry;

''(3) convene community impact panels, victim impact panels, or victim impact educational classes;

''(4) provide and coordinate the delivery of community services to juvenile and adult offenders, including—

''(A) housing assistance;

''(B) education;

''(C) job training;

''(D) conflict resolution skills training;

''(E) batterer intervention programs; and

''(F) other appropriate social services; and

''(5) establish and implement graduated sanctions and incentives.

''(c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing a grantee that operates a drug court under part EE at the time a grant is awarded under this section from using funds from such grant to supplement such drug court in accordance with paragraphs (1) through (5) of subsection (b).

''(d) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant under this section, an entity described in subsection (a) shall, in addition to any other requirements required by the Attorney General, submit to the Attorney General an application that—

''(1) describes the program to be assisted under this section and the need for such program;

''(2) describes a long-term strategy and detailed implementation plan for such program, including how the entity plans to pay for the program after the Federal funding is discontinued;

''(3) identifies the governmental and community agencies that will be coordinated by the project;

''(4) certifies that—

''(A) all agencies affected by the program, including community corrections and parole entities, have been appropriately consulted in the development of the program;

''(B) there will be appropriate coordination with all such agencies in the implementation of the program; and

''(C) there will be appropriate coordination and consultation with the Single State Authority for Substance Abuse (as that term is defined in section 201(e) of the Second Chance Act of 2007) of the State; and

''(5) describes the methodology and outcome measures that will be used to evaluate the program.

''(e) MATCHING REQUIREMENTS.—The Federal share of a grant under this section may not exceed 75 percent of the costs of the project assisted by such grant unless the Attorney General—

''(1) waives, wholly or in part, the matching requirement under this subsection; and

''(2) publicly delineates the rationale for the waiver.

''(f) ANNUAL REPORT.—Each entity receiving a grant under this section shall submit to the Attorney General, for each fiscal year in which funds from the grant are expended, a report, at such time and in such manner as the Attorney General may reasonably require, that contains—

''(1) a summary of the activities carried out under the program assisted by the grant;

''(2) an assessment of whether the activities are meeting the need for the program identified in the application submitted under subsection (d); and

''(3) such other information as the Attorney General may require.

''(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010 to carry out this section.

''(2) LIMITATIONS; EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—

''(A) LIMITATIONS.—Of the amount made available to carry out this section in any fiscal year—

''(i) not more than 2 percent may be used by the Attorney General for salaries and administrative expenses; and

''(ii) not more than 5 percent nor less than 2 percent may be used for technical assistance and training.

''(B) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION.—The Attorney General shall ensure that grants awarded under this section are equitably distributed among the geographical regions and between urban and rural populations, including Indian Tribes, consistent with the objective of reducing recidivism among criminal offenders.''.

SEC. 112. PROSECUTION DRUG TREATMENT ALTERNATIVE TO PRISON PROGRAMS.

(a) AUTHORIZATION.—Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) is amended by inserting after part BB the following:

''PART CC—PROSECUTION DRUG TREATMENT ALTERNATIVE TO PRISON PROGRAM

''SEC. 2901. GRANT AUTHORITY.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General may make grants to State, Tribal, and local prosecutors to develop, implement, or expand qualified drug treatment programs that are alternatives to imprisonment, in accordance with this part.

''(b) QUALIFIED DRUG TREATMENT PROGRAMS DESCRIBED.—For purposes of this part, a qualified drug treatment program is a program—

''(1) that is administered by a State, Tribal, or local prosecutor;

''(2) that requires an eligible offender who is sentenced to participate in the program (instead of incarceration) to participate in a comprehensive substance abuse treatment program that is approved by the State or Indian Tribe and licensed, if necessary, to provide medical and other health services;

''(3) that requires an eligible offender to receive the consent of the State, Tribal, or local prosecutor involved to participate in such program;

''(4) that, in the case of an eligible offender who is sentenced to participate in the program, requires the offender to serve a sentence of imprisonment with respect to the crime involved if the prosecutor, in conjunction with the treatment provider, determines that the offender has not successfully completed the relevant substance abuse treatment program described in paragraph (2);

''(5) that provides for the dismissal of the criminal charges involved in an eligible offender's participation in the program if the offender is determined to have successfully completed the program;

''(6) that requires each substance abuse provider treating an eligible offender under the program to—

''(A) make periodic reports of the progress of the treatment of that offender to the State, Tribal, or local prosecutor involved and to the appropriate court in which the eligible offender was convicted; and

''(B) notify such prosecutor and such court if the eligible offender absconds from the facility of the treatment provider or otherwise violates the terms and conditions of the program, consistent with Federal and State confidentiality requirements; and

''(7) that has an enforcement unit comprised of law enforcement officers under the supervision of the State, Tribal, or local prosecutor involved, the duties of which shall include verifying an eligible offender's addresses and other contacts, and, if necessary, locating, apprehending, and arresting an eligible offender who has absconded from the facility of a substance abuse treatment provider or otherwise violated the terms and conditions of the program, consistent with Federal and State confidentiality requirements, and returning such eligible offender to court for sentencing for the crime involved.

''SEC. 2902. USE OF GRANT FUNDS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—A State, Tribal, or local prosecutor that receives a grant under this part shall use such grant for expenses of a qualified drug treatment program, including for the following expenses:

''(1) Salaries, personnel costs, equipment costs, and other costs directly related to the operation of the program, including the enforcement unit.

''(2) Payments for substance abuse treatment providers that are approved by the State or Indian Tribe and licensed, if necessary, to provide alcohol and drug addiction treatment to eligible offenders participating in the program, including aftercare supervision, vocational training, education, and job placement.

''(3) Payments to public and nonprofit private entities that are approved by the State or Indian Tribe and licensed, if necessary, to provide alcohol and drug addiction treatment to offenders participating in the program.

''(b) SUPPLEMENT AND NOT SUPPLANT.—Grants made under this part shall be used to supplement, and not supplant, non-Federal funds that would otherwise be available for programs described in this part.

''SEC. 2903. APPLICATIONS.

''To request a grant under this part, a State, Tribal, or local prosecutor shall submit an application to the Attorney General in such form and containing such information as the Attorney General may reasonably require. Each such application shall contain the certification by the State, Tribal, or local prosecutor that the program for which the grant is requested is a qualified drug treatment program, in accordance with this part.

''SEC. 2904. FEDERAL SHARE.

''The Federal share of a grant made under this part shall not exceed 75 percent of the total costs of the qualified drug treatment program funded by such grant for the fiscal year for which the program receives assistance under this part.

''SEC. 2905. GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION.

''The Attorney General shall ensure that, to the extent practicable, the distribution of grants under this part is equitable and includes State, Tribal, or local prosecutors—

''(1) in each State; and

''(2) in rural, suburban, Tribal, and urban jurisdictions.

''SEC. 2906. REPORTS AND EVALUATIONS.

''For each fiscal year, each recipient of a grant under this part during that fiscal year shall submit to the Attorney General a report with respect to the effectiveness of activities carried out using that grant. Each report shall include an evaluation in such form and containing such information as the Attorney General may reasonably require. The Attorney General shall specify the dates on which such reports shall be submitted.

''SEC. 2907. DEFINITIONS.

''In this part:

''(1) STATE OR LOCAL PROSECUTOR.—The term 'State, Tribal, or local prosecutor' means any district attorney, State attorney general, county attorney, tribal attorney, or corporation counsel who has authority to prosecute criminal offenses under State, Tribal, or local law.

''(2) ELIGIBLE OFFENDER.—The term 'eligible offender' means an individual who—

''(A) has been convicted, pled guilty, or admitted guilt with respect to a crime for which a sentence of imprisonment is required and has not completed such sentence;

''(B) has never been charged with or convicted of an offense, during the course of which—

''(i) the individual carried, possessed, or used a firearm or dangerous weapon; or

''(ii) there occurred the use of force against the person of another, without regard to whether any of the behavior described in clause (i) is an element of the offense or for which the person is charged or convicted;

''(C) does not have 1 or more prior convictions for a felony crime of violence involving the use or attempted use of force against a person with the intent to cause death or serious bodily harm; and

''(D)(i) has received an assessment for alcohol or drug addiction from a substance abuse professional who is approved by the State or Indian Tribe and licensed by the appropriate entity to provide alcohol and drug addiction treatment, as appropriate; and

''(ii) has been found to be in need of substance abuse treatment because that individual has a history of substance abuse that is a significant contributing factor to the criminal conduct of that individual.''.

(b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Section 1001(a) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3793(a)) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(26) There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out part CC $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.''.

SEC. 113. GRANTS FOR FAMILY-BASED SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT.

Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.) is amended by inserting after part CC, as added by this Act, the following:

"PART DD—GRANTS FOR FAMILY-BASED SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

"SEC. 2921. GRANTS AUTHORIZED.

''The Attorney General may make grants to States, units of local government, territories, and Indian Tribes to—

''(1) develop, implement, and expand comprehensive and clinically-appropriate family-based substance abuse treatment programs as alternatives to incarceration for nonviolent parent drug offenders; and

''(2) to provide prison-based family treatment programs for incarcerated parents of minor children.

"SEC. 2922. USE OF GRANT FUNDS.

''Grants made to an entity under section 2921 for a program described in such section may be used for—

''(1) the development, implementation, and expansion of prison-based family treatment programs in correctional facilities for incarcerated parents with minor children (except for any such parent who there is reasonable evidence to believe engaged in domestic violence or child abuse);

''(2) the development, implementation, and expansion of residential substance abuse treatment;

''(3) coordination between appropriate correctional facility representatives and the appropriate governmental agencies;

''(4) payments to public and nonprofit private entities to provide substance abuse treatment to nonviolent parent drug offenders participating in that program; and

''(5) salaries, personnel costs, facility costs, and other costs directly related to the operation of that program.

"SEC. 2923. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—A program for which a grant is made under section 2921(1) shall comply with the following requirements:

''(1) The program shall ensure that all providers of substance abuse treatment are approved by the State or Indian Tribe and are licensed, if necessary, to provide medical and other health services.

''(2) The program shall ensure appropriate coordination and consultation with the Single State Authority for Substance Abuse of the State (as that term is defined in section 201(e) of the Second Chance Act of 2007).

''(3) The program shall consist of clinically-appropriate, comprehensive, and long-term family treatment, including the treatment of the nonviolent parent drug offender, the child of such offender, and any other appropriate member of the family of the offender.

''(4) The program shall be provided in a residential setting that is not a hospital setting or an intensive outpatient setting.

''(5) The program shall provide that if a nonviolent parent drug offender who participates in that program does not successfully complete the program the offender shall serve an appropriate sentence of imprisonment with respect to the underlying crime involved.

''(6) The program shall ensure that a determination is made as to whether a nonviolent drug offender has completed the substance abuse treatment program.

''(7) The program shall include the implementation of a system of graduated sanctions (including incentives) that are applied based on the accountability of the nonviolent parent drug offender involved throughout the course of that program to encourage compliance with that program.

''(8) The program shall develop and implement a reentry plan for each participant.

''(b) PRISON-BASED PROGRAMS.—A program for which a grant is made under section 2921(2) shall comply with the following requirements:

''(1) The program shall integrate techniques to assess the strengths and needs of immediate and extended family of the incarcerated parent to support a treatment plan of the incarcerated parent.

''(2) The program shall ensure that each participant in that program has access to consistent and uninterrupted care if transferred to a different correctional facility within the State or other relevant entity.

''(3) The program shall be located in an area separate from the general population of the prison.

"SEC. 2924. APPLICATIONS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—An entity described in section 2921 desiring a grant under this part shall submit to the Attorney General an application in such form and manner and at such time as the Attorney General requires.

''(b) CONTENTS.—An application under subsection (a) shall include a description of the methods and measurements the applicant will use for purposes of evaluating the program involved.

"SEC. 2925. REPORTS.

''An entity that receives a grant under this part during a fiscal year shall submit to the Attorney General, not later than a date specified by the Attorney General, a report that describes and evaluates the effectiveness of that program during such fiscal year that—

''(1) is based on evidence-based data; and

''(2) uses the methods and measurements described in the application of that entity for purposes of evaluating that program.

"SEC. 2926. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this part $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

''(b) USE OF AMOUNTS.—Of the amount made available to carry out this part in any fiscal year, not less than 5 percent shall be used for grants to Indian Tribes.

"SEC. 2927. DEFINITIONS.

''In this part:

''(1) NONVIOLENT PARENT DRUG OFFENDER.—The term 'nonviolent parent drug offender' means an offender who is—

''(A) a parent of an individual under 18 years of age; and

''(B) convicted of a drug (or drug-related) felony that is a nonviolent offense.

''(2) NONVIOLENT OFFENSE.—The term 'nonviolent offense' has the meaning given that term in section 2991(a).

''(3) PRISON-BASED FAMILY TREATMENT PROGRAM.—The term 'prison-based family treatment program' means a program for incarcerated parents in a correctional facility that provides a comprehensive response to offender needs, including substance abuse treatment, child early intervention services, family counseling, legal services, medical care, mental health services, nursery and preschool, parenting skills training, pediatric care, physical therapy, prenatal care, sexual abuse therapy, relapse prevention, transportation, and vocational or GED training.''.

SEC. 114. GRANT TO EVALUATE AND IMPROVE EDUCATION AT PRISONS, JAILS, AND JUVENILE FACILITIES.

Title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3711 et seq.), is further amended—

(1) by redesignating part X as part KK; and

(2) by inserting after part II the following:

"PART JJ—GRANT PROGRAM TO EVALUATE AND IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL METHODS AT PRISONS, JAILS, AND JUVENILE FACILITIES

"SEC. 3001. GRANT PROGRAM TO EVALUATE AND IMPROVE EDUCATIONAL METHODS AT PRISONS, JAILS, AND JUVENILE FACILITIES.

''(a) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General may carry out a grant program under which the Attorney General may make grants to States, units of local government, territories, Indian Tribes, and other public and private entities to—

''(1) evaluate methods to improve academic and vocational education for offenders in prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities;

''(2) identify, and make recommendations to the Attorney General regarding, best practices relating to academic and vocational education for offenders in prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities, based on the evaluation under paragraph (1); and

''(3) improve the academic and vocational education programs (including technology career training) available to offenders in prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities.

''(b) APPLICATION.—To be eligible for a grant under this part, a State or other entity described in subsection (a) shall submit to the Attorney General an application in such form and manner, at such time, and accompanied by such information as the Attorney General specifies.

''(c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the last day of the final fiscal year of a grant under this part, each entity described in subsection (a) receiving such a grant shall submit to the Attorney General a detailed report of the progress made by the entity using such grant, to permit the Attorney General to evaluate and improve academic and vocational education methods carried out with grants under this part.

"SEC. 3002. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

''There are authorized to be appropriated $5,000,000 to carry out this part for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.''.

SEC. 115. TECHNOLOGY CAREERS TRAINING DEMONSTRATION GRANTS.

(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Attorney General shall make grants to States, units of local government, territories, and Indian Tribes to provide technology career training to prisoners.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under subsection (a) may be used for establishing a technology careers training program to train prisoners for technology-based jobs and careers during the 3-year period before release from prison, jail, or a juvenile facility.

(c) CONTROL OF INTERNET ACCESS.—An entity that receives a grant under subsection (a) shall restrict access to the Internet by prisoners, as appropriate, to ensure public safety.

(d) REPORTS.—Not later than the last day of each fiscal year, an entity that receives a grant under subsection (a) during the preceding fiscal year shall submit to the Attorney General a report that describes and assesses the uses of such grant during the preceding fiscal year.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $10,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

TITLE II—ENHANCED DRUG TREATMENT AND MENTORING GRANT PROGRAMS

Subtitle A—Drug Treatment

SEC. 201. OFFENDER REENTRY SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE COLLABORATION PROGRAM.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Attorney General may make competitive grants to States, units of local government, territories, and Indian Tribes, in accordance with this section, for the purposes of—

(1) improving the provision of drug treatment to offenders in prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities; and

(2) reducing the use of alcohol and other drugs by long-term substance abusers during the period in which each such long-term substance abuser is in prison, jail, or a juvenile

facility, and through the completion of parole or court supervision of such long-term substance abuser.

(b) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—A grant made under subsection (a) may be used—

(1) for continuing and improving drug treatment programs provided at a prison, jail, or juvenile facility;

(2) to develop and implement programs for supervised long-term substance abusers that include alcohol and drug abuse assessments, coordinated and continuous delivery of drug treatment, and case management services;

(3) to strengthen rehabilitation efforts for offenders by providing addiction recovery support services; and

(4) to establish pharmacological drug treatment services as part of any drug treatment program offered by a grantee to offenders who are in a prison or jail.

(c) APPLICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—An entity described in subsection (a) desiring a grant under that subsection shall submit to the Attorney General an application in such form and manner and at such time as the Attorney General requires.

(2) CONTENTS.—An application for a grant under subsection (a) shall—

(A) identify any agency, organization, or researcher that will be involved in administering a drug treatment program carried out with a grant under subsection (a);

(B) certify that such drug treatment program has been developed in consultation with the Single State Authority for Substance Abuse;

(C) certify that such drug treatment program shall—

(i) be clinically-appropriate; and

(ii) provide comprehensive treatment;

(D) describe how evidence-based strategies have been incorporated into such drug treatment program; and

(E) describe how data will be collected and analyzed to determine the effectiveness of such drug treatment program and describe how randomized trials will be used where practicable.

(d) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

(1) INTERIM REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2009, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report that identifies the best practices relating to—

(A) substance abuse treatment in prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities; and

(B) the comprehensive and coordinated treatment of long-term substance abusers, including the best practices identified through the activities funded under subsection (b)(3).

(2) FINAL REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2010, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report on the drug treatment programs funded under this section, including on the matters specified in paragraph (1).

(e) DEFINITION OF SINGLE STATE AUTHORITY FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE.—The term ''Single State Authority for Substance Abuse'' means an entity designated by the Governor or chief executive officer of a State as the single State administrative authority responsible for the planning, development, implementation, monitoring, regulation, and evaluation of substance abuse services.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

(2) EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—Of the amount made available to carry out this section in any fiscal year, the Attorney General shall ensure that grants awarded under this section are equitably distributed among geographical regions and between urban and rural populations, including Indian Tribes, consistent with the objective of reducing recidivism among criminal offenders.

Subtitle B—Mentoring

SEC. 211. MENTORING GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Attorney General shall make grants to nonprofit organizations and Indian Tribes for the purpose of providing mentoring and other transitional services essential to reintegrating offenders into the community.

(b) USE OF FUNDS.—A grant awarded under subsection (a) may be used for—

(1) mentoring adult and juvenile offenders during incarceration, through transition back to the community, and post-release;

(2) transitional services to assist in the reintegration of offenders into the community; and

(3) training regarding offender and victims issues.

(c) APPLICATION; PRIORITY CONSIDERATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a nonprofit organization or Indian Tribe shall submit an application to the Attorney General at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Attorney General may require.

(2) PRIORITY CONSIDERATION.—Priority consideration shall be given to any application under this section that—

(A) includes a plan to implement activities that have been demonstrated effective in facilitating the successful reentry of offenders; and

(B) provides for an independent evaluation that includes, to the maximum extent feasible, random assignment of offenders to program delivery and control groups.

(d) STRATEGIC PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES.—The Attorney General shall require each applicant under this section to identify specific performance outcomes related to the long-term goal of stabilizing communities by reducing recidivism (using a measure that is consistent with the research undertaken by the Bureau of Justice Statistics under section 241(b)(6)), and reintegrating offenders into the community.

(e) REPORTS.—An entity that receives a grant under subsection (a) during a fiscal year shall, not later than the last day of the following fiscal year, submit to the Attorney General a report that describes and assesses the uses of that grant during that fiscal year and that identifies the progress of the grantee toward achieving its strategic performance outcomes.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General to carry out this section $15,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

SEC. 212. RESPONSIBLE REINTEGRATION OF OFFENDERS.

(a) ELIGIBLE OFFENDERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In this section, the term ''eligible offender'' means an individual who—

(A) is 18 years of age or older;

(B) has been convicted as an adult and imprisoned under Federal or State law;

(C) has never been convicted of a violent or sex-related offense; and

(D) except as provided in paragraph (2), has been released from a prison or jail for not more than 180 days before the date on which the individual begins participating in a grant program carried out under this section.

(2) EXCEPTION.—Each grantee under this section may permit not more than 10 percent of the individuals served with a grant under this section to be individuals who—

(A) meet the conditions of subparagraphs (A) through (C) of paragraph (1); and

(B) have been released from a prison or jail for more than 180 days before the date on which the individuals begin participating in the grant program carried out under this section.

(3) PRIORITY OF SERVICE.—Grantees shall provide a priority of service in projects funded under this section to individuals meeting the requirements of paragraph (1) who have been released from State correctional facilities.

(b) AUTHORITY TO MAKE GRANTS.—The Secretary of Labor may make grants to nonprofit organizations for the purpose of providing mentoring, job training and job placement services, and other comprehensive transitional services to assist eligible offenders in obtaining and retaining employment.

(c) USE OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A grant awarded under this section may be used for—

(A) mentoring eligible offenders, including the provision of support, guidance, and assistance in the community and the workplace to address the challenges faced by such offenders;

(B) providing job training and job placement services to eligible offenders, including work readiness activities, job referrals, basic skills remediation, educational services, occupational skills training, on-the-job training, work experience, and post-placement support, in coordination with the one-stop partners and one-stop operators (as such terms are defined in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801)) that provide services at any center operated under a one-stop delivery system established under section 134(c) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(c)), businesses, and educational institutions; and

(C) providing outreach, orientation, intake, assessments, counseling, case management, and other transitional services to eligible offenders, including prerelease outreach and orientation.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—

(A) CERTAIN SERVICES EXCLUDED.—A grant under this section may not be used to provide substance abuse treatment services, mental health treatment services, or housing services, except that such a grant may be used to coordinate with other programs and entities to arrange for such programs and entities to provide substance abuse treatment services, mental health treatment services, or housing services to eligible offenders.—

(B) ADMINISTRATIVE COST LIMIT.—Not more than 15 percent of the amounts awarded to a grantee under this section may be used for the costs of administration, as determined by the Secretary of Labor.

(d) APPLICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—

(A) APPLICATION REQUIRED.—A nonprofit organization desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary of Labor at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary of Labor may require.

(B) CONTENTS.—At a minimum, an application for a grant under this section shall include—

(i) the identification of the eligible area that is to be served and a description of the need for support in such area;

(ii) a description of the mentoring, job training and job placement, and other services to be provided;

(iii) a description of partnerships that have been established with the criminal justice system (including coordination with demonstration projects carried out under section 2976 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968, as amended by this Act,

where applicable), the local workforce investment boards established under section 117 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2832)), and housing authorities that will be used to assist in carrying out grant activities under this section; and

(iv) a description of how other Federal, State, local, or private funding will be leveraged to provide support services that are not directly funded under this section, such as mental health and substance abuse treatment and housing.

(2) ELIGIBLE AREA.—In this subsection, the term ''eligible area'' means an area that—

(A) is located within an urbanized area or urban cluster, as determined by the Bureau of the Census in the most recently available census;

(B) has a large number of prisoners returning to the area each year; and

(C) has a high rate of recidivism among prisoners returning to the area.

(e) PERFORMANCE OUTCOMES.—

(1) CORE INDICATORS.—Each nonprofit organization receiving a grant under this section shall report to the Secretary of Labor on the results of services provided to eligible offenders with that grant with respect to the following indicators of performance:

(A) Rates of recidivism.

(B) Entry into employment.

(C) Retention in employment.

(D) Average earnings.

(2) ADDITIONAL INDICATORS.—In addition to the indicators described in paragraph (1), the Secretary of Labor may require a nonprofit organization receiving a grant under this section to report on additional indicators of performance.

(f) REPORTS.—Each nonprofit organization receiving a grant under this section shall maintain such records and submit such reports, in such form and containing such information, as the Secretary of Labor may require regarding the activities carried out under this section.

(g) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—The Secretary of Labor may reserve not more than 4 percent of the amounts appropriated to carry out this section to provide technical assistance and for management information systems to assist grantees under this section.

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Labor to carry out this section $20,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

SEC. 213. BUREAU OF PRISONS POLICY ON MENTORING CONTACTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall, in order to promote stability and continued assistance to offenders after release from prison, adopt and implement a policy to ensure that any person who provides mentoring services to an incarcerated offender is permitted to continue such services after that offender is released from prison. That policy shall permit the continuation of mentoring services unless the Director demonstrates that such services would be a significant security risk to the released offender, incarcerated offenders, persons who provide such services, or any other person.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than September 30, 2009, the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall submit to Congress a report on the extent to which the policy described in subsection (a) has been implemented and followed.

SEC. 214. BUREAU OF PRISONS POLICY ON CHAPEL LIBRARY MATERIALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall discontinue the Standardized Chapel Library project, or any other project by whatever designation that seeks to compile, list, or otherwise restrict prisoners' access to reading materials, audiotapes, videotapes, or any other materials made available in a chapel library, except that the Bureau of Prisons may restrict access to—

(1) any materials in a chapel library that seek to incite, promote, or otherwise suggest the commission of violence or criminal activity; and

(2) any other materials prohibited by any other law or regulation.

(b) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to impact policies of the Bureau of Prisons related to access by specific prisoners to materials for security, safety, sanitation, or disciplinary reasons.

Subtitle C—Administration of Justice Reforms

CHAPTER 1—IMPROVING FEDERAL OFFENDER REENTRY

SEC. 231. FEDERAL PRISONER REENTRY INITIATIVE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, in coordination with the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, shall, subject to the availability of appropriations, conduct the following activities to establish a Federal prisoner reentry initiative:

(1) The establishment of a Federal prisoner reentry strategy to help prepare prisoners for release and successful reintegration into the community, including, at a minimum, that the Bureau of Prisons:

(A) assess each prisoner's skill level (including academic, vocational, health, cognitive, interpersonal, daily living, and related reentry skills) at the beginning of the term of imprisonment of that prisoner to identify any areas in need of improvement prior to reentry;

(B) generate a skills development plan for each prisoner to monitor skills enhancement and reentry readiness throughout incarceration;

(C) determine program assignments for prisoners based on the areas of need identified through the assessment described in subparagraph (A);

(D) ensure that priority is given to the reentry needs of high-risk populations, such as sex offenders, career criminals, and prisoners with mental health problems;

(E) coordinate and collaborate with other Federal agencies and with State, Tribal, and local criminal justice agencies, community-based organizations, and faith-based organizations to help effectuate a seamless reintegration of prisoners into communities;

(F) collect information about a prisoner's family relationships, parental responsibilities, and contacts with children to help prisoners maintain important familial relationships and support systems during incarceration and after release from custody; and

(G) provide incentives for prisoner participation in skills development programs.

(2) Incentives for a prisoner who participates in reentry and skills development programs which may, at the discretion of the Director, include—

(A) the maximum allowable period in a community confinement facility; and

(B) such other incentives as the Director considers appropriate (not including a reduction of the term of imprisonment).

(b) IDENTIFICATION AND RELEASE ASSISTANCE FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS.—

(1) OBTAINING IDENTIFICATION.—The Director shall assist prisoners in obtaining identification (including a social security card, driver's license or other official photo identification, or birth certificate) prior to release.

(2) ASSISTANCE DEVELOPING RELEASE PLAN.—At the request of a direct-release prisoner, a representative of the United States Probation System shall, prior to the release of that prisoner, help that prisoner develop a release plan.

(3) DIRECT-RELEASE PRISONER DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''direct-release prisoner'' means a prisoner who is scheduled for release and will not be placed in prerelease custody.

(c) IMPROVED REENTRY PROCEDURES FOR FEDERAL PRISONERS.—The Attorney General shall take such steps as are necessary to modify the procedures and policies of the Department of Justice with respect to the transition of offenders from the custody of the Bureau of Prisons to the community—

(1) to enhance case planning and implementation of reentry programs, policies, and guidelines;

(2) to improve such transition to the community, including placement of such individuals in community corrections facilities; and

(3) to foster the development of collaborative partnerships with stakeholders at the national, State, and local levels to facilitate the exchange of information and the development of resources to enhance opportunities for successful offender reentry.

(d) DUTIES OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS.—

(1) DUTIES OF THE BUREAU OF PRISONS EXPANDED.—Section 4042(a) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(A) in paragraph (4), by striking ''and'' at the end;

(B) in paragraph (5), by striking the period and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) establish prerelease planning procedures that help prisoners—

''(i) apply for Federal and State benefits upon release (including Social Security Cards, Social Security benefits, and veterans' benefits); and

''(ii) secure such identification and benefits prior to release, subject to any limitations in law; and

''(E) establish reentry planning procedures that include providing Federal prisoners with information in the following areas:

''(i) Health and nutrition.

''(ii) Employment.

''(iii) Literacy and education.

''(iv) Personal finance and consumer skills.

''(v) Community resources.

''(vi) Personal growth and development.

''(vii) Release requirements and procedures.''.

(2) MEASURING THE REMOVAL OF OBSTACLES TO REENTRY.—

(A) CODING REQUIRED.—The Director shall ensure that each institution within the Bureau of Prisons codes the reentry needs and deficits of prisoners, as identified by an assessment tool that is used to produce an individualized skills development plan for each inmate.

(B) TRACKING.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Director shall quantitatively track the progress in responding to the reentry needs and deficits of individual inmates.

(C) ANNUAL REPORT.—On an annual basis, the Director shall prepare and submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report that documents the progress of the Bureau of Prisons in responding to the reentry needs and deficits of inmates.

(D) EVALUATION.—The Director shall ensure that—

(i) the performance of each institution within the Bureau of Prisons in enhancing skills and resources to assist in reentry is measured and evaluated using recognized measurements; and

(ii) plans for corrective action are developed and implemented as necessary.

(3) MEASURING AND IMPROVING RECIDIVISM OUTCOMES.—

(A) ANNUAL REPORT REQUIRED.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—At the end of each fiscal year, the Director shall submit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report containing statistics demonstrating the relative reduction in recidivism for inmates released by the Bureau of Prisons within that fiscal year and the 2 prior fiscal years, comparing inmates who participated in major inmate programs (including residential drug treatment, vocational training, and prison industries) with inmates who did not participate in such programs. Such statistics shall be compiled separately for each such fiscal year.

(ii) SCOPE.—A report under this paragraph is not required to include statistics for a fiscal year that begins before the date of the enactment of this Act.

(B) MEASURE USED.—In preparing the reports required by subparagraph (A), the Director shall, in consultation with the Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics, select a measure for recidivism (such as rearrest, reincarceration, or any other valid, evidence-based measure) that the Director considers appropriate and that is consistent with the research undertaken by the Bureau of Justice Statistics under section 241(b)(6).

(C) GOALS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—After the Director submits the first report required by subparagraph (A), the Director shall establish goals for reductions in recidivism rates and shall work to attain those goals.

(ii) CONTENTS.—The goals established under clause (i) shall use the relative reductions in recidivism measured for the fiscal year covered by the first report required by subparagraph (A) as a baseline rate, and shall include—

(I) a 5-year goal to increase, at a minimum, the baseline relative reduction rate of recidivism by 2 percent; and

(II) a 10-year goal to increase, at a minimum, the baseline relative reduction rate of recidivism by 5 percent within 10 fiscal years.

(4) FORMAT.—Any written information that the Bureau of Prisons provides to inmates for reentry planning purposes shall use common terminology and language.

(5) MEDICAL CARE.—The Bureau of Prisons shall provide the United States Probation and Pretrial Services System with relevant information on the medical care needs and the mental health treatment needs of inmates scheduled for release from custody. The United States Probation and Pretrial Services System shall take this information into account when developing supervision plans in an effort to address the medical care and mental health care needs of such individuals. The Bureau of Prisons shall provide inmates with a sufficient amount of all necessary medications (which will normally consist of, at a minimum, a 2-week supply of such medications) upon release from custody.

(e) ENCOURAGEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT OF FORMER PRISONERS.—The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Labor, shall take such steps as are necessary to educate employers and the one-stop partners and one-stop operators (as such terms are defined in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801)) that provide services at any center operated under a one-stop delivery system established under section 134(c) of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2864(c)) regarding incentives (including the Federal bonding program of the Department of Labor and tax credits) for hiring former Federal, State, or local prisoners.

(f) MEDICAL CARE FOR PRISONERS.—Section 3621 of title 18, United States Code, is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(g) CONTINUED ACCESS TO MEDICAL CARE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to ensure a minimum standard of health and habitability, the Bureau of Prisons should ensure that each prisoner in a community confinement facility has access to necessary medical care, mental health care, and medicine through partnerships with local health service providers and transition planning.

''(2) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term 'community confinement' has the meaning given that term in the application notes under section 5F1.1 of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines Manual, as in effect on the date of the enactment of the Second Chance Act of 2007.''.

(g) ELDERLY AND FAMILY REUNIFICATION FOR CERTAIN NONVIOLENT OFFENDERS PILOT PROGRAM.—

(1) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall conduct a pilot program to determine the effectiveness of removing eligible elderly offenders from a Bureau of Prisons facility and placing such offenders on home detention until the expiration of the prison term to which the offender was sentenced.

(B) PLACEMENT IN HOME DETENTION.—In carrying out a pilot program as described in subparagraph (A), the Attorney General may release some or all eligible elderly offenders from the Bureau of Prisons facility to home detention.

(2) VIOLATION OF TERMS OF HOME DETENTION.—A violation by an eligible elderly offender of the terms of home detention (including the commission of another Federal, State, or local crime) shall result in the removal of that offender from home detention and the return of that offender to the designated Bureau of Prisons institution in which that offender was imprisoned immediately before placement on home detention under paragraph (1), or to another appropriate Bureau of Prisons institution, as determined by the Bureau of Prisons.

(3) SCOPE OF PILOT PROGRAM.—A pilot program under paragraph (1) shall be conducted through a Bureau of Prisons facility designated by the Attorney General as appropriate for the pilot program and shall be carried out during fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

(4) IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION.—The Attorney General shall monitor and evaluate each eligible elderly offender placed on home detention under this section, and shall report to Congress concerning the experience with the program at the end of the period described in paragraph (3). The Administrative Office of the United States Courts and the United States probation offices shall provide such assistance and carry out such functions as the Attorney General may request in monitoring, supervising, providing services to, and evaluating eligible elderly offenders released to home detention under this section.

(5) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(A) ELIGIBLE ELDERLY OFFENDER.—The term ''eligible elderly offender'' means an offender in the custody of the Bureau of Prisons who—

(i) is not less than 65 years of age;

(ii) is serving a term of imprisonment that is not life imprisonment based on conviction for an offense or offenses that do not include any crime of violence (as defined in section 16 of title 18, United States Code), sex offense (as defined in section 111(5) of the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act), offense described in section 2332b(g)(5)(B) of title 18, United States Code, or offense under chapter 37 of title 18, United States Code, and has served the greater of 10 years or 75 percent of the term of imprisonment to which the offender was sentenced;

(iii) has not been convicted in the past of any Federal or State crime of violence, sex offense, or other offense described in clause (ii);

(iv) has not been determined by the Bureau of Prisons, on the basis of information the Bureau uses to make custody classifications, and in the sole discretion of the Bureau, to have a history of violence, or of engaging in conduct constituting a sex offense or other offense described in clause (ii);

(v) has not escaped, or attempted to escape, from a Bureau of Prisons institution;

(vi) satisfies the requirements for seeking a reduction of the term of imprisonment under section 3582(c)(1)(A)(i) of title 18, United States Code, as set forth in regulations issued by the Attorney General or the Director of the Bureau of Prisons;

(vii) has been determined by the Bureau of Prisons to be a person whose release to home detention under this section will result in a substantial net reduction of costs to the Federal Government; and

(viii) has been determined by the Bureau of Prisons to be at no substantial risk of engaging in criminal conduct or of endangering any person or the public if released to home detention.

(B) HOME DETENTION.—The term ''home detention'' has the same meaning given the term in the Federal Sentencing Guidelines as of the date of the enactment of this Act, and includes detention in a nursing home or other residential long-term care facility.

(C) TERM OF IMPRISONMENT.—The term ''term of imprisonment'' includes multiple terms of imprisonment ordered to run consecutively or concurrently, which shall be treated as a single, aggregate term of imprisonment for purposes of this section.

(h) FEDERAL REMOTE SATELLITE TRACKING AND REENTRY TRAINING PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—The Director of the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, in consultation with the Attorney General, may establish the Federal Remote Satellite Tracking and Reentry Training (ReStart) program to promote the effective reentry into the community of high risk individuals.

(2) HIGH RISK INDIVIDUALS.—For purposes of this section, the term ''high risk individual'' means—

(A) an individual who is under supervised release, with respect to a Federal offense, and who has previously violated the terms of a release granted such individual following a term of imprisonment; or

(B) an individual convicted of a Federal offense who is at a high risk for recidivism, as determined by the Director of the Bureau of Prisons, and who is eligible for early release pursuant to voluntary participation in a program of residential substance abuse treatment under section 3621(e) of title 18, United States Code, or a program described in section 231.

(3) PROGRAM ELEMENTS.—The program authorized under paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to high risk individuals participating in such program, the following core elements:

(A) A system of graduated levels of supervision, that uses, as appropriate and indicated—

(i) satellite tracking, global positioning, remote satellite, and other tracking or monitoring technologies to monitor and supervise such individuals in the community; and

(ii) community corrections facilities and home confinement.

(B) Substance abuse treatment and aftercare related to such treatment, mental and medical health treatment and aftercare related to such treatment, vocational and

educational training, life skills instruction, conflict resolution skills training, batterer intervention programs, and other programs to promote effective reentry into the community as appropriate.

(C) Involvement of the family of such an individual, a victim advocate, and the victim of the offense committed by such an individual, if such involvement is safe for such victim (especially in a domestic violence case).

(D) A methodology, including outcome measures, to evaluate the program.

(E) Notification to the victim of the offense committed by such an individuals of the status and nature of such an individual's reentry plan.

(i) AUTHORIZATION FOR APPROPRIATIONS FOR BUREAU OF PRISONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General to carry out this section, $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

SEC. 232. BUREAU OF PRISONS POLICY ON RESTRAINING OF FEMALE PRISONERS.

Not later than one year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report on the practices and policies of agencies within the Department of Justice relating to the use of physical restraints on pregnant female prisoners during pregnancy, labor, delivery of a child, or post-delivery recuperation, including the number of instances occurring after the date of enactment of this Act in which physical restraints are used on such prisoners, the reasons for the use of the physical restraints, the length of time that the physical restraints were used, and the security concerns that justified the use of the physical restraints.

CHAPTER 2—REENTRY RESEARCH

SEC. 241. OFFENDER REENTRY RESEARCH.

(a) NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE.—The National Institute of Justice may conduct research on juvenile and adult offender reentry, including—

(1) a study identifying the number and characteristics of minor children who have had a parent incarcerated, and the likelihood of such minor children becoming adversely involved in the criminal justice system some time in their lifetime;

(2) a study identifying a mechanism to compare rates of recidivism (including rearrest, violations of parole, probation, post-incarceration supervision, and reincarceration) among States; and

(3) a study on the population of offenders released from custody who do not engage in recidivism and the characteristics (housing, employment, treatment, family connection) of that population.

(b) BUREAU OF JUSTICE STATISTICS.—The Bureau of Justice Statistics may conduct research on offender reentry, including—

(1) an analysis of special populations (including prisoners with mental illness or substance abuse disorders, female offenders, juvenile offenders, offenders with limited English proficiency, and the elderly) that present unique reentry challenges;

(2) studies to determine which offenders are returning to prison, jail, or a juvenile facility and which of those returning offenders represent the greatest risk to victims and community safety;

(3) annual reports on the demographic characteristics of the population reentering society from prisons, jails, and juvenile facilities;

(4) a national recidivism study every 3 years;

(5) a study of parole, probation, or post-incarceration supervision violations and revocations; and

(6) a study concerning the most appropriate measure to be used when reporting recidivism rates (whether rearrest, reincarceration, or any other valid, evidence-based measure).

SEC. 242. GRANTS TO STUDY PAROLE OR POST-INCARCERATION SUPERVISION VIOLATIONS AND REVOCATIONS.

(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Attorney General may make grants to States to study and to improve the collection of data with respect to individuals whose parole or post-incarceration supervision is revoked, and which such individuals represent the greatest risk to victims and community safety.

(b) APPLICATION.—As a condition of receiving a grant under this section, a State shall—

(1) certify that the State has, or intends to establish, a program that collects comprehensive and reliable data with respect to individuals described in subsection (a), including data on—

(A) the number and type of parole or post-incarceration supervision violations that occur with the State;

(B) the reasons for parole or post-incarceration supervision revocation;

(C) the underlying behavior that led to the revocation; and

(D) the term of imprisonment or other penalty that is imposed for the violation; and

(2) provide the data described in paragraph (1) to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, in a form prescribed by the Bureau.

(c) ANALYSIS.—Any statistical analysis of population data under this section shall be conducted in accordance with the Federal Register Notice dated October 30, 1997, relating to classification standards.

SEC. 243. ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF CHILDREN OF INCARCERATED PARENTS.

(a) BEST PRACTICES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Attorney General may collect data and develop best practices of State corrections departments and child protection agencies relating to the communication and coordination between such State departments and agencies to ensure the safety and support of children of incarcerated parents (including those in foster care and kinship care), and the support of parent-child relationships between incarcerated (and formerly incarcerated) parents and their children, as appropriate to the health and well-being of the children.

(2) CONTENTS.—The best practices developed under paragraph (1) shall include information related to policies, procedures, and programs that may be used by States to address—

(A) maintenance of the parent-child bond during incarceration;

(B) parental self-improvement; and

(C) parental involvement in planning for the future and well-being of their children.

(b) DISSEMINATION TO STATES.—Not later than 1 year after the development of best practices described in subsection (a), the Attorney General shall disseminate to States and other relevant entities such best practices.

(c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that States and other relevant entities should use the best practices developed and disseminated in accordance with this section to evaluate and improve the communication and coordination between State corrections departments and child protection agencies to ensure the safety and support of children of incarcerated parents (including those in foster care and kinship care), and the support of parent-child relationships between incarcerated (and formerly incarcerated) parents and their children, as appropriate to the health and well-being of the children.

SEC. 244. STUDY OF EFFECTIVENESS OF DEPOT NALTREXONE FOR HEROIN ADDICTION.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—From amounts made available to carry out this section, the Attorney General, through the National Institute of Justice, and in consultation with the National Institute on Drug Abuse, may make grants to public and private research entities (including consortia, single private research entities, and individual institutions of higher education) to evaluate the effectiveness of depot naltrexone for the treatment of heroin addiction.

(b) EVALUATION PROGRAM.—An entity described in subsection (a) desiring a grant under this section shall submit to the Attorney General an application that—

(1) contains such information as the Attorney General specifies, including information that demonstrates that—

(A) the applicant conducts research at a private or public institution of higher education, as that term is defined in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1101);

(B) the applicant has a plan to work with parole officers or probation officers for offenders who are under court supervision; and

(C) the evaluation described in subsection (a) will measure the effectiveness of such treatments using randomized trials; and

(2) is in such form and manner and at such time as the Attorney General specifies.

(c) REPORTS.—An entity that receives a grant under subsection (a) during a fiscal year shall, not later than the last day of the following fiscal year, submit to the Attorney General a report that describes and assesses the uses of that grant.

SEC. 245. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR RESEARCH.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General to carry out sections 241, 242, 243, and 244 of this chapter, $10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2009 and 2010.

CHAPTER 3—CORRECTIONAL REFORMS TO EXISTING LAW

SEC. 251. CLARIFICATION OF AUTHORITY TO PLACE PRISONER IN COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS.

(a) PRERELEASE CUSTODY.—Section 3624(c) of title 18, United States Code, is amended to read as follows:

''(c) PRERELEASE CUSTODY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall, to the extent practicable, ensure that a prisoner serving a term of imprisonment spends a portion of the final months of that term (not to exceed 12 months), under conditions that will afford that prisoner a reasonable opportunity to adjust to and prepare for the reentry of that prisoner into the community. Such conditions may include a community correctional facility.

''(2) HOME CONFINEMENT AUTHORITY.—The authority under this subsection may be used to place a prisoner in home confinement for the shorter of 10 percent of the term of imprisonment of that prisoner or 6 months.

''(3) ASSISTANCE.—The United States Probation System shall, to the extent practicable, offer assistance to a prisoner during prerelease custody under this subsection.

''(4) NO LIMITATIONS.—Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to limit or restrict the authority of the Director of the Bureau of Prisons under section 3621.

''(5) REPORTING.—Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the Second Chance Act of 2007 (and every year thereafter), the Director of the Bureau of Prisons shall transmit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on

the Judiciary of the House of Representatives a report describing the Bureau's utilization of community corrections facilities. Each report under this paragraph shall set forth the number and percentage of Federal prisoners placed in community corrections facilities during the preceding year, the average length of such placements, trends in such utilization, the reasons some prisoners are not placed in community corrections facilities, and any other information that may be useful to the committees in determining if the Bureau is utilizing community corrections facilities in an effective manner.

''(6) ISSUANCE OF REGULATIONS.—The Director of Bureau of Prisons shall issue regulations pursuant to this subsection not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of the Second Chance Act of 2007, which shall ensure that placement in a community correctional facility by the Bureau of Prisons is—

''(A) conducted in a manner consistent with section 3621(b) of this title;

''(B) determined on an individual basis; and

''(C) of sufficient duration to provide the greatest likelihood of successful reintegration into the community.''.

(b) COURTS MAY NOT REQUIRE A SENTENCE OF IMPRISONMENT TO BE SERVED IN A COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS FACILITY.—Section 3621(b) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following: ''Any order, recommendation, or request by a sentencing court that a convicted person serve a term of imprisonment in a community corrections facility shall have no binding effect on the authority of the Bureau under this section to determine or change the place of imprisonment of that person.''.

SEC. 252. RESIDENTIAL DRUG ABUSE PROGRAM IN FEDERAL PRISONS.

Section 3621(e)(5)(A) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''means a course of'' and all that follows and inserting the following: ''means a course of individual and group activities and treatment, lasting at least 6 months, in residential treatment facilities set apart from the general prison population (which may include the use of pharmocotherapies, where appropriate, that may extend beyond the 6-month period);''.

SEC. 253. CONTRACTING FOR SERVICES FOR POST-CONVICTION SUPERVISION OFFENDERS.

Section 3672 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting after the third sentence in the seventh undesignated paragraph the following: ''He also shall have the authority to contract with any appropriate public or private agency or person to monitor and provide services to any offender in the community authorized by this Act, including treatment, equipment and emergency housing, corrective and preventative guidance and training, and other rehabilitative services designed to protect the public and promote the successful reentry of the offender into the community.''.

CHAPTER 4—MISCELLANUOUS PROVISIONS

SEC. 261. EXTENSION OF NATIONAL PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION COMMISSION.

Section 7(d)(3)(A) of the Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (42 U.S.C. 15606(d)(3)(A)) is amended by striking ''3 years'' and inserting ''5 years''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) each will control 20 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask to manage the time on behalf of the opposition since I am opposed to the bill in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) opposed to the motion?

Mr. GOODLATTE. Not in its current form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XV, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) will control 20 minutes in opposition.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration and on H.R. 3461.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Members of the House, as the prison population has grown over the past two decades, so has the number of prisoners completing their sentencing and returning to the general population. More than half a million, some 650,000 men and women, are leaving the Federal and State prisons each year. While the vast majority of the prisoners are committed to abiding by the law and becoming productive members of society, they often encounter the same pressures, the same environment, the same temptations that they faced before prison, and with insufficient resources to assist them in dealing with those pressures and temptations, sometimes, despite their best intentions at the time of release, too many of them commit new crimes and end up back in prison. More than two-thirds of them are arrested for new crimes within 3 years of their release. This exacts a terrible cost in financial terms as well as in human terms.

Congress has been very active over the years in strengthening our criminal laws and our investigative and prosecutorial tools against crime. The bipartisan legislation we are considering today, aptly named the Second Chance Act, complements those efforts by helping give ex-offenders the tools they need to stay out of trouble. It's a very commonsense piece of legislation and it recognizes that too many ex-offenders lack the education, job skills and stable living arrangements, the substance abuse treatment and health services that they need to successfully reintegrate into our society.

Many have trouble finding a job and some have trouble holding a job. Many move straight from their prison cell to a homeless shelter. Many entered prison with alcohol and drug habits, and the pull remains hard to resist once they reemerge in our society. Many are physically or mentally disabled. Some have chronic disease; others need psychological treatment. Many left spouses and young children behind when they entered prison. While these family relationships can be of tremendous value in helping an ex-offender build a stable life outside prison, it can be very difficult to rekindle these ties after a long and painful absence.

The Second Chance Act will help provide these men and women with the education, training, counseling and other support needed to help them obtain and hold steady jobs; to kick their drug and alcohol habits, if they have one; address medical and dental needs; rebuild their families; and deal with the many other challenges that they face in their efforts to successfully rejoin society. These kinds of programs have been tested on a smaller scale, to be sure, where they have already made a measurable difference in reducing recidivism. The Second Chance Act builds on these efforts in a measured but significant way to reduce recidivism, increase public safety, and help ex-offenders lead productive and law-abiding lives.

We have the support of current and former chairmen and ranking members of the Judiciary Committee and the crime subcommittee, chaired by BOBBY SCOTT of Virginia, as well as a wide range of national, State and local law enforcement and rehabilitative organizations.

I submit for the RECORD a new section-by-section analysis reflecting some of the revisions to the bill reported in response to suggestions by members of the Committee on the Judiciary. I urge my colleagues to give careful consideration in their support of this measure.

CHANGES TO SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2007
(REPORTED VERSION TO SUSPENSION VERSION)

Added Rule of Construction to confirm Act does not create a right or entitlement to assistance or services, and to promote transfer of programs to programs not funded under this Act.

Reduced number of new Federal programs from 18 to 10 by consolidating or eliminating programs.

Reduce authorized spending from $427 million to $330 million over two fiscal years.

Reduced permissible uses under reauthorized reentry demonstration programs from 21 to 9.

Added measurable goals for programs—reducing recidivism rate by 50 percent over 5 years, and 10 percent over 2 years.

Prohibited Bureau of Prisons from Preventing Access to Chapel Library Materials.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am sure glad my friend, the chairman of Judiciary, sought time for people to revise and extend their remarks, because they are going to need it. This thing keeps changing. I mean, I reviewed this bill last week. I spent a long time going line by line, only to find yesterday there's still a new version, and today I was provided a 98-page bill. I can't tell you the pages of the issues that I am most concerned about because the version keeps changing.

□ 1530

Now, this bill includes $330 million in authorizations. Normally, suspensions

are noncontroversial, but the fact that this bill keeps changing is absolute evidence that this is not noncontroversial. It keeps changing because people can't figure out what is the best thing to do.

I would submit there is a good reason for that. The bill that this seeks to renew and programs that are sought to be renewed are ones we don't have information on how successful they were, and that was the original purpose of this bill. Back when it expired in 2005, we still did not have the information on what worked and what didn't.

I can tell you from my days as a judge, there was some anecdotal evidence that it looked like faith-based programs did a better job of dramatically reducing recidivism. In one case I was shown results from a prison in Texas where it dropped down to about 8 percent from over 80 percent because of faith-based programs and mentoring.

This new version, I haven't even been through it. I haven't had time to go through it. But the one that I saw and reviewed on Friday, it included reentry programs allowing payment for housing and health care. I know our military members who are leaving after less than 20 years in the service with honorable discharges would love to have that kind of help reentering.

There are some provisions that allow for too much administration, in my opinion; 11 percent at one point, 15 percent at another. That is not going to help people. That is going to build a bigger bureaucracy.

Dismissing all charges if someone completes drug rehab under another provision I think is outrageous. You are going to remove the hammer that would allow you to keep people in line? It is one thing to say we are going to remove you and not have you go to prison and instead send you to drug rehab, and then if you get through there, before you have a chance to go out and do cocaine again, we are going to drop all charges so we have no hammer over your head. I don't know if this is in the final bill. It was in there last I saw on Friday.

There is a provision that allows payments through the Department of Labor for support. There are military members, and I went to another funeral Saturday, a gentleman who was not killed in Iraq, he was killed during surgery, but I know his family would love to have the kind of support being provided in here for felons.

We also have a provision in here, we are going to pay people through these grants to teach inmates how they can go about getting the most welfare before they leave prison and go out on their own. There is also a provision that moves inmates to home detention without approval of the judge who sentenced the individual.

In this bill, the elderly, for purposes of moving to home detention, is defined as 65. I guess apparently under this bill, without any underlying evidence or research to support it, we have arbitrarily picked 65 as deciding that is when people are harmless. But I know from my own experience around this Chamber, there are people in Congress that are 65 or older that are certainly not harmless. In any event, I think that is a little bit too young to classify people as harmless.

There is a provision that assistance will be provided by the United States probation system and it ''shall'' be done. I don't know, I can't find from the bill what kind of assistance that will be. But I think we have all got the same goal. I think one of the worst atrocities in the justice system has been our lack of rehabilitating and educating and preparing people to go out into the world and become productive citizens and finally reach the God-given potential that every one of them has. I couldn't agree more with the proposition, and I know that is the heart of my colleagues across the aisle. But we don't have the information on which programs are successful and which aren't.

I want to work together on a program. I've kind of been cut out of this process. The National Summit on Prisoner Reentry is coming up in Los Angeles on November 27 and 28, but we are going to rush this through on a suspension bill for $330 million without even having a chance to really review the most recent document.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOHMERT. Yes, I will be glad to yield, and if you can show that we have gotten the recent version——

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Let me say for the record my name is STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES. I am the Congresswoman from Cleveland, Ohio. I served for 10 years as a judge in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, 8 years as the elected prosecutor in Cuyahoga County. And, Mr. GOHMERT, your remarks are just outrageous.

Mr. GOHMERT. Claiming back my time, I am not yielding for you to criticize me.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Very well. I will talk to you when I get my own.

Mr. GOHMERT. I appreciate yielding to the gentlelady to come down and call me outrageous. But what is outrageous is this process, this process of taking something so important and rushing it in here without having the proper input and the proper information. The National Institute of Justice has got their biggest study program in its history ongoing, and we don't have the results, and yet my colleagues want to rush in and throw $330 million at a process that is unproven and untried.

I just don't think that is the way to go. We have got honest people involved in the process, but the process itself here has not been honest.

With that, I would reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, here we are the day after Veterans Day. We come back in comity and goodwill. We are trying to finish off the last week before the Thanksgiving recess. And I want Judge Louie Gohmert, my dear friend from Texas, to understand as much as I can explain to him about the reservations that he has raised thus far.

I want him to know this is not a partisan bill at all and that the changes that have been made to the bill were made before Friday when you examined it. So if you were examining this measure on Friday, that is the last, that is all she wrote, because we haven't been in since then.

So, please understand that, first of all, this is a bipartisan bill. We had the hearings. We had a markup in which you participated rather actively. We had a record vote. We went to the Rules Committee. Everything is working I think very smoothly, according to the chairman of the Subcommittee on Crime, Bobby Scott, and the author of this bill for three Congresses, Congressman Danny Davis of Illinois.

Please know that we have been working on this bill. You are right, it has been through a lot of changes. The changes started before you graced us with your presence in the Judiciary Committee as a very important member of it. We have been working on this all the time. We think it is in an improved state.

I would just like you to know that we have 212 organizations, and because we are on a rather fast schedule here this afternoon, I won't bother you with them, but none of them are political. They are all community organizations. They are all organizations concerned with the reentry of people who have served their time and are now coming out.

We are trying to deal, Judge Gohmert, with this huge problem of people returning from their terms in prison. They come out and sometimes in my State, I hate to say this, they don't even have a bus ticket or a suit of new clothing to get to where they are supposed to be going. Many of them don't know where they are going. It is that dislocation that creates the situation of so many of them returning back.

One of the most distressing things I ever heard when I was visiting one of these places is that the guard tells the exiting prisoner, former prisoner who serves his term, ''I'll see you when you get back.'' Nothing tells the story more than I know there is nothing for you out in society. You're not trained for anything, you're not fit for anything, there are no jobs for you, so you're going to go back into your old ways and we're going to get you back in our clutches again. What we are trying to do, Judge Gohmert, is to change that. I know in your court you have seen your share of this kind of process even in Texas.

So I urge you to join with us in trying to be as constructive as you normally are, to help make everybody understand that we are trying to make

rehabilitation mean something besides just the phrase used in the criminal justice system.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, would the gentleman yield for a question?

Mr. CONYERS. Of course.

Mr. GOHMERT. Was there no version of the bill filed today? Was there no version of the Second Chance Act filed today?

Mr. CONYERS. Absolutely, yes, it was.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you.

Mr. CONYERS. You're welcome.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOHMERT. May I inquire how much time I've got.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 13 minutes.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

Nothing would please me more than to be involved in the process of constructively working on these issues. When I think about the gentlelady saying that my comments were outrageous, everything that I have said is documented. Everything I have said comes from reading through this bill, as well as my own experience from my days of being a judge.

I wholeheartedly agree, we should do a better job of rehabilitating and educating. In fact, I just get concerned when we get so anxious to try to do something good that we end up throwing money at a problem just so we can say we worked on it, something had to be done.

But it was the National Institute of Justice Award to RTI International, a nonprofit research organization, to evaluate the programs funded by the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative. This is one of the largest evaluation studies funded by the NIJ, and it is doing this research. The Urban Institute, a nonpartisan economic and social policy research organization in D.C., is the collaborator on the project. I am really looking forward to getting that information. I am wondering why we throw more money at a situation before we get the information that tells me how and tells us how to be most effective?

When my good friend the chairman, and I do think the world of him, talks about comity and goodwill, that is what I would love to have. But when we have such trouble getting copies of the latest versions, and then the chairman says, gee, I had the latest version on Friday, I was notified by the committee staff that there was a new version as of yesterday and then the new version was filed today. So, I didn't have everything Friday. That has been one of the problems here. This is too important of an issue to just be throwing good money after bad.

I would also point out that in the interests of comity and goodwill, the bills that follow this, H.R. 3845, PROTECT Our Children Act of 2007, I indicated before that sounded like something I would want to be part of and helping with, but we never did get a final version that we could say, yes, I want to cosponsor that.

Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators Act of 2007 sounds like another good bill, but we haven't seen it. And talking to the Judiciary staff, that and the Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act, H.R. 4120, that follows that, we are still trying to get updated versions of those things. So that doesn't sound to me like comity and goodwill, when we are struggling over here to even get copies.

We don't know what requests had been granted. There were things requested by the Department of Justice, in the interest of justice, please get these provisions put in this bill. We don't know what was put in and what wasn't. That, to me, does not indicate comity and goodwill. It creates all kinds of problems.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield?

Mr. GOHMERT. I yield to the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. CONYERS. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

I am being told that we have been working with the minority in Judiciary on an ongoing basis, and I just wonder if you are aware that four of your changes in particular have been accepted and incorporated into the measure that is before us now?

Mr. GOHMERT. I am not sure which four things the chairman is referring to.

Mr. CONYERS. I will bring them out for you and be happy to show them to you.

Mr. GOHMERT. I thank the chairman.

Reclaiming my time, I have been over here in the 20 minutes or so before I came up to speak talking to Judiciary staff who, unless they are changing their story now, have not been able to get the latest information on this bill. Well, they have got it on this bill. We have the final copy. I haven't had a chance to review it since it has been filed today. Most of us were out doing what we should have been doing yesterday, paying tribute to veterans all over our districts. But these subsequent bills, these are still a problem that I have been having with the Second Chance Act, getting the latest information on this.

□ 1545

My dear friend, Mr. COBLE, we serve together on the Judiciary, had asked for time, and at this time I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from North Carolina.

Mr. COBLE. I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the bill before us. The cost of maintaining our Federal, State and local prisons is ballooning out of control. We must continue to enforce our criminal laws, but we cannot ignore the fact that most of the people who are released from incarceration are likely to return. The Second Chance Act will support programs that help prisoners reenter society which is essential to reducing recidivism.

We can expect, Mr. Speaker, over half of the adult prisoners who are to be released around the country this year will be rearrested again and likely will return to prison. This cycle is overwhelming our criminal system, it is overwhelming our prisons, and it is costing more than $90 billion every year, $50 billion as far as Federal institutions are concerned.

I am in agreement that stiff sentences serve a good purpose. Criminals must know if they violate the law, they will be punished. But when we seeing growing numbers of ex-offenders returning to our prisons, something in the system is not working. Something, Mr. Speaker, is flawed.

The Second Chance Act is endorsed by the Council of State Governments, the National Sheriffs Association, the American Bar Association, and countless religious organizations from around the Nation. For some time many of you have heard me express alarm and concern about the dangers of prison overcrowding. It is a ticking bomb waiting to explode.

In my district, in fact, there is a county jail that is bursting at the seams. We can begin to defuse this bomb today by passing the Second Chance Act and supporting programs that reduce recidivism.

Now, much has been said about the cost. And I will stipulate, I will say to my friend from Texas, it is costly. But if the Second Chance Act proves to be effective, I believe it is realistic for us to conclude it will result in saving taxpayer money because to house prisoners is a costly operation.

Rarely do I disagree with my colleague from Texas, but on this occasion we are going to disagree agreeably. I think this is a good proposal. I heartily endorse it.

Chairman SCOTT, you remember I chaired, along with you, two hearings in the last Congress, and I believe this is the third time it has passed the House Judiciary Committee, if the gentleman from Michigan will corroborate that.

Mr. CONYERS. That is correct.

Mr. COBLE. I thank Mr. GOHMERT for yielding, and I urge passage of the Second Chance Act.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the Chair of the Subcommittee on Crime of the House Judiciary Committee, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) for 2 minutes.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Second Chance Act and would like to commend Mr. DAVIS from Illinois and the gentleman from Utah (Mr. CANNON) for their continued leadership on this bill and also acknowledge the dedication and tireless efforts of many members of the diverse coalition of national, State and local organizations referred to by Chairman CONYERS.

While our national crime rates may have fallen significantly over the last decade, we have seen an unprecedented explosion in our prison and jail populations. Today, over 2.2 million people are incarcerated in Federal and State jails and prisons, a 10-fold increase since 1980 and at a present cost of $65 billion.

As a result of this focus on incarceration, the United States leads the world in per capita incarceration rates, over 700 per 100,000 population. While most of the world locks up about 50 to 200 per 100,000, the United States is first in the world at over 700 per 100,000. And as a result, more than 650,000 people will be released from Federal and State prisons to communities nationwide, along with 9 million people leaving local jails.

Unfortunately, the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics estimates that two-thirds of the offenders leave State and Federal prisons are rearrested in 3 years. If we are to reduce the number of inmates returning to prison, we need to provide our ex-offenders with the education and training necessary for them to obtain and hold steady jobs. They also need drug treatment, and medical and mental health services to decrease the chances they will come back to prison.

The Second Chance Act will provide these investments, and every study shows it will not only reduce crime but also save money in the process. Mr. Speaker, it is very infrequent that we have the opportunity to reduce crime and save money. I hope we will take that opportunity today and pass this bill.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, how much time remains?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 5 minutes remaining.

Mr. GOHMERT. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

We heard moments ago that there are 212 organizations supporting the bill. I have talked to many of them over the course of our discussions on the Second Chance Act, great, noble, wonderful organizations. I couldn't find but one out of numerous ones that I talked to that actually read the bill. They all have the same goals. They all want to see adequate education and rehabilitation, cutting down on recidivism. We all want to see that. I want to see that. I think we have got to do that as a civilized society. There are many that support this goal. But, again, many haven't seen the bill.

And I have checked with the staff in the interim. For example, H.R. 719 is file-stamped November 13 at 1:11 today, and the Judiciary got it for the first time just before 3 p.m. so that you know.

But if we really want to help the situation, doesn't it make sense to get the information on one of the biggest-funded programs NIJ has ever had so we put the money where it works and take it away from where it doesn't work?

Mr. Speaker, in responding to the chairman's comment, I would have to say I noticed in reviewing the bill on Friday, it is a better bill than it was, in my opinion; but we still have a little ways to go. That is why I just think this is a bill in its present form, as it continues to morph, that should not be on the Suspension Calendar, but should come up under a regular rule where we have a chance to work on these other issues.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time so the gentleman from Michigan has the time to respond.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am glad that you find we are making progress; that is very encouraging. How much time do you think we would need to arrive at a point where your observations about the bill and the needed improvement and our position would intersect so we could get it before the body?

I yield to the gentleman.

Mr. GOHMERT. I appreciate the chairman yielding. I think we are getting closer, actually.

Mr. CONYERS. How about tomorrow? If I gave you 24 hours, what would happen differently?

Mr. GOHMERT. I would like to see the information that is being prepared to come forth on November 27 and 28, the newest information that is being brought to bear, all of these groups coming together. I would think then by December we ought to be able to have something.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am going to recognize the distinguished whip of the majority, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), for 2 minutes, and maybe within his comments he can help us frame some kind of time line.

Mr. CLYBURN. I thank the chairman for yielding me the time.

I want to thank Chairman SCOTT and especially Congressman DANNY DAVIS for not giving up on this legislation.

We have been here for approximately 6 years now, Mr. Speaker; and if we are ever going to make progress in the crime that is crippling our communities, we cannot give up on any human being, because it is not enough to say we are just going to lock up every offender and throw away the key. Such narrow-mindedness does nothing to prevent our vulnerable youth from being indefinitely trapped in our Nation's correctional system.

In order to stop crime, Mr. Speaker, we have to eliminate the criminal mindset. And we help to eliminate this mindset by offering alternatives for the offenders in their lives of crime. We do this by enrolling them in programs that provide them with an education, help them find employment, and remind them constantly of the consequences of antisocial behavior.

I am happy to say that the Second Chance Act does all of this. It reaches out to offenders by increasing their access to vocational education. It also goes a long ways in helping many of our juvenile offenders understand the dangers associated with crime and providing them with counseling services.

Many of the individuals currently incarcerated in this country are young, nonviolent, first-time offenders who made stupid mistakes. These kids should not be denied the opportunity to reposition their paths in a more stable and law-abiding direction.

This bill makes tremendous strides in protecting the public and rehabilitating offenders, and I urge my colleagues to vote for its passage.

Mr. GOHMERT. Might I inquire, I don't have any other speakers, if I can find out where the chairman is with regard to additional speakers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Texas has 3 minutes and the gentleman from Michigan has 5 minutes.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize now the author of this bill, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS). We said it started three Congresses ago, but DANNY DAVIS started it many years before three Congresses ago, and I am proud to yield 2 minutes to him.

(Mr. DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, first of all, let me thank Chairman JOHN CONYERS and Ranking Member JAMES SENSENBRENNER of the Judiciary Committee for their unrelenting commitment to passing this landmark legislation. I also extend my appreciation to Senator LEAHY and the Judiciary Committee in the Senate for their hard work, cooperation, and sensitivity.

I also want to commend Congressman CHRIS CANNON of Utah who was the chief Republican sponsor on this legislation. I want to thank Congressmen BOBBY SCOTT and HOWARD COBLE and all of the cosponsors who signed on. I want to express appreciation to former Congressman ROB PORTMAN, who was very instrumental in moving this legislation to this point.

I want to thank CAROLYN CHEEKS KILPATRICK and all of the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, all of the organizations who have worked unceasingly to try and bring us to this point.

I want to thank what we call the working group under the leadership of Gene Guerro. I don't know about them not reading this stuff. They have read it time and time and time again. As a matter of fact, they know it backwards, forwards, crossways, and sideways.

I want to thank the staffs of all Members who have worked extremely hard, and thank especially the members of my advisory committee back in Chicago, Dennis Deer and George Williams and Tumia Romero, who helped orchestrate all of the activity. I thank Dr. Caleb Gilchrist, Bernard Moore, and Helen Mitchell in my office here.

□ 1600

I also want to thank, Mr. Chairman, STENY HOYER, the majority leader, and

Mr. BLUNT, the minority whip, who have been working on this now for months, bringing us to this point, and the President of the United States supported this when it was first introduced, and I want to thank him for his interest.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the distinguished Member from Ohio, a former jurist and prosecutor herself, STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, for 1 minute.

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. I won't do all the thank-you's that Mr. DAVIS has already done.

I want to say to you, Judge, if I offended you, I apologize. But you know as well as I do that it is so important for us to have programs for ex-offenders. In the time that I was a judge and prosecutor, it was those young people that we helped, that we gave a second chance to, that we said to them, all right, you made a mistake, let's make a difference in your life.

I can't tell you how many times I have walked down the street, Judge GOHMERT, and young people have walked up to me and said, ''Judge, you gave me a break and I thank you.'' ''Judge, you gave me an opportunity.'' And more than those young people need an opportunity. They need a second chance. This is the program.

We can't study anymore. We have studied. There are all kinds of studies that have shown that community reentry works. There is all kind of programs that say diversion works. And there is a lot of young people out here who don't have a mother or father that is a judge or a prosecutor or a Congresswoman or a State Representative to call and say I am a good person. They need us to say in the world that young people, older people, whatever their age, who have been involved in the criminal justice system, paid their dues. They need a chance, and we ought to give them the second chance.

Last week we were talking about reading the Bible, the week of the Bible and how important it was to follow God's word. What more important? God said you visited me when I was sick, when I was in jail. Second Chance can do that.

And, Judge, all I am saying to you, and I didn't mean to offend you, but if I did I want you to know, your comments that fuel the fire make it hard for us to do a second chance.

Mr. Speaker, I have been waiting nearly 30 years for Congress to enact meaningful reentry legislation, as I have been deeply involved in prisoner reentry issues since my days as a judge and county prosecutor in Cleveland, Ohio, before serving in Congress. While Cuyahoga County prosecutor, I helped establish the Pretrial Diversion Program, as well as the Municipal Drug Court. Both programs, I am proud to say, still exist and continue to help ex-offenders move on with their lives and become productive citizens of society.

Prisoner reentry is not a Democratic or Republican issue. It is a common sense issue. The facts are clear—meaningful reentry programs significantly diminish the chances that ex-offenders will return to prison. That saves taxpayer dollars and increases public safety. So why not invest in enhancing reentry programs in order to end the cycle of recidivism? That is exactly what the Second Chance Act does.

In 2002, 2 million people were incarcerated in all Federal and State prisons. Each year, nearly 650,000 people are released from prison to communities nationwide. Nearly two-thirds of released prisoners are expected to be re-arrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor within three years of their release.

The State of Ohio has one of the largest populations of ex-offenders re-entering the community, with about 24,000 ex-offenders returning to their respective communities annually. Of those ex-offenders, about 6,000 will return to Cuyahoga County and almost 5,000 will re-enter in the city of Cleveland. Statewide, about 40 percent of ex-offenders will return to prison. In Cuyahoga County, about 41 percent will return to prison. Such high recidivism rates translate into thousands of new crimes each year and wasted taxpayer dollars, which can be averted through improved prisoner reentry efforts.

This legislation is critical to successful reentry of offenders. The bill provides as a beginning the essential ingredients necessary to assure public safety and recovery. It will help begin the process of breaking down barriers to successful re-entry and allow offenders and their families the tools necessary to break the cycle of criminality.

I would like to thank my colleague DANNY DAVIS for all of his hard work on this issue as well as former Congressman Rob Portman who was the first to introduce the legislation. I encourage my colleagues to support this very important legislation.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am proud now to yield to GWEN MOORE, the gentlelady from Wisconsin, 1 minute.

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. I thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Second Chance Act.

According to the 2001 census, Wisconsin had the highest incarceration rate for African American males in the country, and I can tell you that this legislation represents a second chance for these convicted felons. You know, becoming a felon is akin to the civic death penalty. Ex-offenders are often lacking a high school diploma, lacking vocational skills. They are drug and alcohol dependent. They are estranged from families. They are homeless. But this legislation not only is a second chance for those felons, but it is a second chance for our communities. Those communities, our States that are tethered to these billion dollar budgets for incarcerating particularly African American men and can't use those billions of dollars for more constructive and productive purposes like job creation and job training, educational and vocational training, and strengthening our families and communities.

Please support this Second Chance Act.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today In strong support of the Second Chance Act. I would like to thank Congressman DANNY DAVIS for his hard work on this vitally important legislation. In my community, according to 2001, census data, Wisconsin had the highest incarceration rate of African Americans in the nation.

In 2005, there were over 2 million people incarcerated in Federal or State prisons. Nearly 650,000 people are released from prison to our communities each year.

Nearly two-thirds of released prisoners are expected to be rearrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor within three years of release.

It is no secret that high recidivism rates translate into thousands of new crimes each year, many of which can be averted through improved prisoner reentry efforts.

In my district alone, there were approximately 10,308 Milwaukee County Residents incarcerated as of June 2006.

Since 1993 Milwaukee County has experienced nearly a four-fold increase in its recently released incarcerated population.

In 1993 2,191 prisoners were released, compared to 8,147 in 2005.

32 percent of offenders released to Milwaukee County are under the age of 25 at the time of release from prison.

31 percent of the offenders released to Milwaukee County have less than a High School education.

We are seeing an increased use of imprisonment to address the "War on drugs" :

We are now incarcerating people at an alarming rate who have never been convicted of violent crimes and who have had no prior convictions.

24 percent of the offenders released to Milwaukee County are in prison for Property crimes; 18 percent Drug crimes; 14 percent violent crimes; 4 percent Sex crimes and 3 percent Other Non-Violent crimes.

Ex-offenders face an automatic uphill battle when released from prison. As a result of being incarcerated, they are denied:

The right to vote:

The U.S has the most restrictive felony voting rights in the World.

In Wisconsin, those in prison, probation or parole are restricted from voting.

Access to public assistance:

Those with felony drug convictions are ineligible for food stamps and TANF services.

Some are not eligible at all for subsidized housing, while all face significant barriers when applying for public housing and subsidies.

Some can't apply for financial aid to get an education:

Felons with drug-related convictions are denied financial aid to attend vocational education classes, college, and other postsecondary education programs.

It is beneficial for an entire community when we provide proper resources and services to ex-offenders.

The Second Chance Act will do just that by:

Directing the Bureau of Prisons to create a Federal Re-Entry program to assist prisoners in successfully returning to their communities.

Authorizing new grant programs to assist states and local governments with drug abuse treatment for those convicted of or facing criminal charges.

Authorizing a new educational program that will improve vocational education programs in prisons, jails and juvenile detention facilities.

Mr. Speaker, it is high time that we change our focus from catching ex-offenders violating

parole or probation to providing the adequate resources and programs to help them successfully integrate back into society.

I urge my colleagues to vote for the Second Chance Act.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, I do appreciate Mrs. Tubbs Jones' comments. And I guess calling me or my comments outrageous was somewhat offensive, but as an old judge I was used to that. In fact, I have been called all kinds of names.

And, yes, even 2 days ago when I was buying some potting soil back home, I had a guy come up to me with his father and said if it were not for me, he would never have straightened his life up.

Those are not uncommon comments. And what it came from was being fair, but also having tough love. Because, as those who have been involved in dealing with people who have been addicted to drugs or alcohol, it does take tough love. And you do want to help them get out of the cycle rather than becoming an enabler. And that is my number one concern, is that we do not want to be enablers.

And when we talk about Scripture, absolutely, there are all kinds of verses that apply to us for those that believe the teachings of Jesus as I do. They are entirely appropriate. Those are directed to individuals. If you get over to Romans 13, that is directed to the government. And where it says if you do evil, you need to be afraid, because God does not give the government the sword in vain, that is part of the role of government; if you do evil, then there are consequences.

But it is a worthy goal to want to try to stop the cycle of recidivism. We all, I think, want that. No, I don't think; I know, we all want that same goal. But I am very concerned that we may be enabling by throwing money at a problem.

One of the saddest words and lines I ever heard came at a hearing when the wealthiest people in my home county, they had the courtroom packed so that they were hoping that I would put her on probation yet again, and they knew she had had it too many times and it wasn't going to happen under me. And it didn't. And it turns out she had a huge trust fund every month. She never had to work, she never had to study, and she had spent all her money on drugs. And the last thing she said before I sentenced her was, ''I wish somebody had told me 'no' before today and meant it.''

She has now gotten out. Her mother, when I was walking neighborhoods, I went up to her door and her mother said, ''Come in and sit down.'' She said, ''You know, my husband and I just hated you at one point, but you saved our daughter's life.''

Sometimes it is the tough love things that turn things around. We want the same goal. I don't want to throw good money after bad in renewed programs that shouldn't be. And I hope that if this fails on suspension, we can get the new data that is going to be forthcoming and work toward the same goal with additional, more helpful information.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to close the debate on our side to ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, who has been not just a trial lawyer but has been before the Supreme Court on numerous occasions.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAPUANO). The gentlewoman from the District of Columbia is recognized for 1 minute.

Ms. NORTON. I thank the gentleman for his important work. Two thousand five hundred ex-felons return to the District of Columbia every year. They are a microcosm of who is coming home to every community in this country.

There is a special benefit and a special burden that has to be spoken of on this bill. Twelve percent of our population is African American; 40 percent of those in Federal prison are African Americans. Most of these are non-violent drug offenders. It is the sentencing guidelines, the mandatory minimums that have done this. All of us here have played a major role in destroying the African American family and their children, because these have been drug peddlers, not kingpins.

The disparities have been recently relaxed. Justices, beginning with Justice Rehnquist, have spoken to the injustice. These inmates are now coming home. They have been in Federal prisons. Let's not make it any worse than it was in condemning them disproportionately under the crack cocaine guidelines. We owe it to their communities to help them return and become good citizens. That is all this bill aims to do.

I thank the gentleman for all of his work on this bill, and particularly the sponsor, Mr. DAVIS.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1593, the Second Chance Act of 2007. I would like to thank my dear colleague Mr. DANNY DAVIS of Illinois for sponsoring this very important legislation that addresses the prison warehousing crisis in this country. H.R. 1593, a bill of which I am an original co-sponsor, addresses the very serious concerns about the compromised state of warehousing prisoners.

Earlier this year, the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security of which I am a member, held hearings to address the state of certain conditions within the United States prison system. In one of those hearings, my colleagues and I considered the merits of The Second Chance Act, and my amendment which I offered in the last Congress was included in the base bill this year.

The Second Chance Act is designed to reduce recidivism, increase public safety, and help State and local governments better address the growing population of ex-offenders returning to their communities. The bill focuses on four areas: development and support of programs that provide alternatives to incarceration, expansion of the availability of substance abuse treatment, strengthening families and the expansion of comprehensive re-entry services.

Nearly two-thirds of released state prisoners are expected to be re-arrested for a felony or serious misdemeanor within 3 years of their release. Such high recidivism rates translate into thousands of new crimes each year and wasted taxpayer dollars, which can be averted through improved prisoner reentry efforts.

The ''Second Chance Act of 2007'' allocates funding towards a variety of reentry programs. One of the main components of the bill is the funding of demonstration projects that would provide ex-offenders with a coordinated continuum of housing, education, health, employment, and mentoring services. This broad array of services would provide stability and make the transition for ex-offenders easier, in turn reducing recidivism.

Another reason why I strongly support this legislation is because it includes a provision contained in an amendment I offered during the Judiciary Committee markup of this bill in the 109th Congress. That amendment, incorporated in H.R. 1593 as Section 243 of the bill, requires that the:

Attorney General shall collect data and develop best practices of State corrections departments and child protection agencies relating to the communication and cordination between such State departments and agencies to ensure the safety and support of children of incarcerated parents, including those in foster care and kinship care, and the support of parent-child relationships between incarcerated, and formerly incarcerated, parents and their children, as appropriate to the health and well-being of the children.

My amendment provides for a systematic means of ensuring the safety and support of children of incarcerated parents and the support of children of release for non-violent offenders who have attained the age of at least 45 years of age, have never been convicted of a violent crime, have never escaped or attempted to escape from incarceration, and have not engaged in any violation, involving violent conduct, of institutional disciplinary regulations.

The Second Chance Act seeks to ensure that in affording offenders a second chance to turn around their lives and contribute to society, ex-offenders are not too old to take advantage of a second chance to redeem themselves. A second benefit of the legislation is that it would relieve some of the strain on Federal, State, and local government budgets by reducing considerably government expenditures on warehousing prisoners.

Mr. Speaker, some of those who are incarcerated face extremely long sentences, and this language would help to address this problem. Releasing rehabilitated, middle-aged, non-violent offenders from an already overcrowded prison population can be a win-win situation for society and the individual who, like the Jean Valjean made famous in Victor Hugo's Les Miserables, is redeemed by the grace of a second chance. The reentry of such individuals into the society will enable them to repay the community through community service and obtain or regain a sense of self-worth and accomplishment. It promises a reduction in burdens to the taxpayer, and an affirmation of the America value that no non-violent offender is beyond redemption.

Mr. Speaker, the number of Federal inmates has grown from just over 24,000 in 1980 to 173,739 in 2004. The cost to incarcerate these individuals has risen from $330 million to $4.6 billion since 2004. At a time when tight budgets have forced many States to consider the early release of hundreds of inmates to conserve tax revenue, early release is a commonsense option to raise capital.

The rate of incarceration and the length of sentence for first-time non-violent offenders have become extreme. Over the past two decades, no area of State government expenditures has increased as rapidly as prisons and jails. According to data collected by the Justice Department, the number of prisoners in America has more than tripled over the last two decades from 500,000 to 1.8 million, with States like California and Texas experiencing eightfold prison population increases during that time. Mr. Chairman, there are more people in the prisons of America than there are residents in States of Alaska, North Dakota, and Wyoming combined.

Over 1 million people have been warehoused for nonviolent, often petty crimes. The European Union, with a population of 370 million, has one-sixth the number of incarcerated persons as we do, and that includes violent and nonviolent offenders. This is one-third the number of prisoners which America, a country with 70 million fewer people, incarcerates for nonviolent offenses.

The 1.1 million nonviolent offenders we currently lock up represents 5 times the number of people held in India's entire prison system, even though its population is 4 times greater than the United States.

As the number of individuals incarcerated for nonviolent offenses has steadily risen, African-Americans and Latinos have comprised a growing percentage of the overall number incarcerated. In the 1930s, 75 percent of the people entering State and Federal prison were white (roughly reflecting the demographics of the Nation). Today, minority communities represent 70 percent of all new admissions and more than half of all Americans behind bars.

This is why for the last several years I have introduced the H.R. 261, the Federal Prison Bureau Nonviolent Offender Relief Act. H.R. 261 directs the Bureau of Prisons, pursuant to a good time policy, to release a prisoner who has served one-half or more of his or her term of imprisonment if that prisoner: (1) has attained age 45; (2) has never been convicted of a crime of violence; and (3) has not engaged in any violation, involving violent conduct, of institutional disciplinary regulations.

Over 2 million offenders are incarcerated in the nation's prisons and jails. At midyear 2002, 665,475 inmates were held in the Nation's local jails, up from 631,240 at midyear 2001. Projections indicate that the inmate population will unfortunately continue to rise over the years to come.

To illustrate the impact that The Second Chance Act will potentially have on Texas, the Federal prison population for the years 2000, 2001, and 2002 reached 39,679, 36,138 and 36,635 persons respectively; the State prison population for the same years reached 20,200, 20,898, and 23,561 persons. These numbers have grown since 2002, so the impact is indeed significant and the State of Texas is an important stakeholder.

I am also concerned about the rehabilitation and treatment of juvenile offenders in my home State of Texas as it appears that the administrators of TYC have neglected their duties. The April 10, 2007 "Dallas Morning News", reported that "two former Texas Youth Commission administrators were indicted on charges that they sexually abused teenage inmates at the state juvenile prison in Pyote". The same article also cited the 2005 investigative report by Texas Rangers' Sgt Burzynski which found that the two indicted TYC administrators, Brookins and Hernandez, had repeatedly molested inmates in the Pyote prison. The report is cited as saying that Mr. Brookins, who during some periods was the top official, had shown sex toys and pornography in his office, while Mr. Hernandez molested inmates in classrooms and closets.

I hope that all of my colleagues would join me in supporting the Second Chance Act. Passage of H.R. 1593 would be the start of a long overdue process to eliminate unnecessary costs that result from warehousing prisoners.

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1593, The Second Chance Act. I thank Congressman DANNY DAVIS for introducing this important legislation and thank him for his leadership in support of formerly incarcerated persons making a successful transition back into their communities.

We must all begin to recognize the unique needs of those on the path of re-entry. I believe that there needs to be a comprehensive system of support to reduce the rates of recidivism and wasted tax dollars.

Today, our prisons and jails are filled beyond capacity, mostly with non-violent drug offenders, at enormous cost to the taxpayer. The politics of locking people up are easy. Not enough lawmakers have given much thought to the hard part: the inconvenient fact that more than 95 percent of the people who got to prison or jail will return at some point to our communities, with little or no preparation to succeed when they do.

The reality is, recidivism rates continue to rise with nearly 70 percent of those released from incarceration returning to prison within 3 years. By releasing the formerly incarcerated back into our communities without arming them with the necessary tools for survival, we are condemning them to repeat their past mistakes. This does nothing to reduce the crime rate or provide for safer communities.

We need to put the rehabilitation back into our penal system, to prepare people for reentry with job training and to send people with drug problems to treatment, not jail.

Today, we can change the landscape of reentry programs for the formerly incarcerated in this country. We need to make rehabilitation a reality not just an abstract proposal. By providing all formerly incarcerated individuals with greater access to education, health care, job placement, and drug treatment we will reduce recidivism rates across the board.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation is especially important to me because over 14,000 formerly incarcerated persons return to our community every year. The State of California had over 500,000 adults on parole or probation in 2005.

Comprehensive re-entry programs are critical to safely and productively returning the formerly incarcerated into the communities that they came from. Up to 60 percent are unemployed a year after release and up to 30 percent go directly to homeless shelters upon their release. The incidence of drug use among ex-offenders is over 80 percent, twice the rate of the United States population. It's more than clear that something needs to be done.

Following the lead of my colleague from Illinois, I host an annual Clean Slate Summit, which we held on November 3, to help those who qualify to legally clean up their records so that they can access the employment, education, housing and civic opportunities they need. We work to coordinate the efforts of community groups like the East Bay Community Law Center and All of Us or None, with local and county government leaders like Assemblymember Sandre Swanson and Alameda County Supervisor Keith Carson as well as local judges and the district attorney's office. It is only through this comprehensive and cooperative approach that we can successfully assist those who are so often completely cut off from their communities.

We have a vested interest in making sure that people reentering our community do so successfully. Help with cleaning their records provides and opportunity for a second chance to read an application, get a job or go back to school.

Booker T. Washington once said that "Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he, or she, has overcome."

Mr. Speaker, we must end the cycle of injustice that is perpetuated by a system that continues to punish people, long after they have paid their debt to society. H.R. 1593, the Second Chance Act, is a critical step forward. No one condones criminal activity but once one serves their time, they should be free to feed their family and move on with their lives.

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the "Second Chance Act of 2007." I commend Chairman CONYERS, Crime Subcommittee Chairman SCOTT, along with Ranking Member Mr. FORBES, and Representatives CHRIS CANNON, DANNY DAVIS, HOWARD COBLE, and STEPHANIE TUBBS-JONES for their commitment to the issue of prisoner re-entry.

I also want to thank Minority Whip ROY BLUNT for his tireless dedication to this legislation. Congressman BLUNT and his staff devoted countless hours to bicameral and bipartisan negotiations to reach a consensus on this important legislation. The new bill, which is modeled on prior versions, is an excellent example of bipartisan cooperation on important criminal justice matters.

This bill represents a common sense approach to addressing the problems posed by prisoner reentry.

President Bush stated in his 2004 State of the Union address: "We know from long experience that if [former prisoners] can't find work, or a home, or help, they are much more likely to commit more crimes and return to prison. . . . America is the land of the second chance, and when the gates of the prison open, the path ahead should lead to a better life."

The Second Chance Act of 2007 implements the President's initiative.

I believe in tough enforcement of our criminal laws. Public safety is essential to a free society, and criminals must be aggressively prosecuted and incarcerated to protect our communities. However, once criminals are incarcerated, we have an obligation to make sure they are rehabilitated and treated humanely.

The Second Chance Act creates a framework of strategic policy innovations to provide effective re-entry services.

The demand for innovative solutions is obvious—it is conservatively estimated that approximately 650,000 inmates will be released from State prisons in the next year. In the absence of action, 67 percent of these individuals will be rearrested and over half will return to prison in the 3 years following their release from prison. States are being crushed by an overwhelming financial burden of correctional costs.

We need to help State and local governments implement innovative programs to ease the transition for offenders, to bring families together once again, and to make sure that offenders get the necessary support so that they can truly have a second chance to live a law-abiding life.

Successful reentry protects those who might otherwise be crime victims. It also improve the likelihood that individuals released from prison, jail or juvenile detention facilities can pay fines, fees, restitution, and provide family support.

The Second Chance Act expands existing demonstration programs to improve coordination among service providers, supervision services and re-entry task forces, and between State substance abuse agencies and criminal justice agencies. The Act also strengthens reentry services and authorizes grants to operate State and local reentry courts, and to establish local re-entry task forces to develop comprehensive reentry plans during each phase of transition—from incarceration, to transitional housing, to release in the community.

I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. CANNON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Second Chance Act. This is an important bill not only to ex-offenders but to our communities and families.

This bill is a modest, commonsense response to the increasing number of offenders returning to our communities each year.

The Second Chance Act is a bipartisan approach to prisoner reentry that will better coordinate Federal agencies and policies on prisoner reentry with an eye towards less crime and taxpayer savings.

The Second Chance Act addresses important areas for offenders and communities, including: jobs, housing, substance abuse, mental health treatment, and support for families.

This legislation brings together State and local governments to work together on the problem of prisoner reentry.

A modest expenditure to help transition offenders back into their communities can save taxpayers millions of dollars in the long run because the cost of paying for inmates is a serious burden to our citizens.

The average cost to house a Federal inmate is over $25,000 a year. If we can reduce recidivism we can save taxpayers millions of dollars.

I supported the Second Chance Act when our former colleague Representative Rob Portman introduced the bill in 2004. He should be acknowledged for his diligent work on this important issue and paving the way for us to be here today.

After Mr. Portman left Congress, I took over as the primary sponsor and this Congress I cosponsored this legislation for the reasons I have stated.

I believe there are some fundamental ideas that we hold as Americans.

The first is that there is a God and that we will all at some point face divine judgment.

You don't have to believe in God to be an American, but most Americans, believers or not, when given a choice will support limiting government to promote the welfare of their fellow man.

For believers like me, this legislation does that.

It is part of our Judeo-Christian ethics that we have a responsibility to care for widows, orphans and those less fortunate, including, always and explicitly, prisoners.

The issues addressed in the Second Chance Act are not only safety and cost savings but reflect a moral imperative.

The President laid out in his State of the Union Address in 2004 the need for this bill, stating, "America is the land of second chance and when the gates of prison open, the path should lead to a better life."

This bill will give those released from prison a better chance to improve their circumstances by turning away from crime and turning into productive contributing citizens.

I want to thank Congressman DANNY DAVIS, Chairman CONYERS, Judiciary Ranking Member LAMAR SMITH and Congressman SENSENBRENNER, Congressman FORBES, and Congressman COBLE for their work and leadership on this legislation.

I urge my colleagues to support the Second Chance Act of 2007.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of H.R. 1593, I am pleased we are considering this legislation today.

The fact is this bill will save taxpayers money by breaking the expensive cycle of sending people back to prison. This bill authorizes $65 million in fiscal year 2008 for Department of Justice, DoJ, grants to boost programs that provide newly released prisoners with housing, drug treatment, counseling, job training and literacy and education services.

The bill would improve residential drug treatment programs and follow-up care, and would expand family-based treatment centers. It would also authorize the Bureau of justice Statistics to study substance abusers' re-entry into society.

Our goal needs to be helping offenders successfully re-enter society. According to DoJ statistics, nearly two-thirds of those released from prison are likely to be re-arrested within 3 years. This is troubling, but the good news is Congress has recognized the problem and is implementing an innovative strategy to address it.

Mr. Speaker, I urge support of this legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1593, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. GOHMERT. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

PROTECT OUR CHILDREN ACT OF 2007

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3845) to establish a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute child predators, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3845

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Providing Resources, Officers, and Technology to Eradicate Cyber Threats to Our Children Act of 2007" or the "PROTECT Our Children Act of 2007".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.
Sec. 2. Findings.
Sec. 3. Definitions.

TITLE I—SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR CHILD EXPLOITATION PREVENTION AND INTERDICTION

Sec. 101. Establishment of special counsel for child exploitation prevention and interdiction.
Sec. 102. Establishment of National ICAC Task Force Program.
Sec. 103. Purpose of ICAC task forces.
Sec. 104. Duties and functions of task forces.
Sec. 105. National ICAC Data Network Center.
Sec. 106. ICAC grant program.
Sec. 107. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE II—ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO COMBAT CHILD EXPLOITATION

Sec. 201. Additional regional computer forensic labs.
Sec. 202. Additional field agents for the FBI.
Sec. 203. Immigrations and customs enforcement enhancement.
Sec. 204. Combating trafficking via the United States Postal Service.
Sec. 205. Accountability provisions for child exploitation prevention and interdiction.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds the following:

(1) The Internet has facilitated the growth of a multi-billion dollar global market for images and video of children being sexually-displayed, raped, and tortured, far exceeding the capacity of law enforcement to respond at the Federal, State, and local level.

(2) The explosion of child pornography trafficking is claiming very young victims. Research by the Department of Justice, the University of New Hampshire, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children indicates that among those arrested for possession of child pornography, 83 percent have images of children 6-12 years old, 39 percent have images of children 3-5 years old, and 19 percent have images of children under the age of 3 years old.

(3) The images and videos being trafficked typically depict sexual assaults that are both graphic and brutal. The research described in paragraph (2) also indicates that 80 percent of known child pornography possessors have images of children being sexually penetrated and 21 percent have images depicting children bound, gagged, blindfolded, or ''otherwise enduring sadistic sex.'' Just one percent of such possessors restricted their collecting to images of simple child nudity.

(4) Millions of children and teens in the United States are at risk from sexual predators who are hunting, stalking, and luring minors online. Along with the incredible access to the world offered our children by the Internet, the Internet also offers the world access to our children.

(5) The Internet Crimes Against Children task forces at the Department of Justice have identified millions of child pornography transactions involving images and video of child sexual assault from millions of computer IP addresses worldwide.

(6) The ICAC Program has been highly successful in creating and sustaining an emerging national network of 59 Federal, State, and local task forces in all 50 States, which form the backbone of national readiness to combat child exploitation.

(7) In testimony before Congress, law enforcement experts have expressed consensus that lack of law enforcement resources, including dedicated forensic analysis capacity, is a severe problem at the Federal, State, and local level, severely limiting the number of predators that can be interdicted and children that can be identified and rescued.

(8) The Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Immigrations and Customs Enforcement, and the United States Postal Inspection Service have each developed highly specialized and successful child exploitation investigative capabilities, yet these agencies have testified to Congress that they must triage the overwhelming number of child exploitation crimes and cannot investigate a large percentage of known crimes.

(9) Child pornography and online child enticement crimes have among the highest conviction rates of any child sexual offense, and the research funded by the Department of Justice indicates that the majority of child pornography offenders have committed or attempted direct sexual contact offenses against children. Investigating and prosecuting these predators is one of the most concrete and measurable strategies for the prevention of future child sexual abuse.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) CHILD EXPLOITATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the term ''child exploitation'' means any conduct, or an attempt or conspiracy to commit such conduct, constituting criminal sexual abuse of a minor, sexual exploitation of a minor, abusive sexual contact of a minor, sexually explicit conduct with a minor, or any similar offense under Federal or State law.

(B) STATUTORY RAPE EXCEPTION.—The term ''child exploitation'' shall not include sexual conduct involving a minor if—

(i) the minor involved in such conduct has attained 16 years of age or older;

(ii) no other individual involved in such conduct is more than 4 years older than such minor; and

(iii) such conduct was consensual.

(2) MINOR.—The term ''minor'' means any person under the age of 18 years.

(3) SEXUALLY EXPLICIT CONDUCT.—The term ''sexually explicit conduct'' has the meaning given such term in section 2256 of title 18, United States Code.

TITLE I—SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR CHILD EXPLOITATION PREVENTION AND INTERDICTION

SEC. 101. ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR CHILD EXPLOITATION PREVENTION AND INTERDICTION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall appoint a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General.

(b) DUTIES OF THE SPECIAL COUNSEL.—The Special Counsel appointed under subsection (a) shall have the following duties:

(1) Coordinating the policies and strategies of the Department of Justice related to the prevention and investigation of child exploitation cases, including the policies and strategies of the Office of Justice Programs, the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice, the Executive Office of United States Attorneys, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and any other agency or bureau of the Department of Justice whose activities relate to child exploitation cases.

(2) Pursuing memorandums of understanding or other interagency agreements related to the prevention, investigation, and apprehension of individuals exploiting children, including seeking cooperation and collaboration with—

(A) United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement;

(B) the Department of State;

(C) the Department of Commerce;

(D) the Department of Education; and

(E) other Federal agencies.

(3) Coordinating and overseeing the ICAC Task Force Program established under section 102.

(4) Coordinating and overseeing the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data Network Center established under section 105.

(5) Reviewing and approving the grants awarded by the ICAC grant program as administered by the Office of Justice Programs, including developing and approving the funding formula established under section 106, after consultation with the Office of Justice Programs.

(6) Developing, providing, and coordinating technical assistance and training for Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies related to the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of child exploitation crimes.

(7) Developing, providing, and coordinating training and technical assistance to Federal, State, local, and tribal law enforcement related to forensic computer examination and analysis.

(8) Developing and overseeing research programs related to child exploitation prevention.

(9) Directing and overseeing programs for child exploitation prevention and education, including programs related to Internet safety.

(10) Maintaining liaison with the judicial branches of the Federal and State Governments on matters relating to child exploitation.

(11) Providing information to the President, Congress, the judiciary, State, local, and tribal governments, and the general public on matters relating to child exploitation.

(12) Serving, at the request of the Attorney General, as the representative of the Department of Justice on domestic task forces, committees, or commissions addressing policies or issues relating to child exploitation.

(13) Providing technical assistance, coordination, training, and support to—

(A) other components of the Department of Justice, in efforts to develop policy and to enforce Federal laws relating to child exploitation cases, including the litigation of civil and criminal actions relating to enforcing such laws;

(B) other Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies, in efforts to develop policy, provide technical assistance, and improve coordination among agencies carrying out efforts to eliminate child exploitation; and

(C) grantees, in efforts to combat child exploitation and to provide support and assistance to victims of such exploitation.

(c) STAFF.—The Special Counsel appointed under subsection (a) may hire or appoint such staff as may be required to carry out the duties described in this section.

SEC. 102. ESTABLISHMENT OF NATIONAL ICAC TASK FORCE PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established within the Department of Justice, under the general authority of the Attorney General, a National Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (hereinafter in this title referred to as the ''ICAC Task Force''), which shall consist of a national program of State and local law enforcement task forces dedicated to developing effective responses to online enticement of children by sexual predators, child exploitation, and child obscenity and pornography cases.

(b) NATIONAL PROGRAM.—The National ICAC Task Force Program established under subsection (a) shall include at least one ICAC task force in each State.

SEC. 103. PURPOSE OF ICAC TASK FORCES.

The National ICAC Task Force Program, and each State or local ICAC task force that is part of the national program of task forces, shall be dedicated towards—

(1) increasing the investigative capabilities of State and local law enforcement officers in the detection, investigation, and apprehension of Internet crimes against children offenses or offenders, including technology-facilitated child exploitation offenses;

(2) conducting proactive and reactive Internet crimes against children investigations;

(3) providing training and technical assistance to ICAC task forces and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies in the areas of investigations, forensics, prosecution, community outreach, and capacity-building, using recognized experts to assist in the development and delivery of training programs;

(4) increasing the number of Internet crimes against children offenses being investigated and prosecuted in both Federal and State courts;

(5) creating a multiagency task force response to Internet crimes against children offenses within each State;

(6) enhancing nationwide responses to Internet crimes against children offenses, including assisting other ICAC task forces, as well as other Federal, State, and local agencies with Internet crimes against children investigations and prosecutions;

(7) developing and delivering Internet crimes against children public awareness and prevention programs; and

(8) participating in such other activities, both proactive and reactive, that will enhance investigations and prosecutions of Internet crimes against children.

SEC. 104. DUTIES AND FUNCTIONS OF TASK FORCES.

Each State or local ICAC task force that is part of the national program of task forces shall—

(1) consist of State and local investigators, prosecutors, forensic specialists, and education specialists who are dedicated to addressing the goals of such task force;

(2) work consistently towards achieving the purposes described in section 103;

(3) engage in proactive investigations, forensic examinations, and effective prosecutions of Internet crimes against children;

(4) provide forensic, preventive, and investigative assistance to parents, educators, prosecutors, law enforcement, and others concerned with Internet crimes against children;

(5) develop multijurisdictional, multiagency responses and partnerships to Internet crimes against children offenses through ongoing informational, administrative, and technological support to other State and local law enforcement agencies, as a means for such agencies to acquire the necessary knowledge, personnel, and specialized equipment to investigate and prosecute such offenses;

(6) participate in nationally coordinated investigations in any case in which the Attorney General determines such participation to be necessary, as permitted by the available resources of such task force;

(7) establish or adopt investigative and prosecution standards, consistent with established norms, to which such task force shall comply;

(8) investigate, and seek prosecution on, tips related to Internet crimes against children, including tips from other law enforcement agencies, ICAC task forces, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and other Federal, State, and local agencies;

(9) develop procedures for handling seized evidence;

(10) maintain such reports and records as are required under this title; and

(11) seek to comply with national standards regarding the investigation and prosecution of Internet crimes against children, as set forth by the Attorney General, to the extent such standards are consistent with the law of the State where the task force is located.

SEC. 105. NATIONAL ICAC DATA NETWORK CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall establish a National Internet Crimes Against Children Data Network Center.

(b) PURPOSE OF CENTER.—The National Internet Crimes Against Children Data Network Center established under subsection (a) shall be dedicated to assisting—

(1) the National ICAC Task Force Program established under this title; and

(2) Federal, State, local, and tribal agencies investigating and prosecuting child exploitation.

(c) MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR CENTER.—The National Internet Crimes Against Children Data Network Center established under subsection (a) shall develop and maintain an integrated technology and training program that provides—

(1) a secure system enabling online communication and collaboration by ICAC task forces, Federal law enforcement agencies, and other State and local law enforcement agencies regarding ongoing investigations;

(2) a secure, online system for resolving case conflicts, for use by ICAC task forces, Federal law enforcement agencies, and other State and local law enforcement agencies;

(3) a secure data storage and analysis system for use by ICAC task forces, Federal law enforcement agencies, and other State and local law enforcement agencies;

(4) guidelines for the use of such Data Network by Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies; and

(5) training and technical assistance on the use of such Data Network by Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies.

(d) ICAC DATA NETWORK STEERING COMMITTEE.—The Attorney General shall establish an ICAC Data Network Center Steering Committee to provide guidance to the Center relating to the program under subsection (c), and to assist in the development of strategic plans for the Center. The Steering Committee shall consist of 9 members with expertise in child exploitation prevention and interdiction prosecution, investigation, or prevention, including—

(1) 3 representatives elected by the local directors of the ICAC task forces;

(2) 1 representative from the law enforcement agency having primary responsibility for hosting and maintaining the ICAC Data Network;

(3) 1 representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Innocent Images National Initiative or Regional Computer Forensic Lab program;

(4) 1 representative of the Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Cyber Crimes Center;

(5) 1 representative of the United States Postal Inspection Service;

(6) 1 representative of the Department of Justice's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section or a United States Attorney's Office; and

(7) 1 representative appointed by the Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2016, $2,000,000 to carry out the provisions of this section, including for—

(1) the establishment of the National Internet Crimes Against Children Data Network Center; and

(2) the costs of operating and maintaining such Center.

SEC. 106. ICAC GRANT PROGRAM.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office of Justice Programs, in consultation with the Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction, is authorized to award grants to State and local ICAC task forces to assist in carrying out the duties and functions described under section 104.

(2) FORMULA GRANTS.—

(A) DEVELOPMENT OF FORMULA.—At least 75 percent of the total funds appropriated to carry out this section shall be available to award or otherwise distribute grants pursuant to a funding formula established by the Office of Justice Programs, in consultation with the Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction, in accordance with the requirements in subparagraph (B).

(B) FORMULA REQUIREMENTS.—Any formula established by the Office of Justice Programs, in consultation with the Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction, under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) ensure that each State or local ICAC task force shall, at a minimum, receive an amount equal to 0.5 percent of the funds available to award or otherwise distribute grants under subparagraph (A); and

(ii) take into consideration the following factors:

(I) The population of each State, as determined by the most recent decennial census performed by the Bureau of the Census.

(II) The number of investigative leads within the applicant's jurisdiction generated by the ICAC Data Network, the Cyber Tipline, and other sources.

(III) The number of criminal cases related to Internet crimes against children referred to a task force for Federal, State, or local prosecution.

(IV) The number of successful prosecutions of child exploitation cases by a task force.

(V) The amount of training, technical assistance, and public education or outreach by a task force related to the prevention, investigation, or prosecution of child exploitation offenses.

(VI) Such other criteria as the Attorney General determines demonstrate the level of need for additional resources by a task force.

(3) DISTRIBUTION OF REMAINING FUNDS BASED ON NEED.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any funds remaining from the total funds appropriated to carry out this section after funds have been made available to award or otherwise distribute formula grants under paragraph (2)(A) shall be distributed to State and local ICAC task forces based upon need, as set forth by criteria established by the Office of Justice Programs, in consultation with the Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction. Such criteria shall include the factors under paragraph (2)(B)(ii).

(B) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—A State or local ICAC task force shall contribute matching non-Federal funds in an amount equal to not less than 25 percent of the amount of funds received by the State or local ICAC task force under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph. A State or local ICAC task force that is not able or willing to contribute matching funds in accordance with this subparagraph shall not be eligible for funds under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph.

(b) APPLICATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each State or local ICAC task force seeking a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Attorney General at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Attorney General may reasonably require.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each application submitted pursuant to paragraph (1) shall—

(A) describe the activities for which assistance under this section is sought; and

(B) provide such additional assurances as the Attorney General determines to be essential to ensure compliance with the requirements of this title.

(c) ALLOWABLE USES.—Grants awarded under this section may be used to—

(1) hire personnel, investigators, prosecutors, education specialists, and forensic specialists;

(2) establish and support forensic laboratories utilized in Internet crimes against children investigations;

(3) support investigations and prosecutions of Internet crimes against children;

(4) conduct and assist with education programs to help children and parents protect themselves from Internet predators;

(5) conduct and attend training sessions related to successful investigations and prosecutions of Internet crimes against children; and

(6) fund any other activities directly related to preventing, investigating, or prosecuting Internet crimes against children.

(d) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) ICAC REPORTS.—To measure the results of the activities funded by grants under this section, and to assist the Attorney General in complying with the Government Performance and Results Act (Public Law 103–62; 107 Stat. 285), each State or local ICAC task force receiving a grant under this section shall, on an annual basis, submit a report to the Attorney General that sets forth the following:

(A) Staffing levels of the task force, including the number of investigators, prosecutors, education specialists, and forensic specialists dedicated to investigating and prosecuting Internet crimes against children.

(B) Investigation and prosecution performance measures of the task force, including—

(i) the number of investigations initiated related to Internet crimes against children;

(ii) the number of arrests related to Internet crimes against children;

(iii) the number of prosecutions for Internet crimes against children, including—

(I) whether the prosecution resulted in a conviction for such crime; and

(II) the sentence and the statutory maximum for such crime under State law.

(C) The number of referrals made by the task force to the United States Attorneys office, including whether the referral was accepted by the United States Attorney.

(D) Statistics that account for the disposition of investigations that do not result in arrests or prosecutions, such as referrals to other law enforcement.

(E) The number of investigative technical assistance sessions that the task force provided to nonmember law enforcement agencies.

(F) The number of computer forensic examinations that the task force completed.

(G) The number of law enforcement agencies participating in Internet crimes against children program standards established by the task force.

(2) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Attorney General shall submit a report to Congress on—

(A) the progress of the development of the ICAC Task Forces established under this title; and

(B) the number of Federal and State investigations, prosecutions, and convictions in the prior 12-month period related to child exploitation.

SEC. 107. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this title—

(1) $60,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

(2) $75,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

(3) $75,000,000 for fiscal year 2011;

(4) $75,000,000 for fiscal year 2012;

(5) $75,000,000 for fiscal year 2013;

(6) $75,000,000 for fiscal year 2014;

(7) $100,000,000 for fiscal year 2015; and

(8) $100,000,000 for fiscal year 2016.

(b) AVAILABILITY.—Funds appropriated under subsection (a) shall remain available until expended.

TITLE II—ADDITIONAL MEASURES TO COMBAT CHILD EXPLOITATION

SEC. 201. ADDITIONAL REGIONAL COMPUTER FORENSIC LABS.

(a) ADDITIONAL RESOURCES.—The Attorney General shall establish additional computer forensic capacity to address the current backlog for computer forensics, including for child exploitation investigations. The Attorney General may utilize funds under this title to establish new regional computer forensic laboratories within the Regional Computer Forensic Laboratories Program operated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation or may increase capacity at existing laboratories.

(b) NEW COMPUTER FORENSIC LABS.—If the Attorney General determines that new regional computer forensic laboratories are needed under subsection (a) to address existing backlogs, such new laboratories shall be established pursuant to subsection (d).

(c) PURPOSE OF NEW RESOURCES.—The additional forensic capacity established by the resources provided under this section shall prioritize its activities to assist Federal agencies, State and local Internet Crimes Against Children task forces, and other Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies in preventing, investigating, and prosecuting Internet crimes against children.

(d) LOCATION OF NEW LABS.—The location of any new regional computer forensic laboratories under this section shall be determined by the Attorney General, in consultation with the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Regional Computer Forensic Laboratory National Steering Committee, and other relevant stakeholders.

(e) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, and every year thereafter, the Attorney General shall submit a report to the Congress on how the funds appropriated under this section were utilized.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated for fiscal years 2009 through 2016, $7,000,000 to carry out the provisions of this section.

SEC. 202. ADDITIONAL FIELD AGENTS FOR THE FBI.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Attorney General $30,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2016 to fund the hiring of full-time Federal Bureau of Investigation field agents and associated analysts and support staff in addition to the number of such employees serving in those capacities on the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) SOLE PURPOSE.—The sole purpose of the additional staff required to be hired under subsection (a) is to work on child exploitation cases as part of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Innocent Images National Initiative.

SEC. 203. IMMIGRATIONS AND CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT.

(a) ADDITIONAL AGENTS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary of Homeland Security $15,000,000, for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2016, to fund the hiring of full-time agents and associated analysts and support staff within the Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in addition to the number of such employees serving in those capacities on the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) SOLE PURPOSE.—The sole purpose of the additional staff required to be hired under subsection (a) is to work on child exploitation and child obscenity cases.

SEC. 204. COMBATING TRAFFICKING VIA THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Postmaster General $5,000,000, for each of the fiscal years 2009 through 2016, to fund the hiring of full-time agents and associated analysts and support staff in addition to the number of such employees serving in those capacities on the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) SOLE PURPOSE.—The sole purpose of the additional staff required to be hired under subsection (a) is to work on child exploitation and child obscenity cases.

SEC. 205. ACCOUNTABILITY PROVISIONS FOR CHILD EXPLOITATION PREVENTION AND INTERDICTION.

The Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Postmaster General, shall report to the Committees on the Judiciary of the Senate and House of Representatives and any other relevant committee of jurisdiction, on an annual basis, on the resources (agents, forensic labs, prosecutors, etc.) being utilized by such agencies to investigate and prosecute child exploitation and child obscenity cases, including the resources established under this title, the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (Public Law 109–248; 120 Stat. 587), and any other law related to combating child exploitation and child obscenity.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, just last week we learned that police arrested a senior executive at the National Children's Museum right here in Washington, DC, for distributing child pornography over the Internet. This headline floored me, but it is a good example of a problem that has gotten completely out of control.

The Internet has facilitated an exploding multibillion dollar market for child pornography. Tragically, the demand for this criminal market can only be supplied by graphic new images, and these can only be supplied through the sexual assault of more children. I rise today to urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3845, the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2007.

This bill addresses an issue that is central to the goals of Speaker NANCY PELOSI and the New Direction Congress, and one that should be at the top of everyone's agenda, the protection of our children. Our children deserve a future that is healthy, prosperous, safe, and bright, but our children are vulnerable when they are on line. If this bill becomes law, we have the potential to save many thousands of children from sexual abuse and exploitation.

I want to start by thanking my friend and colleague, JOE BARTON of Texas, for working with me on this bipartisan legislation, and for his counsel, his very good counsel, as the lead Republican sponsor of the bill.

In the last Congress, Congressman BARTON, then the chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, conducted a series of hearings on this topic. Not only did those hearings expose the dearth of Federal resources devoted to investigating and prosecuting child exploitation crimes, but they also brought together an extraordinary group of parents who formed an organization called the Surviving Parents Coalition. In June of this year, I had the opportunity to visit with this very special group of parents.

When I sat down with Mark Lunsford, Erin Runnion, Ed Smart, Marc Klaas, Mary Kozakiewicz, and other founders of the Surviving Parents Coalition, I was not prepared for what they had to tell me. They shared with me their own horrific stories of how their children were abducted by sexual predators. As we all know, some of these children will never come home. As the mother of three young children myself, their stories broke my heart, and as a Member of Congress I felt compelled to act.

What surprised me most about these brave parents was their message about child pornography and child exploitation. What they said was this: If you

want to prevent predators from hurting other children like ours, the way to do that is to go back through the Internet and get them.

As we learned last month with the apprehension of a child predator in Las Vegas, Nevada, for the first time we have the technology and the evidence not only to find these predators, we have the technology to rescue their victims as well. A 2005 Justice Department study found that 80 percent of child pornography possessors have images and videos of children being sexually penetrated. Another 21 percent possess images of bondage, sadistic abuse, and torture. The children depicted in these photos are very young. Eighty-three percent of child pornography possessors have images of children younger than 12, and another 19 percent possess images of infants and toddlers. There are even Web sites that provide live pay-per-view rape of very young children.

Let me be clear. This is not about obscenity or pornography; these images are crime scene photos, created by a thriving industry that uses children as a sexual commodity.

□ 1615

I want to thank Chairman JOHN CONYERS for holding a hearing on Internet predators in October. At that hearing, Special Agent Flint Waters of the Wyoming State Police, a highly respected child exploitation investigator, testified that right now there are nearly 500,000 identified individuals in the United States trafficking child pornography on the Internet. That's half a million people right here in the United States. And law enforcement knows who they are, and they know where they are.

But what shocked me the most and what compelled me to get involved in this issue is that, due to a lack of resources, law enforcement is investigating less than 2 percent of these known 500,000 individuals. Less than 2 percent.

What was even more shocking is that it is estimated that if we were to investigate these cases, we could actually rescue child victims nearly 30 percent of the time.

It is clear that our current efforts are not working. We need a national campaign with everyone joining the fight: that means the full weight of law enforcement, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, Congress, the executive branch, parents and victims advocacy groups and Internet service providers.

Alicia Kozakiewicz, whose testimony at the October Judiciary hearing moved us all, is a living, breathing reminder of the lives that we can save. Alicia is not just a victim; she is a survivor.

Alicia told us how over a period of months she was groomed by a 45-year-old predator pretending to be a teenage girl. When Alicia, who was 13 years old at the time, agreed to meet her cyberfriend in real life, he kidnapped her from her suburban Pittsburgh driveway and held her captive in his Virginia dungeon, where he performed unspeakable sexual acts upon her day after day and broadcast it over the Internet. Just when Alicia told us she had given up all hope, she was finally rescued by FBI agents. The FBI found her because the Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children task force, or ICAC, had the technology to lift the digital fingerprints of this perpetrator's crime and to discover the location where he held her captive, chained to the floor.

The PROTECT Our Children Act will help provide the safety net we so desperately need by creating statutory authority for these highly successful ICAC task forces which support State and local law enforcement agencies. It will supplement this local effort with hundreds of new Federal agents who will be solely dedicated to crimes against children. It will also provide desperately needed forensic crime and computer labs so agents can uncover troves of electronic evidence, locate these perpetrators, and bring them to justice.

Finally, the bill will create a special counsel within the Department of Justice who will be responsible for planning and coordinating our child exploitation prosecution efforts across the Federal agencies.

At the October Judiciary Committee hearing, a representative from the FBI told us two things, Mr. Speaker, that boggled my mind. First, he told us that the number of agents being exclusively assigned to these cases is actually shrinking; and, second, that they are giving millions of dollars that Congress has appropriated to combat child pornography to programs that have nothing to do with child protection. Should we be shrinking critical staffing power and diverting badly needed funds at a time when we are investigating less than 2 percent of known traffickers of child pornography? We can do better, and we must do better.

Mr. Speaker, the time has come to reorder priorities at the Department of Justice, and the PROTECT Our Children Act will do just that. Our mandate here is clear: we must prevent predators from hurting our children.

Again, I want to thank Ranking Member BARTON for his leadership, his concern, and his compassion for our children and their safety, not just on this issue but on the Pool Safety bill that we worked together in the 109th and the 110th Congress, and I truly appreciate his leadership and effort on this bill and many others.

Mr. Speaker, this is what Congress can do when we come together in a bipartisan fashion. And maybe it's our children that can be the catalyst for the change that we need in America.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, the majority has decided to promote politics rather than fully protecting our Nation's children. In its last-minute rush to bring bills to the floor, the majority has selected five bills addressing the problem of sex offenders on the Internet and Internet safety for children. These bills were never considered by the Judiciary Committee, never subject to legislative hearings, and never brought through the markup process.

In addition, the majority failed to address concerns that the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Justice Department expressed. To ignore the concerns of these major stakeholders is no way to legislate when it comes to the safety of our children.

Why did the majority avoid the Judiciary Committee process? For one reason, they knew the amendments we would offer at the committee would gain bipartisan support. Again, avoiding amendments that both parties would support is no way to protect our children.

Even on the substance, the majority's bills ignore the needs of law enforcement. At a full committee oversight hearing on October 17, 2007, the majority heard from law enforcement and the Justice Department about specific tools needed to protect children. The testimony at the hearing underscored the need to give law enforcement flexible tools necessary to protect children and apprehend sex offenders.

Instead of working to produce a strong bill that responds to law enforcement's requests, the majority has bypassed the normal committee process and brought an incomplete bill to the floor.

Last Congress we passed landmark child protection legislation, the Adam Walsh Act of 2006, which combined new tools, new authorities, additional programs, and important requirements on the registration and notification requirements for sex offenders. This legislation was developed through bipartisan cooperation, subject to full Judiciary Committee markup, extensive testimony on legislative proposals, and consultation with the NCMEC, and the Justice Department. In stark contrast, the majority has failed to meet these basic requirements in developing new child protection legislation.

H.R. 3845 is replete with problems. For example, the bill creates a superbureaucratic special counsel in the Justice Department and charges that counsel with coordinating all child protection efforts across the Federal Government.

The special prosecutor duplicates existing offices within the Department of Justice with the expertise to prosecute child crimes cases and administer the ICAC grant program.

The innumerable responsibilities of this new special prosecutor require expertise across so many issues, prosecution, policy, and grant administration,

just to name a few, that no one person can fulfill this role. The bill in fact acknowledges this by directing the creation of an entirely new office within the office of the Deputy Attorney General, creating yet another layer of bureaucracy in Washington. This eats up precious resources, rather than sending them to our neighborhoods and communities.

Moreover, the bill places approval for all ICAC grants with the new special prosecutor, a role traditionally held by the Office of Justice Programs. Why? We don't know. We have been presented no evidence to suggest that the Department's performance in administering grants to existing ICAC task forces is somehow flawed.

It is sad to see that our children's safety is being sacrificed for the benefits of a quick press hit. While the bill has some good provisions, much more could have been done.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, at this time I yield as much time as he may consume to the distinguished chairman of the Judiciary Committee, Mr. CONYERS.

Mr. CONYERS. I'm hoping that the discussion and the presentation by my good friend, Mr. GOODLATTE, does not indicate that he is opposed to the substance of this measure and that his remarks were generated around the process, the procedure, because I'm sure he worked on the Adam Walsh bill, and here, to me, is another important step forward on that. And so we look forward to his continued support.

Now, with reference to process, that's a little bit more sensitive issue, because, you know me, I don't like to bring up things that sound partisan. But you guys avoided more process in the Judiciary Committee than we ever have in the 110th Congress. So I've got a long record of it.

But we don't want to get off the track here. This isn't about process. But I've got some not-complimentary statistics about the way we've operated in the past. And I've had good relationships with all the Republican, it almost seems like forever, chairmen of the Judiciary Committee that have preceded us for this last 12 years.

But what our floor manager DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ is talking about now is something for which there can be no disagreement. We've got to get these Internet sex predators out of business. And that's what this measure does. It does it well. I don't know how much more benefited anybody would be if we had gone any different direction.

We're under a little duress now. We've got measures on top of measures. The scheduling is getting horrific. But I commend the gentlelady and the members of the committee on both sides of the aisle that have worked with her in pursuance of this legislation to get it to the floor today.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds to respond briefly to the distinguished chairman, for whom I have great respect. And when bills do go through the process of the Judiciary Committee, the chairman has been most fair to us on our side of the aisle. And the previous chairman, Mr. SENSENBRENNER on our side of the aisle, was also very dedicated to fulfilling that process. In fact, that indeed is what took place with regard to the Adam Walsh legislation, which was moved through the process of the committee. I only wish the same thing had been done here. It would have enabled us to have produced a much, much better piece of legislation that would more effectively protect our children.

At this time, it is my pleasure to recognize the distinguished ranking member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON), for such time as he may consume.

Mr. BARTON of Texas. I thank the distinguished gentleman from Virginia, the former chairman of the Agriculture Committee, one of the senior members of the Judiciary Committee.

I want to, in a somewhat milder vein, share the concerns that Mr. GOODLATTE shared about the process. When I agreed to be the principal Republican sponsor of this legislation, I asked and was told that there would be a committee markup in the Judiciary Committee and that there would be amendments made in order. So I was a little bit surprised last week to find that this was going to be on the Suspension Calendar and expressed that surprise to Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ and her staff.

Having said that, there have been bipartisan discussions, negotiations. There have been changes made in the bill as originally introduced. It is a good bill. And I am proud to be the senior Republican sponsor.

This bill needs to be passed. I will agree with Mr. GOODLATTE that it's not a perfect bill, and I'll agree that had there been a committee markup or a subcommittee markup and a bipartisan markup amendment process, some of the issues would have been addressed a little bit differently. I'll agree with that.

But having said that, let's look at what's positive in the bill. And let's compare the bill to current law. There are over 3 million images of child pornography on the Internet right now. Three million. And in the last Congress, as chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, under my direct request as chairman, the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee held nine hearings on the problem of Internet child pornography. And it's more than a problem. It is a vicious, malicious, virus, viral disease that has the potential to destroy our children. And at some point in time we have to do something. And this bill, the PROTECT bill that's before us this afternoon, is a good first start.

We found out in our hearings last year that the various State and Federal agencies didn't have enough resources. We found out that they didn't coordinate. And so this bill before us, as my good friend, Mr. GOODLATTE, has pointed out, it does set up a new special counsel office in the Justice Department. And normally that would probably not be a good thing to do. But in this case, given the lack of coordination under current law, at a minimum, I think it's acceptable. And I personally think that it's commendable.

□ 1630

We give additional resources. Not one witness in our hearings last year said that there were sufficient financial resources. The bill before us authorizes, over the course of the next 8 years, over 1 billion additional dollars to fight this infestation of child pornography. It sets up an additional $400 million to increase funding over the next 8 years for the Federal law enforcement agencies: the FBI's Innocent Images Unit, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the United States Postal Service. These are the Federal agencies that are at the forefront in investigating Internet child pornography.

The bill also authorizes increased funding for new forensic computer laboratories. One of the things that we found out is that there just wasn't enough law enforcement laboratory capability in terms of forensics to track down the information that was being provided by the agents in the field. This bill recommends and authorizes an additional $7 million each year for 2008 through 2015 for new national forensic computer laboratories.

We also found out, as I pointed out, that some of these task forces that have been set up and are well intentioned simply didn't have the resources that they needed. So the bill before us authorizes over $600 million over the next 8 years on a staggered basis for these Internet Crimes Against Children, or ICAC, task forces. That is a huge improvement over the current situation, and I don't think any Member of Congress is going to oppose that.

This bill provides additional funding for Federal and State law enforcement, greater coordination of the overall United States law enforcement effort at both the State, Federal, and local level. It establishes a Special Counsel office that I have already talked about. And I want to comment on that.

I agree with what Mr. GOODLATTE said that the current task force in the current system in terms of allocating resources is doing an acceptable job. So the Special Counsel will coordinate with them. The Special Counsel will have the ability to sign off, but it doesn't have the ability to unilaterally decide where these additional funds are going to go for the very reasons that Mr. GOODLATTE said in his statement a few minutes ago.

The bill before us brings additional resources that are vitally needed to the fight against the scourge of child pornography on the Internet. Almost all of us have children or grandchildren. And

when you go on the Internet today and you type in www.snowwhite.com, you may well get a pornographic child pornography site. Now, that's unacceptable. It's unacceptable to every Member on both sides of the aisle and both sides of the other body, our friends on the other side of this Capitol.

This bill before us may not be a perfect bill, but it is time to act. It is a good start. Anything can be improved.

Again, I respect the process questions that have been raised. I have some of those same questions about some issues under the committee that I serve on as jurisdiction. But in this case it really is time to protect our children. It really is time to move forward. And if we have a roll call vote, I hope every Member of the House of Representatives votes ''yes'' on the PROTECT Act because it is a huge step forward in protecting our children.

I thank my good friend Mr. GOODLATTE for yielding to me.

Thank you, Congresswoman WASSERMAN-SCHULTZ, for your hard work and dedication to this bill.

Almost 2 years ago, the Energy and Commerce Committee began a wide-ranging investigation of Internet child pornography. During our investigation, we had nine hearings and interviewed numerous witnesses involved in the fight against child sexual exploitation: Federal and local law enforcement, Federal and local prosecutors, victims, educators, Internet service providers, and financial institutions.

This investigation helped expose the epidemic that is Internet child pornography. At that time, we learned that the Internet contained approximately three million images of child pornography. Law enforcement testified to the Committee that the images were becoming increasingly violent in nature, and that the victims in the photos were getting younger, some as young as 2 years old.

Although law enforcement is working to tackle the epidemic of abuse that exists on the Internet, their resources are taxed, because predators around the world are working just as diligently to continue flooding the Internet with images of child sexual abuse.

I am proud to be the lead cosponsor of the PROTECT Act, because this bill provides the resources that are so desperately needed by law enforcement to take the fight to those predators who seek to exploit and abuse children, often for their own financial gain. We will never win the battle against the sexual exploitation of children unless we arm law enforcement with the necessary resources and tools to bring these predators to justice.

First, the PROTECT Act authorizes, over fiscal years 2008 to 2015, $400,000,000 in increased funding to the Federal law enforcement agencies—FBI's Innocent Images Unit, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the United States Postal Service—that are at the forefront in investigating Internet child pornography. The funding is directed for the hiring of additional, full-time agents to work child exploitation cases.

The bill also authorizes increased funding for forensic computer labs. One of the key findings in the Energy and Commerce Committee's investigation of Internet child pornography is that law enforcement investigations were often hampered by the backlog at forensic computer labs. This backlog sometimes made it difficult for law enforcement to identify predators or obtain subpoenas in a timely manner—a delay that endangers the welfare and safety of the victims of Internet child pornography. To address this problem, the PROTECT Act authorizes $7,000,000 for fiscal years 2008 to 2015 for new regional forensic computer labs.

The Energy and Commerce Committee's investigation also found that just as important as the Federal law enforcement effort against child pornography is the effort of State and local law enforcement, in particular, the effort of the state Internet Crimes Against Children, or ICAC task forces. In fact, 70 percent of the cases involving the sexual exploitation of children over the Internet are prosecuted at the state level. While the Department of Justice has provided funding for these ICACs through a grant program, the funding nowhere near matched the needs of these state task forces.

Now, through the PROTECT Act, these task forces will finally receive the support they need. The bill authorizes over $600,000,0000 in new funding for ICACs over fiscal years 2008 to 2015. I believe the PROTECT Act's formula for allocating this funding among states strikes the right balance between ensuring a stable base of funding for the individual ICACs and giving the Justice Department the flexibility to direct funds based on need.

Not only does the bill provide additional funding for Federal and State law enforcement, it also provides greater coordination of the overall United States law enforcement effort—Federal, State, and local—to investigate and prosecute child sexual exploitation crimes. The bill establishes a Special Counsel office within the Justice Department that is charged with coordinating the efforts and strategy of the Department of Justice and Federal and State law enforcement agencies when investigating child exploitation crimes. While I do not believe that the creation of a new Federal office is always the best solution to a problem, in this instance, I believe that this office will help to ensure that the various law enforcement agencies are receiving the assistance they need and are coordinating their investigations in a way that ensures their valuable resources are not being wasted.

This bill brings incredible resources to bear in the fight against child sexual exploitation. We must ensure that the efforts of predators are more than matched by an aggressive law enforcement strategy to bring these criminals to justice. Our children deserve nothing less. For this reason, I urge my colleagues to support the PROTECT Act and make the Internet a safer place for our children.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Just in response to Mr. GOODLATTE regarding the Special Counsel, I appreciate the comments of the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BARTON). Special Counsel is an essential element to this legislation because right now you have no less than eight different entities and agencies that have something to do with the grants and the coordination and the prosecution and the pursuit of child exploitation crimes and particularly child pornography.

It is imperative that we have a single go-to entity, a single leadership position in the Department of Justice to ensure that there is someone who is responsible to Congress for the accountability, for the coordination, to make sure that it is elevated to the highest level of priority at the Department of Justice where clearly right now it is not.

And I again want to thank my colleague Mr. BARTON for working with us on this legislation. This is an issue that transcends party. It is an issue that transcends process. When you have 500,000 known individuals out there pursuing our children on-line, Internet predators, any of our children could fall victim just by a click of the computer.

Mr. Speaker, I can tell you I have a 4-year-old who goes on-line with the most basic of Web sites, and you just never know, and we need to make sure that we have a massive effort to coordinate and put resources into going after child exploitation and child predators.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3485, the PROTECT Our Children Act of 2007, introduced by my distinguished colleague from Florida, Representative WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. This important legislation will protect this Nation's most valuable resource, its children.

As Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, I have been an outspoken advocate for the protection of our children against all predators, be it disease, natural disasters, or sexual deviants. While we may not be able to avoid natural disasters, there is nothing but a lack of political will and Congressional action that prevents us from protecting our children from known sexual predators. I am appalled that while the Department of Justice knows the location of hundreds of thousands of sexual predators that prey on our Nation's children within the U.S. at this very moment, the Department of Justice has consistently refused to take action or ask Congress for help despite the fact that law enforcement is investigating less than 2 percent of this criminal activity. I applaud this important piece of legislation for the accountability it will create by building the largest law enforcement army ever created for the protection of children.

This issue is not one of obscenity or pornography but rather one of human rights and this Congress's dedication to protecting them. While surveillance by the Internet Crimes Against Children, ICAC, Data Network has provided the Department of Justice with the location of hundreds of thousands of sexual predators, far too little has been done. Child pornography must be considered an issue of human rights. These photos go beyond obscenity or pornography but rather must be acknowledged for what they are, ''crime scene photos, created by a thriving industry that uses children as sexual commodities.'' We must focus on the weapon of these predators, the internet, which has provided a multi-billion dollar network for child pornography and led to the additional exploitation of exponential amounts of children.

While the child exploitation industry is global in scale, the majority of both supply and demand is based right here, within the United

States. Due to the lack of attention to this issue by the Department of Justice, it is hard to quantify the number of child pornography traffickers that are involved in this gross violation of our children's rights; the best estimates are that this practice involves 485,000 perpetrators in the United States alone. A 2005 Justice Department study found that:

80 percent of child pornography possessors have images and videos depicting sexual penetration.

20 percent of child pornography possessors have images of bondage, sadistic abuse and torture.

83 percent of child pornography possessors have images of children aged 6–12.

19 percent of child pornography possessors have images of infants or toddlers.

Only 1 percent of child pornography possessors restricted their ''collecting'' to images of nude children.

Law enforcement reports of websites providing live ''pay-per-view'' rape of very young children.

Mr. Speaker, we must act now to protect our children from these atrocities and this legislation is an important first step in doing so. This bill will increase funding for state and local task forces by tripling the size of the Internet Crimes Against Children, ICAC, program in the first year alone, which will support the 46 state and local task forces that ''have become the backbone of America's war on child exploitation.'' It further adds hundreds of new Federal agents to the FBI, ICE, and U.S. Postal Inspection Service who will be charged with the sole responsibility of working on crimes against children. This legislation also provides for the creation of new dedicated forensic crimes labs for America's overwhelmed child exploitation investigators and provides legal structure and funding for the ICAC Data Network, which has emerged as a critical asset in the fight against child pornography and exploitation. Perhaps most significantly, it will create a new Justice Department Special Prosecutor, a new high-level office within the Department with sole dedication to combating child exploitation and the oversight of ICAC Task Force Network.

This legislation is imperative to ensuring the protection of our Nation's children and engaging in a much needed and long overdue national war on child pornography. As the Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, a Representative of the people of the United States, and a mother of two, I am proud to cosponsor this legislation and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

Mr. SHAYS. Mr. Speaker, as a cosponsor of the PROTECT Our Children Act, I am grateful we are considering this legislation today.

This legislation will create a Special Counsel within the Department of Justice, DoJ, to design and organize the Departments child exploitation prosecution work.

The bill will also establish grants to inrease the number of Federal Bureau of Investigation, FBI, agents dedicated to protecting children and ensure local authorities have funding available to create vigorous cyber units with well-trained officers.

Having a child exploited is a parent's worst fear. This legislation will, strengthen our police force to ensure we can track down and imprison child sex predators.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of this legislation.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3845, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

KIDS ACT OF 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 719) to require convicted sex offenders to register online identifiers, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 719

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators Act of 2007'' or the ''KIDS Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS FOR SUPERVISION OF INTERNET ACCESS BY SEX OFFENDERS CONVICTED UNDER FEDERAL LAW.

In addition to any other sums authorized to be appropriated for the purposes of supervising persons on probation and pretrial release in connection with convictions for Federal offenses, there are authorized to be appropriated $5,000,000 for each fiscal years 2008 through 2013 for any or all of the following purposes:

(1) To evaluate computer internet filtering, monitoring and other programs and devices that are designed to filter access to certain web sites, permit monitoring of the use by persons under supervision of internet, and related purposes.

(2) To purchase those programs and devices determined through that evaluation to be the best for those purposes.

(3) To train probation officers in the use of those programs and devices.

(4) To train probation officers in the supervision of sex offenders.

(5) To hire probation officers and other personnel as required to supervise convicted sex offenders effectively.

SEC. 3. DISCRETIONARY CONDITION OF PROBATION AND SUPERVISED RELEASE FOR SEX OFFENDERS.

(a) PROBATION.—Section 3563(b) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraph (22), by striking ''or'';

(2) by striking the period at the end of paragraph (23) and inserting ''; or'' and

(3) by inserting after paragraph (23) the following:

''(24) if required to register under the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act—

''(A) obtain access to the Internet only from computers approved by the probation officer;

''(B) consent and fully cooperate with periodic examinations of the computers by the probation officer, including the retrieval and copying of all data from those computers and removal of the computer equipment for a reasonable period of time for the purpose of conducting a more thorough inspection;

''(C) consent and fully cooperate with the installation on the computers any hardware or software filtering systems designated by the probation officer that restrict the defendant's access to classes of web sites designated by the officer as to which, under the circumstances of the offense, access should be restricted;

''(D) consent and fully cooperate with the installation on the computers of monitoring systems or hardware that permit the probation officer to monitor the defendant's computer use to assure compliance with the law, conditions of probation, and to protect public safety; and

''(E) take no steps to disable or evade the filtering or monitoring programs or devices.''.

(b) SUPERVISED RELEASE.—Section 3583(d) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by striking ''any condition set forth as a discretionary condition of probation in section 3563(b)(1) through (b)(10) and (b)(12) through (b)(20)'' and inserting ''a condition set forth in section 3563(b), other than that described in paragraph (11) of that section''.

SEC. 4. DIRECTION TO SENTENCING COMMISSION.

The United States Sentencing Commission, pursuant to its authority under section 994 of title 28, United States Code, and in accordance with this section, shall review and, if appropriate amend the Federal sentencing guidelines (including its policy statements) applicable to persons convicted of sex offenses involving children in circumstances where the offense is committed or facilitated by the use of the Internet, and—

(1) a misrepresentation is made over the Internet as to the age of the offender; or

(2) there is a failure of the offender to reveal the offender's status as a sex offender.

SEC. 5. MODIFICATION OF MINIMUM STANDARDS REQUIRED FOR ELECTRONIC MONITORING UNITS USED IN SEXUAL OFFENDER MONITORING PILOT PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 621(a)(1) of the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 (42 U.S.C. 16981(a)(1)) is amended to read as follows:

''(C) MINIMUM STANDARDS.—The electronic monitoring units used in the pilot program shall at a minimum—

''(i) provide a tracking device for each offender that contains a central processing unit with global positioning system; and

''(ii) permit continuous monitoring of offenders 24 hours a day.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to grants provided on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 6. FINANCIAL FACILITATION OF ACCESS TO CHILD PORNOGRAPHY.

(a) OFFENSE.—Chapter 95 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 1960A. Financial facilitation of access to child pornography

''Whoever knowingly conducts, or attempts or conspires to conduct, a financial transaction (as defined in section 1956(c)) in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, knowing that such transaction will facilitate access to, or possession of, child pornography (as defined in Section 2256) shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.''.

(b) AMENDMENT TO TABLE OF SECTIONS.—The table of sections at the beginning of

chapter 95 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''1960A. Financial facilitation of access to child pornography .''.

SEC. 7. CHANGE IN DEFINITION OF MONETARY INSTRUMENTS FOR MONEY LAUNDERING AND OTHER OFFENSES.

Section 1956(c)(5) of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) by striking ''or'' at the end of clause (i); and

(2) by inserting '', (iii) electronic or digital currencies, and the corresponding monetary value of any associated account, or (iv) stored value cards or similar devices'' after ''delivery''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Members of the House, H.R. 719, the KIDS Act, addresses the problems of convicted sex offenders infiltrating the Internet to contact and prey on minors.

You've heard about this problem before under the measure that has just passed the House. We are all familiar with the problem. There is not a parent who is not concerned that through the Internet a sex offender may attempt to contact a child for criminal, vicious sex purposes.

The KIDS Act addresses this problem in three ways: It authorizes funding for the Federal Probation and Pretrial Office to enhance the agency's ability to monitor the computer use by convicted Federal sex offenders. In particular, it authorizes funding to evaluate and purchase Internet filtering and monitoring systems to better enable probation officers to monitor the computer use of sex offenders. This is very important. This should help ensure that if an offender violates the terms of release as to Internet use, the violation will be discovered so the offender's release can be promptly revoked.

The next thing we do here is codify the current practice of some sentencing judges by specifically authorizing a court to require as a condition of probation that a convicted sex offender cooperate with the installation of Internet filtering and monitoring systems.

Finally, the bill directs the Sentencing Commission to consider increased penalties for sex crimes committed over the Internet where the defendant lied about his age or concealed identity as a sex offender.

This measure before us now adds a new criminal provision to reach those who set up ''virtual money systems'' to facilitate the trafficking of child pornography over the Internet. There's no simple way of keeping the Internet out of the hands of those who would use it for these and other sinister purposes. Nonetheless, the KIDS Act goes a long way toward addressing the problem of Internet sex predation by enhancing supervision of convicted sex offenders and increasing penalties for these crimes.

I can't imagine anyone in this House on either side of the aisle not supporting a measure such as this.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, recently we were all shocked to learn that over 20,000 registered sex offenders were on commercial social networking sites. In response to press attention, the social networking sites removed the sex offenders from these sites.

H.R. 719, as introduced, included an important provision requiring that sex offenders update their registration information to include their electronic mail addresses, instant messaging addresses, and other similar Internet identifiers used by the sex offender.

In addition, H.R. 719 included a mechanism to permit social networking sites to check sex offender registries to prevent sex offenders from accessing the social networking site.

Finally, H.R. 719 included on introduction a new criminal prohibition on misrepresentation of age by a person designed to lure children into sexual activity.

Unfortunately, H.R. 719 has been stripped of all of these important provisions. It's my hope that my colleagues on the other side of the aisle will work with us to address these important provisions in the future. The gap in our laws must be filled so that children on social networking sites do not have to fear sex predators joining their circle of so-called friends.

I wish to commend my colleagues for including in this legislation a critical provision to prohibit the financial facilitation of child pornography. Originally proposed by our ranking member, LAMAR SMITH, at the beginning of the year, this criminal penalty is vitally important for prosecuting an emerging tool used by child pornographers to prey on children anonymously: virtual money systems. Unlike credit card companies, which require merchants and customers to provide personal information such as name, address, and Social Security number, virtual money is essentially anonymous. Subscribers provide fictitious personal information, or no personal information, and no credit card or Social Security number is required, making them virtually untraceable.

The key to combating the commercial child pornography industry is to cut it off at its source: money. Virtual money is now the payment method of choice. It is imperative that our law enforcement tools keep pace with changing technologies.

H.R. 719 also includes a technical correction to the Adam Walsh Act to expand the eligibility for participation in a child safety grant program. And I want to particularly thank Congressman FORBES, the ranking member of the Crime Subcommittee, for introducing legislation that would have accomplished this technical correction.

I commend my colleague from North Dakota (Mr. POMEROY) for his dedication to protecting children and for working with us on this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

□ 1645

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

First of all, I want to thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) for the hard work that he has put in on this measure. We appreciate the cooperation that we've had in the course of this. And of course we yield to no one in recognizing him as the Congress' foremost expert on the Internet, and thus his being involved in this kind of legislation for quite a few years.

Earlier versions of this bill required registration of online identifiers of sex offenders. And as the gentleman knows, a sex offender can change his user name and IP address in about two seconds, so we didn't feel that was particularly helpful. We thought monitoring sex offenders before they ever got on the Internet was a better way to go, and we're glad that we've been able to reach some closure with him on that subject.

Now, on the criminal provisions, I want to tactfully suggest that we've got a better way here in this bill, and I think most of the lawyers and those who followed this shall agree with us. There is no point in overburdening prosecutors. What we've done with reference to criminal provisions is that the practice of grooming, where sex predators lie about their age on the Internet to entice minors into sexual activity, obviously is horrific and widespread, but the other approach would have required prosecutors to prove a new and separate offense in order to get a higher sentence for offenses involving grooming. We didn't think that would be the better way to proceed.

Under the minority approach, a prosecutor would have had to prove all the elements of this new crime beyond a reasonable doubt. This is, I think, unnecessary and probably a very high burden to reach, given that there exists in criminal law a law against enticement that covers grooming activity. And so the approach we finally settled on directs the sentencing commission to provide tougher sentences for predatory behavior that involves grooming.

And you don't get the chairman of this committee talking about tougher sentencing on very many things around here; this is one that I can support without qualification.

So what we've done is deal with a serious problem of grooming and get to the same place as other approaches that have been suggested to us in what we believe, from a criminal justice point of view, is far more efficient. And with the new provisions that would fight financial facilitation of child pornography, we think we've got a bill. And we thank Mr. POMEROY for helping us get there.

And with that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, at this time I have no further speakers remaining on this legislation, so I would yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I have the final closing speaker, Mr. POMEROY, to whom I will yield the balance of our time.

Mr. POMEROY. I thank my friend, the chairman, for yielding.

I want to begin by acknowledging the work Paul Gillmor put into this legislation. He and I were the original cosponsors. He was a colleague with whom I worked on a variety of initiatives trying to keep our children safe against those who would prey upon them through the Internet. We miss Paul, but his efforts and his work continue with this legislation.

I agree with the words of the chairman in the facet of this bill relating to grooming, and I think stiffening the sentences for those convicted of engaging in deceptive behavior relative to lying about their age to incur the trust of minors with whom they're interacting on the Internet, making that an item that would bring them longer prison time when convicted is a positive clarification to this bill, probably better than the original bill.

There is a feature of the bill that was left out, that I'm quite disappointed at, and work is going to need to continue on this one, and that is, helping these Internet sites keep sexual predators off in the first place.

We have a number of provisions in our code dealing with what's required of high-risk sexual predators, and I believe it would be appropriate to have a voluntary registry where their names would be required to be on file, and social networking sites could keep them off of their site.

I want to especially commend the efforts of MySpace, one of the most popular sites out there, for the extraordinary efforts they've gone to to identify sex predators and keep them off the site; 29,000 are blocked from participating on the MySpace domain because of their efforts, and I think the Federal Government ought to do more to help them. That's work in progress. A lot of bills that come to the floor aren't perfect, at least at this iteration in the legislative process, so this is an aspect of this bill I want to continue to work on.

There are a couple of other things that I think are very useful, and that is the authorization of funds to step up the supervision of the Internet activities of high-risk sexual predators, as well as the portion that criminalizes financial facilitation of child pornography. If there is a banker making a buck by basically facilitating the credit card transactions on child pornography over the Internet, that is not an acceptable business practice. It is so not acceptable that we are criminalizing it, and I hope they get that message loud and clear.

We've worked a lot with the Judiciary Committee on this bill. I think the chairman's comments about higher sentences aren't something that he is often willing to put in a code. I think that he has been fair-minded in this, and I look forward to continuing to work with him as we get this legislation where it needs to be.

Thank you. This is a positive bill. I urge Members to vote for it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 719, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

EFFECTIVE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY PROSECUTION ACT OF 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4120) to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for more effective prosecution of cases involving child pornography, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4120

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Child pornography is estimated to be a multibillion dollar industry of global proportions, facilitated by the growth of the Internet.

(2) Recent data has shown that 83 percent of child pornography possessors had images of children younger than 12 years old, 39 percent had images of children younger than 6 years old, and 19 percent had images of children younger than 3 years old.

(3) Child pornography is a permanent record of a child's abuse and the distribution of child pornography images revictimizes the child each time the image is viewed.

(4) Child pornography is readily available through virtually every Internet technology, including Web sites, email, instant messaging, Internet Relay Chat, newsgroups, bulletin boards, and peer-to-peer.

(5) The technological ease, lack of expense, and anonymity in obtaining and distributing child pornography over the Internet has resulted in an explosion in the multijurisdictional distribution of child pornography.

(6) The Internet is well recognized as a method of distributing goods and services across State lines.

(7) The transmission of child pornography using the Internet constitutes transportation in interstate commerce.

SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE CHILD PORNOGRAPHY PROSECUTION.

(a) SECTION 2252.—Section 2252 of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(1), by inserting ''or affecting'' after ''ships in'';

(2) in subsection (a)(2), by striking ''knowingly'' and all that follows through ''mails'' and inserting ''knowingly receives, distributes, or reproduces for distribution, in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce, any visual depiction'';

(3) in subsection (a)(3)(B), by inserting ''or affecting'' before ''interstate''; and

(4) in subsection (a)(4)(B)—

(A) by inserting ''in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce'' after ''possesses''; and

(B) by striking ''that has been'' and all that follows through ''by computer''.

(b) SECTION 2252A.—Section 2252A of title 18, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in paragraphs (1) through (4) and (6) of subsection (a), by inserting ''or affecting'' before ''interstate or foreign commerce'' each place it appears; and

(2) in subsection (a)(5)(b)—

(A) by inserting ''in or affecting interstate or foreign commerce'' after ''possesses''; and

(B) by striking 'that has been'' and all that follows through ''by computer'' the second place it appears.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Members of the committee, H.R. 4120, the Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act, addresses a truly unfortunate and, in my view, wrongly decided decision by the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in the case of United States v. Schaefer.

Now, while the defendant was found to be in the possession of child pornography, the court nevertheless reversed his conviction because it concluded that the statute required, and the government had failed to prove, that the contraband had actually crossed State lines. This statute in question makes it illegal to possess child pornography ''in commerce.''

The court held that this phrase, ''in commerce,'' meant that Congress intended that the contraband had to actually cross State lines. Had the statute instead used the phrase ''in or affecting interstate commerce,'' the court held, the conviction would have been upheld, as that phrase is well understood as reflecting Congress' intent to use the full reach of its constitutional commerce clause power.

H.R. 4120 makes clear that the Congress intends that the prohibitions against child pornography reach the full extent of its constitutional authority. And as hearings in the Judiciary Committee hearing demonstrated, the child pornography business is no respecter of national or international borders. Even conduct that may appear to be wholly localized in its manifestation can nevertheless have an unmistakable effect in interstate commerce.

So let there be no mistake that Congress intends to use its full commerce clause authority to reach activities concluded by this odious business. And we want to make it so clear that even the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals cannot be mistaken by that.

And so I urge my colleagues to fully support this bill, as I expect that they will.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4120, the Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act of 2007.

This bill responds to a recent decision by the 10th Circuit United States Court of Appeals in United States v. Schaefer, in which the court ruled that the transmission of child pornography on the Internet did not satisfy the interstate requirement in child pornography laws.

The proposed legislative fix will allow the government to satisfy the interstate requirement by proving beyond a reasonable doubt that the material moved in or affected interstate foreign commerce, which would expand the jurisdiction to prosecute these crimes when the Internet is used. This is the broadest assertion of interstate commerce power that the Congress can make consistent with the Constitution.

Unfortunately, this bill, and the majority's package of bills, does not include a needed modification to existing law which would require a 2-year mandatory minimum for possession of child pornography. At an October 17, 2007, full committee hearing on the subject, the Justice Department witness outlined why such a measure was needed. Deputy Assistant Attorney General Laurence Rothenberg explained that child pornography fueled the victimization of children and led to sexual assaults against children. He also noted that Federal judges were routinely giving out lenient sentences to child pornographers below levels established by the Federal sentencing guidelines.

While the fix proposed today in H.R. 4120 is a good step forward, it is a limited step in comparison to other measures that are needed, including a mandatory minimum for child pornography crimes.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to again extend my compliments and express my gratefulness to the gentleman from Virginia for his support on this measure. And as usual, he points out perhaps small items that only a person with his experience would want to bring to the attention of the Members of the House.

The author of this bill is NANCY BOYDA of Kansas, our distinguished colleague, to whom I am proud to yield as much time as she may consume.

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, the Department of Justice estimates last year that one in five children between the ages of 10 and 17 had received a sexual solicitation or approach while they were using the Internet. With so many threats out there, Congress must provide a unified message that we, as a society, together, will stand strong for Internet safety.

What we will do today is good; it's very good. We will pass five pieces of legislation that will help keep our children safe. And I'm so proud that my legislation, H.R. 4120, the Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act of 2007, is going to be part of that message.

□ 1700

In September of this year, a man that I am sorry to say was from Kansas, William Schaefer, was found guilty of both ''knowingly receiving'' and ''knowingly possessing'' child pornography that had ''been transported in interstate commerce, by any means including by computer.'' Sadly, the 10th Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the decision and that offender was acquitted. The Court ruled that just because images are obtained on the Internet doesn't mean that they were necessarily transmitted across State lines. The Court essentially then asked Congress to clarify its intent that the Internet is, in fact, interstate commerce, and we will do that with the passage of the Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act of 2007. This legislation closes the judicial loophole that allowed a guilty man who hurt our children and was allowed to go free.

As concerned citizens, as parents, and as Members of Congress, Mr. Speaker, we must do all that we can to keep our children safe. That means we must make a commitment to being tough on crime, and to make sure those who violate the law are fully prosecuted, to ensure that the law is so clear that it deters such heinous crimes from ever happening again.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 30 seconds to thank the chairman of the Judiciary Committee for his gracious comments regarding my involvement on issues related to the Internet, particularly as it relates to fighting child pornography, but also to point out that a mandatory minimum sentence of 2 years for these child pornographers is not a small thing. What is a small thing are the sentences that many judges unfortunately are imposing upon child pornographers much, much less than 2 years, and a mandatory minimum sentence would go a long way towards curing this problem and keeping more of these pornographers off of the Internet.

Mr. CONYERS. I couldn't agree with the gentleman more.

Mr. GOODLATTE. I thank the chairman.

It is now my pleasure to yield for such time as she may consume the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) who has been a leading advocate on this issue and a strong supporter of this legislation.

Mrs. BIGGERT. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 4120, the Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act. I am very pleased to be the lead Republican cosponsor, and I thank the gentlewoman from Kansas for all of her hard work, but I am proud to be part of this important bill which will close an unacceptable loophole in the Federal criminal code.

As my colleagues have already pointed out, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit handed down a decision this year which freed a defendant who had been convicted of receiving and possessing child pornography. The case of U.S. v. Schaefer was not overturned for lack of evidence but rather because the prosecution failed to prove that images downloaded from the Internet moved across State lines in ''interstate commerce.''

The judges who decided this case pointed out that the use of the phrase ''in commerce'' instead of ''affecting commerce'' in the law signaled Congress' intent to limit Federal jurisdiction in the prosecution of child pornographers. As cochair of the Missing and Exploited Children's Caucus, I can assure you, Mr. Speaker, nothing could be further from the truth. We in Congress know the horrible consequences that result from the sexual exploitation of children used to create these images. We also take very seriously our duty to do everything in our power to protect children, punish predators and deter future acts of abuse.

That is why the bill we are considering today deserves our full support. It will close the loophole in current law by replacing the phrase ''in commerce'' with the phrase ''affecting commerce'' in the child pornography statute. It classifies the intent of Congress and will ensure that predators that use the Internet to transmit child pornography end up behind bars where they belong.

I would like to take this opportunity to again thank the gentlewoman from Kansas, my good friend, NANCY BOYDA,

for introducing this legislation. I also would like to thank the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for their assistance and counsel in drafting the bill. Mr. Speaker, as a mother of four and grandmother of seven, I know there is nothing more important than safeguarding our children from predators. We must not allow those who sexually exploit children to avoid prosecution because of a technicality.

I urge all my colleagues to support H.R. 4120 to help close this egregious loophole in the law.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentlewoman from Kansas.

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. I thank my esteemed colleague from Illinois for her help. I know the fathers in this room are just as concerned as the mothers, but as we mothers stick together and stand up to keep our children safe, this bill will go a long way, and I certainly appreciate the wonderful help that we have had on this bill. Thank you so much.

Mr. CONYERS. I thank the author (Mrs. BOYDA) and her Republican cosponsor.

I return the balance of our time. There are no further speakers.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I yield back.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4120.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

DIRECTING PROVISION OF GRANTS FOR INTERNET CRIME PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4134) to direct the Attorney General to provide grants for Internet crime prevention education programs.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4134

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. GRANTS FOR INTERNET CRIME PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

(a) GRANT FOR I-SAFE.—

(1) GRANT.—Subject to the availability of the funds authorized to be appropriated under paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall provide a grant to i-Safe, Inc., to carry out Internet crime prevention education programs.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated $5,000,000 for grants under paragraph (1) for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(b) COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the availability of the funds authorized to be appropriated under paragraph (2), the Attorney General shall create and administer a competitive grants program for organizations to carry out Internet crime prevention education programs.

(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated $5,000,000 for grants under paragraph (1) for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

SEC. 2. INTERNET CRIME PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAMS DEFINED.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The term ''Internet crime prevention education programs'' means programs that serve to educate parents, children, educators, and communities about how to recognize and prevent potentially criminal activity on the Internet.

(b) RELATED DEFINITIONS.—

(1) POTENTIALLY CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.—The term ''potentially criminal activity'' includes access through the Internet and other electronic devices to potentially illegal activity including sexual or racial harassment, cyberbullying, sexual exploitation, exposure to pornography, and privacy violations.

(2) CYBERBULLYING.—The term ''cyberbullying'' includes verbal, visual, or written psychological bullying or harassment by an individual or group, using an electronic device or devices including e-mail, instant messaging, text messages, blogs, telephones, pagers, and websites, to support deliberate, repeated, and hostile behavior that is intended to harm others.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill now under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Members of the House, there are many ways to address criminal behavior on the Internet as reflected by the measures that we have already passed this afternoon. Without question, it is critical that Internet sex offenders be identified, arrested, prosecuted and punished as the law provides.

Nevertheless, Internet safety must begin with prevention, especially with our children. They must be taught how to use the Internet safely and how to avoid Internet behavior that puts them at risk. So H.R. 4134 authorizes that the Department of Justice administer grants for the purpose of teaching our children Internet safety.

This is an excellent measure that deserves our support. I commend the chairman of our fifth committee in Judiciary, LINDA SÁNCHEZ of California, for her leadership on this very critical issue, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4134 which directs the Attorney General to provide grants to I-Safe, Incorporated for Internet safety education programs.

I-Safe provides a number of Internet safety programs with Federal Government agencies, including the Justice Department and the Federal Trade Commission.

Crime prevention is an important component in promoting safe communities. Internet safety programs help to raise the awareness of Internet users, children and parents, to the dangers on the Internet. H.R. 4134 authorizes $5 million to I-Safe, Incorporated to promote Internet safety. I-Safe is a worthy program, and I support the legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased now to recognize the chairman of our subcommittee and the author of this measure, LINDA SÁNCHEZ of California, for as much time as she may consume.

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. I want to thank Chairman CONYERS for his support of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4134, the Internet Crime Prevention Education Program Act. This bill will authorize funding for the i-SAFE program for 5 years and create a new grant competition to provide funds for like-minded Internet safety and crime prevention programs. This new grant program will support and enhance the efforts of schools, law enforcement agencies and parents to give children the skills they need to avoid potential criminal activity on the Internet. By bringing this bill to the floor today, the leadership of the House on both sides of the aisle has demonstrated that it recognizes that our children are in danger from cyberbullying, identity theft, cyberstalking and harassment and other potential cybercrimes.

These are very real threats and they demand real action, and I am proud that we are united in this effort. Although adults, even those with children, don't always realize it, children face a myriad of online dangers whenever they use chat rooms, instant messages and e-mail. They could come across predators, financial scams, or inappropriate content when they go online to do things as innocent as research for school assignments.

The Internet is a powerful tool for progress that is transforming the way our society obtains and shares information. But unfortunately the Internet also carries risks when misused as an avenue for predators, bullies and thieves. Last year, one in five children received a sexual solicitation or were inappropriately approached via the Internet. Unfortunately, numerous

children have already become victims of unspeakable physical harm or have suffered irreparable mental injuries from online predators.

Sexual predators are not the only danger facing youth online. As bizarre as it may seem to those of us old enough that we didn't have these technologies when we were in school, bullies are using their cell phones and the Internet to torment their peers. This literally means that kids can be bullied any hour of the day or night and even within their own homes. And because it is not face to face, cyberbullying can be much crueler and present a whole new set of dangers.

Cyberbullying can have serious consequences and inflict lasting wounds on young people. Studies have found that bullying can negatively impact the academic performance, self-esteem, and mental and physical health of children. Whenever I discuss bullying, I inevitably hear one person ask, ''What is wrong with a little bullying? It makes you stronger. It builds character.'' Builds character? Really? It is important to realize that students who are bullied are more likely to be depressed and commit suicide.

So many of the horrifying school shootings in recent years have been linked to bullying that it can no longer be viewed as a rite of passage. Bullying and harassment must be treated as the violent and damaging behaviors that they are.

This bill, the Internet Crime Prevention Education Program Act, is just one part of a package of bills that I have introduced to keep our kids safe by tackling bullying and harassment.

i-SAFE is the perfect example of an organization that shares this goal. i-SAFE, Incorporated is a nonprofit foundation dedicated to protecting the online experience of youth by incorporating classroom curriculum with community outreach to make the Internet a safer place.

The i-SAFE program is free for schools, school districts, law enforcement, communities, and parents in large part because of the congressional funding it has received on a bipartisan basis since 2002. i-SAFE has provided over 3 million children in 50 States with the tools to protect themselves on the Internet.

After participating in the i-SAFE program, 91 percent of students say that they will make better choices about where they go on the Internet, 87 percent say they will be more careful about sharing personal information in chat rooms, and 75 percent say they are less likely to meet someone from the Internet in person.

Law enforcement, which deserves praise for pursuing cybercriminals needs the help of programs like i-SAFE, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the National Crime Prevention Council, Web Wise Kids, Netsmartz, and Teen Angels, to help reduce online crimes through prevention.

When used the right way, the Internet can be a valuable educational resource and allow for extended social networks. It is our responsibility to ensure that children are able to enjoy all of the benefits of the Internet armed with the knowledge of how to stay safe. I therefore urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4134.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of Ms. LINDA SÁNCHEZ's legislation, which would make grants available for Internet safety education programs.

Advances in technology have resulted in new conveniences, greater access to information, and the ability to correspond easily and quickly with individuals around the world. However, the recent explosion of social networking sites and internet chat-rooms has also created opportunities for predators to target children easily and anonymously.

Eighty-seven percent of teens use the internet on a regular basis, and according to the Justice Department, one in five children between the ages of ten and seventeen has received a sexual solicitation or has been approached online in the last year. The internet provides students with a world of information and has become a necessity in many of our everyday lives, yet it unfortunately can expose our kids to a world of potential dangers without adequate protections.

For example, early this year a teenage girl in Florida was found one day after she snuck out of her house to meet who she thought was a 24-year-old man she met on MySpace, but turned out to be a 46-year-old high-risk sex offender. Several social networking sites have implemented some security measures, but sex offenders have found ways to get around them. That is why I applaud efforts such as those by Attorney General Cuomo to ensure that social networking sites meet the safety standards they advertise.

It is imperative that we do everything we can to make the internet as safe as possible for our children. At the local level, many of our law enforcement agencies and schools are doing wonderful work using internet safety curriculum to educate students on how to avoid dangerous, inappropriate, or unlawful online behavior.

As a mother and grandmother, I am fighting at the federal level to reduce the risk that our children face online from child predators. That is why I am so pleased that today the House is considering five different pieces of legislation, several of which I have cosponsored, that promote internet safety and crack down on child pornography.

Ms. SÁNCHEZ's bill would create a grant program for organizations that promote internet safety. These grants will help crime safety groups such as the National Crime Prevention Council develop programs to better educate children, parents, teachers, libraries, and others on the dangers of potential online criminal activity and cyberbullying.

The SAFER Net Act, sponsored by Ms. BEAN, authorizes $5 million for a national public awareness campaign to promote internet safety. Several internet safety programs exist, but the federal government must do a better job ensuring that parents and schools are able to utilize those programs.

Mr. POMEROY's KIDS Act would close a dangerous loophole by requiring sexual offenders to include e-mail addresses and instant messaging screen names when complying with registration and notification laws. Notification laws have enabled parents to know when a sexual predator has moved into their neighborhood, but not their inbox.

As a member of the Congressional Missing and Exploited Children Caucus, I know that the passage of this series of bills is a significant step in our efforts to protect children as they use the internet.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I have no speakers remaining, so I will yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. I have no further speakers, and I yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4134.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVE PROSECUTION OF CHILD PORNOGRAPHY ACT OF 2007

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4136) to amend title 18 of the United States Code to clarify the scope of the child pornography laws and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4136

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. MONEY LAUNDERING PREDICATE.

Section 1956(c)(7)(D) of title 18, United States Code, is amended by inserting ''2252A (relating to child pornography) where the child pornography at issue involves minors, 2260 (production of certain child pornography for importation into the United States),'' before ''section 2280''.

SEC. 3. POSSESSION OFFENSES INCLUDE INTENTIONAL VIEWING ON THE INTERNET.

(a) SECTION 2252.—Section 2252 of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) DEFINITION.—As used in this section with respect to a visual depiction, the term 'possess' includes accessing by computer with the intent to view.''.

(b) SECTION 2252A.—Section 2252A of title 18, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(g) DEFINITION.—As used in this section with respect to child pornography, the term 'possess' includes accessing by computer with intent to view.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. GOODLATTE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

□ 1715

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members

have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 4136, the Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act, addresses two gaps in the criminal statutes that punish those who trade in, profit from, and create the market for child pornography. First, the bill provides that those who launder proceeds from the business of child pornography may be charged with money laundering. This is obviously common sense, and a provision supported by the Department of Justice.

Then, it clarifies the definition of possession in the child pornography laws so that knowingly accessing child pornography on the Internet with intent to view it constitutes possession, even if the user does not download or otherwise save the images. Some defendants have claimed that they did not intend to possess the images, even when they clearly intended to view them, and some courts have said the reach of the statute is unclear in this regard. This measure removes any ambiguity from the law.

We are grateful to CHRIS CARNEY, our colleague from Pennsylvania, who has authored this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4136, the Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act of 2007. This bill adds child pornography offenses as money laundering predicates and clarifies existing law to prohibit knowingly accessing child pornography with the intent to view it. Child pornography is a multibillion-dollar worldwide industry. It is despicable in its scope, and it is vicious in its victimization of children. Money is what fuels this horrific crime.

The majority's proposal in H.R. 4136 takes a limited step to prohibit money laundering offenses as part of a child pornography scheme. But much more is needed. Legislation proposed by our ranking member, LAMAR SMITH, and Mr. CHABOT, a member of the Judiciary Committee, contains a host of proposals to increase penalties for child predators and pornographers and provides law enforcement tools for combating these heinous crimes in a virtual universe. Unfortunately, the majority chose to ignore the improvements proposed by many Republican members.

However, H.R. 4136 does enact Representative MARILYN MUSGRAVE'S proposals in H.R. 3148, which was introduced on July 24, 2007, the Child Pornography Elimination Act. I commend Mrs. MUSGRAVE for her legislative efforts. This closes a loophole in the law that child pornographers use to avoid possession of child pornography by not downloading the material. This provision will prohibit accessing such material with the intent to view it and will not require an offender to actually download the material.

This provision is a good one, and we support it.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, we are happy to get the support and concurrence of the gentleman from Virginia on this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. CARNEY), the author of the legislation.

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I am proud here today to stand with my colleagues to consider a number of child safety bills on the floor. I especially want to thank the House Judiciary Committee and particularly Chairman CONYERS and his staff for their help.

As a proud father of five, I know how important the safety and well-being of our children is for our Nation. That is why I have introduced the Enhancing the Effective Prosecution of Child Pornography Act of 2007. This legislation will allow the Department of Justice to more effectively prosecute people who produce child pornography or knowingly access child pornography repeatedly with the intent to view it.

We are trying to dry up the source of demand for child pornographers. This legislation addresses a component of the problem that has been difficult for prosecutors to combat, the repeat consumer. We need to stop child pornography at the source and we need to stifle the demand. This is not about playing ''gotcha'' games with anyone accidentally stumbling across a mistyped Web address. Rather, this is going after those who repeatedly seek out child pornography and those that continue to produce it.

No one disagrees that we need to protect our children and we need to stop pornography at its source, especially child pornography. I want to encourage all my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I have no additional speakers and urge my colleagues to support this legislation. I thank the chairman of the committee for his hard work on all of these series of bills and hope to have the opportunity to continue to work with him to perhaps make some perfecting improvements as we move forward.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for speakers, and I yield back the balance of my time and thank the floor manager for his excellent work on all these measures.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4136, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CONGRATULATING SHAWN JOHNSON ON BECOMING THE 2007 WORLD ARTISTIC GYMNASTICS CHAMPION

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 684) congratulating Shawn Johnson on her victory in becoming the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastics Champion in women's gymnastics.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 684

Whereas Shawn Johnson won four gold medals at the 2007 Pan American Games in Rio de Janiero for team competition, all around, uneven bars, and balance beam, as well as one silver medal for floor;

Whereas Shawn Johnson won the 2007 Visa Championships in San Jose, California, to become the United States champion in gymnastics;

Whereas Shawn Johnson won three gold medals at the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in Stuttgart, Germany, making her the 2007 world all-around champion, one of only four American women to have achieved such recognition; and

Whereas Shawn Johnson has brought great pride and honor to her family, friends, and the citizens of Iowa with her numerous accomplishments at the age of 15: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulates Shawn Johnson on her outstanding accomplishment in becoming the 2007 World Gymnastics Champion in women's gymnastics.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. BOSWELL), the author of this legislation.

Mr. BOSWELL. I would like to thank Mr. DAVIS for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased today to congratulate an inspirational young woman from my district, Shawn Johnson, the daughter of Doug and Terri Johnson of West Des Moines, Iowa, who recently won the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastic Championship, which took place in Stuttgart, Germany. At the age of 15, Shawn has achieved more and seen more than many high school students dream of. She has done it all while maintaining her status as an honor student alongside her friends at Valley High.

Shawn has traveled the world, winning title after title. This past July, she won five medals at the 2007 Pan American Games in Rio de Janeiro. Winning the 2007 Visa championships in San Jose, California, made her the United States champion in gymnastics. On September 9, Shawn became the world all-around champion, taking home three gold medals at the World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in Stuttgart, Germany.

While her shows are exciting and full of grace, one of the most inspiring things about her championship is that Shawn is shaping history. Having joined an elite group of women gymnasts, Shawn is one of only four American women to win the 40-year-old competition.

Shawn has impressed many around the globe and has made Iowans incredibly proud. She is reminding us how important hard work and dedication are. In honor of Shawn's accomplishments, Governor Chet Culver declared October 17 Shawn Johnson Day in Iowa, and we are extremely proud to join my fellow Iowans in congratulating Shawn and thanking her for making history in the great State of Iowa.

Shawn's positive attitude to achieve has taken her to amazing places. I suspect she's not quite finished. Promising to be ready for the Beijing Olympics, she told a reporter that she would ''put in 100 times more effort and hopefully come back with another gold.''

Again, congratulations Shawn, and good luck at future competitions. You make me proud, you make our congressional district proud, you make your school in west Des Moines proud, you make our State of Iowa proud, and you make our country proud. We wish you continued success. On to the Olympics.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that everyone will support this resolution.

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Today, I rise and urge passage of H. Res. 684, congratulating Shawn Johnson on her recent national championship in women's artistic gymnastics. Just this year, Shawn has won the all-around competition at the Pan American Games, the American Cup, the national championship and the world championship. She has appeared on ''ABC World News Tonight,'' ''The Ellen DeGeneres Show'' and at a gala for Pink With a Twist, a group that fights cancers among women.

She has been honored with Shawn Johnson Day in Iowa, with the Longines Prize for Elegance, and as ABC's Person of the Week. All this for a 15-year-old, 4-foot 8, 88-pound high school sophomore who sometimes finds time to walk dogs at shelters and serves as a ball girl for her school's football team.

She never bothered to crawl, according to her mother, Terri Johnson. At 9 months old she simply arose and began to walk. At age 3, her mother enrolled her in gymnastics class ''just to channel all her energy,'' her mom said. I think it's important to point out that it was her mom who drove her so many times to so many practices, because with all great athletes, we have to acknowledge that the parents play such a great role in it.

At the age of 6, she showed up at Qiao Gymnastics in Des Moines, where Qiao was working. A former top gymnast from China, Qiao had come to the United States to study English at the University of Iowa. Although her first coach said that she had more raw strength than gymnastic ability, Coach Qiao saw her potential immediately and worked hard to nurture that talent.

This means long and busy days for Shawn. After school, she heads to the gym for a 4-hour workout, then home to do school work. Yet, she maintains a 4.0 average. Unlike traditional gymnasts, artistic gymnastics traditionally has not been a sport where 15-year-olds excel. It combines the disciplines of gymnastics and ballet, and few athletes as young as Shawn have been able to master it.

□ 1730

But through hard work, discipline and the ability and the tutelage of a good coach, she has already made her mark as one of the world's greatest gymnasts. With Pan Am, national and world titles behind her, Shawn now points towards 2008 to the summer Olympics to be held in Beijing. ''I think it would be cool, not only for me, but for him,'' she said, ''and I think it would be a proud moment for both of us.''

What I want to say to my colleagues is this is a special young woman and one that I know everyone in Iowa has a lot of pride in, but everybody in the United States shares in that pride, and I urge passage of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H. Res. 684, a bill that congratulates Shawn Johnson on her victory in becoming the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastics Champion in women's gymnastics.

H. Res. 684, which has 57 cosponsors, was introduced by Representative LEONARD L. BOSWELL on September 26, 2007. H. Res. 684 was reported from the Oversight Committee on October 23, 2007, by voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Shawn Johnson, at the age of 15, won three gold medals at the World Artistic Gymnastics Championships in Stuttgart, Germany. She became the fourth United States woman ever to win a world all-around title with her come-from-behind victory in the women's all-around finals of the 2007 world championships. She joined Kim Zmeskal, Shannon Miller and Chellsie Memmel as the only U.S. women to win a world all-around title in gymnastics.

This year, Ms. JOHNSON was first at the 2007 Tyson American Cup. She won the all-around title at the 2007 Pan Am Games, along with the U.S. women's gymnastic team, receiving gold metals for the uneven bars and balanced beam events. She also won the silver medal for the floor exercise event. At the 2007 Visa Championships, she won her first senior U.S. all-around title.

So, Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague, Representative BOSWELL, on congratulating the outstanding accomplishments of Ms. JOHNSON in becoming the 2007 World Gymnastics Champion in women's gymnastics and urge the swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time and urge passage of this resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 684.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 808) commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 808

Whereas, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments is an independent, nonprofit organization, founded in 1957, and comprised of elected officials from 21 local governments of the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland, and Northern Virginia, plus area members of the Maryland and Virginia legislatures, the U.S. Senate, and the U.S. House of Representatives;

Whereas in April 1957 forty officials from Washington area jurisdictions voluntarily

gathered to establish an organization where they could exchange ideas and work together on regional issues such as transportation, the environment, and public safety; this organization became the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments;

Whereas during the past half century COG's activities have touched every aspect of the life of the citizens of the National Capital Region and have improved the quality of life for all residents;

Whereas COG has facilitated the development of effective responses to such issues as the environment, affordable housing, economic development, human services, land use development, public safety and emergency response, and transportation that have had a profound and positive impact on the National Capital Region;

Whereas these responses include galvanizing the region's response to the September 11th attacks and the ongoing emergency preparedness programs, cleaning up of the Potomac River, spearheading a number of regional health programs including one of the nation's first regional conferences on AIDS, creating the region's express bus lane system, reducing air pollution through a model law and establishing the region's daily air quality index, and founding the Foster and Adoptive Families program for vulnerable children and teenagers;

Whereas COG has served as the Metropolitan Planning Organization guiding the region's transportation planning in partnership with the state and local departments of transportation since the 1960s and has served as key advocate for increased funding for the region's transportation needs;

Whereas COG's air quality committee created by the State of Maryland, the Commonwealth of Virginia and the District of Columbia, has worked successfully to reduce pollutants in the region's air;

Whereas COG has worked with area governments and law enforcement and emergency response officials to improve public safety response and coordination for over four decades, starting with the ''mutual aid agreements'' that began with the opening of the Wilson Bridge in 1962 and continuing to the present with homeland security planning and initiatives such as the regional pawnshop database that has helped recover millions of dollars of stolen property; and

Whereas COG managed a Federal pilot program to provide treatment and support services to women who abused alcohol and drugs, and currently works with area health officials to improve the region's emergency preparedness by developing a disease and syndromic surveillance system: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives does hereby offers its sincerest congratulations to the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments in recognition of its 50th Anniversary and its legacy of outstanding service to the governments and citizens of greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan region and expresses its appreciation for a job well done.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. MORAN).

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. I thank my good friend and distinguished colleague from Illinois for yielding me the time. I have the great honor to offer this resolution on behalf of all of my colleagues in the Washington metropolitan area.

The Council of Governments of the Washington Metropolitan Area began 50 years ago, in 1957. In the ensuing 50 years, it has become the premier group for collaboration on transportation, air and water quality, regional growth, emergency response, and any number of other domestic issues that are important to its individual jurisdictions. We will be honoring the Council of Governments Thursday night in their 50th anniversary gala, and all of our Washington area colleagues, including Ms. NORTON, Congressman VAN HOLLEN, Congressman HOYER, Congressman WYNN, Congressman DAVIS and Congressman WOLF, will all participate, as they have been participating since they have been elected to office in the Council of Governments.

Since its first meeting during the Eisenhower administration where there were seven charter member governments, it has grown to include 21 local jurisdictions. As it has grown, it has become the place to discuss and address and solve so many of the region's problems.

Because of the Council of Governments, this is one of the finest regions in the country in which to live. But it wasn't always that way. Fifty years ago, it had half of its current population, it had no Metro system and no interstate highway system. Imagine, just 50 years ago. But the visionary leaders of this area got together, and in working with the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, have made enormous strides in creating a region that is proud to be the capital of the free world, and those who live here reflect that pride. But it didn't happen by accident. COG has been an essential component of that growth.

In 1967, COG was responsible for the D.C. Air Pollution Act. It was a model that was created by the Council of Governments, signed by President Johnson. The fire chiefs of the area got together and put together a mutual aid agreement. That became the model for the 9/11 Commission's recommendation for all metropolitan areas in the country. The response of the Council of Governments on September 11, 2001, in pulling together all of the emergency responders, was tremendous and deserves great credit as well. The Regional Incident Communication Coordination System is a model in the country.

Now those 21 local governments have over 250 members. We have one of the highest quality of life achievements in the country and the Nation's strongest economy. And as we plan for an additional 1.6 million people and 1.2 million more jobs over the next 25 years, COG will continue to address those challenges. When we look forward to the next 50 years, COG predicts that by the year 2057 the average home in metropolitan Washington will cost more than $14 million. That means a lot of pay increases for all of the Federal workers, I guess including the Members themselves. But we are going to be part of a mega-region stretching from Baltimore to Richmond. The way in which we use energy is going to be a key determinant in terms of the region's prosperity.

There will be enormous changes that take place. But whatever changes take place, we know that the Council of Governments is going to be there as a meeting place, as a forum, as a facilitator, to address all of the challenges that confront us.

So, after 50 years of tremendous achievement, we do want to recognize this organization, and I very much appreciate the committee giving us the opportunity to do so. I think I have used my time, and I don't think there is much controversy, so I will conclude my remarks at this point.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I want to join with the gentleman from Virginia, my friend, in enthusiastically supporting this legislation. After 50 years of this kind of a Council of Governments' working, it deserves the recognition it will receive here on the House floor today. I certainly believe that Mr. MORAN has done a very, very good job of outlining the 50 years of success, beginning in April of 1957, and I think we should briefly reflect on what 1957 until day was all about.

This is a time in which the District of Columbia went through terrible upheaval. Maryland and Virginia had to reinvent themselves. All of this could not have been done without the kind of cooperation that this council produced. I think it is certainly unique to have the District of Columbia and two States, five counties, two cities and dozens of Maryland counties all working together. These jurisdictions are cooperating.

I think that is a legacy that has only half finished its work. I think on a bipartisan basis we all recognize the improvements in the quality of living here, the transportation and infrastructure that makes it possible for us to get to work by road or by rail.

So, I look forward to this organization continuing for another 50 years serving what is today 1.6 million people, and certainly a growing population, both in and out of the district.

With that, I very much urge passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join with my colleagues, and I commend Representative MORAN for his introduction of H. Res. 808, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the regional planning that has taken place in the Washington, D.C., area. It has been instrumental in making this, as he indicated, one of the most desirable areas of the country in which to live. I commend them for their effort and salute him for his introduction of this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 808.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3074, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. OLVER submitted the following conference report and statement on the bill (H.R. 3074) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes:

CONFERENCE REPORT (H. REPT. 110–446)

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3074) ''making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes'', having met, after full and free conference, have agreed to recommend and do recommend to their respective Houses as follows:

That the House recede from its disagreement to the amendment of the Senate, and agree to the same with an amendment, as follows:

In lieu of the matter stricken and inserted by said amendment, insert:

That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, namely:

TITLE I

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of the Secretary, $93,782,000, of which not to exceed $2,310,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary; not to exceed $730,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary; not to exceed $18,720,000 shall be available for the Office of the General Counsel; not to exceed $11,874,000 shall be available for the Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy; not to exceed $9,417,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs; not to exceed $2,383,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs; not to exceed $23,750,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration; not to exceed $1,986,000 shall be available for the Office of Public Affairs; not to exceed $1,516,000 shall be available for the Office of the Executive Secretariat; not to exceed $1,335,000 shall be available for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization; not to exceed $7,874,000 for the Office of Intelligence, Security, and Emergency Response; and not to exceed $11,887,000 shall be available for the Office of the Chief Information Officer: Provided, That the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office of the Office of the Secretary to any other office of the Office of the Secretary: Provided further, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent by all such transfers: Provided further, That notice of any change in funding greater than 5 percent shall be submitted for approval to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: Provided further, That not to exceed $60,000 shall be for allocation within the Department for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, excluding fees authorized in Public Law 107–71, there may be credited to this appropriation up to $2,500,000 in funds received in user fees: Provided further, That none of the funds provided in this Act shall be available for the position of Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

For necessary expenses of the Office of Civil Rights, $9,140,900.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, RESEARCH, AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses for conducting transportation planning, research, systems development, development activities, and making grants, to remain available until expended, $14,000,000.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

Necessary expenses for operating costs and capital outlays of the Working Capital Fund, not to exceed $128,094,000, shall be paid from appropriations made available to the Department of Transportation: Provided, That such services shall be provided on a competitive basis to entities within the Department of Transportation: Provided further, That the above limitation on operating expenses shall not apply to non-DOT entities: Provided further, That no funds appropriated in this Act to an agency of the Department shall be transferred to the Working Capital Fund without the approval of the agency modal administrator: Provided further, That no assessments may be levied against any program, budget activity, subactivity or project funded by this Act unless notice of such assessments and the basis therefor are presented to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations and are approved by such Committees.

MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

For the cost of guaranteed loans, $370,000, as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 332: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $18,367,000. In addition, for administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, $523,000.

MINORITY BUSINESS OUTREACH

For necessary expenses of Minority Business Resource Center outreach activities, $2,970,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009: Provided, That notwithstanding 49 U.S.C. 332, these funds may be used for business opportunities related to any mode of transportation.

PAYMENTS TO AIR CARRIERS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

In addition to funds made available from any other source to carry out the essential air service program under 49 U.S.C. 41731 through 41742, $60,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to remain available until expended: Provided, That, in determining between or among carriers competing to provide service to a community, the Secretary may consider the relative subsidy requirements of the carriers: Provided further, That, if the funds under this heading are insufficient to meet the costs of the essential air service program in the current fiscal year, the Secretary shall transfer such sums as may be necessary to carry out the essential air service program from any available amounts appropriated to or directly administered by the Office of the Secretary for such fiscal year.

COMPENSATION FOR AIR CARRIERS

(RESCISSION)

Of the remaining unobligated balances under section 101(a)(2) of Public Law 107–42, $22,000,000 are rescinded.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

SEC. 101. The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to transfer the unexpended balances available for the bonding assistance program from ''Office of the Secretary, Salaries and expenses'' to ''Minority Business Outreach''.

SEC. 102. None of the funds made available in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be obligated for the Office of the Secretary of Transportation to approve assessments or reimbursable agreements pertaining to funds appropriated to the modal administrations in this Act, except for activities underway on the date of enactment of this Act, unless such assessments or agreements have completed the normal reprogramming process for Congressional notification.

SEC. 103. None of the funds made available under this Act may be obligated or expended to establish or implement a program under which essential air service communities are required to assume subsidy costs commonly referred to as the EAS local participation program.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses of the Federal Aviation Administration, not otherwise provided for, including operations and research activities related to commercial space transportation, administrative expenses for research and development, establishment of air navigation facilities, the operation (including leasing) and maintenance of aircraft, subsidizing the cost of aeronautical charts and maps sold to the public, lease or purchase of passenger motor vehicles for replacement only, in addition to amounts made available by Public Law 108–176, $8,750,000,000, of which $6,383,216,000 shall be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, of which not to exceed $6,969,663,000 shall be available for air traffic organization activities; not to exceed $1,082,653,000 shall be available for aviation safety activities; not to exceed $12,549,000 shall be available for commercial space transportation activities; not to exceed $102,221,000 shall be available for financial services activities; not to exceed $91,214,000 shall be available for human resources program activities; not to exceed $290,872,000 shall be available for region and center operations and regional coordination activities; not to exceed $166,543,000 shall be available for staff offices; and not to exceed $39,552,000 shall be available for information

services: Provided, That not to exceed 2 percent of any budget activity, except for aviation safety budget activity, may be transferred to any budget activity under this heading: Provided further, That no transfer may increase or decrease any appropriation by more than 2 percent: Provided further, That any transfer in excess of 2 percent shall be treated as a reprogramming of funds under section 405 of this Act and shall not be available for obligation or expenditure except in compliance with the procedures set forth in that section: Provided further, That the Secretary utilize not less than $6,000,000 of the funds provided for aviation safety activities to pay for staff increases in the Office of Aviation Flight Standards and the Office of Aircraft Certification: Provided further, That not later than March 31 of each fiscal year hereafter, the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration shall transmit to Congress an annual update to the report submitted to Congress in December 2004 pursuant to section 221 of Public Law 108–176: Provided further, That the amount herein appropriated shall be reduced by $100,000 for each day after March 31 that such report has not been submitted to the Congress: Provided further, That funds may be used to enter into a grant agreement with a nonprofit standard-setting organization to assist in the development of aviation safety standards: Provided further, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for new applicants for the second career training program: Provided further, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the Federal Aviation Administration to finalize or implement any regulation that would promulgate new aviation user fees not specifically authorized by law after the date of the enactment of this Act: Provided further, That there may be credited to this appropriation funds received from States, counties, municipalities, foreign authorities, other public authorities, and private sources, for expenses incurred in the provision of agency services, including receipts for the maintenance and operation of air navigation facilities, and for issuance, renewal or modification of certificates, including airman, aircraft, and repair station certificates, or for tests related thereto, or for processing major repair or alteration forms: Provided further, That of the funds appropriated under this heading, not less than $8,500,000 shall be for the contract tower cost-sharing program: Provided further, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for paying premium pay under 5 U.S.C. 5546(a) to any Federal Aviation Administration employee unless such employee actually performed work during the time corresponding to such premium pay: Provided further, That none of the funds in this Act for aeronautical charting and cartography are available for activities conducted by, or coordinated through, the Working Capital Fund: Provided further, That none of the funds in this Act may be obligated or expended for an employee of the Federal Aviation Administration to purchase a store gift card or gift certificate through use of a Government-issued credit card.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for acquisition, establishment, technical support services, improvement by contract or purchase, and hire of air navigation and experimental facilities and equipment, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including initial acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant; engineering and service testing, including construction of test facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant; construction and furnishing of quarters and related accommodations for officers and employees of the Federal Aviation Administration stationed at remote localities where such accommodations are not available; and the purchase, lease, or transfer of aircraft from funds available under this heading, including aircraft for aviation regulation and certification; to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, $2,527,284,000, of which $2,067,311,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2010, and of which $459,973,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2008: Provided, That there may be credited to this appropriation funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources, for expenses incurred in the establishment and modernization of air navigation facilities: Provided further, That upon initial submission to the Congress of the fiscal year 2009 President's budget, the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to the Congress a comprehensive capital investment plan for the Federal Aviation Administration which includes funding for each budget line item for fiscal years 2009 through 2013, with total funding for each year of the plan constrained to the funding targets for those years as estimated and approved by the Office of Management and Budget.

RESEARCH, ENGINEERING, AND DEVELOPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses, not otherwise provided for, for research, engineering, and development, as authorized under part A of subtitle VII of title 49, United States Code, including construction of experimental facilities and acquisition of necessary sites by lease or grant, $147,000,000, to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until September 30, 2010: Provided, That there may be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources, which shall be available for expenses incurred for research, engineering, and development.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

For liquidation of obligations incurred for grants-in-aid for airport planning and development, and noise compatibility planning and programs as authorized under subchapter I of chapter 471 and subchapter I of chapter 475 of title 49, United States Code, and under other law authorizing such obligations; for procurement, installation, and commissioning of runway incursion prevention devices and systems at airports of such title; for grants authorized under section 41743 of title 49, United States Code; and for inspection activities and administration of airport safety programs, including those related to airport operating certificates under section 44706 of title 49, United States Code, $4,399,000,000 to be derived from the Airport and Airway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: Provided, That none of the funds under this heading shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the obligations for which are in excess of $3,514,500,000 in fiscal year 2008, notwithstanding section 47117(g) of title 49, United States Code: Provided further, That none of the funds under this heading shall be available for the replacement of baggage conveyor systems, reconfiguration of terminal baggage areas, or other airport improvements that are necessary to install bulk explosive detection systems: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, of funds limited under this heading, not more than $80,676,000 shall be obligated for administration, not less than $10,000,000 shall be available for the airport cooperative research program, not less than $18,712,000 shall be for Airport Technology Research and $10,000,000, to remain available until expended, shall be available and transferred to ''Office of the Secretary, Salaries and Expenses'' to carry out the Small Community Air Service Development Program.

(RESCISSION)

Of the amounts authorized for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007, and prior years under sections 48103 and 48112 of title 49, United States Code, $185,500,000 are rescinded.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 110. None of the funds in this Act may be used to compensate in excess of 425 technical staff-years under the federally funded research and development center contract between the Federal Aviation Administration and the Center for Advanced Aviation Systems Development during fiscal year 2008.

SEC. 111. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to pursue or adopt guidelines or regulations requiring airport sponsors to provide to the Federal Aviation Administration without cost building construction, maintenance, utilities and expenses, or space in airport sponsor-owned buildings for services relating to air traffic control, air navigation, or weather reporting: Provided, That the prohibition of funds in this section does not apply to negotiations between the agency and airport sponsors to achieve agreement on ''below-market'' rates for these items or to grant assurances that require airport sponsors to provide land without cost to the FAA for air traffic control facilities.

SEC. 112. The Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration may reimburse amounts made available to satisfy 49 U.S.C. 41742(a)(1) from fees credited under 49 U.S.C. 45303: Provided, That during fiscal year 2008, 49 U.S.C. 41742(b) shall not apply, and any amount remaining in such account at the close of that fiscal year may be made available to satisfy section 41742(a)(1) for the subsequent fiscal year.

SEC. 113. Amounts collected under section 40113(e) of title 49, United States Code, shall be credited to the appropriation current at the time of collection, to be merged with and available for the same purposes of such appropriation.

SEC. 114. (a) Section 44302(f)(1) of title 49, United States Code, is amended by striking ''2006,'' each place it appears and inserting ''2008,''.

(b) Section 44303(b) of such title is amended by striking ''2006,'' and inserting ''2008,''.

(c) Section 44310 of such title is amended by striking ''March 30, 2008'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

SEC. 115. None of the funds appropriated or limited by this Act may be used to change weight restrictions or prior permission rules at Teterboro airport in Teterboro, New Jersey.

SEC. 116. (a) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 447 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end thereof the following:

''§ 44729. Age standards for pilots

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the limitation in subsection (c), a pilot may serve in multicrew covered operations until attaining 65 years of age.

''(b) COVERED OPERATIONS DEFINED.—In this section, the term 'covered operations' means operations under part 121 of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations.

''(c) LIMITATION FOR INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS.—

''(1) APPLICABILITY OF ICAO STANDARD.—A pilot who has attained 60 years of age may serve as pilot-in-command in covered operations between the United States and another country only if there is another pilot in the flight deck crew who has not yet attained 60 years of age.

''(2) SUNSET OF LIMITATION.—Paragraph (1) shall cease to be effective on such date as the Convention on International Civil Aviation provides that a pilot who has attained 60 years of age may serve as pilot-in-command in international commercial operations without regard to whether there is another pilot in the flight deck crew who has not attained age 60.

''(d) SUNSET OF AGE-60 RETIREMENT RULE.—On and after the date of enactment of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act,

2008, section 121.383(c) of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations, shall cease to be effective.

''(e) APPLICABILITY.—

''(1) NONRETROACTIVITY.—No person who has attained 60 years of age before the date of enactment of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 may serve as a pilot for an air carrier engaged in covered operations unless—

''(A) such person is in the employment of that air carrier in such operations on such date of enactment as a required flight deck crew member; or

''(B) such person is newly hired by an air carrier as a pilot on or after such date of enactment without credit for prior seniority or prior longevity for benefits or other terms related to length of service prior to the date of rehire under any labor agreement or employment policies of the air carrier.

''(2) PROTECTION FOR COMPLIANCE.—An action taken in conformance with this section, taken in conformance with a regulation issued to carry out this section, or taken prior to the date of enactment of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 in conformance with section 121.383(c) of title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (as in effect before such date of enactment), may not serve as a basis for liability or relief in a proceeding, brought under any employment law or regulation, before any court or agency of the United States or of any State or locality.

''(f) AMENDMENTS TO LABOR AGREEMENTS AND BENEFIT PLANS.—Any amendment to a labor agreement or benefit plan of an air carrier that is required to conform with the requirements of this section or a regulation issued to carry out this section, and is applicable to pilots represented for collective bargaining, shall be made by agreement of the air carrier and the designated bargaining representative of the pilots of the air carrier.

''(g) MEDICAL STANDARDS AND RECORDS.—

''(1) MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS AND STANDARDS.—Except as provided by paragraph (2), a person serving as a pilot for an air carrier engaged in covered operations shall not be subject to different medical standards, or different, greater, or more frequent medical examinations, on account of age unless the Secretary determines (based on data received or studies published after the date of enactment of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008) that different medical standards, or different, greater, or more frequent medical examinations, are needed to ensure an adequate level of safety in flight.

''(2) DURATION OF FIRST-CLASS MEDICAL CERTIFICATE.—No person who has attained 60 years of age may serve as a pilot of an air carrier engaged in covered operations unless the person has a first-class medical certificate. Such a certificate shall expire on the last day of the 6-month period following the date of examination shown on the certificate.

''(h) SAFETY.—

''(1) TRAINING.—Each air carrier engaged in covered operations shall continue to use pilot training and qualification programs approved by the Federal Aviation Administration, with specific emphasis on initial and recurrent training and qualification of pilots who have attained 60 years of age, to ensure continued acceptable levels of pilot skill and judgment.

''(2) LINE EVALUATIONS.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008, and every 6 months thereafter, an air carrier engaged in covered operations shall evaluate the performance of each pilot of the air carrier who has attained 60 years of age through a line check of such pilot. Notwithstanding the preceding sentence, an air carrier shall not be required to conduct for a 6-month period a line check under this paragraph of a pilot serving as second-in-command if the pilot has undergone a regularly scheduled simulator evaluation during that period.

''(3) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 24 months after the date of enactment of the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate a report concerning the effect, if any, on aviation safety of the modification to pilot age standards made by subsection (a).''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The chapter analysis for chapter 447 of title 49, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''§ 44729. Age standards for pilots''.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

Not to exceed $377,556,000, together with advances and reimbursements received by the Federal Highway Administration, shall be paid in accordance with law from appropriations made available by this Act to the Federal Highway Administration for necessary expenses for administration and operation.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

None of the funds in this Act shall be available for the implementation or execution of programs, the obligations for which are in excess of $40,216,051,359 for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs for fiscal year 2008: Provided, That within the $40,216,051,359 obligation limitation on Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs, not more than $429,800,000 shall be available for the implementation or execution of programs for transportation research (chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code; sections 111, 5505, and 5506 of title 49, United States Code; and title 5 of Public Law 109–59) for fiscal year 2008: Provided further, That this limitation on transportation research programs shall not apply to any authority previously made available for obligation: Provided further, That the funds authorized pursuant to section 110 of title 23, United States Code, for the motor carrier safety grant program, and the obligation limitation associated with such funds provided under this heading, shall be transferred to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration: Provided further, That the Secretary may, as authorized by section 605(b) of title 23, United States Code, collect and spend fees to cover the costs of services of expert firms, including counsel, in the field of municipal and project finance to assist in the underwriting and servicing of Federal credit instruments and all or a portion of the costs to the Federal Government of servicing such credit instruments: Provided further, That such fees are available until expended to pay for such costs: Provided further, That such amounts are in addition to administrative expenses that are also available for such purpose, and are not subject to any obligation limitation or the limitation on administrative expenses under section 608 of title 23, United States Code.

(ADDITIONAL OBLIGATION LIMITATION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For an additional amount of obligation limitation to be distributed for the purpose of section 144(e) of title 23, United States Code, $1,000,000,000: Provided, That such obligation limitation shall be used only for a purpose eligible for obligation with funds apportioned under such section and shall be distributed in accordance with the formula in such section: Provided further, That such obligation limitation shall remain available for a period of three fiscal years and shall be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years: Provided further, That in distributing obligation authority under this paragraph, the Secretary shall ensure that such obligation limitation shall supplement and not supplant each State's planned obligations for such purposes.

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For carrying out the provisions of title 23, United States Code, that are attributable to Federal-aid highways, not otherwise provided, including reimbursement for sums expended pursuant to the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 308, $41,955,051,359 or so much thereof as may be available in and derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), to remain available until expended.

(RESCISSION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

Of the unobligated balances of funds apportioned to each State under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, $3,000,000,000 are rescinded: Provided, That such rescission shall not apply to the funds distributed in accordance with sections 130(f) and 104(b)(5) of title 23, United States Code; sections 133(d)(1) and 163 of such title, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of Public Law 109–59; and the first sentence of section 133(d)(3)(A) of such title.

I–35W BRIDGE REPAIR AND RECONSTRUCTION

For necessary expenses to carry out the project for repair and reconstruction of the Interstate 35W bridge located in Minneapolis, Minnesota, that collapsed on August 1, 2007, as authorized under section 1(c) of Public Law 110–56, up to $195,000,000, as documented by the Minnesota Department of Transportation to remain available until expended: Provided, That the amount provided under this heading is designated as an emergency requirement and necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of section 204 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008: Provided further, That the Federal share of the costs of any project funded using amounts made available under this section shall be 100 percent in accordance with section 1(b) of Public Law 110–56.

APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT HIGHWAY SYSTEM

For necessary expenses for West Virginia corridor H of the Appalachian Development Highway System as authorized under section 1069(y) of Public Law 102–240, as amended, $16,000,000, to remain available until expended.

DELTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

For necessary expenses for the Delta Regional Transportation Development Program as authorized under section 1308 of Public Law 109–59, $14,300,000, to remain available until expended.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 120. (a) For fiscal year 2008, the Secretary of Transportation shall—

(1) not distribute from the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways amounts authorized for administrative expenses and programs by section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code; programs funded from the administrative takedown authorized by section 104(a)(1) of title 23, United States Code (as in effect on the date before the date of enactment of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users); the highway use tax evasion program; the programs, projects and activities funded by the set aside authorized by section 129 of this Act; the Bureau of Transportation Statistics; and additional obligation limitation provided in this Act for the purpose of section 144(e) of title 23, United States Code;

(2) not distribute an amount from the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways that is equal to the unobligated balance of amounts made available from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) for Federal-aid highways and highway safety programs for previous fiscal years the funds for which are allocated by the Secretary;

(3) determine the ratio that—

(A) the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways, less the aggregate of amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2), bears to

(B) the total of the sums authorized to be appropriated for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs (other than sums authorized to be appropriated for provisions of law described in paragraphs (1) through (9) of subsection (b) and sums authorized to be appropriated for section 105 of title 23, United States Code, equal to the amount referred to in subsection (b)(10) for such fiscal year), less the aggregate of the amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection;

(4)(A) distribute the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways, less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2), for sections 1301, 1302, and 1934 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users; sections 117 (but individually for each project numbered 1 through 3676 listed in the table contained in section 1702 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users) and 144(g) of title 23, United States Code; and section 14501 of title 40, United States Code, so that the amount of obligation authority available for each of such sections is equal to the amount determined by multiplying the ratio determined under paragraph (3) by the sums authorized to be appropriated for that section for the fiscal year; and

(B) distribute $2,000,000,000 for section 105 of title 23, United States Code;

(5) distribute the obligation limitation provided for Federal-aid highways, less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) and amounts distributed under paragraph (4), for each of the programs that are allocated by the Secretary under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users and title 23, United States Code (other than to programs to which paragraphs (1) and (4) apply), by multiplying the ratio determined under paragraph (3) by the amounts authorized to be appropriated for each such program for such fiscal year; and

(6) distribute the obligation limitation provided for Federal-aid highways, less the aggregate amounts not distributed under paragraphs (1) and (2) and amounts distributed under paragraphs (4) and (5), for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs (other than the amounts apportioned for the equity bonus program, but only to the extent that the amounts apportioned for the equity bonus program for the fiscal year are greater than $2,639,000,000, and the Appalachian development highway system program) that are apportioned by the Secretary under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users and title 23, United States Code, in the ratio that—

(A) amounts authorized to be appropriated for such programs that are apportioned to each State for such fiscal year, bear to

(B) the total of the amounts authorized to be appropriated for such programs that are apportioned to all States for such fiscal year.

(b) EXCEPTIONS FROM OBLIGATION LIMITATION.—The obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways shall not apply to obligations: (1) under section 125 of title 23, United States Code; (2) under section 147 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978; (3) under section 9 of the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1981; (4) under subsections (b) and (j) of section 131 of the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982; (5) under subsections (b) and (c) of section 149 of the Surface Transportation and Uniform Relocation Assistance Act of 1987; (6) under sections 1103 through 1108 of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991; (7) under section 157 of title 23, United States Code, as in effect on the day before the date of the enactment of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century; (8) under section 105 of title 23, United States Code, as in effect for fiscal years 1998 through 2004, but only in an amount equal to $639,000,000 for each of those fiscal years; (9) for Federal-aid highway programs for which obligation authority was made available under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century or subsequent public laws for multiple years or to remain available until used, but only to the extent that the obligation authority has not lapsed or been used; (10) under section 105 of title 23, United States Code, but only in an amount equal to $639,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2005 through 2008; and (11) under section 1603 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, to the extent that funds obligated in accordance with that section were not subject to a limitation on obligations at the time at which the funds were initially made available for obligation.

(c) REDISTRIBUTION OF UNUSED OBLIGATION AUTHORITY.—Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall, after August 1 of such fiscal year, revise a distribution of the obligation limitation made available under subsection (a) if the amount distributed cannot be obligated during that fiscal year and redistribute sufficient amounts to those States able to obligate amounts in addition to those previously distributed during that fiscal year, giving priority to those States having large unobligated balances of funds apportioned under sections 104 and 144 of title 23, United States Code.

(d) APPLICABILITY OF OBLIGATION LIMITATIONS TO TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PROGRAMS.—The obligation limitation shall apply to transportation research programs carried out under chapter 5 of title 23, United States Code, and title V (research title) of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users, except that obligation authority made available for such programs under such limitation shall remain available for a period of 3 fiscal years and shall be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years.

(e) REDISTRIBUTION OF CERTAIN AUTHORIZED FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the distribution of obligation limitation under subsection (a), the Secretary shall distribute to the States any funds that—

(A) are authorized to be appropriated for such fiscal year for Federal-aid highways programs; and

(B) the Secretary determines will not be allocated to the States, and will not be available for obligation, in such fiscal year due to the imposition of any obligation limitation for such fiscal year.

(2) RATIO.—Funds shall be distributed under paragraph (1) in the same ratio as the distribution of obligation authority under subsection (a)(6).

(3) AVAILABILITY.—Funds distributed under paragraph (1) shall be available for any purposes described in section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code.

(f) SPECIAL LIMITATION CHARACTERISTICS.—Obligation limitation distributed for a fiscal year under subsection (a)(4) for the provision specified in subsection (a)(4) shall—

(1) remain available until used for obligation of funds for that provision; and

(2) be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years.

(g) HIGH PRIORITY PROJECT FLEXIBILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2), obligation authority distributed for such fiscal year under subsection (a)(4) for each project numbered 1 through 3676 listed in the table contained in section 1702 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users may be obligated for any other project in such section in the same State.

(2) RESTORATION.—Obligation authority used as described in paragraph (1) shall be restored to the original purpose on the date on which obligation authority is distributed under this section for the next fiscal year following obligation under paragraph (1).

(h) LIMITATION ON STATUTORY CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the distribution of obligation authority under subsection (a)(4)(A) for each of the individual projects numbered greater than 3676 listed in the table contained in section 1702 of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users.

SEC. 121. Notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, funds received by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics from the sale of data products, for necessary expenses incurred pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 111 may be credited to the Federal-aid highways account for the purpose of reimbursing the Bureau for such expenses: Provided, That such funds shall be subject to the obligation limitation for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction.

SEC. 122. Of the unobligated balances made available under sections 1103, 1104, 1105, 1106(a), 1106(b), 1107, and 1108 of Public Law 102–240, $1,292,287.73 are rescinded.

SEC. 123. Of the unobligated balances made available under section 1602 of Public Law 105–178, $5,987,345.70 are rescinded.

SEC. 124. Of the unobligated balances made available under section 188(a)(1) of title 23, United States Code, as in effect on the day before the date of enactment of Public Law 109–59, and under section 608(a)(1) of such title, $186,322,000 are rescinded.

SEC. 125. Of the amounts made available under section 104(a) of title 23, United States Code, $43,358,601 are rescinded.

SEC. 126. Of the unobligated balances of funds made available in fiscal year 2005 and prior fiscal years for the implementation or execution of programs for transportation research, training and education, and technology deployment including intelligent transportation systems, $172,242,964 are rescinded.

SEC. 127. Of the amounts made available for ''Highway Related Safety Grants'' by section 402 of title 23, United States Code, and administered by the Federal Highway Administration, $11,314 in unobligated balances are rescinded.

SEC. 128. Of the unobligated balances made available under Public Law 101–516, Public Law 102–143, Public Law 103–331, Public Law 106–346, Public Law 107–87, and Public Law 108–7, $4,753,687.26 are rescinded.

SEC. 129. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, before making the distribution of revenue aligned budget authority under section 110(b) of title 23, United States Code, the Secretary of Transportation shall set aside such sums as may be necessary for the programs, projects and activities in the corresponding amounts identified under this section in the statement of the managers accompanying this Act: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law and the preceding clause of this section, the Secretary of Transportation may use amounts set aside by this section to make grants for any surface transportation project otherwise eligible for funding under title 23 or title 49, United States Code: Provided further, That funds set aside by this section, at the request of a State, shall be transferred by the Secretary to another Federal agency: Provided further, That the Federal share payable on account of any program, project, or activity carried out with funds set aside by this section

shall be 100 percent: Provided further, That the sums set aside by this section shall remain available until expended: Provided further, That all funds set aside by this section shall be subject to any limitation on obligations for Federal-aid highways and highway safety construction programs set forth in this Act or any other Act: Provided further, That the obligation limitation made available for the programs, projects, and activities for which funds are set aside by this section shall remain available until used and shall be in addition to the amount of any limitation imposed on obligations for Federal-aid highway and highway safety construction programs for future fiscal years.

SEC. 130. Not less than 15 days prior to waiving, under her statutory authority, any Buy America requirement for Federal-aid highway projects, the Secretary of Transportation shall make an informal public notice and comment opportunity on the intent to issue such waiver and the reasons therefor: Provided, That the Secretary shall provide an annual report to the Appropriations Committees of the Congress on any waivers granted under the Buy America requirements.

FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

For payment of obligations incurred for administration of motor carrier safety operations and programs pursuant to section 31104(i) of title 49, United States Code, and sections 4127 and 4134 of Public Law 109–59, $229,654,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account), together with advances and reimbursements received by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, the sum of which shall remain available until expended: Provided, That none of the funds derived from the Highway Trust Fund in this Act shall be available for the implementation, execution or administration of programs, the obligations for which are in excess of $229,654,000, for ''Motor Carrier Safety Operations and Programs'', of which $8,900,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010, is for the research and technology program and $1,000,000 shall be available for commercial motor vehicle operator's grants to carry out section 4134 of Public Law 109–59: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds under this heading for outreach and education shall be available for transfer: Provided further, That $1,815,553 in unobligated balances are rescinded.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out sections 31102, 31104(a), 31106, 31107, 31109, 31309, 31313 of title 49, United States Code, and sections 4126 and 4128 of Public Law 109–59, $300,000,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: Provided, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the implementation or execution of programs, the obligations for which are in excess of $300,000,000, for ''Motor Carrier Safety Grants''; of which $202,000,000 shall be available for the motor carrier safety assistance program to carry out sections 31102 and 31104(a) of title 49, United States Code; $25,000,000 shall be available for the commercial driver's license improvements program to carry out section 31313 of title 49, United States Code; $32,000,000 shall be available for the border enforcement grants program to carry out section 31107 of title 49, United States Code; $5,000,000 shall be available for the performance and registration information system management program to carry out sections 31106(b) and 31109 of title 49, United States Code; $25,000,000 shall be available for the commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment program to carry out section 4126 of Public Law 109–59; $3,000,000 shall be available for the safety data improvement program to carry out section 4128 of Public Law 109–59; and $8,000,000 shall be available for the commercial driver's license information system modernization program to carry out section 31309(e) of title 49, United States Code: Provided further, That of the funds made available for the motor carrier safety assistance program, $29,000,000 shall be available for audits of new entrant motor carriers: Provided further, That $11,260,214 in unobligated balances are rescinded.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(RESCISSION)

Of the amounts made available under this heading in prior appropriations Acts, $32,187,720 in unobligated balances are rescinded.

NATIONAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY PROGRAM

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(RESCISSION)

Of the amounts made available under this heading in prior appropriations Act, $5,212,858 in unobligated balances are rescinded.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 135. Funds appropriated or limited in this Act shall be subject to the terms and conditions stipulated in section 350 of Public Law 107–87 and section 6901 of Public Law 110–28, including that the Secretary submit a report to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees annually on the safety and security of transportation into the United States by Mexico-domiciled motor carriers.

SEC. 136. None of the funds made available under this Act may be used to establish a cross-border motor carrier demonstration program to allow Mexico-domiciled motor carriers to operate beyond the commercial zones along the international border between the United States and Mexico.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

For expenses necessary to discharge the functions of the Secretary, with respect to traffic and highway safety under subtitle C of title X of Public Law 109–59, chapter 301 of title 49, United States Code, and part C of subtitle VI of title 49, United States Code, $126,606,000, of which $26,156,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2010: Provided, That none of the funds appropriated by this Act may be obligated or expended to plan, finalize, or implement any rulemaking to add to section 575.104 of title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations any requirement pertaining to a grading standard that is different from the three grading standards (treadwear, traction, and temperature resistance) already in effect.

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 403, $107,750,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: Provided, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2008, are in excess of $107,750,000 for programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 403.

NATIONAL DRIVER REGISTER

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out chapter 303 of title 49, United States Code, $4,000,000, to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account) and to remain available until expended: Provided, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the implementation or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2008, are in excess of $4,000,000 for the National Driver Register authorized under such chapter.

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 23 U.S.C. 402, 405, 406, 408, and 410 and sections 2001(a)(11), 2009, 2010, and 2011 of Public Law 109–59, to remain available until expended, $599,250,000 to be derived from the Highway Trust Fund (other than the Mass Transit Account): Provided, That none of the funds in this Act shall be available for the planning or execution of programs the total obligations for which, in fiscal year 2008, are in excess of $599,250,000 for programs authorized under 23 U.S.C. 402, 405, 406, 408, and 410 and sections 2001(a)(11), 2009, 2010, and 2011 of Public Law 109–59, of which $225,000,000 shall be for ''Highway Safety Programs'' under 23 U.S.C. 402; $25,000,000 shall be for ''Occupant Protection Incentive Grants'' under 23 U.S.C. 405; $124,500,000 shall be for ''Safety Belt Performance Grants'' under 23 U.S.C. 406; $34,500,000 shall be for ''State Traffic Safety Information System Improvements'' under 23 U.S.C. 408; $131,000,000 shall be for ''Alcohol-Impaired Driving Countermeasures Incentive Grant Program'' under 23 U.S.C. 410; $18,250,000 shall be for ''Administrative Expenses'' under section 2001(a)(11) of Public Law 109–59; $29,000,000 shall be for ''High Visibility Enforcement Program'' under section 2009 of Public Law 109–59; $6,000,000 shall be for ''Motorcyclist Safety'' under section 2010 of Public Law 109–59; and $6,000,000 shall be for ''Child Safety and Child Booster Seat Safety Incentive Grants'' under section 2011 of Public Law 109–59: Provided further, That none of these funds shall be used for construction, rehabilitation, or remodeling costs, or for office furnishings and fixtures for State, local or private buildings or structures: Provided further, That not to exceed $500,000 of the funds made available for section 410 ''Alcohol-Impaired Driving Countermeasures Grants'' shall be available for technical assistance to the States: Provided further, That not to exceed $750,000 of the funds made available for the ''High Visibility Enforcement Program'' shall be available for the evaluation required under section 2009(f) of Public Law 109–59.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

SEC. 140. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or limitation on the use of funds made available under section 403 of title 23, United States Code, an additional $130,000 shall be made available to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, out of the amount limited for section 402 of title 23, United States Code, to pay for travel and related expenses for State management reviews and to pay for core competency development training and related expenses for highway safety staff.

SEC. 141. Of the amounts made available under the heading ''Operations and Research (Liquidation of Contract Authorization) (Limitation on Obligations) (Highway Trust Fund)'' in prior appropriations Acts, $12,197,113.60 in unobligated balances are rescinded.

SEC. 142. Of the amounts made available under the heading ''National Driver Register (Liquidation of Contract Authorization) (Limitation on Obligations) (Highway Trust Fund)'' in prior appropriations Acts, $119,914.61 in unobligated balances are rescinded.

SEC. 143. Of the amounts made available under the heading ''Highway Traffic Safety Grants (Liquidation of Contract Authorization) (Limitation on Obligations) (Highway Trust Fund)'' in prior appropriations Acts, $10,528,958 in unobligated balances are rescinded.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

SAFETY AND OPERATIONS

For necessary expenses of the Federal Railroad Administration, not otherwise provided for, $150,193,499, of which $12,268,890 shall remain available until expended.

RAILROAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses for railroad research and development, $36,030,000, to remain available until expended.

CAPITAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES—INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

To enable the Federal Railroad Administrator to make grants to States for the capital costs of improving existing intercity passenger rail service and providing new intercity passenger rail service, $75,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That grants shall be provided to a State only on a reimbursable basis: Provided further, That grants cover no more than 50 percent of the total capital cost of a project selected for funding: Provided further, That no more than ten percent of funds made available under this program may be used for planning activities that lead directly to the development of a passenger rail corridor investment plan consistent with the requirements established by the Administrator: Provided further, That no later than eight months following enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish and publish criteria for project selection, set a deadline for grant applications, and provide a schedule for project selection: Provided further, That to be eligible for this assistance, States must include intercity passenger rail service as an integral part of statewide transportation planning as required under section 135 of title 23, United States Code: Provided further, That to be eligible for capital assistance the specific project must be on the Statewide Transportation Improvement Plan at the time of the application to qualify: Provided further, That the Secretary give priority to capital and planning applications for projects that improve the safety and reliability of intercity passenger trains, involve a commitment by freight railroads to an enforceable on-time performance of passenger trains of 80 percent or greater, involve a commitment by freight railroads of financial resources commensurate with the benefit expected to their operations, improve or extend service on a route that requires little or no Federal assistance for its operations, and involve a commitment by States or railroads of financial resources to improve the safety of highway/rail grade crossings over which the passenger service operates.

RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Secretary of Transportation is authorized to issue to the Secretary of the Treasury notes or other obligations pursuant to section 512 of the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976 (Public Law 94–210), as amended, in such amounts and at such times as may be necessary to pay any amounts required pursuant to the guarantee of the principal amount of obligations under sections 511 through 513 of such Act, such authority to exist as long as any such guaranteed obligation is outstanding: Provided, That pursuant to section 502 of such Act, as amended, no new direct loans or loan guarantee commitments shall be made using Federal funds for the credit risk premium during fiscal year 2008.

RAIL LINE RELOCATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

For necessary expenses of carrying out section 20154 of title 49, United States Code, as authorized by section 9002 of Public Law 109–59, $20,250,000, to remain available until expended.

OPERATING GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

To enable the Secretary of Transportation to make quarterly grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for operation of intercity passenger rail, $475,000,000 to remain available until expended: Provided, That the Secretary of Transportation shall approve funding to cover operating losses for the Corporation only after receiving and reviewing a grant request for each specific train route: Provided further, That each such grant request shall be accompanied by a detailed financial analysis, revenue projection, and capital expenditure projection justifying the Federal support to the Secretary's satisfaction: Provided further, That the Corporation is directed to achieve savings through operating efficiencies including, but not limited to, modifications to food and beverage service and first class service: Provided further, That the Inspector General of the Department of Transportation shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations beginning three months after the date of the enactment of this Act and quarterly thereafter with estimates of the savings accrued as a result of all operational reforms instituted by the Corporation: Provided further, That not later than 120 days after enactment of this Act, the Corporation shall transmit to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations the status of its plan to improve the financial performance of food and beverage service and its plan to improve the financial performance of first class service (including sleeping car service): Provided further, That the Corporation shall report quarterly to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on its progress against the milestones and target dates contained in the plan provided in fiscal year 2007 and quantify savings realized to date on a monthly basis compared to those projected in the plan, identify any changes in the plan or delays in implementing these plans, and identify the causes of delay and proposed corrective measures: Provided further, That not later than 90 days after enactment of this Act, the Corporation shall transmit, in electronic format, to the Secretary, the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation a comprehensive business plan approved by the Board of Directors for fiscal year 2008 under section 24104(a) of title 49, United States Code: Provided further, That the business plan shall include, as applicable, targets for ridership, revenues, and capital and operating expenses: Provided further, That the plan shall also include a separate accounting of such targets for the Northeast Corridor; commuter service; long-distance Amtrak service; State-supported service; each intercity train route, including Autotrain; and commercial activities including contract operations: Provided further, That the business plan shall include a description of the work to be funded, along with cost estimates and an estimated timetable for completion of the projects covered by this business plan: Provided further, That the Corporation shall continue to provide monthly reports in electronic format regarding the pending business plan, which shall describe the work completed to date, any changes to the business plan, and the reasons for such changes, and shall identify all sole source contract awards which shall be accompanied by a justification as to why said contract was awarded on a sole source basis: Provided further, That the Corporation's business plan and all subsequent supplemental plans shall be displayed on the Corporation's website within a reasonable timeframe following their submission to the appropriate entities: Provided further, That none of the funds under this heading may be obligated or expended until the Corporation agrees to continue abiding by the provisions of paragraphs 1, 2, 5, 9, and 11 of the summary of conditions for the direct loan agreement of June 28, 2002, in the same manner as in effect on the date of enactment of this Act: Provided further, That none of the funds provided in this Act may be used after March 1, 2006, to support any route on which Amtrak offers a discounted fare of more than 50 percent off the normal, peak fare: Provided further, That the preceding proviso does not apply to routes where the operating loss as a result of the discount is covered by a State and the State participates in the setting of fares: Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading not less than $18,500,000 shall be available for the Amtrak Office of Inspector General.

CAPITAL AND DEBT SERVICE GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

To enable the Secretary of Transportation to make quarterly grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation for the maintenance and repair of capital infrastructure owned by the Corporation, including railroad equipment, rolling stock, legal mandates and other services, $900,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which not to exceed $285,000,000 shall be for debt service obligations: Provided, That the Secretary may retain up to one-quarter of one percent of the funds under this heading to fund the oversight by the Federal Railroad Administration of the design and implementation of capital projects funded by grants made under this heading: Provided further, That the Secretary shall approve funding for capital expenditures, including advance purchase orders of materials, for the Corporation only after receiving and reviewing a grant request for each specific capital grant justifying the Federal support to the Secretary's satisfaction: Provided further, That none of the funds under this heading may be used to subsidize operating losses of the Corporation: Provided further, That none of the funds under this heading may be used for capital projects not approved by the Secretary of Transportation or on the Corporation's fiscal year 2008 business plan: Provided further, That $35,000,000 of amounts made available under this heading shall be available until expended for capital improvements if the Corporation demonstrates to the Secretary's satisfaction that the Corporation has achieved operational savings and met ridership and revenue targets as defined in the Corporation's business plan: Provided further, That of the funds provided under this section, not less than $5,000,000 shall be expended for the development and implementation of a managerial cost accounting system, which includes average and marginal unit cost capability: Provided further, That within 90 days of enactment, the Department of Transportation Inspector General shall review and comment to the Secretary of Transportation and the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations upon the strengths and weaknesses of the system being developed by the Corporation and how it best can be implemented to improve decision making by the Board of Directors and management of the Corporation: Provided further, That not later than 180 days after the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with the Corporation and the States on the Northeast Corridor, shall establish a common definition of what is determined to be a ''state of good repair'' on the Northeast Corridor and report its findings, including definitional areas of disagreement, to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 150. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, funds provided in this Act for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation shall immediately cease to be available to said Corporation in the event that the Corporation contracts to have services provided at or from any location outside the United States. For purposes of this section, the word ''services'' shall mean any service that was, as of July 1, 2006, performed by a full-time or part-time Amtrak employee whose base of employment is located within the United States.

SEC. 151. Not later than January 1, 2008, the Federal Railroad Administrator shall submit a report, and quarterly reports thereafter, to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations detailing the Administrator's efforts at improving the on-time performance of Amtrak intercity rail service operating on non-Amtrak owned property. Such reports shall compare the most recent actual on-time performance data to pre-established on-time performance goals that the Administrator shall set for each rail service, identified by route. Such reports shall also include whatever other information and data regarding the on-time performance of Amtrak trains the Administrator deems to be appropriate.

SEC. 152. The Secretary may purchase promotional items of nominal value for use in public outreach activities to accomplish the purposes of 49 U.S.C. 20134: Provided, That the Secretary shall prescribe guidelines for the administration of such purchases and use.

SEC. 153. The Secretary of Transportation may receive and expend cash, or receive and utilize spare parts and similar items, from non-United States Government sources to repair damages to or replace United States Government owned automated track inspection cars and equipment as a result of third party liability for such damages, and any amounts collected under this subsection shall be credited directly to the Safety and Operations account of the Federal Railroad Administration, and shall remain available until expended for the repair, operation and maintenance of automated track inspection cars and equipment in connection with the automated track inspection program.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For necessary administrative expenses of the Federal Transit Administration's programs authorized by chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, $89,300,000: Provided, That of the funds available under this heading, not to exceed $1,504,000 shall be available for travel and not to exceed $20,719,000 shall be available for the central account: Provided further, That any funding transferred from the central account shall be submitted for approval to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: Provided further, That none of the funds provided or limited in this Act may be used to create a permanent office of transit security under this heading: Provided further, That of the funds in this Act available for the execution of contracts under section 5327(c) of title 49, United States Code, $2,000,000 shall be reimbursed to the Department of Transportation's Office of Inspector General for costs associated with audits and investigations of transit-related issues, including reviews of new fixed guideway systems: Provided further, That upon submission to the Congress of the fiscal year 2009 President's budget, the Secretary of Transportation shall transmit to Congress the annual report on new starts, including proposed allocations of funds for fiscal year 2009.

FORMULA AND BUS GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORITY)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

For payment of obligations incurred in carrying out the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5308, 5309, 5310, 5311, 5316, 5317, 5320, 5335, 5339, and 5340 and section 3038 of Public Law 105–178, as amended, $6,855,000,000, to be derived from the Mass Transit Account of the Highway Trust Fund and to remain available until expended: Provided, That funds available for the implementation or execution of programs authorized under 49 U.S.C. 5305, 5307, 5308, 5309, 5310, 5311, 5316, 5317, 5320, 5335, 5339, and 5340 and section 3038 of Public Law 105–178, as amended, shall not exceed total obligations of $7,872,893,000 in fiscal year 2008: Provided further, That of the funds available to carry out the bus program under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, which are not otherwise allocated under this Act or under SAFETEA–LU (Public Law 109–59), not more than 10 percent may be expended to carry out the Urban Partnership Congestion Initiative: Provided further, That $28,660,920 in unobligated balances are rescinded.

RESEARCH AND UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTERS

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5306, 5312–5315, 5322, and 5506, $65,500,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That $9,300,000 is available to carry out the transit cooperative research program under section 5313 of title 49, United States Code, $4,300,000 is available for the National Transit Institute under section 5315 of title 49, United States Code, and $7,000,000 is available for university transportation centers program under section 5506 of title 49, United States Code: Provided further, That $44,900,000 is available to carry out national research programs under sections 5312, 5313, 5314, and 5322 of title 49, United States Code.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS

For necessary expenses to carry out section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, $1,650,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That of the funds available under this heading, amounts are to be made available as follows:

AC Transit BRT Corridor—Alameda County, California, $500,000.

Alaska and Hawaii ferry projects, $15,000,000.

Bus Rapid Transit, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, $300,000.

Central Corridor Light Rail, Minnesota, $10,400,000.

Central Link Initial Segment, Washington, $70,000,000.

Central LRT Double-Track—Largo Extension, Maryland, $35,000,000.

Central Phoenix/East Valley Light Rail, Arizona, $90,000,000.

Charlotte Rapid Transit, North Carolina, $2,000,000.

CORRIDORone Regional Rail Project, Pennsylvania, $11,200,000.

DCTA Fixed Guideway/Engineering, Lewisville, Texas, $250,000.

Denali Commission, Alaska, $5,000,000.

Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, Virginia, $35,000,000.

Galveston Rail Trolley Extension to Seawall Boulevard, Texas, $2,000,000.

Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor, Hawaii, $15,500,000.

Hudson-Bergen MOS–2, New Jersey, $55,192,995.

I–205/Portland Mall Light Rail, Oregon, $80,000,000.

I–69 HOV/BRT, Mississippi, $7,700,000.

JTA Bus Rapid Transit, Jacksonville, Florida, $9,520,000.

Lane Transit District, Pioneer Parkway EmX Corridor, Oregon, $14,800,000.

Long Island Rail Road East Side Access, New York, $215,000,000.

MARC Commuter Rail Improvements and Rolling Stock, Maryland, $10,000,000.

MBTA Fitchburg to Boston Rail Corridor Project, Massachusetts, $6,000,000.

METRA Connects Southeast Service, Illinois, $7,375,000.

METRA Star Line, Illinois, $7,375,000.

METRA Union Pacific Northwest Line, Illinois, $7,375,000.

Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, California, $80,000,000.

Metrorail Orange Line Expansion, Florida, $2,000,000.

Metro Rapid Bus System Gap Closure, Los Angeles, California, $16,681,000.

Mid-Jordan Light Rail Extension, Utah, $20,000,000.

Monmouth-Ocean-Middlesex County Passenger Rail, New Jersey, $1,000,000.

New Britain-Hartford Busway, Connecticut, $3,338,400.

Norfolk Light Rail Project, Virginia, $23,500,000.

North Corridor BRT, Houston and Southeast Corridor BRT, Texas, $20,000,000.

North Shore Corridor & Blue Line, Massachusetts, $2,000,000.

NorthStar Commuter, Minnesota, $55,000,000.

Northern Indiana Commuter Transit District Recapitalization, Indiana, $5,000,000.

North Shore LRT Connector, Pennsylvania, $33,516,444.

Northwest NJ-Northeast PA, Pennsylvania, $3,000,000.

NW/SE LRT MOS, Texas, $86,250,000.

Pacific Highway South BRT, King County, Washington, $14,076,000.

Perris Valley Line Metrolink Extension, California, $2,000,000.

Pawtucket/Central Falls Commuter Rail Station, Rhode Island, $2,000,000.

Planning and Design, Bus Rapid Transit-State Avenue Corridor, Wyandotte County, Kansas, $1,500,000.

Provo Orem Bus Rapid Transit, Utah, $4,100,000.

Rapid Transit (BRT) project, Livermore, California, $3,000,000.

Ravenswood Line Extension, Illinois, $40,000,000.

Route 1 Bus Rapid Transit, Potomac Yard-Crystal City, Alexandria and Arlington, Virginia, $1,000,000.

Second Avenue Subway Phase 1, New York, $171,235,000.

SMART EIS and PE, California, $2,000,000.

South County Commuter Rail Wickford Junction Station, Rhode Island, $12,519,846.

Southeast Corridor LRT, Colorado, $51,560,484.

South Sacramento Corridor Phase 2, California, $4,500,000.

Telegraph Avenue-International Boulevard-East 14th Street Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Improvements, California, $2,000,000.

Third Street Light Rail, San Francisco, California, $12,000,000.

Trans-Hudson Midtown Corridor, New Jersey, $15,000,000.

Troost Corridor Bus Rapid Transit, Missouri, $6,260,000.

West Corridor Light Rail Project, Colorado, $40,000,000.

University Link LRT, Washington, $20,000,000.

VIA Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Project, San Antonio, Texas, $5,000,000.

Virginia Railway Express Extension—Gainesville/Haymarket, Virginia, $500,000.

VRE Rolling Stock, Virginia, $4,000,000.

Weber County to Salt Lake City, Utah, $80,000,000.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 160. The limitations on obligations for the programs of the Federal Transit Administration

shall not apply to any authority under 49 U.S.C. 5338, previously made available for obligation, or to any other authority previously made available for obligation.

SEC. 161. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available by this Act under ''Federal Transit Administration, Capital investment grants'' and bus and bus facilities under ''Federal Transit Administration, Formula and bus grants'' for projects specified in this Act or identified in reports accompanying this Act not obligated by September 30, 2010, and other recoveries, shall be made available for other projects under 49 U.S.C. 5309.

SEC. 162. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any funds appropriated before October 1, 2007, under any section of chapter 53 of title 49, United States Code, that remain available for expenditure, may be transferred to and administered under the most recent appropriation heading for any such section.

SEC. 163. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, unobligated funds made available for a new fixed guideway systems projects under the heading ''Federal Transit Administration, Capital Investment Grants'' in any appropriations Act prior to this Act may be used during this fiscal year to satisfy expenses incurred for such projects.

SEC. 164. During fiscal year 2008, each Federal Transit Administration grant for a project that involves the acquisition or rehabilitation of a bus to be used in public transportation shall be funded for 90 percent of the net capital costs of a biodiesel bus or a factory-installed or retrofitted hybrid electric propulsion system and any equipment related to such a system: Provided, That the Secretary shall have the discretion to determine, through practicable administrative procedures, the costs attributable to the system and related-equipment.

SEC. 165. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in regard to the Central Link Initial Segment Project, to the extent that Federal funds remain available within the current budget for the project, the Secretary shall, immediately upon the date of enactment of this Act, amend the Full Funding Grant Agreement for said project to allow remaining Federal funds to be used to support completion of the Airport Link extension of said project.

SEC. 166. Amounts provided for a high capacity fixed guideway light rail and mass transit project for the City of Albuquerque, New Mexico, in Public Laws 106–69, 106–346 and 107–87 shall be available for bus and bus facilities.

SEC. 167. Any unobligated amounts made available for the Commuter Rail, Albuquerque to Santa Fe, New Mexico under the heading ''Capital Investment Grants'' under the heading ''Federal Transit Administration'' in title I of division A of the Transportation, Treasury, Housing and Urban Development, the Judiciary, the District of Columbia, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 2006 (Public Law 109–115; 119 Stat. 2418) shall be made available for public transportation buses, equipment and facilities related to such buses, and intermodal terminal in Albuquerque and Santa Fe, New Mexico, subject to the requirements under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code.

SEC. 168. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds made available for the Las Vegas Resort Corridor Fixed Guideway Project under the Federal Transit Administration Capital Investment Grants Account in any previous Appropriations Act, including Public Laws 108–7, 108–199, 108–447, and any unexpended funds in Federal Transit Administration grant number NV–03–0019 may hereafter be made available until expended to the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada for bus rapid transit projects and bus and bus-related projects: Provided, That funds made available for a project in accordance with this section shall be administered under the terms and conditions set forth in 49 U.S.C. 5307, to the extent applicable.

SEC. 169. The second sentence of section 321 of the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1986 (99 Stat. 1287) is repealed.

SEC. 170. None of the funds provided or limited under this Act may be used to issue a final regulation under section 5309 of title 49, United States Code, except that the Federal Transit Administration may continue to review comments received on the proposed rule (Docket No. FTA–2006–25737).

SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

The Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation is hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to the Corporation, and in accord with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of the Government Corporation Control Act, as amended, as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the Corporation's budget for the current fiscal year.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

(HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND)

For necessary expenses for operations and maintenance of those portions of the Saint Lawrence Seaway operated and maintained by the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation, $17,392,000, to be derived from the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund, pursuant to Public Law 99–662.

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

MARITIME SECURITY PROGRAM

For necessary expenses to maintain and preserve a U.S.-flag merchant fleet to serve the national security needs of the United States, $156,000,000, to remain available until expended.

OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

For necessary expenses of operations and training activities authorized by law, $122,032,000, of which $25,720,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2008, for salaries and benefits of employees of the United States Merchant Marine Academy; of which $14,139,000 shall remain available until expended for capital improvements at the United States Merchant Marine Academy; and of which $10,500,000 shall remain available until expended for maintenance and repair of Schoolships at State Maritime Schools.

SHIP DISPOSAL

For necessary expenses related to the disposal of obsolete vessels in the National Defense Reserve Fleet of the Maritime Administration, $17,000,000, to remain available until expended.

ASSISTANCE TO SMALL SHIPYARDS

To make grants for capital improvements and related infrastructure improvements at qualified shipyards that will facilitate the efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and quality of domestic ship construction for commercial and Federal Government use as authorized under section 3506 of Public Law 109–163, $10,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That to be considered for assistance, a qualified shipyard shall submit an application for assistance no later than 60 days after enactment of this Act: Provided further, That from applications submitted under the previous proviso, the Secretary of Transportation shall make grants no later than 120 days after enactment of this Act in such amounts as the Secretary determines: Provided further, That not to exceed 2 percent of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for necessary costs of grant administration.

MARITIME GUARANTEED LOAN (TITLE XI) PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized, $8,408,000, of which $5,000,000 shall remain available until expended: Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That not to exceed $3,408,000 shall be available for administrative expenses to carry out the guaranteed loan program, which shall be transferred to and merged with the appropriation for ''Operations and Training'', Maritime Administration.

SHIP CONSTRUCTION

(RESCISSION)

Of the unobligated balances available under this heading, $6,673,000 are rescinded.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

SEC. 175. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Maritime Administration is authorized to furnish utilities and services and make necessary repairs in connection with any lease, contract, or occupancy involving Government property under control of the Maritime Administration, and payments received therefor shall be credited to the appropriation charged with the cost thereof: Provided, That rental payments under any such lease, contract, or occupancy for items other than such utilities, services, or repairs shall be covered into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts.

SEC. 176. No obligations shall be incurred during the current fiscal year from the construction fund established by the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. 53101 note (cds)), or otherwise, in excess of the appropriations and limitations contained in this Act or in any prior appropriations Act.

PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

For necessary administrative expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, $18,130,000, of which $639,000 shall be derived from the Pipeline Safety Fund.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

For expenses necessary to discharge the hazardous materials safety functions of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, $28,000,000, of which $1,761,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2010: Provided, That up to $1,200,000 in fees collected under 49 U.S.C. 5108(g) shall be deposited in the general fund of the Treasury as offsetting receipts: Provided further, That there may be credited to this appropriation, to be available until expended, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training, for reports publication and dissemination, and for travel expenses incurred in performance of hazardous materials exemptions and approvals functions.

PIPELINE SAFETY

(PIPELINE SAFETY FUND)

(OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND)

For expenses necessary to conduct the functions of the pipeline safety program, for grants-in-aid to carry out a pipeline safety program, as authorized by 49 U.S.C. 60107, and to discharge the pipeline program responsibilities of the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, $79,828,000, of which $18,810,000 shall be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and shall remain available until September 30, 2010; of which $61,018,000 shall be derived from the Pipeline Safety Fund, of which $32,242,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2010: Provided, That not less than $1,043,000 of the funds provided under this heading shall be for the one-call State grant program.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANTS

(EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND)

For necessary expenses to carry out 49 U.S.C. 5128(b), $188,000, to be derived from the Emergency Preparedness Fund, to remain available until September 30, 2009: Provided, That not more than $28,318,000 shall be made available for obligation in fiscal year 2008 from amounts

made available by 49 U.S.C. 5116(i) and 5128(b)–(c): Provided further, That none of the funds made available by 49 U.S.C. 5116(i), 5128(b), or 5128(c) shall be made available for obligation by individuals other than the Secretary of Transportation, or her designee.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

For necessary expenses of the Research and Innovative Technology Administration, $12,000,000, of which $6,036,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2010: Provided, That there may be credited to this appropriation, to be available until expended, funds received from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Office of Inspector General to carry out the provisions of the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $66,400,000: Provided, That the Inspector General shall have all necessary authority, in carrying out the duties specified in the Inspector General Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App. 3), to investigate allegations of fraud, including false statements to the government (18 U.S.C. 1001), by any person or entity that is subject to regulation by the Department: Provided further, That the funds made available under this heading shall be used to investigate, pursuant to section 41712 of title 49, United States Code: (1) unfair or deceptive practices and unfair methods of competition by domestic and foreign air carriers and ticket agents; and (2) the compliance of domestic and foreign air carriers with respect to item (1) of this proviso.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Surface Transportation Board, including services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, $26,324,500: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, not to exceed $1,250,000 from fees established by the Chairman of the Surface Transportation Board shall be credited to this appropriation as offsetting collections and used for necessary and authorized expenses under this heading: Provided further, That the sum herein appropriated from the general fund shall be reduced on a dollar-for-dollar basis as such offsetting collections are received during fiscal year 2008, to result in a final appropriation from the general fund estimated at no more than $25,074,500.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 180. During the current fiscal year applicable appropriations to the Department of Transportation shall be available for maintenance and operation of aircraft; hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; purchase of liability insurance for motor vehicles operating in foreign countries on official department business; and uniforms or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902).

SEC. 181. Appropriations contained in this Act for the Department of Transportation shall be available for services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for an Executive Level IV.

SEC. 182. None of the funds in this Act shall be available for salaries and expenses of more than 110 political and Presidential appointees in the Department of Transportation: Provided, That none of the personnel covered by this provision may be assigned on temporary detail outside the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 183. None of the funds in this Act shall be used to implement section 404 of title 23, United States Code.

SEC. 184. (a) No recipient of funds made available in this Act shall disseminate personal information (as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(3)) obtained by a State department of motor vehicles in connection with a motor vehicle record as defined in 18 U.S.C. 2725(1), except as provided in 18 U.S.C. 2721 for a use permitted under 18 U.S.C. 2721.

(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the Secretary shall not withhold funds provided in this Act for any grantee if a State is in noncompliance with this provision.

SEC. 185. Funds received by the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, and Federal Railroad Administration from States, counties, municipalities, other public authorities, and private sources for expenses incurred for training may be credited respectively to the Federal Highway Administration's ''Federal-Aid Highways'' account, the Federal Transit Administration's ''Research and University Research Centers'' account, and to the Federal Railroad Administration's ''Safety and Operations'' account, except for State rail safety inspectors participating in training pursuant to 49 U.S.C. 20105.

SEC. 186. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, rule or regulation, the Secretary of Transportation is authorized to allow the issuer of any preferred stock heretofore sold to the Department to redeem or repurchase such stock upon the payment to the Department of an amount determined by the Secretary.

SEC. 187. None of the funds in this Act to the Department of Transportation may be used to make a grant unless the Secretary of Transportation notifies the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations not less than 3 full business days before any discretionary grant award, letter of intent, or full funding grant agreement totaling $500,000 or more is announced by the department or its modal administrations from: (1) any discretionary grant program of the Federal Highway Administration including the emergency relief program; (2) the airport improvement program of the Federal Aviation Administration; or (3) any program of the Federal Transit Administration other than the formula grants and fixed guideway modernization programs: Provided, That the Secretary gives concurrent notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations for any ''quick release'' of funds from the emergency relief program: Provided further, That no notification shall involve funds that are not available for obligation.

SEC. 188. Rebates, refunds, incentive payments, minor fees and other funds received by the Department of Transportation from travel management centers, charge card programs, the subleasing of building space, and miscellaneous sources are to be credited to appropriations of the Department of Transportation and allocated to elements of the Department of Transportation using fair and equitable criteria and such funds shall be available until expended.

SEC. 189. Amounts made available in this or any other Act that the Secretary determines represent improper payments by the Department of Transportation to a third party contractor under a financial assistance award, which are recovered pursuant to law, shall be available—

(1) to reimburse the actual expenses incurred by the Department of Transportation in recovering improper payments; and

(2) to pay contractors for services provided in recovering improper payments or contractor support in the implementation of the Improper Payments Information Act of 2002: Provided, That amounts in excess of that required for paragraphs (1) and (2)—

(A) shall be credited to and merged with the appropriation from which the improper payments were made, and shall be available for the purposes and period for which such appropriations are available; or

(B) if no such appropriation remains available, shall be deposited in the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts: Provided, That prior to the transfer of any such recovery to an appropriations account, the Secretary shall notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations of the amount and reasons for such transfer: Provided further, That for purposes of this section, the term ''improper payments'', has the same meaning as that provided in section 2(d)(2) of Public Law 107–300.

SEC. 190. Funds provided in Public Law 102–143 in the item relating to ''Highway Bypass Demonstration Project'' shall be available for the improvement of Route 101 in the vicinity of Prunedale, Monterey County, California.

SEC. 191. Funds provided under section 378 of the Department of Transportation and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (Public Law 106–346, 114 Stat. 1356, 1356A–41), for the reconstruction of School Road East in Marlboro Township, New Jersey, shall be available for the Spring Valley Road Project in Marlboro Township, New Jersey.

SEC. 192. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, if any funds provided in or limited by this Act are subject to a reprogramming action that requires notice to be provided to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, said reprogramming action shall be approved or denied solely by the Committees on Appropriations: Provided, That the Secretary may provide notice to other congressional committees of the action of the Committees on Appropriations on such reprogramming but not sooner than 30 days following the date on which the reprogramming action has been approved or denied by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

SEC. 193. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds provided in or limited by this Act may be obligated or expended to provide a budget justification for any fiscal year concurrently with the President's annual budget submission to Congress under section 1105(a) of title 31, United States Code, to any congressional committee other than the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations prior to May 31 following the date of such annual budget submission.

SEC. 194. (a) None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act to the Surface Transportation Board of the Department of Transportation may be used to take any action to allow any activity described in subsection (b) in a case, matter, or declaratory order involving a railroad, or an entity claiming or seeking authority to operate as a railroad, unless the Board receives written assurance from the Governor, or the Governor's designee, of the State in which such activity will occur that such railroad or entity has agreed to comply with State and local regulations that establish public health, safety, and environmental standards for the activities described in subsection (b), other than zoning laws or regulations.

(b) Activities referred to in subsection (a) are activities that occur at a solid waste rail transfer facility involving—

(1) the collection, storage, or transfer of solid waste (as defined in section 1004 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act (42 U.S.C. 6903)) outside of original shipping containers; or

(2) the separation or processing of solid waste (including baling, crushing, compacting, and shredding).

SEC. 195. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act may be used by the Surface Transportation Board of the Department of Transportation to charge or collect any filing fee for rate complaints filed with the Board in an amount in excess of the amount authorized for district court civil suit filing fees under section 1914 of title 28, United States Code.

SEC. 196. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Transportation shall establish and maintain on the homepage of the Internet website of the Department of Transportation—

(1) a direct link to the Internet website of the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Transportation; and

(2) a mechanism by which individuals may anonymously report cases of waste, fraud, or abuse with respect to the Department of Transportation.

SEC. 197. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be obligated or expended by the Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration to displace, reassign, reduce the salary of, or subject to a reduction in force any employee at the Academy or discontinue the use of the FAA Academy as the primary training facility for air traffic controller training as a result of implementing the Air Traffic Control Optimum Training Solution in its entirety, prior to September 30, 2008.

SEC. 198. PROHIBITION ON IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION OF TOLLS ON CERTAIN HIGHWAYS CONSTRUCTED USING FEDERAL FUNDS. (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FEDERAL HIGHWAY FACILITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''Federal highway facility'' means—

(i) any highway, bridge, or tunnel on the Interstate System that is constructed using Federal funds; or

(ii) any United States highway.

(B) EXCLUSION.—The term ''Federal highway facility'' does not include any right-of-way for any highway, bridge, or tunnel described in subparagraph (A).

(2) TOLLING PROVISION.—The term ''tolling provision'' means section 1216(b) of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (23 U.S.C. 129 note; 112 Stat. 212);

(b) PROHIBITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used to consider or approve an application to permit the imposition or collection of any toll on any portion of a Federal highway facility in the State of Texas—

(A)(i) that is in existence on the date of enactment of this Act; and

(ii) on which no toll is imposed or collected under a tolling provision on that date of enactment; or

(B) that would result in the Federal highway facility having fewer non-toll lanes than before the date on which the toll was first imposed or collected.

(2) EXEMPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the imposition or collection of a toll on a Federal highway facility—

(A) on which a toll is imposed or collected under a tolling provision on the date of enactment of this Act; or

(B) that is constructed, under construction, or the subject of an application for construction submitted to the Secretary, after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) STATE BUY-BACK.—None of the funds made available by this Act shall be used to impose or collect a toll on a Federal highway facility in the State of Texas that is purchased by the State of Texas on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 199. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used to reallocate funding provided for the Schuylkill Valley Metro project in fiscal year 2004.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Transportation Appropriations Act, 2008''.

TITLE II

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION

For necessary salaries and expenses for Executive Direction, $24,980,000, of which not to exceed $3,930,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary; not to exceed $1,580,000 shall be available for the Office of Hearings and Appeals; not to exceed $510,000 shall be available for the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, not to exceed $725,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the Chief Financial Officer; not to exceed $1,155,000 shall be available for the immediate Office of the General Counsel; not to exceed $2,670,000 shall be available to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations; not to exceed $2,520,000 shall be for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs; not to exceed $1,630,000 shall be available for the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration; not to exceed $1,620,000 shall be available to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing; not to exceed $1,520,000 shall be available to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development; not to exceed $3,600,000 shall be available to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing, Federal Housing Commissioner; not to exceed $1,570,000 shall be available to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research; and not to exceed $1,950,000 shall be available to the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity: Provided, That the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office funded under this heading to any other office funded under this heading following the written notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: Provided further, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent by all such transfers: Provided further, That notice of any change in funding greater than 5 percent shall be submitted for prior approval to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: Provided further, That the Secretary shall provide the Committees on Appropriations quarterly written notification regarding the status of pending congressional reports: Provided further, That not to exceed $25,000 of the amount made available under this paragraph for the immediate Office of the Secretary shall be available for official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine.

ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

For necessary salaries and expenses for administration, operations and management for the Department of Housing and Urban Development, $503,630,000, of which not to exceed $69,070,000 shall be available for the personnel compensation and benefits of the Office of Administration; not to exceed $10,630,000 shall be available for the personnel compensation and benefits of the Office of Departmental Operations and Coordination; not to exceed $51,300,000 shall be available for the personnel compensation and benefits of the Office of Field Policy and Management; not to exceed $12,370,000 shall be available for the personnel compensation and benefits of the Office of the Chief Procurement Officer; not to exceed $31,600,000 shall be available for the personnel compensation and benefits of the remaining staff in the Office of the Chief Financial Officer; not to exceed $80,670,000 shall be available for the personnel compensation and benefits of the remaining staff of the Office of the General Counsel; not to exceed $2,810,000 shall be available for the personnel compensation and benefits of the Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity; not to exceed $1,160,000 shall be available for the personnel compensation and benefits for the Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives; not to exceed $244,020,000 shall be available for non-personnel expenses of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: Provided, That, funds provided under the heading may be used for necessary administrative and non-administrative expenses of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, not otherwise provided for, including purchase of uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902; hire of passenger motor vehicles; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109: Provided further, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, funds appropriated under this heading may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support the housing mission area: Provided further, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development is authorized to transfer funds appropriated for any office included in Administration, Operations and Management to any other office included in Administration, Operations and Management only after such transfer has been submitted to, and received prior written approval by, the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: Provided further, That no appropriation for any office shall be increased or decreased by more than ten percent by all such transfers.

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

For necessary personnel compensation and benefits expenses of the Office of Public and Indian Housing, $173,310,000.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

For necessary personnel compensation and benefits expenses of the Office of Community Planning and Development mission area, $90,310,000.

HOUSING PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

For necessary personnel compensation and benefits expenses of the Office of Housing, $334,450,000.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

For necessary personnel compensation and benefits expenses of the Office of the Government National Mortgage Association, $8,250,000.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

For necessary personnel compensation and benefits expenses of theOffice of Policy Development and Research, $16,950,000.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

For necessary personnel compensation and benefits expenses of the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, $63,140,000.

OFFICE OF HEALTHY HOMES AND LEAD HAZARD CONTROL

PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

For necessary personnel compensation and benefits expenses of the Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control, $6,980,000.

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For activities and assistance for the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (''the Act'' herein), not otherwise provided for, $16,436,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $12,243,000,000 shall be available on October 1, 2007, and $4,200,000,000 shall be available on October 1, 2008: Provided, That the amounts made available under this heading are provided as follows:

(1) $14,694,506,000 for renewals of expiring section 8 tenant-based annual contributions contracts (including renewals of enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act): Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law, from amounts provided under this paragraph, the Secretary for the calendar year 2008 funding cycle shall provide renewal funding for each public housing agency based on voucher management system (VMS) leasing and cost data for the most recent Federal fiscal year and by applying the 2008 Annual Adjustment Factor as established by the Secretary, and by making any necessary adjustments for the costs associated with deposits to family self-sufficiency program escrow accounts or the first-time renewal of tenant protection or HOPE VI vouchers or

vouchers that were not in use during the 12-month period in order to be available to meet a commitment pursuant to section 8(o)(13) of the Act: Provided further, That notwithstanding the first proviso, except for applying the 2008 Annual Adjustment Factor and making any other specified adjustments, public housing agencies specified in category 1 below shall receive funding for calendar year 2008 based on the higher of the amounts the agencies would receive under the first proviso or the amounts the agencies received in calendar year 2007, and public housing agencies specified in categories 2 and 3 below shall receive funding for calendar year 2008 equal to the amounts the agencies received in calendar year 2007, except that public housing agencies specified in categories 1 and 2 below shall receive funding under this proviso only if, and to the extent that, any such public housing agency submits a plan, approved by the Secretary, that demonstrates that the agency can effectively use within 12 months the funding that the agency would receive under this proviso that is in addition to the funding that the agency would receive under the first proviso: (1) public housing agencies that are eligible for assistance under section 901 in Public Law 109–148 (119 Stat. 2781) or are located in the same counties as those eligible under section 901 and operate voucher programs under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 but do not operate public housing under section 9 of such Act, and any public housing agency that otherwise qualifies under this category must demonstrate that they have experienced a loss of rental housing stock as a result of the 2005 hurricanes; (2) public housing agencies that would receive less funding under the first proviso than they would receive under this proviso and that have been placed in receivership within the 24 months preceding the date of enactment of this Act; and (3) public housing agencies that spent more in calendar year 2007 than the total of the amounts of any such public housing agency's allocation amount for calendar year 2007 and the amount of any such public housing agency's available housing assistance payments undesignated funds balance from calendar year 2006 and the amount of any such public housing agency's available administrative fees undesignated funds balance through calendar year 2007: Provided further, That up to $50,000,000 shall be available only: (1) to adjust the allocations for public housing agencies, after application for an adjustment by a public housing agency that experienced a significant increase, as determined by the Secretary, in renewal costs from portability under section 8(r) of the Act of tenant-based rental assistance; and (2) for adjustments for public housing agencies with voucher leasing rates at the end of the calendar year that exceed the average leasing for the 12-month period used to establish the allocation: Provided further, That none of the funds provided under the first proviso in this section may be used to support a total number of unit months under lease which exceeds a public housing agency's authorized level of units under contract: Provided further, That the Secretary shall, to the extent necessary to stay within the amount provided under this paragraph, pro rate each public housing agency's allocation otherwise established pursuant to this paragraph: Provided further, That except as provided in the last proviso, the entire amount provided under this paragraph shall be obligated to the public housing agencies based on the allocation and pro rata method described above and the Secretary shall notify public housing agencies of their annual budget not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act: Provided further, That the Secretary may extend the 60 day notification period with the written approval of the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: Provided further, That public housing agencies participating in the Moving to Work demonstration shall be funded pursuant to their Moving to Work agreements and shall be subject to the same pro rata adjustments under the previous proviso;

(2) $200,000,000 for section 8 rental assistance for relocation and replacement of housing units that are demolished or disposed of pursuant to the Omnibus Consolidated Rescissions and Appropriations Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–134), conversion of section 23 projects to assistance under section 8, the family unification program under section 8(x) of the Act, relocation of witnesses in connection with efforts to combat crime in public and assisted housing pursuant to a request from a law enforcement or prosecution agency, enhanced vouchers under any provision of law authorizing such assistance under section 8(t) of the Act, HOPE VI vouchers, mandatory and voluntary conversions, and tenant protection assistance including replacement and relocation assistance: Provided, That the Secretary shall provide replacement vouchers for all units that were occupied within the previous 24 months that cease to be available as assisted housing due to demolition, disposition, or conversion, subject only to the availability of funds;

(3) $49,000,000 for family self-sufficiency coordinators under section 23 of the Act;

(4) up to $6,494,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund;

(5) $1,351,000,000 for administrative and other expenses of public housing agencies in administering the section 8 tenant-based rental assistance program and which up to $35,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary to allocate to public housing agencies that need additional funds to administer their section 8 programs, with up to $30,000,000 to be for fees associated with section 8 tenant protection rental assistance: Provided, That no less than $1,316,000,000 of the amount provided in this paragraph shall be allocated for the calendar year 2008 funding cycle on a basis to public housing agencies as provided in section 8(q) of the Act as in effect immediately before the enactment of the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998 (Public Law 105–276): Provided further, That if the amounts made available under this paragraph are insufficient to pay the amounts required by this paragraph, the Secretary may decrease the amounts allocated to agencies by a uniform prorated percentage applicable to all agencies receiving funding under this paragraph or may, to the extent necessary to provide full payment of amounts required under this paragraph, utilize unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryovers, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under this heading, the heading ''Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing'', the heading ''Housing Certificate Fund'', and the heading ''Project-based rental assistance'', for fiscal year 2007 and prior years, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated: Provided further, That all amounts provided under this paragraph shall be only for activities related to the provision of tenant-based rental assistance authorized under section 8, including related development activities;

(6) $30,000,000 for incremental voucher assistance through the Family Unification Program;

(7) $75,000,000 for incremental rental voucher assistance for use through a supported housing program administered in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs as authorized under section 8(o)(19) of the United States Housing Act of 1937: Provided, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall make such funding available, notwithstanding section 204 (competition provision) of this title, to public housing agencies that partner with eligible VA Medical Centers or other entities as designated by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, based on geographical need for such assistance as identified by the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, public housing agency administrative performance, and other factors as specified by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs: Provided further, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may waive, or specify alternative requirements for (in consultation with the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs), any provision of any statute or regulation that the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development administers in connection with the use of funds made available under this paragraph (except for requirements related to fair housing, nondiscrimination, labor standards, and the environment), upon a finding by the Secretary that any such waivers or alternative requirements are necessary for the effective delivery and administration of such voucher assistance: Provided further, That assistance made available under this paragraph shall continue to remain available for homeless veterans upon turn-over; and

(8) $30,000,000 for incremental vouchers under section 8 of the Act for nonelderly disabled families affected by the designation of a public housing development under section 7 of the Act, the establishment of preferences in accordance with section 651 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13611), or the restriction of occupancy to elderly families in accordance with section 658 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 13618), and to the extent the Secretary determines that such amount is not needed to fund applications for such affected families, for other nonelderly disabled families.

HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND

(RESCISSION)

Of the unobligated balances, including recaptures and carryover, remaining from funds appropriated to the Department of Housing and Urban Development under this heading, the heading ''Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing'', the heading ''Tenant-Based Rental Assistance'', and the heading ''Project-Based Rental Assistance'', for fiscal year 2007 and prior years, $1,250,000,000 are rescinded, to be effected by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development no later than September 30, 2008: Provided, That if insufficient funds exist under these headings, the remaining balance may be derived from any other heading under this title: Provided further, That the Secretary shall notify the Committees on Appropriations 30 days in advance of the rescission of any funds derived from the headings specified above: Provided further, That any such balances governed by reallocation provisions under the statute authorizing the program for which the funds were originally appropriated shall be available for the rescission: Provided further, That any obligated balances of contract authority from fiscal year 1974 and prior that have been terminated shall be cancelled.

PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For activities and assistance for the provision of project-based subsidy contracts under the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437 et seq.) (''the Act''), not otherwise provided for, $6,381,810,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That the amounts made available under this heading are provided as follows:

(1) Up to $6,139,122,000 for expiring or terminating section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts), for amendments to section 8 project-based subsidy contracts (including section 8 moderate rehabilitation contracts), for contracts entered into pursuant to section 441 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 11401), for renewal of section 8 contracts for units in projects that are subject to approved plans of action under the Emergency Low Income Housing Preservation Act of 1987 or the Low-Income Housing Preservation and Resident Homeownership Act of 1990, and for administrative and other expenses associated with project-based activities and assistance funded under this paragraph.

(2) Not less than $238,728,000 but not to exceed $286,230,000 for performance-based contract administrators for section 8 project-based assistance: Provided, That the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may also use such amounts for performance-based contract administrators for: interest reduction payments pursuant to section 236(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1(a)); rent supplement payments pursuant to section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s); section 236(f)(2) rental assistance payments (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1(f)(2)); project rental assistance contracts for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q); project rental assistance contracts for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013(d)(2)); project assistance contracts pursuant to section 202(h) of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86–372; 73 Stat. 667); and loans under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (Public Law 86–372; 73 Stat. 667).

(3) Not to exceed $3,960,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund.

(4) Amounts recaptured under this heading, the heading ''Annual Contributions for Assisted Housing'', or the heading ''Housing Certificate Fund'' may be used for renewals of or amendments to section 8 project-based contracts or for performance-based contract administrators, notwithstanding the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated.

PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the Public Housing Capital Fund Program to carry out capital and management activities for public housing agencies, as authorized under section 9 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g) (the ''Act'') $2,438,964,000, to remain available until September 30, 2011: Provided, That notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, during fiscal year 2008 the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may not delegate to any Department official other than the Deputy Secretary and the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing any authority under paragraph (2) of section 9(j) regarding the extension of the time periods under such section: Provided further, That for purposes of such section 9(j), the term ''obligate'' means, with respect to amounts, that the amounts are subject to a binding agreement that will result in outlays, immediately or in the future: Provided further, That of the total amount provided under this heading, up to $12,000,000 shall be for carrying out activities under section 9(h) of such Act; not to exceed $16,847,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund; and up to $15,345,000 shall be to support the ongoing Public Housing Financial and Physical Assessment activities of the Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC): Provided further, That no funds may be used under this heading for the purposes specified in section 9(k) of the Act: Provided further, That of the total amount provided under this heading, not to exceed $18,500,000 shall be available for the Secretary to make grants, notwithstanding section 204 of this Act, to public housing agencies for emergency capital needs resulting from unforeseen or unpreventable emergencies and natural disasters occurring in fiscal year 2008: Provided further, That of the total amount provided under this heading, $40,000,000 shall be for supportive services, service coordinators and congregate services as authorized by section 34 of the Act (42 U.S.C. 1437z–6) and the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4101 et seq.): Provided further, That of the total amount provided under this heading up to $8,820,000 is to support the costs of administrative and judicial receiverships: Provided further, That from the funds made available under this heading, the Secretary shall provide bonus awards in fiscal year 2008 to public housing agencies that are designated high performers.

PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

For 2008 payments to public housing agencies for the operation and management of public housing, as authorized by section 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(e)), $4,200,000,000; of which $5,940,000 shall be for competitive grants and contracts to third parties for the provision of technical assistance to public housing agencies related to the transition and implementation of asset-based management in public housing: Provided, That, in fiscal year 2008 and all fiscal years hereafter, no amounts under this heading in any appropriations Act may be used for payments to public housing agencies for the costs of operation and management of public housing for any year prior to the current year of such Act: Provided further, That no funds may be used under this heading for the purposes specified in section 9(k) of the United States Housing Act of 1937.

REVITALIZATION OF SEVERELY DISTRESSED PUBLIC HOUSING (HOPE VI)

For grants to public housing agencies for demolition, site revitalization, replacement housing, and tenant-based assistance grants to projects as authorized by section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v) $120,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2008, of which the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall use $2,400,000 for technical assistance and contract expertise, to be provided directly or indirectly by grants, contracts or cooperative agreements, including training and cost of necessary travel for participants in such training, by or to officials and employees of the department and of public housing agencies and to residents: Provided, That none of such funds shall be used directly or indirectly by granting competitive advantage in awards to settle litigation or pay judgments, unless expressly permitted herein.

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS

For the Native American Housing Block Grants program, as authorized under title I of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), $630,000,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That, notwithstanding the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, to determine the amount of the allocation under title I of such Act for each Indian tribe, the Secretary shall apply the formula under section 302 of such Act with the need component based on single-race Census data and with the need component based on multi-race Census data, and the amount of the allocation for each Indian tribe shall be the greater of the two resulting allocation amounts: Provided further, That of the amounts made available under this heading, $2,000,000 shall be contracted for assistance for a national organization representing Native American Housing interests for providing training and technical assistance to Indian Housing authorities and tribally designated housing entities as authorized under NAHASDA; and $4,250,000 shall be to support the inspection of Indian housing units, contract expertise, training, and technical assistance in the training, oversight, and management of such Indian housing and tenant-based assistance, including up to $300,000 for related travel: Provided further, That of the amount provided under this heading, $1,980,000 shall be made available for the cost of guaranteed notes and other obligations, as authorized by title VI of NAHASDA: Provided further, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such notes and other obligations, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize the total principal amount of any notes and other obligations, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $17,000,000.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

For the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant program, as authorized under title VIII of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4111 et seq.), $9,000,000, to remain available until expended, of which $300,000 shall be for training and technical assistance activities.

INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13a), $7,450,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, up to $367,000,000.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by section 184A of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13b), $1,044,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That such costs, including the costs of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $41,504,255.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For carrying out the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS program, as authorized by the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12901 et seq.), $300,100,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, except that amounts allocated pursuant to section 854(c)(3) of such Act shall remain available until September 30, 2010: Provided, That the Secretary shall renew all expiring contracts for permanent supportive housing that were funded under section 854(c)(3) of such Act that meet all program requirements before awarding funds for new contracts and activities authorized under this section: Provided further, That the Secretary may use not to exceed $1,485,000 of the funds under this heading for training, oversight, and technical assistance activities; and not to exceed $1,485,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund.

RURAL HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

For the Office of Rural Housing and Economic Development in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, $17,000,000, to remain available until expended, which amount shall be competitively awarded by September 1, 2008, to Indian tribes, State housing finance agencies, State community and/or economic development agencies, local rural nonprofits and community development corporations to support innovative housing and economic development activities in rural areas.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For assistance to units of State and local government, and to other entities, for economic and community development activities, and for other purposes, $4,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2010, unless otherwise specified: Provided, That of the amount provided, $3,790,000,000 is for carrying out the community development block grant program under title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended (the ''Act'' herein) (42 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.): Provided further, That unless explicitly provided for under this heading (except for planning grants provided in the second paragraph and amounts made available under the third paragraph), not to exceed 20

percent of any grant made with funds appropriated under this heading shall be expended for planning and management development and administration: Provided further, That not to exceed $1,570,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund: Provided further, That $3,000,000 is for technical assistance as authorized by section 107(b)(4) of such Act: Provided further, That $62,000,000 shall be for grants to Indian tribes notwithstanding section 106(a)(1) of such Act, of which, notwithstanding any other provision of law (including section 305 of this Act), up to $3,960,000 may be used for emergencies that constitute imminent threats to health and safety.

Of the amount made available under this heading, $183,500,000 shall be available for grants for the Economic Development Initiative (EDI) to finance a variety of targeted economic investments in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the statement of managers accompanying this Act: Provided, That none of the funds provided under this paragraph may be used for program operations: Provided further, That, for fiscal years 2006, 2007, and 2008, no unobligated funds for EDI grants may be used for any purpose except acquisition, planning, design, purchase of equipment, revitalization, redevelopment or construction.

Of the amount made available under this heading, $26,500,000 shall be available for neighborhood initiatives that are utilized to improve the conditions of distressed and blighted areas and neighborhoods, to stimulate investment, economic diversification, and community revitalization in areas with population outmigration or a stagnating or declining economic base, or to determine whether housing benefits can be integrated more effectively with welfare reform initiatives: Provided, That amounts made available under this paragraph shall be provided in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the statement of managers accompanying this Act.

The statement of managers correction referenced in the second paragraph under this heading in title III of division A of Public Law 109–115 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 846 by striking ''Mahonoy City, Pennsylvania for improvements to West Market Street'' and inserting ''Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania for improvements to Centre Street''.

The statement of managers correction referenced in the second paragraph under this heading in title III of division A of Public Law 109–115 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 250 by striking ''for renovation and construction of a resource center'' and inserting ''for construction of a homeless shelter''.

The statement of managers correction referenced in the second paragraph under this heading in title III of division A of Public Law 109–115 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 713 by striking ''for construction of a senior center'' and inserting ''renovation and expansion of facilities''.

The statement of managers correction referenced in the second paragraph under this heading in title III of division A of Public Law 109–115 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 844 by striking ''Liverpool Township'' and inserting ''Liverpool Borough''.

The referenced statement of managers under this heading in title II of division I of Public Law 108–447 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 36 by striking ''respite care facility'' and inserting ''rehabilitative care facility for the developmentally disabled''.

The referenced statement of managers under this heading in title II of division I of Public Law 108–447 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 608 by striking ''construct'' and inserting ''purchase and make improvements to facilities for''.

The referenced statement of managers under this heading in title II of division I of Public Law 108–447 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 521 by striking ''Missouri'' and inserting ''Metropolitan Statistical Area''.

The referenced statement of managers under the heading ''Community Development Fund'' in title II of Public Law 108–447 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 203 by striking ''equipment'' and inserting ''renovation and construction''.

The referenced statement of managers under the heading ''Community Development Fund'' in title III of division A of Public Law 109–115 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 696 by striking ''a Small Business Development Center'' and inserting ''for revitalization costs at the College of Agriculture Biotechnology and Natural Resources''.

The referenced statement of managers under the heading ''Community Development Fund'' in title III of division A of Public Law 109–115 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 460 by striking ''Maine-Mawoshen One Country, Two Worlds Project'' and inserting ''Sharing Maine's Maritime Heritage Project—Construction and access to exhibits''.

The referenced statement of managers under the heading ''Community Development Fund'' in title III of division A of Public Law 109–115 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 914 by striking ''the Pastime Theatre in Bristol, Rhode Island for building improvements'' and inserting ''the Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence in Providence, Rhode Island for building renovations''.

The referenced statement of managers under the heading ''Community Development Fund'' in title III of division A of Public Law 109–115 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 918 by striking ''South Kingstown'' and inserting ''Washington County''.

The referenced statement of managers under the heading ''Community Development Fund'' in title III of division A of Public Law 109–115 is deemed to be amended with respect to item number 624 by striking ''for the construction of a new technology building'' and inserting ''for renovations to the Wheeler Community Center''.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT LOAN GUARANTEES PROGRAM ACCOUNT

For the cost of guaranteed loans, $4,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, as authorized by section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5308): Provided, That such costs, including the cost of modifying such loans, shall be as defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974: Provided further, That these funds are available to subsidize total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed, not to exceed $205,000,000, notwithstanding any aggregate limitation on outstanding obligations guaranteed in section 108(k) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended.

BROWNFIELDS REDEVELOPMENT

For competitive economic development grants, as authorized by section 108(q) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, for Brownfields redevelopment projects, $10,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009: Provided, That no funds made available under this heading may be used to establish loan loss reserves for the section 108 Community Development Loan Guarantee program.

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the HOME investment partnerships program, as authorized under title II of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act, as amended, $1,767,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2010, of which not to exceed $3,465,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund: Provided, That up to $12,500,000 shall be available for technical assistance: Provided further, That of the total amount provided in this paragraph, up to $50,000,000 shall be available for housing counseling under section 106 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968: Provided further, That, from amounts appropriated or otherwise made available under this heading, $15,000,000 may be made available to promote broader participation in homeownership through the American Dream Downpayment Initiative, as such initiative is set forth under section 271 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 12821).

SELF-HELP AND ASSISTED HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

For the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program, as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, as amended, $60,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2010: Provided, That of the total amount provided under this heading, $26,500,000 shall be made available to the Self-Help and Assisted Homeownership Opportunity Program as authorized under section 11 of the Housing Opportunity Program Extension Act of 1996, as amended: Provided further, That $33,500,000 shall be made available for the first four capacity building activities authorized under section 4(b)(3) of the HUD Demonstration Act of 1993 (42 U.S.C. 9816 note), as in effect immediately before June 12, 1997 and of which up to $5,000,000 may be made available for rural capacity building activities.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the emergency shelter grants program as authorized under subtitle B of title IV of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended; the supportive housing program as authorized under subtitle C of title IV of such Act; the section 8 moderate rehabilitation single room occupancy program as authorized under the United States Housing Act of 1937, as amended, to assist homeless individuals pursuant to section 441 of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; and the shelter plus care program as authorized under subtitle F of title IV of such Act, $1,585,990,000, of which $1,580,990,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2010, and of which $5,000,000 shall remain available until expended for rehabilitation projects with ten-year grant terms: Provided, That of the amounts provided, $25,000,000 shall be set aside to conduct a demonstration program for the rapid re-housing of homeless families: Provided further, That of amounts made available in the preceding proviso, not to exceed $1,250,000 may be used to conduct an evaluation of this demonstration program: Provided further, That funding made available for this demonstration program shall be used by the Secretary, expressly for the purposes of providing housing and services to homeless families in order to evaluate the effectiveness of the rapid re-housing approach in addressing the needs of homeless families: Provided further, That not less than 30 percent of funds made available, excluding amounts provided for renewals under the shelter plus care program, shall be used for permanent housing for individuals and families: Provided further, That all funds awarded for services shall be matched by 25 percent in funding by each grantee: Provided further, That the Secretary shall renew on an annual basis expiring contracts or amendments to contracts funded under the shelter plus care program if the program is determined to be needed under the applicable continuum of care and meets appropriate program requirements and financial standards, as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That all awards of assistance under this heading shall be required to coordinate and integrate homeless programs with other mainstream health, social services, and employment programs for which homeless populations may be eligible, including Medicaid, State Children's Health Insurance Program, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families, Food Stamps, and services funding through the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Block Grant, Workforce Investment Act, and the Welfare-to-Work grant program: Provided further, That up to $8,000,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading shall be available for the national

homeless data analysis project and technical assistance: Provided further, That not to exceed $2,475,000 of the funds appropriated under this heading may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund: Provided further, That all balances for Shelter Plus Care renewals previously funded from the Shelter Plus Care Renewal account and transferred to this account shall be available, if recaptured, for Shelter Plus Care renewals in fiscal year 2008.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For capital advances, including amendments to capital advance contracts, for housing for the elderly, as authorized by section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as amended, and for project rental assistance for the elderly under section 202(c)(2) of such Act, including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term, and for supportive services associated with the housing, $735,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2011, of which up to $628,850,000 shall be for capital advance and project-based rental assistance awards: Provided, That, of the amount provided under this heading, up to $60,000,000 shall be for service coordinators and the continuation of existing congregate service grants for residents of assisted housing projects, and of which up to $24,750,000 shall be for grants under section 202b of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q–2) for conversion of eligible projects under such section to assisted living or related use and for emergency capital repairs as determined by the Secretary: Provided further, That of the amount made available under this heading, $20,000,000 shall be available to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development only for making competitive grants to private nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives for covering costs of architectural and engineering work, site control, and other planning relating to the development of supportive housing for the elderly that is eligible for assistance under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q): Provided further, That amounts under this heading shall be available for Real Estate Assessment Center inspections and inspection-related activities associated with section 202 capital advance projects: Provided further, That not to exceed $1,400,000 of the total amount made available under this heading may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund: Provided further, That the Secretary may waive the provisions of section 202 governing the terms and conditions of project rental assistance, except that the initial contract term for such assistance shall not exceed 5 years in duration.

HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For capital advance contracts, including amendments to capital advance contracts, for supportive housing for persons with disabilities, as authorized by section 811 of the Cranston-Gonzalez National Affordable Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 8013), for project rental assistance for supportive housing for persons with disabilities under section 811(d)(2) of such Act, including amendments to contracts for such assistance and renewal of expiring contracts for such assistance for up to a 1-year term, and for supportive services associated with the housing for persons with disabilities as authorized by section 811(b)(1) of such Act, and for tenant-based rental assistance contracts entered into pursuant to section 811 of such Act, $237,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2011: Provided, That not to exceed $600,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund: Provided further, That, of the amount provided under this heading $74,745,000 shall be for amendments or renewal of tenant-based assistance contracts entered into prior to fiscal year 2005 (only one amendment authorized for any such contract): Provided further, That all tenant-based assistance made available under this heading shall continue to remain available only to persons with disabilities: Provided further, That the Secretary may waive the provisions of section 811 governing the terms and conditions of project rental assistance and tenant-based assistance, except that the initial contract term for such assistance shall not exceed 5 years in duration: Provided further, That amounts made available under this heading shall be available for Real Estate Assessment Center Inspections and inspection-related activities associated with section 811 Capital Advance Projects.

OTHER ASSISTED HOUSING PROGRAMS

RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE

For amendments to contracts under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s) and section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1) in State-aided, non-insured rental housing projects, $27,600,000, to remain available until expended.

RENT SUPPLEMENT

(RESCISSION)

Of the amounts made available under the heading ''Rent Supplement'' in Public Law 98–63 for amendments to contracts under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965 (12 U.S.C. 1701s) and section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–1) in State-aided, non-insured rental housing projects, $27,600,000 are rescinded.

FLEXIBLE SUBSIDY FUND

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

From the Rental Housing Assistance Fund, all uncommitted balances of excess rental charges as of September 30, 2007, and any collections made during fiscal year 2008 and all subsequent fiscal years, shall be transferred to the Flexible Subsidy Fund, as authorized by section 236(g) of the National Housing Act.

MANUFACTURED HOUSING FEES TRUST FUND

For necessary expenses as authorized by the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5401 et seq.), up to $16,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be derived from the Manufactured Housing Fees Trust Fund: Provided, That not to exceed the total amount appropriated under this heading shall be available from the general fund of the Treasury to the extent necessary to incur obligations and make expenditures pending the receipt of collections to the Fund pursuant to section 620 of such Act: Provided further, That the amount made available under this heading from the general fund shall be reduced as such collections are received during fiscal year 2008 so as to result in a final fiscal year 2008 appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $0 and fees pursuant to such section 620 shall be modified as necessary to ensure such a final fiscal year 2008 appropriation: Provided further, That for the dispute resolution and installation programs, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may assess and collect fees from any program participant: Provided further, That such collections shall be deposited into the Fund, and the Secretary, as provided herein, may use such collections, as well as fees collected under section 620, for necessary expenses of such Act: Provided further, That notwithstanding the requirements of section 620 of such Act, the Secretary may carry out responsibilities of the Secretary under such Act through the use of approved service providers that are paid directly by the recipients of their services.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

During fiscal year 2008, commitments to guarantee loans to carry out the purposes of section 203(b) of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall not exceed a loan principal of $185,000,000,000.

During fiscal year 2008, obligations to make direct loans to carry out the purposes of section 204(g) of the National Housing Act, as amended, shall not exceed $50,000,000: Provided, That the foregoing amount shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with sales of single family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund.

For administrative contract expenses, $77,400,000, of which not to exceed $25,550,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund, and of which up to $5,000,000 shall be for education and outreach of FHA single family loan products: Provided, That to the extent guaranteed loan commitments exceed $65,500,000,000 on or before April 1, 2008, an additional $1,400 for administrative contract expenses shall be available for each $1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments (including a pro rata amount for any amount below $1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed $30,000,000.

GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For the cost of guaranteed loans, as authorized by sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–3 and 1735c), including the cost of loan guarantee modifications, as that term is defined in section 502 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, as amended, $8,600,000, to remain available until expended: Provided, That commitments to guarantee loans shall not exceed $45,000,000,000 in total loan principal, any part of which is to be guaranteed.

Gross obligations for the principal amount of direct loans, as authorized by sections 204(g), 207(l), 238, and 519(a) of the National Housing Act, shall not exceed $50,000,000, of which not to exceed $30,000,000 shall be for bridge financing in connection with the sale of multifamily real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under such Act; and of which not to exceed $20,000,000 shall be for loans to nonprofit and governmental entities in connection with the sale of single-family real properties owned by the Secretary and formerly insured under such Act.

For administrative contract expenses necessary to carry out the guaranteed and direct loan programs, $78,111,000, of which not to exceed $15,692,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund: Provided, That to the extent guaranteed loan commitments exceed $8,426,000,000 on or before April 1, 2008, an additional $1,980 for administrative contract expenses shall be available for each $1,000,000 in additional guaranteed loan commitments over $8,426,000,000 (including a pro rata amount for any increment below $1,000,000), but in no case shall funds made available by this proviso exceed $14,400,000.

For discount sales of multifamily real property under sections 207(1) or 246 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1713(l), 1715z–11), section 203 of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 1701z–11), or section 204 of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1997 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–11a), and for discount loan sales under section 207(k) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1713(k)), section 203(k) of the Housing and Community Development Amendments of 1978 (12 U.S.C. 1701z–11(k)), or section 204(a) of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies Act, 1997 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–11a(a)), $5,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

New commitments to issue guarantees to carry out the purposes of section 306 of the National Housing Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1721(g)), shall not exceed $200,000,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

For contracts, grants, and necessary expenses of programs of research and studies relating to housing and urban problems, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title V of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 (12 U.S.C. 1701z–1 et seq.), including carrying out the functions of the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under section 1(a)(1)(i) of Reorganization Plan No. 2 of 1968, $61,440,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009: Provided, That of the total amount provided under this heading, $5,000,000 shall be for the Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing Initiative: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading, $23,000,000 is for grants pursuant to section 107 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5307): Provided further, That activities for the Partnership for Advancing Technology in Housing Initiative shall be administered by the Office of Policy Development and Research.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

For contracts, grants, and other assistance, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, as amended by the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, and section 561 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1987, as amended, $50,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, of which $24,000,000 shall be to carry out activities pursuant to such section 561: Provided, That notwithstanding 31 U.S.C. 3302, the Secretary may assess and collect fees to cover the costs of the Fair Housing Training Academy, and may use such funds to provide such training: Provided further, That no funds made available under this heading shall be used to lobby the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with a specific contract, grant or loan: Provided further, That of the funds made available under this heading, $380,000 shall be available to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for the creation and promotion of translated materials and other programs that support the assistance of persons with limited English proficiency in utilizing the services provided by the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL

LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION

For the Lead Hazard Reduction Program, as authorized by section 1011 of the Residential Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Act of 1992, $145,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009, of which $8,800,000 shall be for the Healthy Homes Initiative, pursuant to sections 501 and 502 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1970 that shall include research, studies, testing, and demonstration efforts, including education and outreach concerning lead-based paint poisoning and other housing-related diseases and hazards: Provided, That for purposes of environmental review, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and other provisions of law that further the purposes of such Act, a grant under the Healthy Homes Initiative, Operation Lead Elimination Action Plan (LEAP), or the Lead Technical Studies program under this heading or under prior appropriations Acts for such purposes under this heading, shall be considered to be funds for a special project for purposes of section 305(c) of the Multifamily Housing Property Disposition Reform Act of 1994: Provided further, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $48,000,000 shall be made available on a competitive basis for areas with the highest lead paint abatement needs: Provided further, That each recipient of funds provided under the second proviso shall make a matching contribution in an amount not less than 25 percent: Provided further, That the Secretary may waive the matching requirement cited in the preceding proviso on a case by case basis if the Secretary determines that such a waiver is necessary to advance the purposes of this program: Provided further, That each applicant shall submit a detailed plan and strategy that demonstrates adequate capacity that is acceptable to the Secretary to carry out the proposed use of funds pursuant to a notice of funding availability: Provided further, That of the total amount made available under this heading, $2,000,000 shall be available for the Big Buy Program to be managed by the Office of Healthy Homes and Lead Hazard Control.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

For additional capital for the Working Capital Fund (42 U.S.C. 3535) for the development of, modifications to, and infrastructure for Department-wide information technology systems, for the continuing operation and maintenance of both Department-wide and program-specific information systems, and for program-related development activities, $155,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009: Provided, That any amounts transferred to this Fund under this Act shall remain available until expended: Provided further, That any amounts transferred to this Fund from amounts appropriated by previously enacted appropriations Acts or from within this Act may be used only for the purposes specified under this Fund, in addition to the purposes for which such amounts were appropriated.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

For necessary salaries and expenses of the Office of Inspector General in carrying out the Inspector General Act of 1978, as amended, $112,000,000: Provided, That the Inspector General shall have independent authority over all personnel issues within this office.

OFFICE OF FEDERAL HOUSING ENTERPRISE OVERSIGHT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For carrying out the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992, including not to exceed $500 for official reception and representation expenses, $66,000,000, to remain available until expended, to be derived from the Federal Housing Enterprises Oversight Fund: Provided, That the Director shall submit a spending plan for the amounts provided under this heading no later than January 15, 2008: Provided further, That not less than 80 percent of the total amount made available under this heading shall be used only for examination, supervision, and capital oversight of the enterprises (as such term is defined in section 1303 of the Federal Housing Enterprises Financial Safety and Soundness Act of 1992 (12 U.S.C. 4502)) to ensure that the enterprises are operating in a financially safe and sound manner and complying with the capital requirements under Subtitle B of such Act: Provided further, That not to exceed the amount provided herein shall be available from the general fund of the Treasury to the extent necessary to incur obligations and make expenditures pending the receipt of collections to the Fund: Provided further, That the general fund amount shall be reduced as collections are received during the fiscal year so as to result in a final appropriation from the general fund estimated at not more than $0.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

SEC. 201. Fifty percent of the amounts of budget authority, or in lieu thereof 50 percent of the cash amounts associated with such budget authority, that are recaptured from projects described in section 1012(a) of the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Amendments Act of 1988 (42 U.S.C. 1437 note) shall be rescinded or in the case of cash, shall be remitted to the Treasury, and such amounts of budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury shall be used by State housing finance agencies or local governments or local housing agencies with projects approved by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for which settlement occurred after January 1, 1992, in accordance with such section. Notwithstanding the previous sentence, the Secretary may award up to 15 percent of the budget authority or cash recaptured and not rescinded or remitted to the Treasury to provide project owners with incentives to refinance their project at a lower interest rate.

SEC. 202. None of the amounts made available under this Act may be used during fiscal year 2008 to investigate or prosecute under the Fair Housing Act any otherwise lawful activity engaged in by one or more persons, including the filing or maintaining of a non-frivolous legal action, that is engaged in solely for the purpose of achieving or preventing action by a Government official or entity, or a court of competent jurisdiction.

SEC. 203. (a) Notwithstanding section 854(c)(1)(A) of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12903(c)(1)(A)), from any amounts made available under this title for fiscal year 2008 that are allocated under such section, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall allocate and make a grant, in the amount determined under subsection (b), for any State that—

(1) received an allocation in a prior fiscal year under clause (ii) of such section; and

(2) is not otherwise eligible for an allocation for fiscal year 2008 under such clause (ii) because the areas in the State outside of the metropolitan statistical areas that qualify under clause (i) in fiscal year 2008 do not have the number of cases of acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) required under such clause.

(b) The amount of the allocation and grant for any State described in subsection (a) shall be an amount based on the cumulative number of AIDS cases in the areas of that State that are outside of metropolitan statistical areas that qualify under clause (i) of such section 854(c)(1)(A) in fiscal year 2008, in proportion to AIDS cases among cities and States that qualify under clauses (i) and (ii) of such section and States deemed eligible under subsection (a).

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amount allocated for fiscal year 2008 under section 854(c) of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12903(c)), to the City of New York, New York, on behalf of the New York-Wayne-White Plains, New York-New Jersey Metropolitan Division (hereafter ''metropolitan division'') of the New York-Newark-Edison, NY–NJ–PA Metropolitan Statistical Area, shall be adjusted by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by: (1) allocating to the City of Jersey City, New Jersey, the proportion of the metropolitan area's or division's amount that is based on the number of cases of AIDS reported in the portion of the metropolitan area or division that is located in Hudson County, New Jersey, and adjusting for the proportion of the metropolitan division's high incidence bonus if this area in New Jersey also has a higher than average per capita incidence of AIDS; and (2) allocating to the City of Paterson, New Jersey, the proportion of the metropolitan area's or division's amount that is based on the number of cases of AIDS reported in the portion of the metropolitan area or division that is located in Bergen County and Passaic County, New Jersey,

and adjusting for the proportion of the metropolitan division's high incidence bonus if this area in New Jersey also has a higher than average per capita incidence of AIDS. The recipient cities shall use amounts allocated under this subsection to carry out eligible activities under section 855 of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12904) in their respective portions of the metropolitan division that is located in New Jersey.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amount allocated for fiscal year 2008 under section 854(c) of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12903(c)) to areas with a higher than average per capita incidence of AIDS, shall be adjusted by the Secretary on the basis of area incidence reported over a three year period.

SEC. 204. Except as explicitly provided in law, any grant, cooperative agreement or other assistance made pursuant to title II of this Act shall be made on a competitive basis and in accordance with section 102 of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Reform Act of 1989 (42 U.S.C. 3545).

SEC. 205. Funds of the Department of Housing and Urban Development subject to the Government Corporation Control Act or section 402 of the Housing Act of 1950 shall be available, without regard to the limitations on administrative expenses, for legal services on a contract or fee basis, and for utilizing and making payment for services and facilities of the Federal National Mortgage Association, Government National Mortgage Association, Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, Federal Financing Bank, Federal Reserve banks or any member thereof, Federal Home Loan banks, and any insured bank within the meaning of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Act, as amended (12 U.S.C. 1811–1831).

SEC. 206. Unless otherwise provided for in this Act or through a reprogramming of funds, no part of any appropriation for the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be available for any program, project or activity in excess of amounts set forth in the budget estimates submitted to Congress.

SEC. 207. Corporations and agencies of the Department of Housing and Urban Development which are subject to the Government Corporation Control Act, are hereby authorized to make such expenditures, within the limits of funds and borrowing authority available to each such corporation or agency and in accordance with law, and to make such contracts and commitments without regard to fiscal year limitations as provided by section 104 of such Act as may be necessary in carrying out the programs set forth in the budget for 2008 for such corporation or agency except as hereinafter provided: Provided, That collections of these corporations and agencies may be used for new loan or mortgage purchase commitments only to the extent expressly provided for in this Act (unless such loans are in support of other forms of assistance provided for in this or prior appropriations Acts), except that this proviso shall not apply to the mortgage insurance or guaranty operations of these corporations, or where loans or mortgage purchases are necessary to protect the financial interest of the United States Government.

SEC. 208. None of the funds provided in this title for technical assistance, training, or management improvements may be obligated or expended unless the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development provides to the Committees on Appropriations a description of each proposed activity and a detailed budget estimate of the costs associated with each program, project or activity as part of the Budget Justifications. For fiscal year 2008, the Secretary shall transmit this information to the Committees by March 15, 2008 for 30 days of review.

SEC. 209. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall provide quarterly reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations regarding all uncommitted, unobligated, recaptured and excess funds in each program and activity within the jurisdiction of the Department and shall submit additional, updated budget information to these Committees upon request.

SEC. 210. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the amount allocated for fiscal year 2008 under section 854(c) of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12903(c)), to the City of Wilmington, Delaware, on behalf of the Wilmington, Delaware-Maryland-New Jersey Metropolitan Division (hereafter ''metropolitan division''), shall be adjusted by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by allocating to the State of New Jersey the proportion of the metropolitan division's amount that is based on the number of cases of AIDS reported in the portion of the metropolitan division that is located in New Jersey, and adjusting for the proportion of the metropolitan division's high incidence bonus if this area in New Jersey also has a higher than average per capita incidence of AIDS. The State of New Jersey shall use amounts allocated to the State under this subsection to carry out eligible activities under section 855 of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12904) in the portion of the metropolitan division that is located in New Jersey.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall allocate to Wake County, North Carolina, the amounts that otherwise would be allocated for fiscal year 2008 under section 854(c) of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12903(c)) to the City of Raleigh, North Carolina, on behalf of the Raleigh-Cary, North Carolina Metropolitan Statistical Area. Any amounts allocated to Wake County shall be used to carry out eligible activities under section 855 of such Act (42 U.S.C. 12904) within such metropolitan statistical area.

(c) Notwithstanding section 854(c) of the AIDS Housing Opportunity Act (42 U.S.C. 12903(c)), the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may adjust the allocation of the amounts that otherwise would be allocated for fiscal year 2008 under section 854(c) of such Act, upon the written request of an applicant, in conjunction with the State(s), for a formula allocation on behalf of a metropolitan statistical area, to designate the State or States in which the metropolitan statistical area is located as the eligible grantee(s) of the allocation. In the case that a metropolitan statistical area involves more than one State, such amounts allocated to each State shall be in proportion to the number of cases of AIDS reported in the portion of the metropolitan statistical area located in that State. Any amounts allocated to a State under this section shall be used to carry out eligible activities within the portion of the metropolitan statistical area located in that State.

SEC. 211. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall submit an annual report no later than August 30, 2008 and annually thereafter to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations regarding the number of Federally assisted units under lease and the per unit cost of these units to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 212. The President's formal budget request for fiscal year 2009, as well as the Department of Housing and Urban Development's congressional budget justifications to be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate, shall use the identical account and sub-account structure provided under this Act.

SEC. 213. Amounts made available in this Act or previous appropriations Acts for tenant-based rental assistance and used for non-elderly disabled families or for the Family Unification Program shall, to the extent practicable, remain available for each such respective purpose upon turn-over.

SEC. 214. A public housing agency or such other entity that administers Federal housing assistance for the Housing Authority of the county of Los Angeles, California, the States of Alaska, Iowa, and Mississippi shall not be required to include a resident of public housing or a recipient of assistance provided under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 on the board of directors or a similar governing board of such agency or entity as required under section (2)(b) of such Act. Each public housing agency or other entity that administers Federal housing assistance under section 8 for the Housing Authority of the county of Los Angeles, California and the States of Alaska, Iowa and Mississippi shall establish an advisory board of not less than 6 residents of public housing or recipients of section 8 assistance to provide advice and comment to the public housing agency or other administering entity on issues related to public housing and section 8. Such advisory board shall meet not less than quarterly.

SEC. 215. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, subject to the conditions listed in subsection (b), for fiscal years 2008 and 2009, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may authorize the transfer of some or all project-based assistance, debt and statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions, associated with one or more multifamily housing project to another multifamily housing project or projects.

(b) The transfer authorized in subsection (a) is subject to the following conditions:

(1) the number of low-income and very low-income units and the net dollar amount of Federal assistance provided by the transferring project shall remain the same in the receiving project or projects;

(2) the transferring project shall, as determined by the Secretary, be either physically obsolete or economically non-viable;

(3) the receiving project or projects shall meet or exceed applicable physical standards established by the Secretary;

(4) the owner or mortgagor of the transferring project shall notify and consult with the tenants residing in the transferring project and provide a certification of approval by all appropriate local governmental officials;

(5) the tenants of the transferring project who remain eligible for assistance to be provided by the receiving project or projects shall not be required to vacate their units in the transferring project or projects until new units in the receiving project are available for occupancy;

(6) the Secretary determines that this transfer is in the best interest of the tenants;

(7) if either the transferring project or the receiving project or projects meets the condition specified in subsection (c)(2)(A), any lien on the receiving project resulting from additional financing obtained by the owner shall be subordinate to any FHA-insured mortgage lien transferred to, or placed on, such project by the Secretary;

(8) if the transferring project meets the requirements of subsection (c)(2)(E), the owner or mortgagor of the receiving project or projects shall execute and record either a continuation of the existing use agreement or a new use agreement for the project where, in either case, any use restrictions in such agreement are of no lesser duration than the existing use restrictions;

(9) any financial risk to the FHA General and Special Risk Insurance Fund, as determined by the Secretary, would be reduced as a result of a transfer completed under this section; and

(10) the Secretary determines that Federal liability with regard to this project will not be increased.

(c) For purposes of this section—

(1) the terms ''low-income'' and ''very low-income'' shall have the meanings provided by the statute and/or regulations governing the program under which the project is insured or assisted;

(2) the term ''multifamily housing project'' means housing that meets one of the following conditions—

(A) housing that is subject to a mortgage insured under the National Housing Act;

(B) housing that has project-based assistance attached to the structure including projects undergoing mark to market debt restructuring under the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Housing Act;

(C) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959 as amended by section 801 of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act;

(D) housing that is assisted under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959, as such section existed before the enactment of the Cranston-Gonzales National Affordable Housing Act; or

(E) housing or vacant land that is subject to a use agreement;

(3) the term ''project-based assistance'' means—

(A) assistance provided under section 8(b) of the United States Housing Act of 1937;

(B) assistance for housing constructed or substantially rehabilitated pursuant to assistance provided under section 8(b)(2) of such Act (as such section existed immediately before October 1, 1983);

(C) rent supplement payments under section 101 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965;

(D) interest reduction payments under section 236 and/or additional assistance payments under section 236(f)(2) of the National Housing Act; and

(E) assistance payments made under section 202(c)(2) of the Housing Act of 1959;

(4) the term ''receiving project or projects'' means the multifamily housing project or projects to which some or all of the project-based assistance, debt, and statutorily required use low-income and very low-income restrictions are to be transferred;

(5) the term ''transferring project'' means the multifamily housing project which is transferring some or all of the project-based assistance, debt and the statutorily required low-income and very low-income use restrictions to the receiving project or projects; and

(6) the term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 216. The funds made available for Native Alaskans under the heading ''Native American Housing Block Grants'' in title III of this Act shall be allocated to the same Native Alaskan housing block grant recipients that received funds in fiscal year 2005.

SEC. 217. No funds provided under this title may be used for an audit of the Government National Mortgage Association that makes applicable requirements under the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661 et seq.)

SEC. 218. (a) No assistance shall be provided under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) to any individual who—

(1) is enrolled as a student at an institution of higher education (as defined under section 102 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002));

(2) is under 24 years of age;

(3) is not a veteran;

(4) is unmarried;

(5) does not have a dependent child;

(6) is not a person with disabilities, as such term is defined in section 3(b)(3)(E) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437a(b)(3)(E)) and was not receiving assistance under such section 8 as of November 30, 2005; and

(7) is not otherwise individually eligible, or has parents who, individually or jointly, are not eligible, to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f).

(b) For purposes of determining the eligibility of a person to receive assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), any financial assistance (in excess of amounts received for tuition) that an individual receives under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.), from private sources, or an institution of higher education (as defined under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1002)), shall be considered income to that individual, except for a person over the age of 23 with dependent children.

(c) Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall issue final regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.

SEC. 219. Notwithstanding the limitation in the first sentence of section 255(g) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(g)), the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may, until September 30, 2008, insure and enter into commitments to insure mortgages under section 255 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20).

SEC. 220. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in fiscal year 2008, in managing and disposing of any multifamily property that is owned or has a mortgage held by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, the Secretary shall maintain any rental assistance payments under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 and other programs that are attached to any dwelling units in the property. To the extent the Secretary determines, in consultation with the tenants and the local government, that such a multifamily property owned or held by the Secretary is not feasible for continued rental assistance payments under such section 8 or other programs, based on consideration of (1) the costs of rehabilitating and operating the property and all available Federal, State, and local resources, including rent adjustments under section 524 of the Multifamily Assisted Housing Reform and Affordability Act of 1997 (''MAHRAA'') and (2) environmental conditions that cannot be remedied in a cost-effective fashion, the Secretary may, in consultation with the tenants of that property, contract for project-based rental assistance payments with an owner or owners of other existing housing properties, or provide other rental assistance. The Secretary shall also take appropriate steps to ensure that project-based contracts remain in effect prior to foreclosure, subject to the exercise of contractual abatement remedies to assist relocation of tenants for imminent major threats to health and safety. After disposition of any multifamily property described under this section, the contract and allowable rent levels on such properties shall be subject to the requirements under section 524 of MAHRAA.

SEC. 221. The National Housing Act is amended—

(1) in sections 207(c)(3), 213(b)(2)(B)(i), 221(d)(3)(ii)(II), 221(d)(4)(ii)(II), 231(c)(2)(B), and 234(e)(3)(B) (12 U.S.C. 1713(c)(3), 1715e(b)(2)(B)(i), 1715l(d)(3)(ii)(II), 1715l(d)(4)(ii)(II), 1715v(c)(2)(B), and 1715y(e)(3)(B))—

(A) by striking ''140 percent'' each place such term appears and inserting ''170 percent''; and

(B) by striking ''170 percent in high cost areas'' each place such term appears and inserting ''215 percent in high cost areas''; and

(2) in section 220(d)(3)(B)(iii)(III) (12 U.S.C. 1715k(d)(3)(B)(iii)(III)) by striking ''206A'' and all that follows through ''project-by-project basis'' and inserting the following: ''206A of this Act) by not to exceed 170 percent in any geographical area where the Secretary finds that cost levels so require and by not to exceed 170 percent, or 215 percent in high cost areas, where the Secretary determines it necessary on a project-by-project basis''.

SEC. 222. (a) During fiscal year 2008, in the provision of rental assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o)) in connection with a program to demonstrate the economy and effectiveness of providing such assistance for use in assisted living facilities that is carried out in the counties of the State of Michigan notwithstanding paragraphs (3) and (18)(B)(iii) of such section 8(o), a family residing in an assisted living facility in any such county, on behalf of which a public housing agency provides assistance pursuant to section 8(o)(18) of such Act, may be required, at the time the family initially receives such assistance, to pay rent in an amount exceeding 40 percent of the monthly adjusted income of the family by such a percentage or amount as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development determines to be appropriate.

SEC. 223. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the recipient of a grant under section 202b of the Housing Act of 1959 (12 U.S.C. 1701q–2) after December 26, 2000, in accordance with the unnumbered paragraph at the end of section 202(b) of such Act, may, at its option, establish a single-asset nonprofit entity to own the project and may lend the grant funds to such entity, which may be a private nonprofit organization described in section 831 of the American Homeownership and Economic Opportunity Act of 2000.

SEC. 224. Section 24 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437v) is amended—

(1) in subsection (m)(1), by striking ''2003'' and inserting ''2008''; and

(2) in subsection (o), by striking ''September 30, 2007'' and inserting ''September 30, 2008''.

SEC. 225. Public housing agencies that own and operate 400 or fewer public housing units may elect to be exempt from any asset management requirement imposed by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development in connection with the operating fund rule: Provided, That an agency seeking a discontinuance of a reduction of subsidy under the operating fund formula shall not be exempt from asset management requirements.

SEC. 226. With respect to the use of amounts provided in this Act and in future Acts for the operation, capital improvement and management of public housing as authorized by sections 9(d) and 9(e) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(d) and (e)), the Secretary shall not impose any requirement or guideline relating to asset management that restricts or limits in any way the use of capital funds for central office costs pursuant to section 9(g)(1) or 9(g)(2) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(g)(1),(2)): Provided, however, that a public housing agency may not use capital funds authorized under section 9(d) for activities that are eligible under section 9(e) for assistance with amounts from the operating fund in excess of the amounts permitted under sections 9(g)(1) or 9(g)(2).

SEC. 227. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall report quarterly to the House of Representatives and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of all section 8 project-based housing, including the number of all project-based units by region as well as an analysis of all federally subsidized housing being refinanced under the Mark-to-Market program. The Secretary shall in the report identify all existing units maintained by region as section 8 project-based units and all project-based units that have opted out of section 8 or have otherwise been eliminated as section 8 project-based units. The Secretary shall identify in detail and by project all the efforts made by the Department to preserve all section 8 project-based housing units and all the reasons for any units which opted out or otherwise were lost as section 8 project-based units. Such analysis shall include a review of the impact of the loss any subsidized units in that housing marketplace, such as the impact of cost and the loss of available subsidized, low-income housing in areas with scarce housing resources for low-income families.

SEC. 228. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall report quarterly to the House of Representatives and Senate Committees on Appropriations on HUD's use of all sole source contracts, including terms of the contracts, cost and a substantive rationale for using a sole source contract.

SEC. 229. Section 9(e)(2)(C) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437g(e)(2)(C)) is amended by adding at the end of the following:

''(iv) EXISTING CONTRACTS.—The term of a contract described in clause (i) that, as of the date of enactment of this clause, is in repayment and has a term of not more than 12 years, may be extended to a term of not more than 20 years to permit additional energy conservation improvements without requiring the reprocurement of energy performance contractors.''.

SEC. 230. The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall increase, pursuant to this section, the number of Moving-to-Work agencies authorized under section 204, title II, of the Departments of Veterans Affairs and Housing and Urban Development and Independent Agencies Appropriations Act, 1996 (Public Law 104–134; 110 Stat. 1321–281) by making individually the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation and the housing authorities of the counties of San Bernardino and Santa Clara and the city of San Jose, California a Moving-to-Work Agency under such section 204.

SEC. 231. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may not rescind or take any adverse action with respect to the Moving-to-Work program designation for the Housing Authority of Baltimore City based on any alleged administrative or procedural errors in making such designation.

SEC. 232. Paragraph (4) of section 102(a) of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C. 5302) is amended by adding at the end the following new sentence: ''Notwithstanding any other provision of this paragraph, with respect to any fiscal year beginning after the date of the enactment of this sentence, the cities of Alton and Granite City, Illinois, may be considered metropolitan cities for purposes of this title.''.

SEC. 233. (a) The amounts provided under the subheading ''Program Account'' under the heading ''Community Development Loan Guarantees'' may be used to guarantee, or make commitments to guarantee, notes or other obligations issued by any State on behalf of non-entitlement communities in the State in accordance with the requirements of section 108 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974: Provided, That, any State receiving such a guarantee or commitment shall distribute all funds subject to such guarantee to the units of general local government in non-entitlement areas that received the commitment.

(b) Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall promulgate regulations governing the administration of the funds described under subsection (a).

SEC. 234. Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall establish and maintain on the homepage of the Internet website of the Department of Housing and Urban Development—

(1) a direct link to the Internet website of the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

(2) a mechanism by which individuals may anonymously report cases of waste, fraud, or abuse with respect to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 235. (a) REQUIRED SUBMISSIONS FOR FISCAL YEARS 2007 AND 2008.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall submit to the relevant authorizing committees and to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives for fiscal year 2007 and 2008—

(A) a complete and accurate accounting of the actual project-based renewal costs for project-based assistance under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f);

(B) revised estimates of the funding needed to fully fund all 12 months of all project-based contracts under such section 8, including project-based contracts that expire in fiscal year 2007 and fiscal year 2008; and

(C) all sources of funding that will be used to fully fund all 12 months of the project-based contracts for fiscal years 2007 and 2008.

(2) UPDATED INFORMATION.—At any time after the expiration of the 60-day period described in paragraph (1), the Secretary may submit corrections or updates to the information required under paragraph (1), if upon completion of an audit of the project-based assistance program under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f), such audit reveals additional information that may provide Congress a more complete understanding of the Secretary's implementation of the project-based assistance program under such section 8.

(b) REQUIRED SUBMISSIONS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009.—As part of the Department of Housing and Urban Development's budget request for fiscal year 2009, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall submit to the relevant authorizing committees and to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the House of Representatives complete and detailed information, including a project-by-project analysis, that verifies that such budget request will fully fund all project-based contracts under section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f) in fiscal year 2009, including expiring project-based contracts.

SEC. 236. No official or employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be designated as an allotment holder unless the Office of the Chief Financial Officer has determined that such allotment holder has implemented an adequate system of funds control and has received training in funds control procedures and directives. The Chief Financial Officer shall ensure that, not later than ninety days after the date of enactment of this Act, a trained allotment holder shall be designated for each HUD sub-account under the headings ''Executive Direction'' and ''Administration, Operations, and Management'' as well as each account receiving appropriations for ''personnel compensation and benefits'' within the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SEC. 237. Funding for indemnities is limited to non-programmatic litigation and is restricted to the payment of attorney fees only. Program related litigation must be paid from the individual program office personnel benefits and compensation allocation. The budget submission must include program-related litigation costs as a separate line item request.

This title may be cited as the ''Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2008''.

TITLE III

RELATED AGENCIES

ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For expenses necessary for the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board, as authorized by section 502 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, $6,150,000: Provided, That, notwithstanding any other provision of law, there may be credited to this appropriation funds received for publications and training expenses.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the Federal Maritime Commission as authorized by section 201(d) of the Merchant Marine Act, 1936 (46 U.S.C. App. 1111), including services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109; hire of passenger motor vehicles as authorized by 31 U.S.C. 1343(b); and uniforms or allowances therefore, as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 5901–5902, $22,072,000: Provided, That not to exceed $2,000 shall be available for official reception and representation expenses.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

For necessary expenses of the National Transportation Safety Board, including hire of passenger motor vehicles and aircraft; services as authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109, but at rates for individuals not to exceed the per diem rate equivalent to the rate for a GS–15; uniforms, or allowances therefor, as authorized by law (5 U.S.C. 5901–5902) $84,499,000, of which $74,063 is available for payments to remedy the violation of the Anti-deficiency Act reported by the National Transportation Safety Board on September 26, 2007, and not to exceed $2,000 may be used for official reception and representation expenses. The amounts made available to the National Transportation Safety Board in this Act include amounts necessary to make lease payments due in fiscal year 2008 only, on an obligation incurred in fiscal year 2001 for a capital lease.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

For payment to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for use in neighborhood reinvestment activities, as authorized by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation Act (42 U.S.C. 8101–8107), $119,800,000, of which $5,000,000 shall be for a multi-family rental housing program.

For an additional amount, $200,000,000 shall be made available until expended to the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for mortgage foreclosure mitigation activities, under the following terms and conditions:

(1) The Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation (''NRC''), shall make grants to counseling intermediaries approved by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) or the NRC (with match to be determined by the NRC based on affordability and the economic conditions of an area; a match also may be waived by the NRC based on the aforementioned conditions) to provide mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance primarily to states and areas with high rates of defaults and foreclosures primarily in the sub prime housing market to help eliminate the default and foreclosure of mortgages of owner-occupied single-family homes that are at risk of such foreclosure. Other than areas with high rates of defaults and foreclosures, grants may also be provided to approved counseling intermediaries based on a geographic analysis of the Nation by the NRC which determines where there is a prevalence of sub prime mortgages that are risky and likely to fail, including any trends for mortgages that are likely to default and face foreclosure. A State Housing Finance Agency may also be eligible where the State Housing Finance Agency meets all the requirements under this paragraph. A HUD- or NRC-approved counseling intermediary shall meet certain mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance counseling requirements, as determined by the NRC, and shall be approved by HUD or the NRC as meeting these requirements;

(2) Mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance shall only be made available to homeowners of owner-occupied homes with mortgages in default or in danger of default. These mortgages shall likely be subject to a foreclosure action and homeowners will be provided such assistance that shall consist of activities that are likely to prevent foreclosures and result in the long-term affordability of the mortgage retained pursuant to such activity or another positive outcome for the homeowner. No funds made available under this paragraph may be provided directly to lenders or homeowners to discharge outstanding mortgage balances or for any other direct debt reduction payments;

(3) The use of Mortgage Foreclosure Mitigation Assistance by approved counseling intermediaries and State Housing Finance Agencies shall involve a reasonable analysis of the borrower's financial situation, an evaluation of the current value of the property that is subject to

the mortgage, counseling regarding the assumption of the mortgage by another non-federal party, counseling regarding the possible purchase of the mortgage by a non-federal third party, counseling and advice of all likely restructuring and refinancing strategies or the approval of a work-out strategy by all interested parties;

(4) NRC shall award $50,000,000 in mortgage foreclosure mitigation grants for States and areas with the greatest needs within 60 days of enactment. Additional funds may be awarded once the NRC certifies that HUD- or NRC-approved counseling intermediaries and State Housing Finance Agencies have the need for additional funds in states and areas with high rates of mortgage foreclosures, defaults, or related activities and the expertise to use these funds effectively. The NRC may provide up to fifteen percent of the total funds under this paragraph to its own charter members with expertise in foreclosure prevention counseling, subject to a certification by the NRC that the procedures for selection do not consist of any procedures or activities that could be construed as an unacceptable conflict of interest or have the appearance of impropriety;

(5) NRC- or HUD-approved counseling entities and State Housing Finance Agencies receiving funds under this paragraph shall have demonstrated experience in successfully working with financial institutions as well as borrowers facing default, delinquency and foreclosure as well as documented counseling capacity, outreach capacity, past successful performance and positive outcomes with documented counseling plans (including post mortgage foreclosure mitigation counseling), loan workout agreements and loan modification agreements;

(6) Of the total amount made available under this paragraph, up to $5,000,000 may be made available to build the mortgage foreclosure and default mitigation counseling capacity of counseling intermediaries through NRC training courses with HUD- or NRC-approved counseling intermediaries and their partners, except that private financial institutions that participate in NRC training shall pay market rates for such training;

(7) Of the total amount made available under this paragraph, up to 4 percent may be used for associated administrative expenses for the NRC to carry-out activities provided under this section;

(8) Mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance may include a budget for outreach and advertising, as determined by the NRC; and

(9) The NRC shall report bi-annually to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations as well as the Senate Banking Committee and House Financial Services Committee on its efforts to mitigate mortgage default. Such reports shall identify successful strategies and methods for preserving homeownership and the long-term affordability of at-risk mortgages and shall include recommended efforts that will or likely can assist in the success of this program as well as an analysis of any policy and procedures that failed to result in successful mortgage foreclosure mitigation. The report shall include an analysis of the details and use of any post mitigation counseling of assisted borrowers designed to ensure the continued long-term affordability of the mortgages which were the subject of the mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance.

UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

OPERATING EXPENSES

For necessary expenses (including payment of salaries, authorized travel, hire of passenger motor vehicles, the rental of conference rooms, and the employment of experts and consultants under section 3109 of title 5, United States Code) of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness in carrying out the functions pursuant to title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, $2,150,000.

Title II of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, as amended, is amended in section 209 by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2008''.

TITLE IV

GENERAL PROVISIONS THIS ACT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

SEC. 401. Such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008 pay raises for programs funded in this Act shall be absorbed within the levels appropriated in this Act or previous appropriations Acts.

SEC. 402. None of the funds in this Act shall be used for the planning or execution of any program to pay the expenses of, or otherwise compensate, non-Federal parties intervening in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

SEC. 403. None of the funds appropriated in this Act shall remain available for obligation beyond the current fiscal year, nor may any be transferred to other appropriations, unless expressly so provided herein.

SEC. 404. The expenditure of any appropriation under this Act for any consulting service through procurement contract pursuant to section 3109 of title 5, United States Code, shall be limited to those contracts where such expenditures are a matter of public record and available for public inspection, except where otherwise provided under existing law, or under existing Executive order issued pursuant to existing law.

SEC. 405. Except as otherwise provided in this Act, none of the funds provided in this Act, provided by previous appropriations Acts to the agencies or entities funded in this Act that remain available for obligation or expenditure in fiscal year 2008, or provided from any accounts in the Treasury derived by the collection of fees and available to the agencies funded by this Act, shall be available for obligation or expenditure through a reprogramming of funds that: (1) creates a new program; (2) eliminates a program, project, or activity; (3) increases funds or personnel for any program, project, or activity for which funds have been denied or restricted by the Congress; (4) proposes to use funds directed for a specific activity by either the House or Senate Committees on Appropriations for a different purpose; (5) augments existing programs, projects, or activities in excess of $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; (6) reduces existing programs, projects, or activities by $5,000,000 or 10 percent, whichever is less; or (7) creates, reorganizes, or restructures a branch, division, office, bureau, board, commission, agency, administration, or department different from the budget justifications submitted to the Committees on Appropriations or the table accompanying the statement of the managers accompanying this Act, whichever is more detailed, unless prior approval is received from the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations: Provided, That not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, each agency funded by this Act shall submit a report to the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and of the House of Representatives to establish the baseline for application of reprogramming and transfer authorities for the current fiscal year: Provided further, That the report shall include: (1) a table for each appropriation with a separate column to display the President's budget request, adjustments made by Congress, adjustments due to enacted rescissions, if appropriate, and the fiscal year enacted level; (2) a delineation in the table for each appropriation both by object class and program, project, and activity as detailed in the budget appendix for the respective appropriation; and (3) an identification of items of special congressional interest: Provided further, That the amount appropriated or limited for salaries and expenses for an agency shall be reduced by $100,000 per day for each day after the required date that the report has not been submitted to the Congress.

SEC. 406. Except as otherwise specifically provided by law, not to exceed 50 percent of unobligated balances remaining available at the end of fiscal year 2008 from appropriations made available for salaries and expenses for fiscal year 2008 in this Act, shall remain available through September 30, 2009, for each such account for the purposes authorized: Provided, That a request shall be submitted to the Committees on Appropriations for approval prior to the expenditure of such funds: Provided further, That these requests shall be made in compliance with reprogramming guidelines.

SEC. 407. All Federal agencies and departments that are funded under this Act shall issue a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on all sole source contracts by no later than July 31, 2008. Such report shall include the contractor, the amount of the contract and the rationale for using a sole source contract.

SEC. 408. (a) None of the funds made available in this Act may be obligated or expended for any employee training that—

(1) does not meet identified needs for knowledge, skills, and abilities bearing directly upon the performance of official duties;

(2) contains elements likely to induce high levels of emotional response or psychological stress in some participants;

(3) does not require prior employee notification of the content and methods to be used in the training and written end of course evaluation;

(4) contains any methods or content associated with religious or quasi-religious belief systems or ''new age'' belief systems as defined in Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Notice N–915.022, dated September 2, 1988; or

(5) is offensive to, or designed to change, participants' personal values or lifestyle outside the workplace.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit, restrict, or otherwise preclude an agency from conducting training bearing directly upon the performance of official duties.

SEC. 409. None of the funds made available in this Act may be used to provide homeownership assistance for applicants described in 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a(h)(3)).

SEC. 410. None of the funds in this Act may be used to employ workers described in section 274A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1324a(h)(3)).

SEC. 411. No funds in this Act may be used to support any Federal, State, or local projects that seek to use the power of eminent domain, unless eminent domain is employed only for a public use: Provided, That for purposes of this section, public use shall not be construed to include economic development that primarily benefits private entities: Provided further, That any use of funds for mass transit, railroad, airport, seaport or highway projects as well as utility projects which benefit or serve the general public (including energy-related, communication-related, water-related and wastewater-related infrastructure), other structures designated for use by the general public or which have other common-carrier or public-utility functions that serve the general public and are subject to regulation and oversight by the government, and projects for the removal of an immediate threat to public health and safety or brownsfield as defined in the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownsfield Revitalization Act (Public Law 107–118) shall be considered a public use for purposes of eminent domain.

SEC. 412. None of the funds made available in this Act may be transferred to any department, agency, or instrumentality of the United States Government, except pursuant to a transfer made by, or transfer authority provided in, this Act or any other appropriations Act.

SEC. 413. No part of any appropriation contained in this Act shall be available to pay the salary for any person filling a position, other than a temporary position, formerly held by an employee who has left to enter the Armed Forces

of the United States and has satisfactorily completed his period of active military or naval service, and has within 90 days after his release from such service or from hospitalization continuing after discharge for a period of not more than 1 year, made application for restoration to his former position and has been certified by the Office of Personnel Management as still qualified to perform the duties of his former position and has not been restored thereto.

SEC. 414. No funds appropriated pursuant to this Act may be expended by an entity unless the entity agrees that in expending the assistance the entity will comply with sections 2 through 4 of the Act of March 3, 1933 (41 U.S.C. 10a–10c, popularly known as the ''Buy American Act'').

SEC. 415. No funds appropriated or otherwise made available under this Act shall be made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating the Buy American Act (41 U.S.C. 10a–10c).

This Act may be cited as the ''Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008''.

And the Senate agree to the same.

JOHN W. OLVER,
ED PASTOR,
CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ,
MARCY KAPTUR,
DAVID E. PRICE,
ROBERT CRAMER, Jr.,
LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD,
MARION BERRY,
DAVE OBEY,
JOE KNOLLENBERG,
FRANK R. WOLF,
ROBERT B. ADERHOLT,
JAMES T. WALSH,
VIRGIL GOODE, Jr.,
JERRY LEWIS,
Managers on the Part of the House.

PATTY MURRAY,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
BARBARA A. MIKULSKI,
HERB KOHL,
RICHARD DURBIN,
BYRON L. DORGAN,
PATRICK LEAHY,
TOM HARKIN,
DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
TIM JOHNSON,
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
DANIEL K. INOUYE,
CHRISTOPHER S. BOND,
RICHARD C. SHELBY,
ARLEN SPECTER,
R.F. BENNETT,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
SAM BROWNBACK,
TED STEVENS,
PETE V. DOMENICI,
LAMAR ALEXANDER,
WAYNE ALLARD,
THAD COCHRAN,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOINT EXPLANATORY STATEMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE

The committee of conference on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses on the amendments of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3074), ''making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes'', submits the following joint statement to the House and the Senate in explanation of the effect of the action agreed upon by the conferees and recommended in the accompanying conference report.

This legislation intent in the House and Senate versions in H.R. 3074 is set forth in the accompanying House report (H. Rept. 110–238) and the accompanying Senate report (S. Rept. 110–131 accompanying the companion measure S. 1789).

The Senate amendment deleted the entire House bill after the enacting clause and inserted the Senate bill. The conference agreement includes a revised bill.

The language and allocations set forth in the House and Senate reports should be complied with unless specifically addressed to the contrary in the conference report and the statement of the managers. Report language included by the House which is not changed by the report of the Senate or this statement of managers and Senate report language which is not changed by this statement of managers is approved by the committee of conference. The statement of the managers, while repeating some report language for emphasis, does not intend to negate the language referred to above unless expressly provided herein. In cases where the House or the Senate has directed the submission of a report, such report is to be submitted to both House and Senate Committees on Appropriations.

TITLE I—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides $93,782,000 for the salaries and expenses of the office of the secretary instead of $90,678,000 as proposed by the House and $95,197,000 as proposed by the Senate. As proposed by both the House and the Senate, bill language is included that specifies funding by office. The conference agreement is as follows:

Immediate office of the Secretary	$2,310,000
Immediate office of the Deputy Secretary	730,000
Office of the General Counsel	18,720,000
Office of the Under Secretary for Transportation Policy	11,874,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs	9,417,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs	2,383,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	23,750,000
1Office of Public Affairs	1,986,000
Office of the Executive Secretariat	1,516,000
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization	1,335,000
Office of Intelligence, Security and Emergency Response	7,874,000
Office of the Chief Information Officer	11,887,000

The conference agreement retains provisions proposed by both the House and the Senate limiting transfers among each office to no more than 5 percent and requiring that any transfer greater than 5 percent must be submitted for approval to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. Bill language is also included which allows the Department to spend up to $60,000 within the funds provided for official reception and representation expenses.

The conference agreement retains bill language proposed by the House and Senate prohibiting funds from being used for the position of Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs. The conference agreement also retains bill language proposed by both the House and the Senate that allows up to $2,500,000 in user fees to be credited to salaries and expenses.

Within the amounts provided to the office of the general counsel, an additional $2,500,000 is provided to increase enforcement activities to better protect air travel consumers as proposed by the Senate.

The conferees direct the Department to notify the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations no less than three full business days before any grant totaling $500,000 is announced and further clarify that such notifications shall be based on the grant's full-year funding level, not just the incremental amount being released. In addition, the conferees direct the Department to provide three day notice to the Appropriations Committees regarding grants from the Federal Highway Administration's Emergency Relief program, with the exception that notification of 'quick releases' from that program can be made concurrently with the grant announcement.

The conferees direct the Secretary to submit an operating plan for fiscal year 2008 for the entire Department as described in the House report for approval by the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 60 days of enactment of this Act.

Further, the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs shall submit a report to both the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations at the beginning of each fiscal quarter on the status of all outstanding reports and reporting requirements, including the deadlines established by Congress for each report and an estimated date for delivery, as directed by the Senate. The Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs is also directed to submit a quarterly report detailing all funding transfers made between offices within the office of the secretary (OST) pursuant to transfer authority in OST salaries and expenses.

The conferees direct the office of the under secretary of transportation for policy to conduct a study of the use of non-hazardous recycled aggregates and other materials in highway projects as proposed by the Senate and to provide a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by April 1, 2008.

The conferees delete language proposed by the House regarding the Department of Defense schools and FAA employees in Puerto Rico and Guam.

Small community air service development program.—The conferees strongly disagree with the Department's plan to transfer the administration of the small community air service development program from the OST policy office to the Federal Aviation Administration. In the aftermath of the tragic Valujet crash on May 11, 1996, the Congress eliminated the FAA's dual mission of safety and promotion and established safety as the agency's singular mission through the enactment of section 401 of the Federal Aviation Authorization Act of 1996 (Public Law 104–264). The conferees agree that it is inappropriate for the FAA, which is charged with the safety and regulatory oversight of our nation's airports and aviation system, to administer a marketing program designed to attract commercial air service at small airports. The conferees direct the Secretary to retain this program within the policy office where it currently resides.

OFFICE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

The conference agreement provides $9,140,900 for the office of civil rights as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The conference agreement provides $14,000,000 for transportation planning, research and development instead of $8,515,000 as proposed by the House and $14,115,000 as proposed by the Senate. Adjustments to the budget request are as follows:

Ballast water research, UW–Superior, WI	$1,000,000
Great Lakes maritime research institute, WI	1,000,000
Inland Pacific Hub Analysis Project, WA	250,000
National center for manufacturing sciences (NCMS), MI	750,000

SR–520 innovative water quality protection project, WA	350,000
Transportation and public safety traffic information exchange pilot project, DE	335,000
UVM advanced ground penetrating radar systems, VT	670,000
Virtual accident and injury reconstruction center, Mississippi State University, MS	1,000,000
Washington State University freight transportation policy institute, WA	450,000

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

The conference agreement includes a limitation of $128,094,000 for working capital fund activities as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

MINORITY BUSINESS RESOURCE CENTER PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides a total appropriation of $893,000 for the costs of guaranteed loans for short-term working capital and the administrative expenses of the minority business resource center program as proposed by the House instead of $891,000 as proposed by the Senate and limits loans made under the program to $18,367,000 as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

MINORITY BUSINESS OUTREACH

The conference agreement provides $2,970,000 for minority business outreach as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

PAYMENTS TO AIR CARRIERS

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement provides $60,000,000 for payments to air carriers to be derived from the trust fund as proposed by the House and Senate. In addition to these funds, the program will receive $50,000,000 in mandatory spending pursuant to the Federal Aviation Authorization Act of 1996. In addition, $15,000,000 is made available pursuant to the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, resulting in a total program budget of $125,000,000.

COMPENSATION TO AIR CARRIERS

(RESCISSION)

The conference agreement rescinds $22,000,000 from unobligated funds as proposed by the House and Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION

Section 101 retains a provision allowing the Secretary to transfer unexpended sums from ''office of the secretary, salaries and expenses'' to ''minority business outreach'' as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 102 retains a provision prohibiting the Office of the Secretary of Transportation from approving assessments or reimbursable agreements pertaining to funds appropriated to the modal administrations in the Act, unless such assessments or agreements have completed the normal reprogramming process for Congressional notification as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 103 retains a provision prohibiting the use of funds to implement an essential air service local cost share participation program as proposed by the House and Senate.

FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS

The conference agreement includes $8,750,000,000 for operations of the Federal Aviation Administration instead of $8,716,606,000 as proposed by the House and $8,761,783,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the total amount provided, $6,383,216,000 is to be derived from the airport and airway trust fund instead of $6,317,000,000 as proposed by the House and $6,400,580,000 proposed by the Senate. Funds are distributed in the bill by budget activity.

Second career training program.—The conference agreement retains language proposed by the House that prohibits funding for the second career training program.

Non-profit standard-setting organization for safety standards.—The conference agreement retains language proposed by the House that allows the FAA to enter into an agreement with a nonprofit standard-setting organization to develop safety standards.

Office of Aviation Safety.—The conference agreement specifies no less than $6,000,000 for aviation safety for staff increases in the office of flight standards (AFS) and the office of aircraft certification (AIR), instead of $20,000,000 proposed by the Senate. The House did not include a similar provision.

Controller and Safety Staffing Plans.—The conference agreement retains language proposed by the Senate that requires FAA to transmit an annual update to the controller workforce plan by March 31, 2008, and reduces the appropriation by $100,000 per day each day the report is late. The conference agreement does not retain a legislative provision proposed by the Senate requiring a comprehensive strategy for AFS and AIR staffing by March 31, 2008. This reporting requirement is addressed later in this statement.

The following table compares the conference agreement to the President's budget request and the levels proposed in the House and Senate bills by budget activity:

	House bill	Senate bill	Conference agreement
Air Traffic Organization	$6,964,813,000	$6,964,813,000	$6,964,813,000
Contract Tower base program	3,600,000		3,600,000
NAS Handoff	−10,000,000		
Alien Species Action Plan, Kahului Airport, Hawaii	0	1,600,000	1,250,000
Amount Recommended	6,958,413,000	6,964,813,000	6,969,663,000
Aviation Safety	1,056,103,000	1,056,103,000	1,056,103,000
Annualize on-board AIR and AFS staff	16,000,000	16,000,000	16,000,000
Hire new AIR and AFS staff	2,750,000	20,000,000	6,000,000
Hire new safety staff in high priority AVS offices	1,250,000		2,000,000
Medallion Program, Alaska	0	3,000,000	2,550,000
Amount Recommended	1,076,103,000	1,092,103,000	1,082,653,000
Commercial Space Transportation	12,837,000	12,837,000	12,837,000
FY07 related reduction	−288,000		−288,000
Amount recommended	12,549,000	12,837,000	12,549,000
Financial Services	103,849,000	103,849,000	103,849,000
FY07 related reduction	−1,256,000		−628,000
Delphi reduction	−2,000,000		−1,000,000
Amount recommended	100,593,000	103,849,000	102,221,000
Human Resource Management	91,214,000	91,214,000	91,214,000
FY07 related reduction	−2,113,000		
Amount recommended	89,101,000	91,214,000	91,214,000
Region and Center Operations	290,872,000	290,872,000	290,872,000
FY07 related reduction	−4,024,000		
Amount recommended	286,848,000	290,872,000	290,872,000
Staff Offices	166,543,000	166,543,000	166,543,000
FY07 related reduction	−4,192,000		
Amount Recommended	162,349,000	166,542,000	166,543,000
Information Services	39,552,000	39,552,000	39,552,000
FY07 related reduction		−902,000	
Amount recommended	38,650,000	38,650,000	39,552,000
Account-wide Adjustments:			
Unfilled executive positions	−8,000,000		−5,267,000
Amount recommended	−8,000,000		−5,267,000
Total	$8,716,606,000	$8,761,783,000	$8,750,000,000

Contract tower program.—The conference agreement includes $8,500,000 to continue the contract tower cost-sharing program as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, consistent with House proposal, the conferees provide $103,000,000 for the contract tower base program, and allow FAA to use unsubscribed funds from the contract tower base line program to avoid elimination of communities from the cost share towers program. The conferees allow this flexibility only after all baseline tower obligations are fulfilled. The Senate proposed $99,400,000 for the base program.

Air traffic controller staffing.—The conferees provide $15,899,000, equal to the budget request, to hire and train 1,420 new controllers, and recognize that FAA will adjust its hiring target consistent with actual attrition levels.

Diversity plans for controllers and safety staff.—The conference agreement retains language proposed by the House directing the FAA to prepare and transmit diversity plans for both controllers and safety staff. The conferees amend the submittal date for these plans, from January 1, 2008 to April 1, 2008.

Aviation safety (AVS).—The conference agreement provides $1,082,653,000 for aviation safety, instead of $1,076,103,000 proposed by the House and $1,092,103,000 proposed by the Senate. This amount includes $16,000,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate to annualize safety personnel in AFS and AIR that are currently on-board. It also includes no less than $6,000,000 to increase AFS and AIR safety staff and $2,000,000 to increase safety staff in other high priority offices within AVS. The conferees direct FAA to provide a letter report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations indicating how this $2,000,000 was spent.

The conferees modify House language that designates AVS funding as a congressional

item of interest and continue to prohibit reprogrammings to other offices outside of AVS; however, the legislative prohibition against reprogrammings among AVS offices is deleted.

The conferees include Senate language directing the FAA to provide a quarterly report on safety personnel by office in AVS, instead of the annual requirement on safety employment and other data as proposed by the House. The conference agreement includes the Senate requirement that FAA submit within 90 days from enactment, a report on its staffing model schedule, and directs FAA to submit an annual safety plan by March 31, 2008, describing FAA's safety needs within AVS, the use of designees and their impact on safety, as proposed by the House. The conferees include the direction that this annual safety plan include total number of staff, estimated staff losses, and planned hires for the entire safety staff as well as individually for the flight standards and the aircraft certification offices, as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes in statement language the reporting requirements contained in the Senate bill directing the Government Accountability Office to study the effectiveness of different strategies for reducing flight delays at various airports and transmit the report within 120 days of enactment, and directing the Secretary of Transportation to outline DOT's plan to alleviate air congestion and flight delays in the New York/New Jersey/Philadelphia airspace.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement includes $2,527,284,000 instead of $2,515,000,000 as proposed by the House and $2,516,920,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of the total amount available, $459,973,000 is available until September 30, 2008, and $2,067,311,000 is available until September 30, 2010. The conference agreement includes language proposed by both the House and Senate directing FAA to transmit a detailed five-year capital investment plan to Congress with its fiscal year 2009 budget submission.

The following table provides a breakdown of the House and Senate bills and the conference agreement by program:

Program	FY08 Request	FY08 House	FY08 Senate	Conference
Activity 1—Engineering, Development Test & Evaluation				
Advanced Technology Development and Prototyping	$37,800,000	$40,800,000	$39,800,000	$42,800,000
Safe Flight 21	17,000,000	17,000,000	17,000,000	17,000,000
Aeronautical Data Link (ADL) Applications	1,000,000	1,000,000	.....	.....
Next Generation Very High Frequency Air/Ground Communications System (NEXCOM)	30,400,000	30,400,000	30,400,000	30,400,000
Traffic Management Advisor (TMA)	15,400,000	15,400,000	15,400,000	15,400,000
NAS Improvement of System Support Laboratory	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
William J. Hughes Technical Center Facilities	12,000,000	12,000,000	12,000,000	12,000,000
William J. Hughes Technical Center Infrastructure Sustainment	4,200,000	4,200,000	4,200,000	4,200,000
System-Wide Information Management (SWIM)	21,300,000	21,300,000	24,300,000	23,400,000
ADS–B NAS Wide Implementation	85,650,000	90,650,000	97,354,000	85,650,000
ADS–B Air to Air Capabilities	.....	.....	.....	9,350,000
NextGen Network Enabled Weather	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000	7,000,000
Data Communications for Trajectory Based Operations (NextGen)	7,400,000	7,400,000	7,400,000	7,400,000
Next Generation Transportation System Technology Demonstration	50,000,000	50,000,000	50,000,000	50,000,000
Louisville International Airport Demonstration Project	.....	.....	2,000,000	.....
Next Generation Integrated Airport, Daytona Beach International Airport	.....	.....	3,000,000	2,000,000
TOTAL ACTIVITY 1	290,150,000	298,150,000	310,854,000	307,600,000
Activity 2—Air Traffic Control Facilities & Equipment				
En Route Automation Modernization (ERAM)	368,750,000	368,750,000	368,750,000	368,750,000
En Route Systems Modifications	4,300,000	4,300,000	4,300,000	4,300,000
Next Generation Weather Radar (NEXRAD)—Provide	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
ARTCC Building Improvements/Plant Improvements	52,900,000	52,900,000	52,900,000	52,900,000
Air Traffic Management (ATM)	90,600,000	90,600,000	90,600,000	90,600,000
Air/Ground Communications Infrastructure	29,200,000	29,200,000	26,200,000	26,200,000
ATC Beacon Interrogator (ATCBI)—Replacement	20,200,000	20,200,000	20,200,000	20,200,000
Air Traffic Control En Route Radar Facilities Improvements	5,300,000	5,300,000	5,300,000	5,300,000
Integrated Terminal Weather System (ITWS)	13,200,000	13,200,000	13,200,000	13,200,000
FAA Telecommunications Infrastructure (FTI)	8,500,000	8,500,000	8,500,000	8,500,000
Oceanic Automation System (OAS)	53,100,000	53,100,000	53,100,000	53,100,000
Air Traffic Operations Management System (ATOMS)	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000
Voice Switching and Control System (VSCS)	15,700,000	15,700,000	15,700,000	15,700,000
En Route Communications Gateway (ECG)	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Volcano Monitoring	1,000,000	1,000,000	3,000,000	2,700,000
Corridor Integrated Weather System (CIWS)	2,100,000	2,100,000	2,100,000	2,100,000
San Juan Radar Approach Control (CERAP)	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000
Military Operations	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000	1,600,000
Automated Detection and Processing Terminal (ADAPT)	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
ATCSCC Infrastructure Planning	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000
Wind Hazard Detection Equipment	.....	.....	1,100,000	800,000
Subtotal En Route Programs	688,450,000	688,450,000	688,550,000	687,950,000
Airport Surface Detection Equipment—Model X (ASDE–X)	37,900,000	45,600,000	37,900,000	40,600,000
ASDE–X relocation and upgrade, Sea-Tac, Washington	.....	.....	.....	5,000,000
Terminal Doppler Weather Radar (TDWR)—Provide	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000	8,000,000
Standard Terminal Automation Replacement System (STARS) (TAMR Phase 1)	31,200,000	31,200,000	31,200,000	31,200,000
Terminal Automation—Phase 1	2,300,000	2,300,000	2,300,000	2,300,000
Terminal Air Traffic Control Facilities—Replace	150,600,000	155,100,000	166,700,000	165,600,000
Airport Traffic Control Tower (ATCT)/Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) Facilities—Improve	47,000,000	47,000,000	47,000,000	47,000,000
Terminal Voice Switch Replacement (TVSR)/Enhancement Terminal Voice Switch (ETVS)	12,300,000	12,300,000	12,300,000	12,300,000
NAS Facilities OSHA and Environmental Standards Compliance	26,000,000	26,000,000	26,000,000	26,000,000
Airport Surveillance Radar (ASR–9)	6,300,000	6,300,000	11,300,000	11,300,000
Terminal Digital Radar (ASR–11)	20,300,000	20,300,000	20,300,000	20,300,000
DOD/FAA Facilities Transfer	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000	1,300,000
Precision Runway Monitors (PRM)	9,000,000	9,000,000	9,000,000	9,000,000
Runway Status Lights (RWSL)	5,300,000	20,000,000	5,300,000	9,000,000
Terminal Automation Modernization/Replacement Program (TAMR Phase 2)	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000	6,800,000
National Airspace System Voice Switch (NVS)	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Weather System Processor (WSP)	4,100,000	4,100,000	4,100,000	4,100,000
Houston Area Air Traffic System (HAATS)	4,000, 000	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Voice Recorder Replacement Program (VRRP)	5,900,000	5,900,000	10,500,000	10,500,000
Integrated Control and Monitoring System	.....	2,000,000	.....	2,000,000
Multilateration Air Traffic Surveillance, Provo, Utah	.....	.....	1,000,000	700,000
ASR-8 Radar relocation to Bismarck Municipal Airport, North Dakota	.....	.....	1,500,000	1,000,000
Subtotal—Terminal Programs	381,300,000	410,200,000	409,500,000	421,000,000
Automated Surface Observing System (ASOS)	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Flight Service Station (FSS) Modernization	5,100,000	5,100,000	5,100,000	5,100,000
Subtotal—Flight Service Programs	10,100,000	10,100,000	10,100,000	10,100,000
VHF Omnidirectional Radio Range (VOR) with Distance Measuring Equipment (DME)	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Instrument Landing System (ILS)—Establish	9,000,000	9,000,000	14,950,000	15,218,000
Wide Area Augmentation System (WAAS) for GPS	115,900,000	120,900,000	115,900,000	115,900,000
Runway Visual Range (RVR)	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Approach Lighting System Improvement Program (ALSIP)	15,000,000	15,000,000	18,000,000	19,400,000
Distance Measuring Equipment (DME)	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Visual Navaids—Establish/Expand	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000
Instrument Approach Procedures Automation (IAPA)	17,800,000	17,800,000	17,800,000	17,800,000
Navigation and Landing Aids—Service Life Extension Program (SLEP)	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
VASI Replacement—Replace with Precision Approach Path Indicator	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Subtotal—Landing & Navigational Aids	184,200,000	189,200,000	193,150,000	194,818,000
Fuel Storage Tank Replacement and Monitoring	5,900,000	5,900,000	5,900,000	5,900,000
FAA Buildings and Equipment	13,700,000	13,700,000	13,700,000	13,700,000

Program	FY08 Request	FY08 House	FY08 Senate	Conference
Air Navigational Aids and ATC Facilities (Local Projects)	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Aircraft Related Equipment Program	9,800,000	9,800,000	9,800,000	9,800,000
Computer Aided Engineering and Graphics (CAEG)—Modernization	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Airport Cable Loop Systems—Sustained Support	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Alaskan NAS Interfacility Communications System (ANICS)	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Facilities Decommissioning—NDB	8,000,000	8,000,000	5,400,000	5,400,000
Electrical Power Systems—Sustain/Support	41,000,000	41,000,000	38,000,000	38,000,000
Energy Management and Efficiency Compliance	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Aircraft Fleet Modernization	9,000,000	9,000,000	9,000,000	9,000,000
Subtotal—Other ATC Facilities	100,900,000	100,900,000	95,300,000	95,300,000
TOTAL ACTIVITY 2	1,364,950,000	1,398,850,000	1,396,600,000	1,409,168,000
Activity 3—Non-ATC Facilities & Equipment				
Hazardous Materials Management	18,200,000	18,200,000	18,200,000	18,200,000
Aviation Safety Analysis System (ASAS)	16,900,000	16,900,000	16,900,000	16,900,000
Logistics Support Systems and Facilities (LSSF)	6,300,000	6,300,000	6,300,000	6,300,000
Test Equipment—Maintenance Support for Replacement	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000	2,500,000
National Air Space (NAS) Recovery Communications (RCOM)	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000
Facility Security Risk Management	22,000,000	22,000,000	22,000,000	22,000,000
Information Security	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000	15,000,000
System Approach for Safety Oversight (SASO)	11,300,000	11,300,000	11,300,000	11,300,000
Aviation Safety Knowledge Management Environment (ASKME)	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Center for Aviation Safety Research, Missouri			3,000,000	2,250,000
Subtotal—Support Equipment	106,200,000	106,200,000	109,200,000	108,450,000
Aeronautical Center Infrastructure Modernization	5,393,000	5,393,000	5,393,000	5,393,000
National Airspace System (NAS) Training—Facilities	1,900,000	1,900,000	1,900,000	1,900,000
Distance Learning	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000	1,400,000
National Airspace System (NAS) Training—Simulator	14,600,000	14,600,000	14,600,000	14,600,000
Subtotal—Training Equipment & Facilities	23,293,000	23,293,000	23,293,000	23,293,000
TOTAL—ACTIVITY 3	129,493,000	129,493,000	132,493,000	131,743,000
Activity 4—Mission Support				
System Engineering and Development Support	30,200,000	30,200,000	30,200,000	30,200,000
Program Support Leases	44,000,000	44,000,000	40,000,000	40,000,000
Logistic Support Services (LSS)	7,500,000	7,500,000	7,500,000	7,500,000
Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center Leases	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000	13,500,000
Transition Engineering Support	10,700,000	10,700,000	10,700,000	10,700,000
Frequency and Spectrum Engineering	3,400,000	3,400,000	3,400,000	3,400,000
Technical Support Services Contract (TSSC)	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000	20,000,000
Resource Tracking Program (RTP)	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000	3,500,000
Center for Advanced Aviation System Development (CAASD)	74,200,000	81,000,000	78,200,000	80,000,000
NOTAMS and Aeronautical Information Programs	9,000,000	9,000,000	9,000,000	9,000,000
Personnel Change of Station Moves	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
TOTAL—ACTIVITY 4	217,000,000	223,800,000	217,000,000	218,800,000
Activity 5—Personnel Compensation, Benefits and Travel				
Personnel and Related Expenses	459,973,000	459,973,000	459,973,000	459,973,000
GRAND TOTAL	$2,461,566,000	$2,510,266,000	$2,516,920,000	$2,527,284,000

Advanced technology development and prototyping.—The conference agreement includes $42,800,000 for advanced technology development and prototyping instead of $40,800,000 as proposed by the House and $39,800,000 as proposed by the Senate. The following table compares the conference agreement to the House and Senate bills by budget activity:

Project	House	Senate	Conference
Runway Incursion	$8,000,000	$5,000,000	$8,000,000
Aviation System Capacity Improvement (ASCI)	6,500,000	6,500,000	6,500,000
Operational Concept Validation	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
NAS Weather	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Airspace Management Laboratory	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Airspace Redesign	5,000,000	5,000,000	5,000,000
Strategy and Evaluation	500,000	500,000	500,000
Dynamic Capital Planning	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,500,000
Wind Profiling in Juneau, AK	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Wake Turbulence	3,000,000	3,000,000	3,000,000
Market-Based Competitive Sourcing	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
Local Area Augmentation System for GPS	1,000,000	1,000,000	1,000,000
ATDP-In Service Engineering	300,000	300,000	300,000
Traffic Collision Avoidance System	2,000,000	2,000,000	2,000,000
Runway Warning—Gulfport-Biloxi Airport		2,000,000	2,000,000
Total	$40,800,000	$39,800,000	$42,800,000

System-Wide Information Management (SWIM).—The conference agreement provides $23,400,000 for SWIM, of which $2,100,000 is to evaluate and demonstrate the capability of integrating mobile objects technology with the SWIM program.

Automatic Dependent Surveillance Broadcast (ADS–B).—The conference agreement provides $85,650,000 for ADS–B, instead of $90,650,000 as proposed by the House and $97,354,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees direct FAA to examine the frequency congestion issues associated with the ADS–B signal, and accelerate the effort to determine how existing aircraft separation standards can be safely reduced.

ADS–B Air to Air capabilities.—The conference agreement provides $9,350,000 for the ADS–B program specifically to expedite air to air capabilities.

Next Generation Integrated Airport.—The conference agreement provides $2,000,000 for this project, to be located at Daytona Beach International Airport, and consistent with the Senate proposed language, the conferees expect the FAA to ensure that measures are in place to guarantee that all potential vendors have the opportunity to benefit fully from this facility.

Airport surface detection equipment—Model X (ASDE–X).—The conference agreement provides $40,600,000 for ASDE–X to expedite site implementation and deployment, instead of $45,600,000 as proposed by the House and $37,900,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees retain Senate language regarding deadlines for initial operating capability and operational readiness for each site and to report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations when deadlines change.

ASDE–X, Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.—The conference agreement provides $5,000,000 to relocate and upgrade the ASDE–X system at the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport.

Integrated control and monitoring system (ICMS).—The conference agreement includes $2,000,000 for procurement, installation, including site preparation of ICMS.

Terminal air traffic control facilities replacement.—The conference agreement provides $165,600,000, of which $148,500,000 shall be distributed as follows:

Abilene, Texas	$2,200,000
Barnstable Municipal Airport, Massachusetts	3,250,000
Boise, Idaho	9,074,000
Dayton, Ohio	2,300,000
Fort Lauderdale, Florida	1,000,000
Greenwood Airport, Mississippi	1,500,000
Gulfport, Mississippi	11,997,000
Houston, Texas	29,072,000
Jeffco, Colorado	2,500,000
Kalamazoo, Michigan	22,500,000

LaGuardia, New York	9,000,000
Medford, Oregon	1,100,000
Memphis, Tennessee	4,760,000
Missoula, Montana	754,000
Nantucket Memorial Airport, Massachusetts	2,750,000
Oakland, California	4,600,000
Orlando, California	7,000,000
Palm Springs, California	2,000,000
Pensacola, Florida	4,180,000
Reno, Nevada	15,223,000
San Francisco, California	1,500,000
Toledo, Ohio	1,450,000
Traverse City, Michigan	1,150,000
West Palm Beach, Florida	7,590,000

Instrument landing system establishment.—The conference agreement provides $15,218,000 for the instrument landing system establishment, instead of $9,000,000 proposed by the House and $14,950,000 proposed by the Senate. Funds shall be distributed as follows:

Project	*Amount*
Aiken Municipal Airport, South Carolina	$950,000
Alliance Municipal Airport, Nebraska	468,000
Council Bluffs Municipal, Iowa	1,640,000
Independence Municipal Airport, Kansas	700,000
Northeastern Regional Airport, Edenton, North Carolina	500,000
Piedmont Triad Airport	1,050,000
Somerset Airport, Somerset, Kentucky	510,000
Saline County Airport, Arkansas	400,000

Wide area augmentation system (WAAS).—The conferees provide $115,900,000 for WAAS as proposed by the Senate, instead of $120,900,000 as proposed by the House. Of the funds provided, no less than $5,000,000 is for approaches at airports without an existing ILS, as proposed by the House.

Approach lighting system improvement.—The conference agreement provides $19,400,000 for the approach lighting system improvement program (ALSIP), instead of $15,000,000 as proposed by the House and $18,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the total, funds shall be distributed as follows:

Project	*Amount*
Airfields in Alaska	$2,550,000
Gulfport-Biloxi runway and centerline lighting	500,000
Rutland State Airport MALSR	1,350,000

Airport Surveillance Radar 9.—The conferees provide $11,300,000 for ASR-9 as proposed by the Senate instead of $6,300,000 provided by the House. Of the total, the conferees direct $5,000,000 to site and install an additional ASR-9 at Chicago O'Hare International Airport.

Multilateration Air Traffic Surveillance, Provo, UT.—The conference agreement includes $700,000 for multilateration air traffic surveillance for the area around Provo, Utah. The conferees retain language directing the FAA to work towards developing a solution to address the unique needs of this area due to the topographical challenges presented in and around Provo Municipal Airport.

Center for advanced systems development (CAASD).—The conference agreement provides $80,000,000 for CAASD, instead of $81,000,000 proposed by the House and $78,200,000 proposed by the Senate.

RESEARCH, ENGINEERING AND DEVELOPMENT

The conference agreement provides $147,000,000 for research, engineering, and development instead of $140,000,000 as proposed by the House and $148,800,000 as proposed by the Senate. The following table compares the conference agreement to the House and Senate bills by budget activity:

Program	House	Senate	Conference
Improve Aviation Safety:			
Fire research and safety	7,350,000	7,350,000	7,350,000
Propulsion and fuel systems	4,086,000	4,086,000	4,086,000
Advanced material/structural safety	2,713,000	7,713,000	7,173,000
Atmospheric hazards/digital system safety	3,574,000	3,574,000	3,574,000
Aging aircraft	14,931,000	16,431,000	15,966,000
Aircraft catastrophic failure prevention research	2,202,000	2,202,000	2,202,000
Flightdeck maintenance/system integration human factors	9,651,000	9,151,000	9,200,000
Aviation safety risk analysis	9,517,000	9,517,000	9,517,000
Air traffic control airways facility human factors	10,254,000	10,054,000	10,000,000
Aeromedical research	6,780,000	7,780,000	7,780,000
Weather program	16,888,000	16,888,000	16,888,000
Unmanned aircraft system	3,310,000	2,810,000	2,920,000
Improve efficiency:			
Joint program and development office	14,321,000	14,321,000	14,321,000
Wake Turbulence	10,755,000	13,755,000	12,855,000
GPS Civil Requirements	3,600,000	3,100,000	3,100,000
Reduce Environment Impacts:			
Environment and Energy	15,469,000	15,469,000	15,469,000
Mission Support:			
System Planning and Resource Management	1,184,000	1,184,000	1,184,000
Technical Laboratory Facilities	3,415,000	3,415,000	3,415,000
Total	140,000,000	148,800,000	147,000,000

Within the funds for advanced material/structural safety, the conference agreement provides $700,000 for the Advanced Material in Transport Aircraft Structures Center in Seattle, Washington; $525,000 for the Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Innovations Center in Edmonds, Washington; $500,000 for Jet Engine Technology Inspection in Iowa; $335,000 for support of Aircraft Fleet Evaluation Research in Iowa; and $2,400,000 for the National Institute for Aviation Research at Wichita State University.

Within the funds for aging aircraft, the conference agreement provides $700,000 for small aircraft research at the National Institute for Aviation Research at Wichita State University; and $335,000 for the Airframe Maintenance Technology Degree Program in Delaware.

Within aeromedical research, the conference agreement provides $1,000,000 for the Civil Aerospace Medical Institute, as proposed by the Senate, to submit a report by December 31, 2009 on the issue of flight attendant fatigue. The House included a similar reporting requirement, but did not provide specific funding for this purpose.

Within the funds for Wake Turbulence, the conference agreement provides $2,100,000 for Spiroid Winglet Fuel Efficiency Research in Washington, instead of $3,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

GRANTS-IN-AID FOR AIRPORTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(AIRPORT AND AIRWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement includes a liquidating cash appropriation of $4,399,000,000, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Obligation limitation.—The conferees agree to an obligation limitation of $3,514,500,000 for the ''Grants-in-aid for airports'' program as proposed by the Senate, instead of $3,600,000,000 as proposed by the House.

Administration.—The conference agreement includes a limitation on administrative expenses of not more than $80,676,000 as proposed by the House and Senate.

Small community air service development program.—The conference agreement includes $10,000,000 under the obligation limitation to continue the small community air service development (SCASDP) program as proposed by the House and Senate, and directs the FAA to transfer funds to OST salaries and expenses appropriation. The conference agreement includes a new reporting requirement directing the Government Accountability Office to update its November 2005 report on the program's effectiveness in improving commercial air service to small communities. The report shall be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by June 15, 2008.

Airport cooperative research program.—The conference agreement includes no less than $10,000,000 under the obligation limitation for the airport cooperative research program, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Airport technology research.—The conference agreement includes no less than $18,712,000 under the obligation limitation for airport technology research as proposed by the House and Senate.

High priority projects.—Of the funds covered by the obligation limitation in this bill, the conferees direct FAA to provide not less than the following funding levels, out of available resources, for the following projects. The conferees reaffirm that state apportionment funds may be construed as discretionary funds for the purposes of implementing this provision. To the maximum extent possible, the administrator should work to ensure that airport sponsors for these projects first use available entitlement funds to finance the projects. However, the FAA should not require sponsors to apply carryover entitlements to discretionary projects funded in the coming year, but only those entitlements applicable to the fiscal year 2008 obligation limitation. The conferees further direct that the specific funding allocated below shall not diminish or prejudice the application of a specific airport or geographic region to receive other AIP discretionary grants or multiyear letters of intent.

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Airport Authority of the County of Scotts Bluff for Maintenance of Airport Runways and Taxiways, Safety Factors, NE	$670,000
Airport Improvements, Stanly County, NC	$500,000
Akron-Canton Regional Parking Apron Construction, OH	$900,000
Akutan Airport Construction, AK	$2,625,000
Albert Whitted Airport Improvements, FL	$1,000,000
Albuquerque International Sunport, Construction of Aircraft Parking Ramp, NM	$1,200,000
Alexandria International Airport, Runway Extension and Upgrades, LA	$700,000
Alliance Airport runway extension, Fort Worth, TX	$800,000
Altus/Quartz Mountain Regional Airport, OK	$600,000
Andrews-Murphy Airport Expansion Murphy, NC	$1,500,000
Atlantic City International Airport Terminal Apron, NJ	$500,000
Augusta Bush Field terminal expansion, GA	$1,500,000
Austin Straubel International Airport, Runway 6/24 Pavement Reconstruction, WI	$1,500,000
Bemidji Regional Airport Terminal Modernization/Expansion, MN	$500,000
Boise Airport Planning, Design, and Construction to Widen and Lengthen Runway 9/27, ID	$750,000
Brunswick County Airport Runway Extension, NC	$400,000
Buffalo-Niagara International Subsurface Engineered Wetland Water Quality Project, NY	$400,000
Burlington-Alamance County Regional Airport Runway Taxiway Extension, NC	$1,000,000
Capital City Airport Phase II Runway Extension (Relocation of DeWitt Road and Purchase of Land), MI	$3,600,000
Carson City Airport to Replace Pavement and Realignment of the Single Runway, NV	$2,100,000
Chattanooga Airport taxiway relocation & reconstruction, TN	$2,000,000
Chippewa Valley Regional Airport to Redesign Terminal, Improve Terminal and Airside and Landside Improvements, WI	$2,177,500
Cincinnati Northern Kentucky International Airport, rehabilitation, Boone County, KY	$500,000
Clark County Runway Extension, IN	$1,150,000
Collin County Regional at McKinney for Tower Construction, TX	$1,500,000
Columbia Regional Airport to Widen and Extend Runway 13-31, MO	$2,025,000
Concord Regional Airport improvements, NC	$400,000
Cuyahoga County Airport Pavement Maintenance and Rehabilitation, OH	$500,000
Dane County Regional Airport improvements, Madison, WI	$400,000
Danville Regional Airport Improvements, VA	$500,000
Denver International Airport Pavement Rehabilitation--Concrete Repairs to Three Runways, CO	$2,010,000
Detroit Metro-Wayne County Airport Taxiway Kilo Rehabilitation, MI	$1,000,000
Eagle County Regional Airport Runway Extension, CO	$350,000
Edinburg International Airport Improvements, Hidalgo County, TX	$850,000
Eldon Model Airpark, Construct Runway 18/36 Phase I, MO	$315,000
Erie International Airport, Extend Runway 06-24, PA	$1,050,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Fort Wayne International Airport to Install Guidance Signs, IN	$167,500
Franklin County Airport Runway Extension, Land Acquisition and Improvements, NC	$250,000
Franklin Field Airport, Land Acquisition, Design and Construction, Relocation and Extension of the Existing Runway and Renovation of the Airport Facility, AL	$1,575,000
Gainesville Regional Airport Taxiway Rehabilitation, FL	$400,000
George Bush Intercontinental, Houston Noise Mitigation, TX	$500,000
Georgetown Airport Runway Extension, SC	$1,000,000
Glynn County Airport Commission Improvements, GA	$1,000,000
Grand Forks International Airport Improvements (Construction of a Runway), ND	$1,340,000
Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport, Taxiway Construction and Rehabilitation, Noise Mitigation, MS	$2,000,000
Huntingburg Airport Upgrades, IN	$150,000
Jackson Evers International Airport, Airfield Iinfrastructure Improvements (Rehabilitation and Extension of Taxiways and Runways), MS	$2,000,000
John Bell Williams Airport, Runway Extension and Taxiway, MS	$1,500,000
Kalamazoo Battle Creek Airport terminal, MI	$500,000
Lafayette Regional Airport Upgrades, LA	$1,500,000
Lake in the Hills Airport for Relocation of Parallel Taxiway, IL	$750,000
Lewis University Airport for Extension of Runway and Taxiway, IL	$750,000
Louisville International Airport, Runway Widening and Improvements (to Accommodate Group VI Aircraft), KY	$1,250,000
Manhattan Regional Airport for Runway Safety Area Improvements, KS	$1,400,000
Max B. Swisher Skyhaven Airport, Update and Expand Runway and Terminal, MO	$1,035,000
MBS International Airport, New Terminal Building, MI	$1,340,000
McNary Field Airport to Expand Runway Capacity, OR	$1,005,000
Meadows Field Airport Expansion, CA	$650,000
Middle Georgia Regional Airport, GA improvements	$750,000
Mobile Downtown Airport for Cargo Apron Rehabilitation and Drainage Repairs, AL	$750,000
Monroe Regional Airport New Terminal, LA	$400,000
Montgomery County Regional Airport improvements, NC	$400,000
Nantucket Municipal Airport, MA facility replacement	$500,000
New Bedford Safety Upgrades (PAPI) , MA	$100,000
New Richmond Regional Airport Improvements, WI	$600,000
New River Valley Airport Runway and Taxiway Rehabilitation, VA	$400,000
Niagara Falls International Airport Improvements, NY	$500,000
Niagara Falls International, Construction of a New Terminal Apron (Phase IB), NY	$1,950,000
Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport to Construct Second Landing Surface, AR	$2,680,000
Norwood Airport Reconstruction, MA	$200,000
Oakland County International Airport, MI improvement and noise mitigation programs	$1,000,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Ogden Hinckley Airport taxiway project, Ogden, UT	$900,000
Ohio University Airport Improvements, OH	$800,000
Outagamie County Regional Airport Improvements, WI	$500,000
Paulding County Airport land acquisition, site preparation and construction, GA	$600,000
Pellston Regional Airport Improvements, MI	$600,000
Philadelphia International Airport Runway Rehabilitation (9R/27L), PA	$650,000
Phoenix Sky Harbor International, Taxiway and Improvements, AZ	$1,250,000
Roberts Field, Redmond Municipal Airport to Expand the Terminal, OR	$2,512,500
Rowan County Airport Land Acquisition (runway protection zone), NC	$600,000
San Marcos Municipal Airport, Terminal and T-Hangar Construction, TX	$1,575,000
Scottsboro Municipal Airport, AL improvements	$550,000
Springfield-Branson National Airport Midfield Replacement Terminal Construction, MO	$1,000,000
St. Clair County Airport Improvements, MI	$300,000
St. Cloud Airport Terminal Improvements, MN	$1,125,000
St. Lucie County International New Parallel Runway Construction, FL	$500,000
Statesville Regional Airport, Improvements, NC	$1,500,000
Sugar Land Airport Expansion, TX	$2,000,000
Taylor County Airport, Medford Improvements, WI	$2,500,000
Texarkana Regional Airport - Webb Field to Construct New Aircraft Firefighting and Rescue Station, AR	$670,000
Toledo Express Airport Improvements, OH	$750,000
Tunica Airport, Runway and Parallel Taxi Extension and Paving, MS	$1,250,000
Turner County Airport Renovations, GA	$150,000
Tuscaloosa Regional Airport Masterplan, AL	$200,000
Upper Cumberland Regional Airport Improvements (Complete Runway and Taxiway Extensions), TN	$700,000
Vermont Statewide for Various Improvements, VT	$1,005,000
W.K. Kellogg Airport, Battle Creek, Runway, MI	$500,000
Walker Field Grand Junction Runway Resurfacing, CO	$900,000
Waukegan Regional Airport for Runway Extension, Land Acquisition and Environmental Study, IL	$750,000
West Virginia Statewide for Various Improvements, WV	$4,680,000
Williams Gateway Airport, AZ taxiway B construction	$1,750,000

(RESCISSION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

The conference agreement includes a rescission of contract authority of $185,500,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION

Sec. 110 allows 425 technical staff-years at the Center for Advanced Aviation Systems Development as proposed by the House and Senate.

Sec. 111 prohibits funds for adopting guidelines or regulations requiring airport sponsors to provide FAA ''without cost'' building construction or space, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Sec. 112 retains a provision proposed by the House and Senate that allows the FAA to be reimbursed for amounts made available for 49 U.S.C. 41742(a)(1) as fees are collected and credited under 49 U.S.C. 45303.

Sec. 113 retains a provision proposed by both the House and Senate that allows reimbursement of funds for providing technical assistance to foreign aviation authorities to be credited to the operations account.

Sec. 114 retains a provision as proposed by the House and Senate that continues the war risk insurance and the limitation on air carrier liability for third party claims arising out of acts of terrorism until December 31, 2008.

Sec. 115 retains a provision proposed by the House prohibiting funds to change weight restrictions or prior permission rules at Teterboro Airport in New Jersey. The Senate bill contained no similar provision.

Sec. 116 retains a provision proposed by the Senate that increases the mandatory pilot retirement age to 65.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The conference agreement limits administrative expenses of the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to $377,556,000, as proposed by the Senate instead of $384,556,000 as proposed by the House. This amount includes $8,000,000 as proposed by the Senate for the agency to fill its most critical vacancies, instead of $15,000,000 as proposed by the House. The conferees direct the FHWA to submit a detailed staffing plan, as proposed by the Senate, to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within 90 days after enactment of this Act.

FEDERAL-AID HIGHWAYS

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement limits obligations for the federal-aid highways program to $40,216,051,359 as proposed by both the House and the Senate. Of the amount provided under revenue aligned budget authority (RABA), an amount to be calculated is available to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) for the motor carrier safety grant program and bill language is included to transfer this funding to FMCSA, as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement also includes bill language, as proposed by both the House and the Senate, which allows the Secretary to charge and collect fees from the applicant for a direct loan, guaranteed loan, or line of credit to cover the cost of the financial and legal analyses performed on behalf of the Department as authorized under section 605(b) of title 23, United States Code. The fees so collected are not subject to any obligation limitation or the limitation on administrative expenses set for the infrastructure finance program under section 608 of title 23, United States Code.

Emergency relief (ER) program.—As proposed by the House, the conference agreement directs FHWA to undertake a review of the ER program and provide a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations that includes recommendations for making improvements to the ER funding process by no later than April 1, 2008.

Congestion reduction initiative.—The conferees direct the Comptroller General to conduct a review of the Department of Transportation's implementation of its Congestion Initiative during fiscal year 2007, and to submit a report on his findings to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by March 31, 2008. This review shall consist of the following three elements: (1) an analysis of the process used to select participants in Urban Partnership Agreements, the Corridors of the Future program, and Public-Private Partnerships, including the Department's methodology, outreach, use of funds, and selection criteria; (2) an evaluation of the effectiveness of the initiative in relieving congestion, including a discussion of the Department's efforts at relieving congestion at the country's borders, in aviation, and at vital trade gateways; and (3) an examination of the relationship between the Congestion Initiative and the goals of the programs used to fund it. The conferees further direct the Comptroller General to report on any grants awarded to participants in the Congestion Initiative in fiscal year 2008, and to include in his report an assessment of the Department's selection process, outreach, and relevant criteria or benchmarks. This report shall be submitted to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by March 31, 2008.

LIMITATION ON TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH

The conference agreement includes a general limitation on transportation research of $429,800,000, as proposed by both the House and the Senate. Within this level, the conference agreement includes funding for the following activities:

Surface transportation research	$196,400,000
Training and education program	26,700,000
Bureau of Transportation Statistics	27,000,000
University transportation research	69,700,000
Intelligent transportation systems research	110,000,000
Total	$429,800,000

Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS).—Under the obligation limitation of the FHWA and within the sublimitation for transportation research, the conference agreement provides $27,000,000 for BTS. Additional information regarding BTS is included in the Research and Innovative Technology Administration section of this statement.

FERRY BOATS AND FERRY TERMINAL FACILITIES

Within the funds available for ferry boats and ferry terminal facilities, funds are to be available for the following projects and activities:

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Bemus-Stow Ferry and Facilities Upgrades, NY	$500,000
Berkeley/Albany Ferry Service, CA	$750,000
Engineering & construction of Glen Cove Ferry and Facilities, NY	$1,350,000
Excursion Vessel Project, OH	$500,000
Ferry Boats, USVI	$750,000
Ferry in Wahkiakum County, WA	$200,000
Ferry infrastructure, NY	$750,000
Ferry Maintenance Facility in Vallejo, CA	$1,000,000
Green River Ferry Rehabilitation, KY	$364,000
Haverstraw Ferry Terminal, NY	$312,000
Kitsap Transit, Low-wake Passenger-only Ferry, WA	$1,000,000
Kitsap Transit, Rich-Passage Wake Impact Study, WA	$1,540,000
Landing Craft for Mackinac Island, MI	$300,000
Mayport Ferry Replacement Vessel, Jacksonville, FL	$500,000
Multimodal Terminal Redevelopment, Mukilteo, WA	$1,000,000
New Ferry Boat Construction, WA	$500,000
North Carolina Statewide Ferry System, NC	$2,325,000
Oak Bluffs Ferry Terminal Reconstruction, MA	$1,375,000
Ocean Beach Ferry Terminal Enhancement, NY	$1,300,000
Port Aransas Ferryboat Expansion, TX	$750,000
Port of Detroit Public Dock and Terminal Project, MI	$2,345,000
Port of New Bourbon, Ste. Genevieve, MO	$500,000
Put-In-Bay Ferry Terminal Improvements, OH	$500,000
River Ferry Boat Transportation Program, City of Oklahoma City, OK	$1,750,000
San Francisco Bay Area Water Transit Ferry Boat, CA	$670,000
SR 304/Bremerton Transportation Center Project, WA	$5,900,000
Swan's Island Ferry Facilities, ME	$1,875,000
Vashon Island Passenger Only Ferry, WA	$600,000
Water Taxi/Ferry Service, City of Medford, MA	$825,000

TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNITY AND SYSTEM PRESERVATION PROGRAM

Within the funds made available for the transportation and community and system preservation program, funds are to be distributed to the following projects and activities:

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Baptist and Broughton Road Intersection, PA	$500,000
Brannon Stand Bridge, AL	$250,000
Brush Creek Beautification, Kansas City, MO	$1,000,000
Butterfield Road, Illinois Route 60/Canadian National Railroad Grade Separation, Lake County, IL	$250,000
Campus Perimeter Transportation, Vanderburgh, IN	$350,000
Central Expressway Auxiliary Lanes, Santa Clara County, CA	$500,000
Citracado Parkway Project, CA	$250,000
City of Northwood, OH Wales Road Grade Separation	$500,000
Clayton Pedestrian Grade Separation, Johnston County, NC	$367,500
Connersville Intermodal Study, Connersville, IN	$350,000
Construct Four Lane Highway 20 West of U.S. 71, IA	$500,000
Construction and Improvements to County Road One (RS-209) south of I-70 to K-32, Leavenworth County, KS	$500,000
Construction of Riverside Multi-use Trailways, Parkland, FL	$250,000
Des Moines Creek Trail Access Project, WA	$500,000
Downtown Development Authority District Streetscape, Dahlonega GA	$325,000
Downtown Transit Circulator Streetscapes, Broward County, FL	$250,000
East Metropolitan Corridor - Rankin County, MS	$250,000
Eastgate Area Improvements, OH	$250,000
Ellsworth Air Force Base Road Improvement, SD	$700,000
Expansion of County Line Road - Hernando County FL	$500,000
Extension of the Cobb Parkway, Marietta, GA	$475,000
Fairfield Ranch Road, Chino Hills, CA	$250,000
Fairmont Gateway Connector, WV	$1,500,000
Flats Eastbank Project, City of Cleveland, OH	$850,000
Fort Knox Park & Ride Express on US 31W, KY	$350,000
Friant Road Widening, CA	$1,170,000
Heckscher Drive and Bridge Replacement, FL	$1,000,000
High Priority Corridor 31 of the National Highway System in southwestern, PA	$670,000
Highway 118 Corridor Study, CA	$250,000
Highway 14 from North Mankato, MN to New Ulm, MN	$350,000
Highway 14 from Waseca, MN to Owatonna, MN	$500,000
Highway 241 Improvement, MN	$500,000
Highway N Improvements , Platte County, MO	$500,000
Hofstra University's Safe and Sustainable Campus Plan, NY	$780,000
Hwy 27 Hurricane Evacuation Route, MS	$100,000
I-15 North — I-215 to Apex Interchange, NV	$1,000,000
I-5 North Macadam Ramp & Street Capacity Improvements, OR	$375,000
I-75/Bruton Smith Pkwy Interchange Improvement, GA	$250,000
Illinois Route 120 Corridor, Lake County, IL	$1,000,000
Illinois Trails, IL	$3,000,000
Interstate 10 Service Road Corridor, Lake Charles, LA	$2,000,000
Jefferson Park Avenue Project, Charlottesville, VA	$300,000
Kentucky River Palisades Land Preservation, Lexington, KY	$500,000
La Canada Flintridge, CA I-210 Soundwall, CA	$250,000
Lane expansion of RM 1431, TX	$500,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Lincoln Center Corridor Redevelopment Project, NY	$500,000
Little Neck Quiet Zone, NY	$250,000
Main Street Streetscape, Haverstraw, NY	$175,000
Meacham Road Tollway Access Ramp, Schaumburg, IL	$250,000
Meadowood Interchange Complex, Reno, NV	$750,000
Mehring Way Street Grid East, Cincinnati, OH	$200,000
Miller Road Widening, McHenry County, IL	$250,000
New interchange & road relocation, I-85 & CR 98, GA	$250,000
New York State Routes 5,8,12 Viaduct and Route 5A and 5S, Utica, NY	$750,000
Newark Downtown Core Redevelopment District, NJ	$670,000
North Second Street Corridor Upgrade, Memphis, TN	$500,000
Northwest Arkansas Western Beltway, AR	$670,000
Ocmulgee Heritage Trail, Bibb County, GA	$400,000
Olympic Discovery Trail/Elwha River Pedestrian Bridge, WA	$575,000
Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage: Phase I, Evansville, IN	$670,000
Port Road Expansion and Improvements, TX	$500,000
PUP Ride Share Program, Philadelphia, PA	$1,000,000
Rails to Trails/Civic Center Project, Covington, GA	$500,000
Reconstruction of Bangor Street, ME	$375,000
Red Gate Road Bridge, St. Charles, IL	$500,000
Red Mountain Park Project, Birmingham, AL	$1,000,000
Reyes Adobe Road/U.S. 101 Interchange Reconstruction, Agoura Hills, CA	$250,000
Robinson Grade Separation, City of Norman, OK	$350,000
Safety and Drainage Improvements on Route 46, Lodi, NJ	$250,000
Safety Improvments to Highway 69, AZ	$250,000
School Zone Safety Improvements, Chula Vista, CA	$500,000
Scioto Mile River Level Park Project, Columbus, OH	$500,000
Scott Community College Campus Access Road, Davenport, IA	$500,000
Separated Grade Crossing for Torrington, WY	$350,000
Signal Synchronization System; Baton Rouge, LA	$350,000
Silver Comet Trail Atlanta Road Connector, GA	$250,000
South Orange Avenue Roadway Improvements, Essex County, NJ	$250,000
Southeast Connector Extension from SE 6th Street to SE 14th Street, IA	$2,345,000
State Route 198 Expressway Widening, Kings County, CA	$600,000
State Route 24 Widening, Sandersville, Washington County, GA	$500,000
State Route 67 Widening from I-16 to Statesboro bypass, GA	$500,000
Stony Run Township Road in Yellow Medicine County, MN	$100,000
Street improvements in Burnham, IL	$400,000
Street improvements in Thornton, IL	$400,000
U.S. 190/Collin Blvd. Widening, LA	$500,000
U.S. 441/SR7 Interchange at 11th Street, Lauderhill, Broward County, FL	$750,000
U.S. 550 Improvements, Bernalillo, NM	$500,000
U.S. 85 (Highlands Ranch to Castle Rock), CO	$500,000
U.S.-64 - Hardeman/McNairy/Hardin/Wayne Counties, TN	$500,000
Union Grove Interchange, Gordon County, GA	$250,000
University Boulevard Widening, Clive, IA	$350,000
University Parkway Construction, Vanderburgh County, IN	$350,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
US 169 Highway Widening Environmental Assessment, City of Owasso, OK	$350,000
US 17 in Beaufort County, NC	$375,000
US 30 McCammon to Topaz Bridge, ID	$350,000
US 30, Columbus Viaduct, NE	$300,000
US 98 Six Lane Widening, FL	$750,000
US Highway 212 Expansion-Chaska to Norwood Young America, Carver County, MN	$670,000
US Highway 63 Reconstruction, Waterloo, IA	$350,000
US Route 35, WV	$400,000
West Main Street Streetscape, Meriden, CT	$500,000
White Pond Drive Expansion, OH	$670,000

FEDERAL LANDS

Within the funds available for the federal lands program, funds are to be available for the following projects and activities:

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
116th Street NE Interchange Improvement Project, Tulalip Tribes, WA	$1,050,000
14th Street Bridge/GW Memorial Parkway, VA	$3,000,000
17-Mile Road Reconstruction, Wind River Indian Reservation, WY	$2,100,000
APG Highway Access, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD	$250,000
Bald Hill Slide Mitigation and Repair Project, CA	$1,000,000
Bear River Access Road Forest Street Improvements Project, UT	$875,000
BIA Route 14 (Gooseneck Road)-Oglala Sioux Tribe, SD	$1,692,000
Blue Ridge Parkway, Asheville, NC	$1,000,000
BRAC Related Improvements, Harford County, MD	$2,010,000
BRAC–MD 355 - Transportation Analysis, Bethesda, MD	$2,010,000
Carson Freeway, Phase 2, Carson City, NV	$1,000,000
Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Recreation Trail, DE	$700,000
City of Rocks Back Country Byway, ID	$3,950,000
Craig Road Grade Separation/Overpass, NV	$500,000
Discovery Trail, Long Beach to Port of Ilwaco, WA	$375,000
Federal Lands Program, State of HI	$1,170,000
FH-24, Banks to Lowman, ID	$500,000
Fidalgo Bay Improvement Project, Samish Tribe, WA	$500,000
Forest Highway 171 Widening, Butte County, CA	$1,000,000
Fort Drum Connector Road, NY	$800,000
Golden Gate National Park Conservancy, Park Access and Trails, San Francisco, CA	$3,000,000
Grand Teton National Park Pathways System, WY	$1,750,000
Granger Road/Transportation Boulevard Improvement, OH	$1,000,000
Halchita Bridge, San Juan County, UT	$500,000
Highway Improvements in Sells, AZ	$1,000,000
Hoover Dam Bypass Bridge, AZ	$2,000,000
Hudson Valley Welcome Center, Hyde Park, NY	$1,725,000
I-15 Corridor Study, NV	$250,000
I-80 at Vista Boulevard and McCarran Boulevard, NV	$750,000
I-84 Sandy River Delta Project, Salem, OR	$1,000,000
Improved Access to Cuyahoga Valley National Park, OH	$500,000
Kenel Road Rehabilitation and Resurfacing-Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, SD	$2,000,000
Lewis and Clark Legacy Trail, ND	$536,000
MD 175 Improvements, Anne Arundel County, MD	$500,000
MD 4 at Suitland Parkway, Prince George's County, MD	$2,500,000
MN TH 38 Improvements, MN	$500,000
Montana Secondary 323 from Ekalaka to Alzada, MT	$1,600,000
NC 143 in Graham County, NC	$750,000
Needles Highway, Needles, CA	$2,300,000
Pacific Way Bridge, Marin County, CA	$500,000
Pave from Sitting Bull Monument to US 12 and from US 12 to north of SD 1806P from SD 1806 to end of pavement in Wakpala, SD	$593,600

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Paving of FS 512 (Young Road), AZ	$750,000
Reconstruction of K-20 between US75 and Horton, KS	$250,000
Riverwalk Construction Phase 2 Section 3, Lowell, MA	$1,000,000
Road from Hardrock to Pinon, AZ (Navajo Reservation)	$750,000
Route 1/619 Traffic Circle at Quantico, VA	$500,000
Safety Project on Environmental Effects of Dust Suppressant Chemicals on Federal Lands Highways, MO	$1,312,500
SD 44 and SD 73, Paving in Jackson and Mellette Counties, SD	$630,000
Sequoyah Refuge Road, Sequoyah, OK	$500,000
SH 115, CO	$500,000
SH 13 from Wyoming State Line South through CO	$500,000
SH9, Frisco to Breckenridge, CO	$1,000,000
Sharpes Ferry Bridge Replacement, Marion County, FL	$1,000,000
Skomish Tribe Access Road and US 101 Realignment, WA	$1,000,000
South Access to Golden Gate Bridge, Doyle Drive, CA	$1,500,000
Southern Nevada Beltway Interchanges, NV	$1,100,000
SR 601 from I-10 to SR 26, MS	$1,000,000
SR-160 Blue Diamond Highway-Clark and Nye Counties, NV	$1,500,000
State Highway 150 (US 160N to Great Sand Dunes), CO	$2,260,000
State Route 374 from SR 149 to 77 Montgomery Co,TN	$500,000
State Route 92, Lehi to Highland, UT	$500,000
Stones River National Battlefield Tour Route, TN	$1,000,000
Three Affiliated Tribes Wells Road, ND	$1,000,000
Tupelo Thoroughfare Corridor, Tupelo, MS	$1,000,000
U.S. 15 at Monocacy Boulevard, Frederick, MD	$250,000
U.S. 491, Montezuma County, CO	$1,000,000
U.S. 93/ Interstate 15 interchange, NV	$700,000
U.S. Forest Highway 4, Winston County, Alabama	$1,000,000
United Keetowah Band Tribal Roads, Tahlequah, OK	$500,000
US 212 Paving from Eagle Butte to East of the SD 63 East Junction, Serving Cheyenne River Reservation, SD	$700,000
Valentine National Wildlife Refuge Roads, NE	$300,000
Vermont Federal Lands Projects, VT	$335,000
Welcome Center on SR 410, WA	$750,000
West Jemez Bypass Construction, Los Alamos County, NM	$1,340,000
Western Maryland Welcome Center Frederick Co MD	$250,000

The conferees direct that the funds allocated above be derived from the FHWA's public lands discretionary program and not from funds allocated to the National Park Service's regions, as proposed by the House. In addition, the conferees direct that these funds not come from funds allocated to the Fish and Wildlife Service's regions.

INTERSTATE MAINTENANCE DISCRETIONARY

Within the funds available for the interstate maintenance discretionary program, funds are to be available for the following projects and activities:

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Brent Spence Bridge Study, OH	$670,000
Bridge Replacement I-75 at M-21/Corunna Rd Flint, MI	$500,000
Byram-Clinton Norrell Corridor Project, MS	$500,000
City of Columbus Interstate 70/71 Cap Project, OH	$350,000
Columbia River Crossing, Portland, OR	$750,000
Fairview Street/I-385 Interchange, SC	$375,000
Fernley Interchange at I-80, NV	$500,000
Galbraith Road Interchange (exit) northbound I-75, OH	$500,000
Green River Area Transportation Corridor 2025 Plan, KY	$350,000
H-1 Improvements Kinau and Lusitana Ramps Project, HI	$3,900,000
Henderson Starr Road Interchange, NV	$500,000
Highway 55 Hurricane Evacuation Corridor Study, AL	$250,000
I -44 Arkansas River East to Yale Avenue, Tulsa, OK	$500,000
I-10 Improvements, Western Maricopa County, AZ	$1,375,000
I-15 Bluff Street Interchange, UT	$700,000
I-15 Dixie Drive Interchange, UT	$500,000
I-15 Helena Custer Avenue Interchange, MT	$1,005,000
I-195 Relocation in Providence, RI	$1,500,000
I-20 Transp. Corridor Program-Lincoln Parish, LA	$500,000
I-225 Corridor Improvements, CO	$670,000
I-235 Storm Water Management Improvements, IA	$1,000,000
I-235/US 54 & I-235/Central Ave Interchange, KS	$500,000
I-25 / SH 16 (Fort Carson Interchange), CO	$2,260,000
I-25 Mesa del Sol Interchange, Albuquerque, NM	$500,000
I-25 North of SH 66, CO	$500,000
I-270 at MD 85, Frederick County MD	$500,000
I-280 Veterans Glass City Skyway Lighting Enhancement, OH	$500,000
I-29/52nd Avenue S Interchange Reconstruction, Fargo, ND	$670,000
I-295, Exit 4 Improvement Project, ME	$375,000
I-35/MN TH 95, MN	$1,500,000
I-35W Reconstruction Design, New Brighton, MN	$900,000
I-40 in McDowell County, NC	$1,000,000
I-40/I-77 Interchange in Iredell County, NC	$750,000
I-49 North, LA	$700,000
I-5 Port of Tacoma Interchange Project, WA	$1,000,000
I-5/I-205 Salmon Creek Interchange Project, WA	$700,000
I-5/SR 510 Lacey Interchange Improvement Project, WA	$500,000
I-5/SR18/SR161 - Triangle Project, Federal Way, WA	$500,000
I-5/Wilsonville Interchange, OR	$500,000
I55 Noise Abatement Project (North), Woodridge, IL	$400,000
I-670/Stelzer Road Interchange, OH	$500,000
I-695 (Baltimore Beltway) NE, Baltimore County, MD	$750,000
I-70 Stapleton Interchange, Denver, CO	$500,000
I-71 Corridor Access Improvements at MLK, OH	$750,000
I-71/Rt 665 Interchange, Grove City, OH	$500,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
I-75/Collier Blvd/SR 84 Interchange Improvements, FL	$500,000
I-75/Everglades Blvd. Interchange Study, FL	$250,000
I-75/Griffin Road Interchange, FL	$1,500,000
I-76 (Colorado's NE Gateway), CO	$500,000
I-77 in Mecklenburg County, NC	$500,000
I-80 Westbound Bridge over Missouri River, NE	$600,000
I-84 Burnt River Canyon, OR	$1,340,000
I-84, Curtis Road to Broadway Interchange Widening, ID	$1,500,000
I-85 at CR98/Gabbettville Road, Troup County, GA	$1,125,000
I-90 Exit 8 Phase 2 Connector, Rensselaer, NY	$500,000
I-91 Fiber and Conduit Project, MA	$1,000,000
I-93 P&D Const. Andover, Tewksbury, Wilmington, MA	$400,000
I-94/I-275 Interchange Ramp Reconstruction, MI	$1,000,000
I-95 and SC 327 Interchange Improvement Project, SC	$500,000
I-95 in Cumberland, Harnett, and Johnston Counties, NC	$750,000
I-95 Interchange at Yamato Road and Spanish River Boca, FL	$1,000,000
I-95 Interchange, Boca Raton, FL	$500,000
I-95/Fairfax County Parkway Interchange at Newington Road, VA	$2,010,000
I-95/SC 301 Interchange Improvement Project, SC	$4,000,000
IH-35W Congestion Relief, TX	$350,000
Improvement of Highland Pike (KY 1072) to Farrell Drive, KY	$350,000
Interstate 25 reconstruction, Glenrock to Hat Six, WY	$950,000
Interstate 29 Reconstruction/Utility Relocation, Sioux City, IA	$1,050,000
Interstate 40 Crosstown Expressway, Oklahoma City, OK	$500,000
Interstate 44 at State Route 5, Laclede County, MO	$500,000
Interstate 49 North LA, I-220 to AR State Line, LA	$500,000
Interstate 69 (Texas Portion)	$1,000,000
Interstate 69/Great River Bridge: Highway 65-MS Highway 1, AR	$2,680,000
Interstate 70 Viaduct Realignment, Topeka, KS	$750,000
Interstate 75 in Manatee County, FL	$500,000
Interstate-10, Pepper Avenue, San Bernardino, CA	$1,000,000
Interstates 430/630 Interchange Modifications, AR	$3,180,000
Kapolei Interchange Complex, HI	$1,000,000
KY Ohio River Bridges Project, Louisville, KY	$1,000,000
Lathrop Road/Interstate 5 Interchange Improvements, CA	$500,000
Latson Road interchange at I-96 in Livingston City, MI	$500,000
Lee Highway Corridor Improvement Project, VA	$500,000
Lighting along Interstate 85 at Exits 77 and 70, AL	$125,000
Monroe County Tennessee High Mast Lighting, TN	$500,000
Pennsylvania Turnpike/I-95 Connection, PA	$700,000
Ranchero Road Corridor Project, Hesperia, CA	$1,500,000
Rancho Cucamonga, CA I15/Baseline Rd. Interchange, CA	$750,000
Recontruct Interstate 80, Johnson County, IA	$500,000
Rehabilitation of I-696 from M-53 to I-94, MI	$500,000
Route 266 & Interchange with I44 Springfield, MO	$500,000
Route 495 Southbound Ramp, Mansfield & Norton, MA	$750,000
San Diego Freeway (I-405) Widening and Improvement, CA	$500,000
SR-56 Connectors and I-5 Widening, CA	$500,000
State of Delaware Turnpike Improvements Project, DE	$1,490,000
State Route 76 widening and realignment, CA	$250,000
Study for improvm, I-270 at I-44, St. Louis County, MO	$250,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
U.S. 34 Bridge Mills County, IA	$250,000
University of Texas at El Paso, Reconstruction of Off -Ramp	$500,000
US 278 Corridor Construction, SC	$250,000
US 287 Ennis Bypass from BU 287 to South of SH 34, TX	$500,000
Widen Lee Road bridge at I-20, GA	$500,000

(ADDITIONAL OBLIGATION LIMITATION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement increases the Federal-aid highways obligation limitation by $1,000,000,000, as proposed by the Senate, and directs that this additional limitation be used only for the bridge program and be distributed to the States based on the bridge program formula. The conference agreement also specifies that this obligation limitation shall remain available for a period of three fiscal years. The conferees also direct the Secretary of Transportation to ensure that the additional limitation supplements each State's planned obligations for the bridge program. The House did not include a similar provision.

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation of $41,955,051,359, which is available until expended, to pay the outstanding obligations of the various highway programs at levels provided in this Act and prior appropriations Acts, instead of $40,955,051,359 as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

(RESCISSION)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement includes a rescission of $3,000,000,000 of the unobligated balances of funds apportioned to the States under chapter 1 of title 23, United States Code, as proposed by the House and instead of $2,890,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement also excludes safety programs and funds set aside within the State for population areas from this rescission and directs the FHWA to administer the rescission by allowing each State maximum flexibility in making adjustments among the apportioned highway programs, as proposed by the Senate. The House had proposed to apply the rescission proportionally to each highway program, including funds set aside for transportation enhancements and within the state for population areas.

I-35W BRIDGE REPAIR AND RECONSTRUCTION

The conference agreement provides $195,000,000 for the repair and reconstruction of the Interstate 35W bridge located in Minneapolis, MN, that collapsed on August 1, 2007, as authorized under Public Law 110–56, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include a similar provision.

APPALACHIAN DEVELOPMENT HIGHWAY SYSTEM

The conference agreement provides $16,000,000 for the Appalachian Development Highway System to be allocated for West Virginia Corridor H, instead of $20,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include a similar provision.

DELTA REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides $14,300,000 for the Delta Regional Transportation Development Program, instead of $20,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include a similar provision. The conferees direct that the funds be allocated to the following projects that are listed below:

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Canton Parkway, MS	$2,800,000
Caruthersville Downtown Infrastructure Road Redevelopment, Caruthersville, MO	$375,000
Greenville Street Revitilization, MS	$1,500,000
Highway 67 (Wappapello Bridge) Four Lane Improvement Project, MO	$2,250,000
Marks Airport, MS	$1,000,000
Newburg Bridge Replacement, MO	$180,000
Route AB Route Extension, Cape Girardeau, MO	$570,000
Route AB/Nash Road Improvement Project, MO	$750,000
Route D Road Improvement Project, MO	$1,875,000
Route EE Road/Multi-Modal Improvement Project, MO	$750,000
Route Y Safety Improvement Project, MO	$750,000
Statesman Boulevard and Trail, MS	$1,500,000

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Section 120 includes a provision similar to language proposed by both the House and the Senate that modifies the distribution of Federal-aid highway obligation limitation.

Section 121 retains the provision, as proposed by both the House and Senate, that allows funds received by the Bureau of Transportation Statistics from the sale of data products to be credited to the Federal-aid Highways account.

Section 122 retains the provision, as proposed by the House, that rescinds unobligated balances associated with completed demonstration or high priority projects from the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, Public Law 102–240. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Section 123 includes a provision similar to language proposed by the House that rescinds unobligated balances associated with completed high priority projects from the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century, Public Law 105–178. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Section 124 includes a provision similar to language proposed by both the House and the Senate that rescinds unobligated funds authorized for the transportation innovative finance program.

Section 125 retains the provision, as proposed by both the House and the Senate, that rescinds unobligated contract authority authorized for administrative expenses of the FHWA that will not be available for obligation because of the limitation on administrative expenses imposed in this Act and prior Acts.

Section 126 includes a provision similar to language proposed by the House that rescinds unobligated contract authority authorized for transportation research, training and education, and technology deployment program that will not be available for obligation because of the limitation on obligations imposed on those funds in prior Acts. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Section 127 retains the provision, as proposed by the House, that rescinds unobligated balances made available for highway related safety grants in prior appropriations Acts. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Section 128 retains the provision, as proposed by the House, that rescinds unobligated balances associated with completed demonstration or high priority projects from previous laws. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Section 129 includes a provision similar to language proposed by both the House and the Senate that directs a portion of RABA to fund specific projects as identified below, with any remaining RABA funds to be distributed to the States and other authorized programs in accordance with section 110 of title 23, United States Code.

The conferees direct that funding made available under this section be made available to the following projects and activities:

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
1/2 Street, Town of Turtle Lake, WI	$350,000
118th Avenue Expressway - Pinellas County, FL	$1,750,000
159th Street bridge replacement, Andover, KS	$1,000,000
16th Street, San Miguel Railroad Crossing Safety, CA	$250,000
18th Street Corridor and Railroad Crossing Project, Logansport, IN	$350,000
19th Street Extension at Deschutes Junction, OR	$500,000
19th Street SW Grade Separation Mason City, IA	$1,100,000
21st Century Parks Project in Louisville, KY	$6,000,000
500 South, I-15 to Redwood Road, UT	$600,000
87th Street Parkway Improvements, Lenexa, KS	$250,000
A-B Street Corridor Connector, WA	$1,260,000
Airport Boulevard/Highway 101 Interchange, Monterey, CA	$500,000
Algonquin Road Extension, McHenry County, IL	$250,000
Alsbury Boulevard Extension, Burleson, TX	$600,000
American Parkway, PA	$2,100,000
American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial Related Transportation Improvements, DC	$1,000,000
Antelope Valley Transportation Improvements, NE	$500,000
Arnold Bridge Improvement, Willimantic, ME	$500,000
Atlantic Rail Underpass and Road Realignment Project, CT	$250,000
Atmore, Alabama Road Improvement	$250,000
Austin Intelligent Transportation Systems, TX	$250,000
Baton Rouge Riverfront Development and Levee Pedestrian and Bike Path, LA	$1,000,000
Battleship New Jersey Access Road (Clinton Street) Repaving Project, NJ	$422,100
Beaudry Road Crossing and Pathway, Yakima Co. WA	$200,000
Beckett Bascule Bridge Alternative Analysis, FL	$100,000
Bella Vista Bypass, AR	$500,000
Belleview Bypass, Marion County, FL	$250,000
Belleville Road/Ecorse Road Intersection, Wayne County, MI	$750,000
Big Pasco Industrial Center Intermodal Project, Phase 4, WA	$900,000
Blackstone River Canal Replication Project, Worcester, MA	$750,000
Blossom Hill/Monterey Highway Crossing, San José, CA	$500,000
Blue Earth CSAH 12 Extension/TH 14 Interchange, MN	$1,340,000
Bossier Parish Congestion Relief Program, LA	$1,812,000
Boulder City Bypass Project, NV	$250,000
Brazos Valley Transportation Management Center, TX	$600,000
Brentwood Boulevard/SR 4 Improvements, Brentwood, CA	$750,000
Brewery Grade/Highway 30 Intersection and Flour Mill Property Redevelopment, OR	$670,000
Bridge Over Brandywine Creek, Downingtown, PA	$500,000
Bridge over Broadway, Missoula to Rattlesnake National Recreation Area, MT	$670,000
Bridge Replacements, McKinley County, NM	$300,000
Bridge Street, Clay Street, Jackson Street Bridges, Essex County, NJ	$1,000,000
Bristol Street Widening, Orange County, CA	$670,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Burnt Store Road: Evacuation Route Widening, FL	$200,000
Calumet Avenue and 45th Street Grade Separation, Munster, IN	$1,250,000
Cambridge-Isanti Bike/Walk Trail, MN	$700,000
CEMAR Trail, IA	$335,000
Chesapeake By-Pass, Lawrence County, OH	$750,000
Chicora Bridge Safety Improvements, Butler, PA	$250,000
Chittenden County Road Improvement Projects in Colchester (VT Route 15/Campus Road) and Essex Junction (VT Route 15), VT	$1,675,000
Chocorua Village Safety Improvement Project, Tamworth, NH	$500,000
Church Street Overpass, Huntsville, AL	$1,000,000
City of Granite Falls Freight Access Project, WA	$1,050,000
City of Miami Beach Atlantic Corridor Greenway, FL	$500,000
City of Tuscaloosa Downtown Revitilization Project, AL - Twenty First Avenue Phase I and University Boulevard Phase III, AL	$4,200,000
Coal Creek Parkway Corridor Completion Project, WA	$700,000
Coalfields Expressway, WV	$4,000,000
Cold Storage Spur Line, IA	$1,170,000
Collard Street Reconstruction, Madisonville, TX	$200,000
College Avenue Bridge Project, Appleton, WI	$500,000
College of Southern Idaho Student Safety Initiative, ID	$480,000
Commack Road Bypass Study, Suffolk County, NY	$500,000
Community Transportation Association of America, Nationwide Joblinks	$900,000
Construction/Enhancement of Motts Lane, Penfield, NY	$100,000
County Highway C Road Improvements, Bayfield County, WI	$1,750,000
County Highway F Reconstruction, Douglas County, WI	$1,500,000
CR 172 Improvements, Grimes County, TX	$400,000
Crisfield County Dock, Somerset County, MD	$100,000
Dallas Woodall Rodgers Freeway Deck Plaza, TX	$100,000
Del Rio Roadway Construction, Val Verde County, TX	$1,000,000
DelTrac Integrated Transportation Management System, DE	$804,000
Denali Commission, Alaska for transportation infrastructure projects throughout rural Alaska, AK	$7,500,000
Depot Street Bridge Revitalization, Beacon Falls, CT	$1,600,000
Design & construction of Glen Cove Connector Road, NY	$100,000
Design, engineering, environmental assessment and initial constructions of East Aztec Arterial Route, NM	$600,000
Diley Road Widening, City of Pickerington, OH	$500,000
Dillerville Rail Yard Relocation, PA	$1,385,000
Dorsey Drive Interchange in Grass Valley, CA	$750,000
Downtown Development Authority District Streetscape, Dahlonega GA	$100,000
Downtown Franklin Revitalization, Franklin, NH	$800,000
Downtown Parking Improvements, Ossining, NY	$175,000
Downtown Revitalization Project, Lawton, OK	$250,000
Downtown Streetscape Improvements, Framingham, MA	$500,000
Downtown Streetscape Project, New Providence, NJ	$250,000
East Brandon Bypass, MS	$750,000
East Carson Street Widening, PA	$1,250,000
East Loop, TX	$420,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
East Market Street Widen/Improve Design, Akron, OH	$500,000
East Metropolitan Corridor, MS	$3,000,000
East Texas Higher Speed Rail Feasibility Study, TX	$455,000
Eastern Hills Corridor, Clarence, NY	$250,000
Edwards Street Improvement, Springfield, MA	$750,000
Engineering Project for NFDL Railyard Crossing, WI	$600,000
Environmental Shield, Queens, NY	$750,000
Expands SR 46 to 4-lanes, Sanford, FL	$500,000
Fall Mountain Water Road Paving, Plymouth, CT	$500,000
FAST Corridor Grade Separations, WA	$500,000
FM 3503 Relocation Improvements, TX	$500,000
FM509 Extension, TX	$700,000
Forest City Southeast Federal Center and Anacostia Waterfront Improvements, DC	$500,000
Fort Wayne Clinton Street Bridge Replacement, IN	$1,420,000
Four Lane State Road 87 Santa Rosa County, FL	$500,000
Freedom Crider Road Upgrade, Beaver County, PA	$750,000
Friant Corridor, CA	$500,000
Friends of Cheat Rails-to-Trails program, WV	$300,000
Fruit Belt Redevelopment Plan, Buffalo, NY	$1,600,000
Ft. Lee Access Points, Prince George, VA	$750,000
Fullerton, CA-State College/BNSF Grade Separation, CA	$500,000
Fulton Dr. and Wales Ave. Intersection Improvement, OH	$600,000
Geneva RD & Provo Center ST, UT	$250,000
Glenwood Road Pedestrian Safety Improvements, DeKalb County, GA	$1,000,000
Golden Gate Bridge Moveable Median Barrier, CA	$500,000
Grade Separations in Riverside, CA	$1,420,000
Grand Avenue Improvements, City of Poughkeepsie, NY	$1,000,000
Grand Avenue Underpass, Chicago, IL	$1,340,000
Grand Lagoon Bridge Replacement and Thomas Drive Widening Project, Bay County, FL	$500,000
Granite Street Reconstruction Project, NH	$1,700,000
Grant City Downtown Square Street Improvments, MO	$375,000
Greater Ouachita Port and Intermodal Facility, LA	$500,000
Greene Street/Williams Street connector, SC	$500,000
Greenway Path and Bridge, Southgate, Wayne County, MI	$250,000
Gwynns Falls Trail/CSX Bridge, MD	$335,000
Hanford Reach National Monument Transportation Improvements, WA	$700,000
Harrison County Road 29, OH	$1,000,000
Heart of America Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge, MO	$562,500
Henderson Lake Mead Parkway, NV	$200,000
Highland Park Streetscape, Los Angeles, CA	$250,000
Highway 13 at Broadmoor Intersection in Springfield, MO	$375,000
Highway 13 Bypass, MO	$2,250,000
Highway 165 Overpass, Stuttgart, AR	$500,000
Highway 217, Beaverton-Hillsday Highway to Allen Boulevard, Washington County, OR	$750,000
Highway 610 Corridor, MN	$500,000
Highway 71/Future Interstate 49 Development and Construction between Louisiana Line and Doddridge, AR	$1,000,000
Highway 77 Rail Grade Separation, Marion, AR	$500,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Highway 9 4-Lane Corridor, MS	$3,000,000
Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Bypass, Silver Springs, NY	$300,000
Hobbs East Bypass Project, NM	$600,000
Holmes County Trail: Phase 5 Holmes County, OH	$750,000
Holy Cross Road Safety Project, Worcester, MA	$750,000
Houghton Road Corridor Bridge Replacement, Tucson, AZ	$750,000
Hugh White State Park Access Road, Grenada, MS	$1,000,000
Hurricane Evacuation Route Signalization, FL	$250,000
Hylan Drive, Henrietta, NY	$850,000
I-15 Auxiliary Lanes, Kaysville to 31st Street, UT	$1,200,000
I-355 Corridor Improvement Project, IL	$435,000
I-540 Western Wake Freeway, NC	$1,000,000
I-55/Gluckstadt Interchange Improvements, MS	$1,500,000
I-555 Access Road, Poinsett County, AR	$1,000,000
I-69, LA	$2,800,000
I-69, US-77 Upgrades from Harlingen to I-37, TX	$525,000
I-81 Rebuild/Expansion, PA	$1,400,000
I-84, Exit 29 (Franklin Road) Local Systems Improvement, ID	$480,000
Icicle Station Project, Leavenworth, WA	$300,000
IH30 Interchange at Monty Stratton Pkwy-Greenville, TX	$250,000
Implementing Red Mountain Area Plan, Benton Co. WA	$300,000
Improve bike trails in Highland, IN	$400,000
Improvements to Route 266 and Interchange with Interstate 44, MO	$2,250,000
Indian Bend Road Improvements, Scottsdale, AZ	$1,000,000
Indian Street Bridge, Martin County, FL	$1,000,000
Instersection Rehabilitation and Improvements, US24 and Marlatt Avenue, Manhattan, KS	$700,000
Interchange Construction at US-73 and 20th Street, Leavenworth, KS	$700,000
Interchanger at Interstate and University Parkway, FL	$1,000,000
Intersection Rehabilitation, US-166 and US-169, Montgomery County, KS	$600,000
Interstate 66 Pike County, KY	$1,000,000
Interstate 66 Somerset to London, KY	$1,500,000
Interstate 68 Access Road - Monongalia County, WV	$2,000,000
Interstate 69, TN	$2,100,000
Jack Dame Road Extension, City of Rochelle, IL	$250,000
Joe Dice Suspension Bridge, MO	$562,500
Kalispell Bypass, MT	$4,020,000
King Coal Highway, WV	$4,000,000
LA 675 Lane Improvements, Iberia Parish, LA	$500,000
LA-42; Ascension Parish, LA	$250,000
Lake Ridge Parkway Extension in Grand Prairie, TX	$500,000
Las Cruces Downtown Revitalization, NM	$1,200,000
Lewiston Partnership Project, ID	$240,000
Lexington Traffic Movement and Revitalization Study, Lexington, KY	$500,000
Library Lane-Coles Lane Improvements, Bronx, NY	$1,000,000
Lincoln Avenue Grade Separation Project, WA	$1,050,000
Lincoln Bypass on SR65 in Placer County, CA	$950,000
Lincoln/Belmont/Ashland Streetscape Project, Chicago, IL	$1,250,000
Little Bay Bridges/Spaulding Turnpike, NH	$1,750,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Los Banos Bypas--SR 152; Merced, CA	$500,000
Mahan Drive Phase II, Leon County, FL	$725,000
Mahoning Avenue Improvements, Youngstown, OH	$500,000
Maple Rd. SCATS signals; Bloomfield Twp. 6 miles, MI	$1,000,000
Maple Rd. widening; 1.5 Miles; Walled Lake City, MI	$500,000
Martin Bluff Road, MS	$1,700,000
Martinsburg Borough Streetscape Project, PA	$100,000
Massachusetts Avenue Design and Recontruction, Arlington, MA	$750,000
Massachusetts Landscape Connectivity Study, MA	$200,000
McGinnis Ferry Road - Gwinnett County, GA	$400,000
MD 237, Pegg Road to MD 235, St. Mary's County, MD	$1,000,000
MD 246/MD 235 to Saratoga Drive, Lexington Park, MD	$500,000
Memorial Drive Feasibility Study, Beverly Hill, TX	$300,000
Memorial Park Drive in Upper Moreland Township, PA	$300,000
Milwaukee Avenue Reconstruction Project, Chicago, IL	$1,250,000
Mission Road Beautification Project, Alhambra, CA	$250,000
Mission Street Pedestrian Improvements, South Pasadena, CA	$250,000
MO 740 (Stadium Boulevard) Extension, MO	$300,000
Montclair, CA Ramona Ave grade separation, CA	$250,000
Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail, CA	$500,000
Morgan Street Improvments, City of Elmwood, IL	$250,000
Mountain Edge Parkway Environmental Assessment, Las Vegas, NV	$750,000
Murray Athletic Center, NY	$100,000
Mystic River Bridge Rehabilitation, CT	$1,000,000
Nash Road/Route AB, Cape Girardeau County, MO	$800,000
Naugatuck River Greenway Design Study, CT	$150,000
New Alignment South Bridge, MO	$2,125,000
North Main Street Corridor Master Plan, Freeport, NY	$200,000
North Main Street Streetscape Enhancements, CT	$234,500
North Seminary Street Railroad Grade Separation Bridge, Galesburg, IL	$500,000
Northeast Inner Loop intersection Improvements, TX	$350,000
Northern Avenue Bridge Revitilzation, MA	$1,000,000
Northside Drive, Clinton, MS	$3,250,000
Northwest Loop Access Road, Sandoval County, NM	$975,000
Northwestern Corridor Roundabouts; ROW and Construction, MI	$1,000,000
Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, IL	$250,000
Paducah Waterfront Development Project, KY	$4,000,000
Palm Bay Parkway, Palm Bay, FL	$2,760,000
Park Place Extension and Railroad Grade Separation, El Segundo, CA	$750,000
Park Street Streetscape Improvement, Alameda, CA	$500,000
Parking Expansion, Dobbs Ferry, NY	$250,000
Paseo Street Corridor Improvements, MO	$562,500
Paw Paw Bends Trail, Morgan County, WV	$1,000,000
Pedestrian Plaza Improvements at the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford, CT	$670,000
Phase 2 road improvements for Tri-County Technical, SC	$300,000
Pinnacle Aeropark, Wayne County, MI	$670,000
Pinon Hills Boulevard East and Animus River Bridge, NM	$900,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Pittsfield Downtown Streetscape, MA	$1,500,000
Port Huron, NAFTA Corridor Congestion Mitigation Project, Phase I, MI	$670,000
Port of Orange Intermodal Project, Orange, Texas	$500,000
Port of Wilmington Rail Improvement Project, DE	$1,005,000
Post Street Centennial Trail and Utility Bridge, WA	$1,400,000
Potrero Boulevard/SR 60 Interchange, Beaumont, CA	$1,500,000
Prospect and Gowanus Expressways ITS Deployment, NY	$1,000,000
Quadral Drive extension, Wadsworth, OH	$900,000
Raleigh Street Extension, WV	$500,000
Reading Lighting and Streetscape Enhancement Initiative, PA	$167,500
Realignment of Saddle Creek Road, NE	$1,340,000
Reconstruct French Camp/I-5 interchange and Sperry Road Connection, San Joaquin County, CA	$1,000,000
Reconstruct Route 6, Town of Cortlandt, NY	$2,000,000
Reconstruction of Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA	$1,000,000
Reconstruction of Long Point Road in Houston, TX	$750,000
Reconstruction of the Wood Dale and Irving Park Rd, IL	$500,000
Reconstruction of Two Interchanges on I-235, Wichita, KS	$700,000
Reconstruction of US-50 in Gray County, KS	$600,000
Reconstruction of US-50 in Reno County, KS	$500,000
Redevelopment of Front Street and Constitution Way in Hartford, CT	$1,340,000
Regional Telecommunications System on Pennsylvania Turnpike, PA	$500,000
Rehabilitation of the Martin's Mill Covered Bridge, PA	$250,000
Rennovation of Monument Circle, Indianapolis, IN	$335,000
Reno Rail Access Corridor Enhancements, NV	$500,000
Repair of San Tomas Expressway Box Culvert, Santa Clara County, CA	$500,000
Replacement of the Big River Bridge on US-77, KS	$500,000
Resurfacing and Reconstruction of Pacific Boulevard, Huntington Park, CA	$800,000
Revitalization and redevelopment of the Hamlet of Brewerton, NY	$780,000
RI Bridge and Tunnel Authority EZPass Project for Claiborne Pell Bridge, RI	$500,000
Rice Avenue Interchange at U.S. Highway 101, Ventura County, CA	$500,000
Rickenbacker Rail Spur, Pickaway and Franklin Counties, OH	$500,000
River Tech Boulevard Road Construction, Moline, IL	$1,200,000
Roger Snedden Drive Grade Separation Boone, IA	$500,000
Ronald Reagan Parkway, Hendricks County, Indiana	$500,000
Route 10 Upgrade from I-64 to Corridor G, WV	$1,000,000
Route 116 and Bay Road Intersection and Road Improvements, Amherst, MA	$1,500,000
Route 195/Coggeshall Street Interchange, New Bedford, MA	$500,000
Route 22 Sustainable Corridor, Somerset County, NJ	$4,000,000
Route 221, St. Francois and Iron Counties, MO	$250,000
Route 29 Boulevard Conversion Project from Memorial Drive to Route 1 Bridge, Trenton, NJ	$750,000
Route 5 Overpass and River Center, St. Mary's County, MD	$500,000
Route 537/State Route 34 Intersection Monmouth, NJ	$250,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Route 60/422 Interchange, Union Township, PA	$750,000
Route 63, Howell/Oregon Counties, MO	$250,000
Route Y, Stoddard County MO	$500,000
Rt. 47 and Warrior Ave., Warrenton, MO	$200,000
Rte 295/42/I-76,Direct Connection,Camden County, NJ	$500,000
Safety and Traffic Improvements, Ardsley, NY	$150,000
San Juan County Road 3900, NM	$600,000
San Juan County Road Bridge #567, NM	$500,000
San Juan County Road CR 7500, NM	$300,000
Santa Clarita Cross Valley Connector, CA	$500,000
SC 9 Improvements, SC	$500,000
SD 11 and SD 42 in Sioux Falls, SD	$2,310,000
SFgo Market Street improvements, San Francisco, CA	$500,000
SH66 from SH205 to FM 549, Rockwall TX	$250,000
Sheila Street at Commerce Way Improvements, Commerce, CA	$500,000
Sheridan Crossing improvements, North Chicago, IL	$250,000
Shiloh Road Corridor, Billings, MT	$4,690,000
Shoal Creek Pedestrian Bridge, CA	$250,000
Sidewalk Construction in Ashland/Cherryland, CA	$750,000
Slauson Avenue Corrider Improvement Project, Maywood, CA	$800,000
Snelling Avenue/University Avenue Intersection Redesign, St. Paul, MN	$500,000
Somerset Street Extension, Portland, ME	$500,000
South Airport Connector Road, Boone County, KY	$250,000
South Bronx Greenway, Hunts Point Landing, NY	$500,000
South Bronx Greenway, Randall's Island Connector, NY	$500,000
South Capitol Street Corridor Improvements, DC	$500,000
South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Connector Road, SD	$390,000
South Lake Union Streetcar Project Capital Improvements, WA	$805,000
Southside bridge replacement, Etowah County, AL	$1,000,000
Southwest Rochelle Truck Loop, Ogle County, IL	$100,500
SR 151 at CR 162/Colbert Hollow Road, Catoosa County, GA	$150,000
SR 8/US 29 Plsnt. Hl/Lester Rd., Gwinnett Co., GA	$400,000
SR 9 south of Cumming from SR 141 to SR 20, GA	$250,000
Star Landing Road Corridor, DeSoto County, MS	$2,400,000
State Highway 53 Improvements, Barron County, WI	$1,000,000
State Road 39/State Road 91 and US 84 Improvements, Donalsonville, GA	$750,000
State Road 62/337 Construction, Harrison County, IN	$1,250,000
State Road 982/Talbotton Road Improvements, Columbus, GA	$750,000
State Road 9B, St. Johns County, FL	$500,000
State Route 21 Improvements and Upgrades, Fayette County, PA	$1,500,000
State Route 21 Intersection at Junction Deli, Green County, PA	$1,090,000
State Route 218 Extension, Henry County, TN	$750,000
State Route 437 By-Pass in Bedford County, TN	$700,000
State Route 794 Relocation Initiative, OH	$1,000,000
STH 44 - Oshkosh, WI	$400,000
Stoopville Road Improvements, PA	$500,000
Street extension, Champaign, IL	$500,000
Streetscape Improvement Project, Bennington, VT	$500,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Streetscape Improvements, Eastchester, NY	$300,000
Streetscape Project - Town of Scottsville, VA	$400,000
Study Improvements to 109th Avenue, Winfield, IN	$250,000
Suitland Road Gateway Project, Prince George's County, MD	$1,000,000
Tacoma Rail Mountain Division Track Improvements, WA	$770,000
TECO Line Streetcar System Extension, Tampa, FL	$1,000,000
Tenth St. Connector, Greenville, NC	$250,000
Terry Creek Bridge Widening, GA	$1,000,000
Thomas Road Project, McAllen, TX	$700,000
Torrington Gateway, CT	$240,000
Trinity River Vision Bridges, Ft Worth, TX	$1,750,000
Twin Bridge Road, Decatur, IL	$500,000
Twin Peaks Corridor Project, Marana, AZ	$1,500,000
U.S. 17 in Craven County, NC	$250,000
U.S. 17-92-US 192, Kissimmee, FL	$1,000,000
U.S. 2 Safety Improvements, WA	$650,000
U.S. 20 Southwyck Corridor Improvements, OH	$750,000
U.S. 278 Corridor, Beaufort County, SC	$500,000
U.S. 287 at Lamar, Colorado: Ports to Plains, CO	$1,340,000
U.S. 290/S.H. 36 Improvements, TX	$250,000
U.S. 30, Columbus Viaduct Replacement, NE	$500,000
U.S. 301 Improvement in Charles and Prince George's County, MD	$1,000,000
U.S. 31 Freeway Upgrade Project in Marshall, Fulton, Miami and Tipton Counties, IN	$350,000
U.S. 395, North Spokane Corridor, WA	$500,000
U.S. 41 Enhancements, Charlotte County, FL	$500,000
U.S. 422 River Crossing Complex Projects, PA	$750,000
U.S. 44 Improvements, Avon, CT	$750,000
U.S. 54 Corridor Expansion, MO	$750,000
U.S. 60 Corridor Improvements, MO	$562,500
U.S. 63 and Gans Road Overpass, MO	$750,000
U.S. 69 Improvements, Crawford County, KS	$1,000,000
U.S. 74 Interchange at NC 211, Brunswick County, NC	$500,000
U.S. Highway 10 Improvements between Marshfield and Stevens Point, WI	$2,500,000
U.S. Highway 41 Construction Project from Oconto, WI, to Peshtigo, WI	$1,000,000
U.S. Highway 49/Highway 7 Connector, MS	$2,750,000
U.S. Route 30/Harrisburg Pike Gateway Interchange Project, PA	$1,400,000
U.S. Rt 40 Water St. to Evergreen Ave, Teutopolis, IL	$400,000
U.S.-41 Capacity Improvements in Lee County, FL	$100,000
U.S.-95, Thorncreek Road to Moscow, ID	$500,000
University Parkway/I-215, San Bernardino, CA	$750,000
Upgrade and partly relocate MO Rt 141, St L County, MO	$250,000
Upgrade MO Rt 94 (Page Ext Ph 2), St Chas Cnty, MO	$250,000
Upgrade S.R. 31 in Mooresburg, Hawkins County, TN	$500,000
Upgrade signalized intersections, Allentown, PA	$500,000
Uptown St. Joseph Transportation District, MO	$1,500,000
Urban Collector Road, Jackson and Harrison Counties, MS	$2,000,000
US 11 Corridor Improvements, St. Tammany Parish, LA	$2,000,000
US 54 Greenburg, KS	$600,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
US Route 1/SR 123 Interchange Improvements, Prince William County, VA	$2,010,000
Valley View Business Park Access Road, PA	$670,000
Vermont Downtown Streetscape and Sidewalk Improvements in Springfield and Bristol, VT	$670,000
Vienna Sidewalk construction, VA	$100,000
Village Plaza Streets and Drainage, Village of Angel Fire, NM	$120,000
VTA High Occupancy Toll Lane Demonstration Project, Santa Clara County, CA	$500,000
Wadsworth Interchange/State Highway 128, CO	$600,000
Walden Trail Connection, Town of Montgomery, NY	$351,000
Walker Street Grade Separation, Town of Cary, NC	$1,000,000
Wall Triana Road Project, Madison County, AL	$500,000
Walton Boulevard Bridge widening, MI	$500,000
Warren County, Southwest Connector Interchange, IA	$550,000
West Lea Street Improvements, Carlsbad, NM	$180,000
West Vancouver Freight Access Project, WA	$1,400,000
West Virginia Route 2 Improvements, WV	$7,643,100
West Virginia Route 9, WV	$8,000,000
West Vista Way widening, CA	$250,000
Westchester Streetscape Improvement Project, CA	$1,000,000
Westside (Caraway) Overpass, City of Jonesboro, AR	$1,840,000
White Bluff Intersection Widening Project, White Bluff, TX	$200,000
White County, IL	$100,000
Widen Route 10, Chesterfield, VA	$250,000
Widening Loop 281, Longview, TX	$500,000
Widening of LA 16; Livingston Parish, LA	$250,000
Winchester Road Widening, City of Huntsville, AL	$750,000
Wisconsin State Highway 57 Expansion from Dyckesyill to Sturgeon Bay, WI	$500,000

Section 130 includes a provision similar to language proposed by the Senate that provides requirements for any waiver of Buy American requirements. The House did not include a similar provision.

The conference agreement deletes a provision proposed by the Senate that would have permitted funds made available in a prior appropriations act for the construction of the North Shore Road in North Carolina to be available for an alternate purpose. The conferees believe that this is an issue that is better suited to be dealt with by the National Park Service within the Department of the Interior.

FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY OPERATIONS AND PROGRAMS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

The conference agreement includes a liquidation of contract authorization and a limitation on obligations of $229,654,000 for the operating expenses of and motor carrier safety research by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), instead of $228,000,000 as proposed by the House and $231,469,553 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement reduces FMCSA's contract services by $459,000 instead of $3,246,000 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement rescinds $1,815,553 in unobligated balances from motor carrier safety operations instead of $3,469,553 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement provides funding in the following manner:

	Conference level
Operating expenses	$172,200,000
Research and technology	8,900,000
Information management	33,829,000
Regulatory development	10,725,000
Outreach and education	3,000,000
Commercial motor vehicle operators grants	1,000,000

The conference agreement also prohibits any funds relating to outreach and education from being transferred to another agency as proposed by the House and the Senate.

High risk carriers.—Within the funds provided for FMCSA's operating expenses, the conference agreement includes an additional $1,000,000 as proposed by the Senate to conduct compliance reviews on high risk carriers. In addition, the conferees direct FMCSA to provide quarterly reports on the agency's progress in meeting the high risk carrier requirements contained in SAFETEA–LU.

Compliance reviews.—The conferees direct FMCSA to prepare a safety oversight action plan and to provide a report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within six months of enactment of this Act which includes a delineation of the number of planned and completed compliance reviews from the previous year. In addition, the report should include the results of the agency's internal review of the fatal accident that occurred on the Capital Beltway (I-495/I-95) on March 19, 2007, and any requisite impact on the compliance review process, particularly as it relates to investigator training.

Motor coach accessibility.—The conferees reiterate concerns expressed in both the House and Senate Committee reports regarding DOT's failure to enforce its own regulations requiring accessibility to over-the-road buses for people with disabilities. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit rejected FMCSA's assertion that it did not have the authority to deny bus operators registration based on an interstate bus company's unwillingness or inability to comply with DOT's Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) regulations, and remanded the case to FMCSA for further interpretation. On October 26, 2007, FMCSA responded by reasserting its claim that it lacks the authority to enforce DOT's own ADA regulations. The conferees find this interpretation to be mystifying, unacceptable, and deliberately evasive. It certainly calls into question the commitment of both the Secretary and the Administrator to enforcing both the letter and the spirit of Federal laws designed to protect the rights of the disabled. The conferees disagree with FMCSA that further statutory language is needed to clarify FMCSA's enforcement role in this area. Even so, given the recalcitrant stance and steadfast refusal of the Secretary and the Administrator to enforce the law on this matter, the conferees are supportive of the prompt enactment of H.R. 3985: the Over-the-Road Bus Transportation Accessibility Act of 2007. This bill makes clear, again, that FMCSA has the authority to enforce compliance with DOT's ADA regulations in this area. The conferees can only hope that, once this law is enacted, the Secretary and Administrator will not concoct still further evasive strategies to avoid their statutory responsibility.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

The conference agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation and a limitation on obligations of $300,000,000 for motor carrier safety grants as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement provides funding for motor carrier safety grants as follows:

	Conference level
Motor carrier safety assistance program	$202,000,000
Commercial driver's license (CDL) program improvement grants	25,000,000
Border enforcement grants	32,000,000
Performance and registration information system management grant program	5,000,000
Commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment	25,000,000
Safety data improvement grants	3,000,000
CDL information system modernization	8,000,000

The conference agreement directs that $29,000,000 of the funds provided for the motor carrier safety assistance program shall be distributed as grants to States and local governments for new entrant motor carrier audits. In addition, the conference agreement rescinds $11,260,214 in unobligated balances as proposed by the House and the Senate.

MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(RESCISSION)

The conference agreement rescinds $32,187,720 in unobligated balances from the motor carrier safety program as proposed by the House and the Senate.

NATIONAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY PROGRAM

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(RESCISSION)

The conference agreement rescinds $5,212,858 in unobligated balances from the national motor carrier safety program as proposed by the House and the Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL MOTOR CARRIER SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Section 135 retains the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate that subjects funds appropriated in this Act to the terms and conditions of section 350 of Public Law 107–87 and section 6901 of Public Law 110–28, including that the Secretary submit a report on Mexico-domiciled motor carriers.

Section 136 includes a provision as proposed by the Senate prohibiting funds from being used to establish a cross-border motor carrier demonstration program to allow Mexico-domiciled motor carriers to operate beyond the commercial zone in the United States. The House included a similar provision.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

The conference agreement provides $126,606,000 from the general fund for highway and traffic safety activities, instead of $125,000,000 as proposed by the House and $124,406,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of this amount, a total of $26,156,000 shall remain available until September 30, 2010, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The agreement includes a provision carried since fiscal year 1996 that prohibits NHTSA from obligating or expending funds to plan, finalize, or implement any rulemakings that would add requirements pertaining to tire grading standards that are not related to safety performance. This provision was contained in both the House and the Senate bills.

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement provides $107,750,000 from the highway trust fund to carry out provisions of section 403 of title 23, United States Code, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The following table summarizes the conference agreement for operations and research (general fund and highway trust fund combined) by budget activity:

Salaries and benefits	$79,112,000
Travel	1,414,000
Operating expenses	23,526,000
Contract programs:	
Safety performance (rulemaking)	12,768,000
Safety assurance (enforcement)	18,277,000
Highway safety programs	51,652,000
Research and analysis	69,184,000
General administration	673,000
Grant administration reimbursements	−18,250,000
Total	$238,326,000

SALARIES AND BENEFITS

The conference agreement provides $104,052,000 for NHTSA's salaries and other operating expenses, an increase of $1,500,000 over the budget request to restore 12 full-time equivalent staff years (FTE), as proposed by the House. The Senate proposed to fund the agency at its budget request.

SAFETY PERFORMANCE (RULEMAKING)

Tire Pressure Monitoring Systems.—The conferees have not provided any funding for the Senate-proposed tire pressure monitoring systems consumer education initiative.

HIGHWAY SAFETY PROGRAMS

The conference agreement provides the following amounts for highway safety programs:

Impaired driving	$11,400,000
Drug impaired driving	1,488,000
Pedestrian, bicycle, and pupil transportation	1,665,000
Older driver safety	1,700,000
Motorcycle safety	992,000
National occupant protection	11,132,000
Enforcement and justice services	2,699,000
Emergency medical services	2,320,000
Enhance 9–1–1 Act implementation	2,000,000
Enhance 9–1–1 Act implementation	(1,250,000)
NEMSIS implementation	(750,000)
Driver licensing	1,002,000
Highway safety research	11,346,000
Emerging traffic safety issues	588,000
International activities in behavioral traffic safety	100,000
Problem driver pointer system (national driver register)	2,870,000
''Teens in the driver's seat'' outreach and education program	350,000
Total	$51,652,000

''Teens in the driver's seat'' outreach and education program.—The conference agreement provides $350,000 for NHTSA to conduct a peer-to-peer education and outreach program aimed at addressing behavioral risks that lead to teen driver crashes.

Highway fatality rate goals.—Both the House and the Senate directed NHTSA to provide a report on the agency's efforts to achieve a reduction in highway fatalities. The conferees direct NHTSA to combine the requirements of both requests into a single report and submit it to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations by March 1, 2008.

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

The conference agreement provides the following amounts for research and analysis:

Safety systems	$8,226,000
Biomechanics	11,000,000
Heavy vehicles	3,115,000
Commercial vehicle rollover prevention technology demonstration	(1,000,000)
Crash avoidance and human-vehicle performance	7,804,000
Pneumatic tire research	300,000
Lightweight plastic and composite intensive vehicles	350,000
Hydrogen fuel cell and alternative fuel vehicle system	925,000
National Center for Statistics and Analysis:	
Traffic records	1,650,000
Crash causation study	7,000,000
Early fatality notification system (Fast FARS)	1,000,000
National occupant protection use survey	1,656,000
Fatality analysis reporting system	7,422,000
National automotive sampling system	12,480,000
Data analysis program	1,666,000
State data systems	2,890,000
Special crash investigations	1,700,000
Total, Research and Analysis	$69,184,000

Fatality analysis reporting system (FARS).—The conference agreement includes $7,422,000 for FARS, instead of $7,922,000 as proposed by the House and $7,172,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees direct NHTSA to utilize this increase to conduct quality control workshops and to establish quality control procedures, as proposed by the House.

National automotive sampling system (NASS).—The conference agreement includes $12,480,000 for NASS, instead of $12,980,000 as proposed by the House and $12,230,000 as proposed by the Senate.

Plastic and composite vehicles.—The conference agreement includes $350,000, instead of $500,000 as proposed by the Senate, to continue development of lightweight plastic and composite intensive vehicles research to examine possible safety benefits. The House did not include a similar provision.

OPERATIONS AND RESEARCH

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement provides $107,750,000 to liquidate contract authorizations for operations and research activities and specifies that the funds are available until expended, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement also limits obligations for operations and research to $107,750,000, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

NATIONAL DRIVER REGISTER

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement provides a liquidating cash appropriation of $4,000,000 for the national driver register and specifies that the funds are available until expended, as proposed by the House. The Senate had proposed a $4,000,000 appropriation available until September 30, 2010.

The conference agreement also limits obligations for the national driver register to $4,000,000, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORIZATION)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement provides $599,250,000 to liquidate contract authorizations for highway traffic safety grants to remain available until expended, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement also limits obligations for highway traffic safety grants to $599,250,000, as proposed by both the House and the Senate. The bill includes separate obligation limitations for each of the agency's safety grant programs, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

(INCLUDING RESCISSIONS)

Section 140 retains the provision, as proposed by both the House and the Senate, that provides funding for travel and related expenses for state management reviews and highway safety core competency development training.

Section 141 retains the provision, as proposed by both the House and the Senate, that rescinds unobligated contract authority authorized from the highway trust fund for NHTSA's operation and research activities that will not be available for obligation because of limitations on obligations imposed on those funds in previous acts.

Section 142 retains the provision, as proposed by both the House and the Senate, that rescinds unobligated contract authority authorized for the national driver register that will not be available for obligation because of limitations on obligations imposed on those funds in previous acts.

Section 143 retains the provision, as proposed by both the House and the Senate, that rescinds unobligated contract authority authorized from the highway trust fund for NHTSA's highway safety grant programs that will not be available for obligation because of limitations on obligations imposed on those funds in previous acts.

FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

SAFETY AND OPERATIONS

The conference agreement provides $150,193,499 for safety and operations instead of $148,472,000 as proposed by the House and $151,186,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes an increase of $892,500 above the budget request for inspector travel instead of $1,785,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House assumed the budget request. In addition, the conference agreement includes an increase of $629,000 to expeditiously fill agency vacancies as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $200,000 to hire an independent consultant to evaluate the Federal Railroad Administration's (FRA) use of penalties as an enforcement mechanism instead of $300,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees direct FRA to report within 90 days on the schedule of the evaluation and to provide the independent consultant's comprehensive report within 180 days on the evaluation's findings along with the FRA's comments on the evaluation.

RAILROAD RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The conference agreement provides $36,030,000 for railroad research and development, instead of $33,250,000 as proposed by the House and $36,250,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the amount provided, the conferees have provided $1,000,000 for the advanced freight locomotive safety and monitoring system, MA; $750,000 for the demonstration and deployment of positive train control technology along the Alaska Railroad; $250,000 for the center for commercial deployment of transportation technologies, CA; $195,000 for the WVU constructed facility center; $585,000 for the Marshall University-University of Nebraska consortium for safety and research programs in rail equipment, human factors, and track and rail safety related issues; and $500,000 for the public education and enforcement research study (PEERS), IL.

Within the total, the conference agreement provides $5,600,000 for train control programs, including $500,000 to develop and demonstrate a lower cost train control system that can reduce or eliminate the possibility of train collisions.

Rail-highway crossing hazard eliminations.—The conference agreement provides the following funding allocations for rail-highway grade crossing mitigation authorized under section 1103(f) of Public Law 109–59:

Leucadia boulevard at-grade safety improvements, CA	$500,000
Union Pacific crossings, Round Rock, TX	500,000
Ventura County Metrolink grade crossing improvements, CA	500,000
Gulf Coast corridor hazard elimination in MS and LA	500,000
Grade crossing hazard elimination, Glendale, CA	500,000
Southern California regional rail authority, San Fernando Valley	1,000,000

Hopson road grade separation, Raleigh, NC	500,000
Klumac road grade crossing separation, Salisbury, NC	300,000
Private crossing safety initiative, NC	275,000

CAPITAL ASSISTANCE TO STATES—INTERCITY PASSENGER RAIL SERVICE

The conference agreement provides $75,000,000 for capital assistance to states—intercity passenger rail service program instead of $100,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and $50,000,000 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement maintains the basic grant program structure as proposed by the Senate to enable the FRA Administrator to make grants on a reimbursable basis for capital grants to improve existing or provide new intercity passenger rail service.

The conference agreement includes language providing that no more than ten percent of the funds available for this program may be used for planning activities that lead directly to the development of a passenger rail corridor investment plan. The conference agreement clarifies that in order to be eligible for capital assistance, the specific project must be on the statewide transportation improvement plan. In addition, the Secretary is directed to give priority to capital and planning applications for projects that improve the safety and reliability of intercity service; involve a commitment by the freight railroads to improve on-time performance; improve or extend service on a route that requires minimal or no federal operating assistance; and involve a financial commitment by States to improve highway/rail grade crossings.

The conferees delete, without prejudice, a provision regarding Davis-Bacon requirements as proposed by the Senate. It is the understanding of the conferees that appropriate current law will apply to capital construction projects.

RAILROAD REHABILITATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The conference agreement deletes a requirement that the Secretary prepare a report on the capital investment needs of class 2 and 3 railroads. The conferees understand that a similar study has already been recently completed.

RAIL LINE RELOCATION AND IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides a total of $20,250,000 for the rail line relocation and improvement program as authorized by section 20154 of title 49 instead of $35,000,000 as proposed by the House. The Senate did not include funding for this program. The conferees direct funds to the following projects:

Mt. Vernon railroad cut, NY	$250,000
Pecos Street grade crossing, Adams County, CO	200,000
Pierre rail improvements, Pierre, SD	200,000
Rail safety upgrades, Coos County, NH	400,000
Rail line relocation, Chester, SC	400,000
Railroad grade separation, Elkhart, IN	450,000
Railroad relocation planning, Terre Haute, IN	450,000
Sacramento intermodal terminal facility track relocation, CA	400,000
Wisconsin west rail transit authority, Barron, WI	2,500,000

NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION (AMTRAK)

The conference agreement provides a total of $1,375,000,000 for operations, capital improvements and debt service to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak) instead of $1,400,000,000 as proposed by the House and $1,370,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

OPERATING GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

The conference agreement provides $475,000,000 in operating grants to Amtrak as proposed by the House instead of $485,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement deletes a provision proposed by the House and Senate which required any lease or contract between Amtrak and any other governmental entity to be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia.

The conference agreement includes bill language as proposed by the House which prohibits Amtrak from discounting tickets at more than 50 percent off the normal, peak fare after March 1, 2006, unless the operating loss due to the discounted fare is covered by a State.

The conference agreement provides $18,500,000 for Amtrak's office of inspector general as proposed by the House.

CAPITAL AND DEBT SERVICE GRANTS TO THE NATIONAL RAILROAD PASSENGER CORPORATION

The conference agreement includes $900,000,000 for capital and debt service payment grants to Amtrak instead of $925,000,000 as proposed by the House and $885,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the funds provided, the conference agreement includes $285,000,000 for Amtrak's debt service payment as proposed by the House and Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION

Section 150 retains a provision included by the Senate that ceases the availability of Amtrak funds if the railroad contracts for services outside the United States for any service performed by a full-time or part-time Amtrak employee as of July 1, 2006.

Section 151 retains a provision included by the Senate requiring the FRA Administrator to submit quarterly reports to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on Amtrak on-time performance.

Section 152 retains a provision included by the House and Senate that permits FRA to purchase promotional items for Operation Lifesaver.

Section 153 retains a provision included by the Senate which allows FRA to receive and use cash or spare parts to repair and replace damaged track inspection cars.

The conference agreement deletes a provision proposed by the Senate which required any lease or contract between Amtrak and the State of Maryland to be governed by the laws of the District of Columbia.

FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides a total of $89,300,000 from the General Fund for the administrative expenses of the Federal Transit Administration instead of $92,500,000 as proposed by the House and $88,795,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement provides FTA's administrative funding in the structure proposed by the House instead of distributing the agency's funding by each individual office. In addition, the conference agreement specifies that $20,719,000 shall be provided for the central account and that no more than $1,504,000 shall be provided for travel.

The conference agreement retains provisions proposed by both the House and the Senate allowing for the transfer of up to five percent of funds between offices, directing FTA to submit for approval any proposal to transfer funds from the Central Account, prohibiting funds for a permanent office of transit security, directing FTA to reimburse up to $2,000,000 to the Office of the Inspector General, and directing the submission of the annual new starts report. As proposed by the House, funds for the National Transit Database are included under the formula program.

FTA is directed to submit its fiscal year 2009 congressional budget justification for administrative funds itemized by office with material detailing salaries and expenses, staffing increases, and programmatic initiatives of each office. The initiatives for each should be clearly stated, and include a justification for each new position or full-time equivalent, should FTA request additional FTEs next year. In addition, the congressional budget justifications must identify the administrative costs for each new fixed guideway project included in the fiscal year 2009 request.

The conference agreement includes $500,000 instead of $1,000,000 as proposed by the House to establish an interagency working group between FTA and the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The conferees direct FTA and HUD to develop a best practices manual which will serve to assist communities as they seek to establish mixed-income transit-oriented development. FTA and HUD should also jointly report back to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within six months of enactment, on new ways FTA and HUD can better coordinate transportation and housing programs to promote affordable housing near transit.

FORMULA AND BUS GRANTS

(LIQUIDATION OF CONTRACT AUTHORITY)

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

(HIGHWAY TRUST FUND)

(INCLUDING RESCISSION)

The conference agreement limits obligations from the Mass Transit Account for the formula and bus grant program to $7,872,893,000 as proposed by the House and Senate. The conference agreement includes a liquidating cash appropriation of $6,855,000,000 as proposed by the House and Senate.

The conference agreement provides the SAFETEA–LU authorized level of $49,000,000 for the clean fuel bus grant program as proposed by the House and deletes the Senate language transferring the clean fuel funds to the bus and bus facility grant program. The conferees direct $24,000,000 in additional funds within the bus discretionary program for the clean fuel bus grant program to bring the total program to $73,000,000.

The conference agreement includes a limitation of 10 percent on the amount of bus discretionary funds that may be used for the urban partnership congestion initiative as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes a rescission of $28,660,920 in unobligated balances of formula and bus grant funding.

Rail modernization study.—The conferees direct the FTA to conduct a study within one year of enactment of transit agencies in urbanized areas to determine the status of our nation's commuter rail infrastructure. The study should include a funding history over the last three highway authorization acts; the estimated cost of bringing the infrastructure up to a state of good repair and an analysis of the necessary formula modifications to achieve a state of good repair.

Bus and bus facilities.—Of the funds provided for bus and bus facilities, the conferees direct funds to the following priorities:

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
1st District Bus Replacement and Facilities, MI	$4,020,000
69th Street Terminal Parking Facility, Upper Darby Township, PA	$500,000
7th Avenue Transit Hub, FL	$500,000
7th District Bus Services, WI	$1,250,000
Abilene Paratransit Vehicle Replacement, TX	$440,000
Acquisition of MARTA Clean Fuel Buses, GA	$3,000,000
Acquisition of Two Senior Transit Vehicles, NV	$100,000
Advanced CNG Buses Fleet Replacement - CATA, PA	$750,000
Advanced Transit Program / METRO Solutions Bus Expansion, TX	$500,000
Alabama Senior Transportation Program, AL	$700,000
Albert Lea Transit Facility, MN	$300,000
Albuquerque Transit Facility Rehabilitation, NM	$510,000
Alma Dial-a-Ride (Gratiot County), MI	$300,000
Altoona, PA Intermodal Transportation Center, PA	$335,000
Anaheim Regional Intermodal Center, Orange County,CA	$600,000
Ann Arbor Transportation Authority Transit Center, MI	$750,000
Asheville Replacement Buses Asheville, NC	$300,000
Attleboro Intermodal Center, Attleboro MA	$500,000
Automotive-Based Fuel Cell Hybrid Bus Program, DE	$1,005,000
BART Intermodal Station Infrastructure Improvements to Improve Bus Safety and Access, CA	$670,000
Basic Transit Infrastructure, Hillsborough, FL	$300,000
Beach Cities Transit Equipment, Redondo Beach, CA	$500,000
Belding Dial-A-Ride vehicle, equipment acquisition, MI	$48,000
Ben Franklin Transit, Fleet Expansion and Modernization, WA	$700,000
Bennington Multi-Modal Facility, VT	$335,000
Berrien County Transit, MI	$100,000
Berwyn Intermodal Transit Facility, IL	$400,000
Bethlehem Transit Transfer Center, PA	$500,000
Bi-County Transit Center, Langley Park, MD	$835,000
Birmingham Intermodal Transit Facility, AL	$400,000
Bridgeport Intermodal Center, CT	$4,395,000
Brockton Area Transit Authority Bus Replacement, MA	$500,000
Bronx Zoo Intermodal Transporation Facility, NY	$600,000
Broward Bus Procurement, FL	$200,000
Broward County Southwest Transit Facility, FL	$500,000
Bus and Bus Facilities, City of Roswell, NM	$300,000
Bus and Bus Facilities, Grant County, NM	$1,005,000
Bus and Bus Facilities, MT	$670,000
Bus and ParaTransit Vans, OK	$300,000
Bus Component Overhaul, Detroit, MI	$250,000
Bus Expansion--Phoenix, Avondale, Glendale, AZ	$250,000
Bus Fleet Replacement Project, WRTA, Worcester, MA	$200,000
Bus Fleet Replacement, Topeka Metropolitan Transit, KS	$300,000
Bus Maintenance Facility, Detroit, MI	$750,000
Bus Purchase, Portage Area Transit, Kent, OH	$500,000
Bus Replacement for Rural Community Transportation of St. Johnsbury, VT	$335,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Bus Replacement for Unified Government of Wyandotte County, KS	$700,000
Bus Replacement Program, TANK, Ft. Wright, KY	$250,000
Bus replacement/service expansion Suffolk Co, NY	$250,000
Bus Shelters for Bellflower, CA	$500,000
Bus Shuttle Project for Seniors, Irvington, NJ	$400,000
Buses and Bus Maintenance Facility, Tucson, AZ	$1,000,000
Butler Multi-Modal Transit Center, PA	$500,000
Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Austin, TX	$260,000
CARTA N. Shore Shuttle Parking & Terminal Facility, TN	$600,000
CCTA Buses, Facilities and Equipment, VT	$2,680,000
Central City Intermodal Transportation Terminal, NV	$300,000
Central MD Transit Operations Facility, Anne Arundel County, MD	$670,000
Central New York Regional Transportation Authority, NY	$1,600,000
Central Ohio Transit Authority Bus Replacement, OH	$600,000
Chatham County, Savannah Bus Facility, GA	$400,000
Chicago Transit Authority/69th Street Transit Center, IL	$500,000
Church Street Transportation Center, PA	$2,400,000
City Bus Replacement Plan Lafayette, IN	$200,000
City of Anderson, IN, Transit	$400,000
City of El Paso Paratransit Van Replacement, TX	$500,000
City of El Paso, Neighborhood Circulator, TX	$400,000
City of Lawrence, KS -- Bus Replacement	$150,000
City of Lubbock/Citibus for Alternative Fuel Buses, TX	$500,000
City of Mobile's Transit System, AL	$1,400,000
City of Modesto Bus Maintenance Facility, CA	$250,000
City of Moultrie Intermodal Facility, GA	$350,000
City of Poughkeepsie Transit Hub, NY	$780,000
City Utilities of Springfield Intermodal Transfer Facility, MO	$1,500,000
Clallam Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$196,000
Clare County Transit Corporation/Harrison Airport Facility, MI	$502,500
Clean Air Bus Purchase Program, Baldwin Park, CA	$400,000
CNYRTA Transit Garage - Oneida County- Utica, NY	$400,000
Coast Transit Authority Bus and Bus Facilities, MS	$3,000,000
Colorado Transit Coalition Statewide Request	$3,600,000
Columbia County Public Transportation Vehicle Replacement, WA	$84,000
Columbia Transit Facility, SC	$750,000
Commonwealth Avenue Green Line Station, MA	$670,000
Community Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$1,050,000
Concho Valley Multi-modal Terminal Building, TX	$250,000
Construction of Amesbury Bus Facility, MA	$250,000
Construction of Intermodal Center, Scottsdale, AZ	$200,000
Coralville Intermodal Facility, IA	$670,000
Corpus Christi RTA Bus & Bus Facilities, TX	$500,000
Council on Aging, LRTA; Lowell, MA	$75,000
CSKT Reservation Transportation Program, MT	$234,500
C-TRAN Vehicle Replacement, WA	$490,000
Culver City Multi-Modal Light Rail Station, CA	$670,000
East County Bus Maintenance Facility, El Cajon, CA	$350,000
East Valley Bus Maintenance Facility - Tempe, AZ	$400,000
Ed Roberts Campus - Berkeley, CA	$500,000
Everett Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$600,000
Expansion of the Scranton Electric Trolley System, PA	$200,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Fairfield/Vacaville Intermodal Station, CA	$200,000
Flagler County Bus and Bus Facilities, FL	$500,000
Fleet and Capital Items Los Alamos County Transit System, NM	$600,000
Foothill Transit Oriented Neighborhood, CA	$500,000
Forest Park Circulator/I-64 Closure Alleviation, MO	$750,000
Fort Bend County Sienna Plantation Park and Ride, TX	$300,000
Fort Worth Transportation Authority, TX	$300,000
Franklin County Transit, MO	$176,000
Franklin Street Station Intermodel, Reading PA	$1,250,000
FRTA, Franklin Regional Transit Center, MA	$800,000
Fulton County Transit Authority, KY	$400,000
Grand Ave. Transit Signal Priority Lake County, IL	$320,000
Grays Harbor Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$105,000
Greater Dayton RTA Bus Replacement, OH	$500,000
Greater Lapeer Transportation Authority Lapeer, MI	$200,000
Greater Minnesota Transit Bus and Bus Facilities, MN	$3,000,000
Greater Richmond Transit Company Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility, VA	$450,000
Greater Southeast District Transit Facility, TX	$200,000
Harbor Transit, MI	$250,000
HART Bus and Paratransit Van Acquisition, FL	$300,000
Honolulu Bus and Paratransit Replacement Program, HI	$200,000
Houston Downtown Clean Fuel Transit Initiative, TX	$1,500,000
HRTSouthside Bus Facility Replacement, Norfolk, VA	$700,000
Hudson County Intermodal Station Pedestrian Bridge, NJ	$300,000
Huntsville, AL Multimodal Dallas Branch	$1,250,000
Hybrid Bus Program, WA	$300,000
Hybrid-Electric Bus Acquisition (SEPTA), PA	$2,000,000
I-89 Park and Ride/Bus Terminal, NH	$500,000
Idaho Transit Coalition Buses and Bus Facilities, ID	$3,212,000
Illinois Bus and Bus Facilities, IL	$6,000,000
Indianapolis Downtown Transit Center & Fleet Additions, IN	$1,490,000
Intercity Transit Multimodal Facility Olympia, WA	$350,000
Inter-County Express Bus, Orange County, CA	$500,000
Intermodal Center, Mansfield, CT	$500,000
Intermodal Facilities, UT	$4,200,000
Intermodal Stations in Salem and Beverly, MA	$250,000
Intermodal Transit Center, Port Chester, NY	$700,000
Intermodal Transportation Facility, Winston-Salem, NC	$400,000
Ionia Dial-A-Ride vehicle, equipment acquisition, MI	$392,000
Isabella County Transportation Commission, MI	$500,000
Island Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$420,000
Jacksonville Intermodal Center, FL	$500,000
Jacksonville Trans. Auth., Bus and Bus Facilities, FL	$500,000
Jamaica Intermodal Facilities, Jamaica, NY	$500,000
Janseville City Transit System, WI	$750,000
JATRAN Fleet Replacement, MS	$1,125,000
Jefferson Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$350,000
Johnson County Transit Bus Replacement, KS	$150,000
JTA bus replacement, Jackson, MI	$350,000
Kalamazoo Metro Transit, MI	$250,000
Kansas City Area Transportation Authority Bus Replacement (KCATA), MO	$750,000
Kent State Geauga, Regional Transit Shelter, OH	$450,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Kent State Multimodal Transportation Facility, Kent, OH	$200,000
Lakeland Area Mass Transit District, Lakeland, FL	$300,000
Lakewood Multi-Modal Facility, Phase I, NJ	$1,340,000
Lincoln Center Corridor Redevelopment Project, NY	$500,000
Link Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$550,000
Long Island Bus Fleet Replacement, NY	$500,000
Los Angeles Southwest College Transit Center, CA	$400,000
LOU Public Transit System, Oxford, MS	$875,000
Lower Keys Shuttle, Key West, FL	$300,000
LYNX Bus Acquisition, Orlando, Florida	$1,400,000
Main Street Bus Rapid Transit Buses, Mesa, AZ	$500,000
MART Bus and Commuter Facilities, MA	$750,000
MART Commuter Parking and Facilities, MA	$750,000
Maryland Statewide Bus and Bus Facility Program	$750,000
Mason Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$280,000
Mass Transportation Authority, Flint, Michigan Fiscal Year 2008 Bus and Bus Facilities Program, MI	$2,680,000
MBTA Commuter Rail Station Improvements, Melrose, MA	$700,000
Memphis Area Transit Authority, TN	$500,000
Merrimack Valley RTA Buses, MA	$400,000
Metro Area Transit, Omaha, NE - Video Surveillance Security System for Transit Buses/Americans with Disabilities Act Complimentary Paratransit Vehicles, NE	$500,000
METRO Bus Expansion, Houston, TX	$400,000
MetroLINK Transit Facility, Rock Island, IL	$500,000
Miami Lakes Transit Program, FL	$300,000
Miami-Dade Transit Bus Procurement Plan, FL	$700,000
Midland Dial-a-Ride (Midland County), MI	$179,000
Milwaukee County Bus Capital, WI	$500,000
Mobile Data Terminal/Chicago Paratransit Vehicles, IL	$200,000
Mobile data terminals for Pace, Arlington Hts, IL	$400,000
Monrovia Transit Village, CA	$500,000
Monterey Salinas Transit Bus Financing, CA	$200,000
Morris County Intermodel Park and Ride, NJ	$500,000
MTSU Intermodal Transportation Hub, TN	$200,000
Multimodal Center, Normal, IL	$250,000
Multi-Modal Transportation Program Boca Raton, FL	$350,000
Multimodel Transportation Facility, Lafayette, LA	$825,000
Muni Bus Rehabilitation, San Francisco, CA	$1,000,000
Municipal Transit Operators Coalition (MTOC), CA	$1,100,000
Muskegon Area Transit System, MI	$250,000
Nassau County Hub, NY	$1,560,000
New Mexico Commuter Rail, Santa Fe/Bernalillo Intermodal Facility, NM	$1,105,000
New Orleans Regional Transit Authority, LA	$500,000
Newark Penn Station Intermodel Improvement, NJ	$1,340,000
Newton Rapid Transit Handicap Accessibility, MA	$400,000
NFTA, Purchase Hybrid Buses, NY	$300,000
North Carolina Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities	$1,250,000
North Dakota Statewide Transit	$1,633,500
North Orange/South Seminole ITS Enhanced Circulator, City of Orlando, FL	$1,172,500
Northern New Jersey Intermodal Stations & Park-N-Ride	$200,000
Northwest NJ Intermodal Transit Improvements, NJ	$600,000
Norwalk Pulse Point Facility Safety Improvements, CT	$150,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Norwich Intermodal Transportation Center, CT	$2,010,000
Pace Bus Park-N-Ride Facility, Plainfield, IL	$250,000
PACE South Suburban Signal Transit Signal Priority, IL	$250,000
PACE Suburban Bus Roosevelt Rd/Arlington Hts, IL	$250,000
Pacific Station Multimodal-Multiuse Facility, CA	$500,000
Pacific Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$35,000
Paducah Area Transit System, KY	$2,000,000
Palm Beach County AVL/APC & Fareboxes, FL	$750,000
Palmdale Transportation Center – Parking Lot, CA	$250,000
Palo Alto Intermodal Transit Center, CA	$400,000
Paoli Transportation Center, Paoli, PA	$500,000
Para-Transit Van Replacement, Las Cruces, NM	$480,000
Pasco County Public Transportation (Bus Purchase), FL	$300,000
Passaic/Bergen Intermodal Facilities, NJ	$500,000
Phoenix Regional Heavy Bus Maintenance Facility, AZ	$500,000
Phoenix/Glendale West Valley Operating Facility, AZ	$750,000
Pierce Transit Peninsula Park & Ride, WA	$1,050,000
Pinellas Suncoast Transit Auth bus replacement, FL	$400,000
Port Angles International Gateway Project, WA	$350,000
Prelminary Design of a Saratoga Bus Facility, NY	$250,000
PRTC Bus Facilities, VA	$1,000,000
PSTA Bus and Bus Facilities, St. Petersburg, FL	$260,000
Public Transportation Vehicle Enhancement Project, HI	$400,000
Pullman Transit Maintenance Facility Expansion, WA	$800,000
Purchase of transit vehicles, York County, PA	$350,000
Regional Bus Replacement, San Diego, CA	$500,000
Reno & Sparks Intermodal Transportation Centers, NV	$750,000
Replacement Buses for the Westchester County Bee-Line Bus System, NY	$780,000
Replacement Buses, Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA), PA	$700,000
Replacement Buses, Detroit, MI	$250,000
Replacement of Fixed Route Transit Buses, DE	$670,000
Replacement Small Buses, St. Cloud Metro Bus, MN	$820,000
Rhode Island Public Transit Authority Intelligent Transportation System, RI	$1,368,900
Rio Hondo College Buses - Los Angeles, CA	$500,000
Rio Metro Intercity Transit, Hidalgo County, TX	$500,000
River Valley Metro, Kankakee, IL	$500,000
Riverside and Corona Transit Centers, CA	$700,000
Rural Bus Program for Hawaii, Maui and Kauai Counties, HI	$1,560,000
SamTrans Revenue Collection System, CA	$500,000
San Diego Balboa Park Trolleys, CA	$335,000
San Joaquin Regional Transit District, CA	$750,000
San Luis Rey Transit Center, CA	$250,000
Sandy Transit Fleet Replacement, Sandy, OR	$400,000
Sanilac Transportation Authority Carsonville, MI	$400,000
Santa Fe Place Transit Center, NM	$600,000
Santa Fe Trails Transit Vehicles, NM	$300,000
Santa Maria Intermodal Transit Center, CA	$500,000
Sarasota County Area Transit Bus acquisition, FL	$500,000
Sect. 5309 Capital Appropriation-Tulsa Transit, OK	$250,000
Senior Transportation Connection, OH	$1,222,000
SEPTA Hybrid Fuel Buses, PA	$500,000
SEPTA Interoperability Communications Initiative, PA	$670,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Skagit Transit Bus Replacement, WA	$200,000
South Amboy Intermodal Transportation Initiative, NJ	$500,000
South Norwalk Intermodal Facility Phase 2, CT	$500,000
Southeast Missouri Transportation Service (SMTS), MO	$750,000
Southern Maryland Commuter Bus Park and Ride Lots	$1,300,000
Southside Bus Facility Replacement in Hampton Roads, VA	$1,200,000
Spokane Transit Smart Bus Technology Modernization, WA	$700,000
SporTran Buses for the City of Shreveport, LA	$250,000
St. Louis Metro Bus & Paratransit Rolling Stock, MO	$500,000
StarMetro Intelligent Transpo System,Tallahassee, FL	$500,000
STARS Operations Center & Fare Boxes, Saginaw, MI	$500,000
State of Arkansas, Bus and Bus Facilities, AR	$3,350,000
Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities Enhancements, AK	$375,000
Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities, MO	$1,500,000
Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities, NV	$750,000
Statewide Bus Replacement, IA	$4,690,000
Statewide Buses and Bus Facilities, ME	$300,000
Statewide Electric Hybrid Bus Initiative by the Indiana Transit Association, IN	$2,800,000
Street Shuttle Buses for Artesia, CA	$600,000
Sunset (RTC) Maintenance Facility, NV	$750,000
Suntran Bus Acquisition, Marion County, FL	$200,000
TARC Clean Bus program, KY	$250,000
TARTA Bus and Bus Facilities, OH	$1,000,000
Tennessee DOT, Bus and Bus Facilities Replacement	$4,450,000
The Woodlands Capital Cost of Contracting, TX	$300,000
Town Center Transit Hub in Miramar, FL	$400,000
Transit Access Passenger Integration, Los Angeles, CA	$750,000
Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky Bus Replacement Project, KY	$1,000,000
Transit Bus Facilities, Duluth, MN	$400,000
Transit Center, California State Univ, Northridge	$400,000
Transit Vehicle Fleet Upgrades, NM	$1,248,000
TRANSPO Bus Operations Center, South Bend, IN	$670,000
Transportation to Wellness, Covington, KY	$200,000
Treasure Valley Transit Facilities, ID	$288,000
Tri-Delta Transit Park-and-Ride Lots, CA	$500,000
TTA Replacement Buses, NC	$500,000
Union City Intermodal Station, Union City, CA	$400,000
Union Depot Multi-Modal Hub, St. Paul, MN	$670,000
Union Station Intermodal Trade and Transit Center, PA	$400,000
Union Station Intermodal Transportation Facility, DC	$500,000
University Place Intermodal Transit Facility, WA	$750,000
Urban Commuter Rail Circulator Vehicles, TX	$250,000
Vans for Vermont Senior Centers, VT	$200,000
Vehicle Replacement - DuFAST, PA	$600,000
Venice/Robertson Multi-Modal Station, CA	$500,000
Vermont Statewide Buses, Facilities and Equipment, VT	$670,000
VIA Bus Improvements/Facility Modernization, San Antonio, TX	$2,475,000
Victoria Bus Replacement, TX	$300,000
VITRAN Purchase, USVI	$400,000
VTA Zero Emission Bus Demonstration Program, CA	$400,000
West Haven Intermodal Station, CT	$600,000
West Orange Township Senior Citizen & Handicap Shuttle Bus, NJ	$200,000

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
West Price Hill Park and Ride, OH	$200,000
White Earth Tribal Nation SMART Transit and Buses, MN	$400,000
Winter Haven Transit Bus and Bus Facility, FL	$300,000
Wisconsin Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities, WI	$3,350,000
WMATA Bus and Bus Facilities, DC/MD/VA	$1,140,000
WMATA Bus Safety Initiative, VA	$200,000
Yamhill County Transit Project, OR	$150,000
Yates Dial-A-Ride, MI	$250,000
Yolo County Bus Maintenance Facility Improvements, CA	$400,000

Illinois Statewide Buses.—The conferees provide $6,000,000 to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for section 5309 Bus and Bus Facilities grants. The conferees expect IDOT to provide at least $3,000,000 for Downstate Illinois replacement buses in Bloomington, Champaign-Urbana, Danville, Decatur, Peoria, Pekin, Quincy, River Valley, Rockford, Rock Island, Springfield, Madison County, Rides MTD, South Central MTD, Macomb and for the Pinecrest Community in Mount Morris, Illinois. Further, the conferees expect IDOT to provide appropriate funds for bus facilities in Bloomington, Galesburg, River Valley Metro in Kankakee, Macomb, Peoria, and Rock Island, including $250,000 for the Macomb maintenance facility and $250,000 for the Kankakee's River Valley Metro operations facility.

The conferees direct FTA to refrain from reallocating funds provided in the fiscal year 2005 and prior year appropriations acts for the Department of Transportation as follows:

Ardmore transit center, Pennsylvania

Area Transit Authority, Pennsylvania

Area Transportation Authority of North Central Pennsylvania passenger terminal, Pennsylvania

Billings public bus and medical transfer facility, Montana

Buffalo, New York Inner Harbor Redevelopment Project, New York

Bridgeport Intermodal Center, Connecticut

Broome County hybrid buses, New York

Callowhill bus garage replacement, Pennsylvania

Central New York Regional Transportation Authority, New York

Glenmont Metrorail parking garage expansion, Maryland

Colorado statewide bus and bus facilities

Hampton Roads Transit New Maintenance Facilities, Virginia

Howard County Transit repair Facility, Maryland

I–66/Vienna Metrorail Accessibility Improvements, Virginia

Irvington Intermodal Upgrades, New York

Ivy Tech State College multmodal facility, Indiana

Leesburg Train Depot Renovation and Restoration, Georgia

Mid-County Transit Authority Kittanning, Pennsylvania

Mississippi Valley State University mass transit program expansion, Mississippi

Palo Alto Intermodal Transit Center, California

Potomac Yard Transit Way, Virginia

Pulse Point Joint Improvements, Connecticut

Regional Transit Project for Quitman, Clay, Randolph and Stewart Counties, Georgia

Renaissance Square, New York

Rochester Central Bus Terminal, New York

Springfield Union Station, Springfield, Massachusetts

Union/Snyder Transportation Alliance, Union County Pennsylvania

Union Station Intermodal Trade and Transit Center, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania

White Plains Downtown Circulator, New York

Alternatives analysis.—The conferees direct that the funds be allocated to the following alternatives analysis projects:

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
BeltLine Environment Impact, Atlanta, GA	$300,000
Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis, San Jose	$250,000
Bus Rapid Transit Improvements, Broward County, FL	$700,000
Charlotte Rapid Transit Extension-Northeast Corridor Light Rail Project, NC	$2,750,000
Commuter Rail Station at Carmel Church, VA	$500,000
CTA Circle Line, IL	$3,920,000
CTA Orange Line Extension, IL	$500,000
CTA Red Line Extension, IL	$600,000
CTA Yellow Line Extension-Village of Skokie, IL	$600,000
DART Alternatives Analysis Design, Des Moines, IA	$250,000
Downtown Orlando East-West Circulator System, Orlando, FL	$700,000
Downtown Transit Circulator, Fort Lauderdale, FL	$670,000
East West Corridor Rapid Transit, Allegheny Cty,PA	$1,000,000
I-285 Bus Rapid Transit Project in Atlanta, GA	$500,000
I-66 Bus Rapid Transit Study, VA	$1,000,000
Illinois Valley Commuter Rail, Ottawa, IL	$250,000
Light-rail Alternatives Analysis Study, KC, MO	$1,875,000
LTD Alternatives Analysis for Third EmX Corridor, OR	$250,000
MARTA Clifton Corridor (Lindbergh-Emory), GA	$750,000
Mesa Extension Alternatives Analysis - Mesa, AZ	$200,000
METRO I-10 Extension Alternative Analysis, AZ	$1,200,000
Miami-Dade County Metrorail Orange Line Expansion, FL	$1,400,000
Northern Branch Rail Service Restoration, NJ	$500,000
Northwest New Jersey/Northeast Pennsylvania Commuter Rail Service, PA	$1,340,000
Philadelphia Navy Yard Transit Extension Study, PA	$400,000
Red Car Trolley Engineering Study, CA	$100,000
Southeastern Connecticut Bus Rapid Transit System, CT	$1,340,000
Spokane Streetcar Study, Spokane, WA	$300,000
Tempe Extension Alternatives Analysis - Tempe, AZ	$200,000
The Rapid Feasibility Study, MI	$500,000
West Shore Corridor Alternatives Analysis, OH	$350,000

RESEARCH AND UNIVERSITY RESEARCH CENTERS

The conference agreement provides $65,500,000 from the General Fund for research activities as proposed by the House and the Senate. Of the amounts provided, $4,300,000 is for the National Transit Institute, $9,300,000 is for transit cooperative research programs, and $7,000,000 is for the university transportation centers program. Of the remaining funds provided for national research programs, the conference agreement directs funds for the following:

American cities transportation institute, PA	$300,000
BuSolutions advanced transit research, MI	700,000
CTAA, nationwide joblinks	1,700,000
East Tennessee hydrogen initiative, TN	700,000
Missouri transportation institute, Rolla, MO	1,750,000
Prototype vehicle domestic manufacturer (streetcar), OR	500,000
Southern fuel cell coalition demonstration project, GA	200,000
Staten Island transit enhancements plan—phase II, NY	225,000
WVU exhaust emission testing initiative, WV	780,000

Within existing funds, the conferees urge FTA to research transit solutions to increase mobility for the elderly.

CAPITAL INVESTMENT GRANTS

The conference agreement provides $1,650,000,000 from the General Fund for capital investment grants instead of $1,700,000,000 as proposed by the House and $1,566,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

New starts.—The conferees direct that funds be allocated to the following new start projects:

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
Central Corridor Light Rail, Ramsey County, MN	$10,400,000
Central Link Initial Segment, Seattle, WA	$70,000,000
Central Phoenix/East Valley Light Rail-Phoenix, AZ	$90,000,000
Charlotte Rapid Transit Extension, NC	$2,000,000
CTA Brown Line Capacity Expansion (Ravenswood), IL	$40,000,000
DCTA Fixed Guideway/Engineering, Lewisville, TX	$250,000
Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, VA	$35,000,000
Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project, HI	$15,500,000
I-205/Portland Mall Light Rail, OR	$80,000,000
JTA Bus Rapid Transit System, Jacksonville, FL	$9,520,000
Largo Metrorail Extension, MD	$35,000,000
Long Island Rail Road East Side Access, New York, NY	$215,000,000
MARC Commuter Rail Improvements and Rolling Stock, MD	$10,000,000
Metra Connects, Southeast Service, IL	$7,375,000
METRA, STAR Line, Northeastern IL	$7,375,000
METRA, Union Pacific Northwest Line, Northeastern IL	$7,375,000
Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, Los Angeles, CA	$80,000,000
Metrorail Orange Line Expansion, FL	$2,000,000
Mid-Jordan Light Rail Extension, UT	$20,000,000
Monmouth-Ocean-Middlesex Cnty Passenger Rail Line, NJ	$1,000,000
MOS2 of the Hudson Bergen Light Rail, NJ	$55,192,995
New-Britain-Hartford Busway, CT	$3,338,400
Norfolk Light Rail Project, VA	$23,500,000
North Corridor BRT, Houston and Southeast Corridor BRT, TX	$20,000,000
North Shore Corridor and Blue Line Extension, MA	$2,000,000
North Shore LRT Connector, Pittsburgh, PA	$33,516,444
Northern Indiana Commuter Transit District Recapitalization, IN	$5,000,000
NorthStar Commuter Rail, MN	$55,000,000
Northwest NJ-Northeast PA Passenger Rail Project	$3,000,000
NW/SE LRT MOS in Dallas, TX	$86,250,000
Second Avenue Subway Phase 1, NY	$171,235,000
South County Commuter Rail Wickford Junction Station, RI	$12,519,846
South Sacramento Corridor Phase 2 Project, CA	$4,500,000
Southeast Corridor Multi-Modal Project (T-REX), CO	$51,560,484
Third Street Light Rail Transit Project-Central, San Francisco, CA	$12,000,000
Trans-Hudson Midtown Corridor, New Jersey	$15,000,000
University Link LRT Extension, Seattle, WA	$20,000,000
VRE Rolling Stock, VA	$4,000,000
Weber County to Salt Lake City Commuter Rail, UT	$80,000,000
West Corridor Light Rail Project, Denver, CO	$40,000,000

Small starts.—The conferees direct that funds be allocated to the following small start projects:

Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level
AC Transit BRT Corridor - Alameda County, CA	$500,000
Bus Rapid Transit, Cumberland County, PA	$300,000
CORRIDORone, PA	$11,200,000
Galveston Rail Trolley Extenstion to Seawall Boulevard, TX	$2,000,000
I-69 HOV/BRT, MS	$7,700,000
King County Pacific Highway South BRT, Seattle, WA	$14,076,000
Lane Transit District, Pioneer Parkway EmX Corridor, OR	$14,800,000
MBTA Fitchburg to Boston Rail Corridor Project Development and Construction, MA	$6,000,000
Metro Rapid Bus System Gap Closure, Los Angeles, CA	$16,681,000
Pawtucket/Central Falls Commuter Rail Station, RI	$2,000,000
Perris Valley Line Metrolink Extension, CA	$2,000,000
Planning and Design, Bus Rapid Transit-State Avenue Corridor, Wyandotte County, KS	$1,500,000
Provo Orem Bus Rapid Transit, UT	$4,100,000
Rapid Transit (BRT) Project, Livermore, CA	$3,000,000
Route 1 Bus Rapid Transit, Potomac Yard-Crystal City, Alexandria and Arlington, VA	$1,000,000
SMART EIS and PE, CA	$2,000,000
Telegraph Avenue-International Boulevard-East 14th Street Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Improvements, CA	$2,000,000
Troost Corridor Bus Rapid Transit, MO	$6,260,000
VIA Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Project, San Antonio, TX	$5,000,000
Virginia Railway Express Extension-Gainesville/Haymarket, VA	$500,000

The conferees direct FTA to refrain from reallocating funds provided in the fiscal years 2005, 2004 and prior year appropriations acts for the Department of Transportation as follows:

Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit Project, Virginia

Schuykill Valley, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Stamford Urban Transitway, all phases, Connecticut

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania CorridorOne

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—FEDERAL TRANSIT ADMINISTRATION

Section 160 exempts previously made transit obligations from limitations on obligations as proposed by the House and the Senate.

Section 161 allows funds appropriated for capital investment grants not obligated by September 30, 2010, plus other recoveries, to be available for other projects under 49 U.S.C. 5309 as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 162 allows transit funds appropriated prior to October 1, 2007 that remain available for expenditure to be transferred to another eligible purpose as proposed by the House and the Senate.

Section 163 allows prior year funds available for capital investment grants to be used in this fiscal year for such projects as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 164 modifies a provision proposed by the House and allows a 90 percent federal share for biodiesel buses and for the net capital cost of factory-installed or retrofitted hybrid electric buses.

Section 165 modifies a provision proposed by the Senate regarding the full funding grant agreement for the Central Link Initial Segment project in Seattle, WA.

Section 166 allows previously appropriated fixed guideway funds for the City of Albuquerque, NM to instead be used for bus and bus facilities as proposed by the Senate.

Section 167 allows previously appropriated funds for commuter rail projects between Santa Fe and Albuquerque, NM to instead be available for buses, bus facilities and an intermodal terminal as proposed by the Senate.

Section 168 allows previously appropriated funds for the Las Vegas Resort Corridor fixed guideway project to instead be available for bus and bus facilities as proposed by the Senate.

Section 169 repeals a provision in a prior appropriations act related to subway tunneling in Los Angeles, CA as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 170 modifies a provision proposed by the Senate to prohibit the FTA from issuing a final rule under Section 5309 but allows the agency to continue to review comments on the rule.

SAINT LAWRENCE SEAWAY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE

(HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement includes $17,392,000 for the Operations and Maintenance of the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

MARITIME SECURITY PROGRAM

The conference agreement includes $156,000,000 for the maritime security program as proposed by the House and Senate.

OPERATIONS AND TRAINING

The conference agreement includes $122,032,000 for MARAD's operations and training account, instead of $118,646,000 as proposed by the House and $122,890,545 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement allocates the funds for operations and training as follows:

Activity	*Conference level*
U.S. Merchant Marine Academy (USMMA):	
Salary and benefits	$25,720,000
Midshipmen program	6,977,000
Instructional program	5,689,000
Program direction and administration	2,915,000
Maintenance, repair & operating requirements	7,307,000
Capital improvements	14,139,000
Subtotal, USMMA	62,747,000
State Maritime Schools:	
Student incentive payments	800,000
Direct schoolship payments	1,881,000
Schoolship maintenance and repair	10,500,000
Subtotal, State Maritime Academies	13,181,000
MARAD Operations:	
Programs	19,647,000
Administrative support	26,457,000
Subtotal, Operations	46,104,000
Subtotal, Operations and Training	

United States Merchant Marine Academy.—MARAD requested and House and Senate Committees on Appropriations approved a reprogramming to ensure that the USMMA could continue to meet its fiscal year 2007 salary and expense obligations without a reduction in force. To allow the USMMA to fulfill its operations obligations in fiscal year 2008, the conferees provide $1,000,000 above the budget request and House and Senate levels for salaries and expenses, for a total level of $25,720,000. The conferees direct up to $600,000 of this increase to continue funding the existing five full time equivalent (FTE) positions associated with the Capital Improvements Master Plan within salaries and expenses as reflected in the budget request. The conferees direct the remaining amount, no less than $400,000, first to insulate against potential reductions in force. Further, the conferees direct MARAD to adequately address and align the needs of the USMMA within the resources requested in the fiscal year 2009 budget submission.

MARAD Operations.—Within the funds for programs within Operations, the conferees provide $1,200,000 for deepwater port licensing; $900,000 for Mariner education and training; $1,300,000 for strategic ports and national security planning; and $5,111,000 for ports and marine transportation system improvements, of which $2,000,000 is for maritime data collection, management, and dissemination activities to advance the existing Information Framework. Within the funds for administrative support, the conferees provide $8,211,000 for information technology and electronic government, and $1,258,000 for the Delphi accounting system.

SHIP DISPOSAL

The conference agreement includes $17,000,000 for the disposal of obsolete vessels of the National Defense Reserve Fleet as proposed by the House, instead of $18,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

ASSISTANCE TO SMALL SHIPYARDS

The conference agreement includes $10,000,000 for assistance to small shipyards, instead of $20,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House provided no such funding.

MARITIME GUARANTEED LOAN (TITLE XI) PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes $3,408,000 for administration expenses of the maritime guaranteed loan program (title XI) as proposed by the House and Senate. In addition, the conferees provide $5,000,000 for the Maritime Guaranteed Loan Title XI program, instead of $10,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House included no similar funding. The conferees direct the Inspector General to report on MARAD's compliance with the Inspector General's title XI audit report recommendations and amend the submittal date to March 30, 2008.

SHIP CONSTRUCTION

(RESCISSION)

The conference agreement includes a rescission of unobligated balances totaling $6,673,000 from the dormant ship construction account, instead of $3,526,000 as proposed by the House and $4,614,545 as proposed by the Senate.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS—MARITIME ADMINISTRATION

Section 175 includes a provision that authorizes MARAD to furnish utilities and services and make necessary repairs in connection with any lease, contract, or occupancy involving Government property under control of MARAD, and allow payments received to be credited to the Treasury, as proposed by both the House and Senate.

Section 176 includes a provision proposed by both the House and Senate that does not allow obligations to be incurred during the current fiscal year from the construction fund established.

PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides $18,130,000 for necessary administrative expenses of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA), as proposed by both the House and the Senate. Of this amount, $639,000 is to be derived from the Pipeline Safety Fund. The conferees expect PHMSA to use these funds as reflected in its budget justification.

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY

The conference agreement provides $28,000,000 to continue the agency's hazardous materials safety functions, instead of $28,899,000 as proposed by the House and $27,003,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of this amount, $1,761,000 shall be available until September 30, 2010, as proposed by the Senate. The House proposed $1,829,000.

Full-time equivalent staff years (FTE).—The conferees have provided resources sufficient to fund 155.5 FTE, instead of 156.5 FTE as proposed by the House and 154.5 FTE as proposed by the Senate.

Research, development, and other programs.—The conferees disagree with the Administration's proposal to significantly reduce research, development, and other contract programs below the fiscal year 2007 enacted level. Accordingly, the conferees provide $8,377,000 in order to maintain these programs at 90 percent of last year's funding level.

Hazardous materials intermodal portal.—Within the funds provided for contract programs, the conferees provide $1,100,000, as well as $400,000 within the pipeline safety account, to fully fund the hazardous materials intermodal portal, as requested.

PIPELINE SAFETY

(PIPELINE SAFETY FUND)

(OIL SPILL LIABILITY TRUST FUND)

The conference agreement provides $79,828,000 for the office of pipeline safety

(OPS), instead of $78,875,000 as proposed by the House and $82,404,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of this amount, $18,810,000 is to be derived from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund and $61,018,000 is to be derived from the Pipeline Safety Fund, of which $32,242,000 is available until September 30, 2010.

The following table summarizes the conference agreement for OPS by budget activity:

Salaries and operating expenses	$32,152,000
Contract programs	15,434,000
Implementing the Oil Pollution Act	1,000,000
Research and development	8,184,000
Grants	23,058,000
Total	$79,828,000

Full-time equivalent staff years (FTE).—The conferees approve the additional 8 positions requested for OPS, and the associated half-year funding, as proposed by both the House and Senate. In addition, the conferees provide 7 additional inspection and enforcement FTE, along with the associated half-year funding, instead of 12 as proposed by the Senate. The House had no similar provision.

Research and development.—The conferees disagree with the Administration's proposal to significantly reduce funding for pipeline safety related research and development activities. As such, the conferees provide $8,184,000 in order to maintain these programs at 90 percent of the fiscal year 2007 enacted level. The conferees direct PHMSA to address the highest research and development priorities as allowed by this funding level.

Grants to States.—The conferees have provided $23,058,000 for the various State grant programs of OPS. The funding recommended includes $20,000,000 for State pipeline safety grants, $1,043,000 for State one-call grants, $1,515,000 for State damage prevention grants, and $500,000 for technology development grants.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GRANTS

(EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND)

The conference agreement provides a total of $28,506,000 for Emergency Preparedness Grants, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

RESEARCH AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY ADMINISTRATION

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The conference agreement provides $12,000,000 to continue research and development activities in fiscal year 2008, as proposed by both the House and the Senate, and stipulates that $6,036,000 of the funds provided shall be available until September 30, 2010. The funds provided are to be used consistent with the budget request.

BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION STATISTICS

(LIMITATION ON OBLIGATIONS)

Under the appropriation of the Federal Highway Administration, the conference agreement provides $27,000,000 for the Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS). In addition, BTS will receive a portion of the revenue aligned budget authority (RABA) increase to the federal-aid highway program, as proposed by the House. As has been the practice in previous years, the conferees limit BTS staff to 122 FTE in fiscal year 2008.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $66,400,000 for the Office of Inspector General as proposed by the House and Senate. The conferees direct the Inspector General to investigate and submit recommendations to reduce rail service disruptions and incidents since 2004 in which rail carriers failed to timely deliver various commodities such as coal, wheat, ethanol, potatoes, specialty crops, and lumber, as proposed in the Senate bill.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides $26,324,500 for the Salaries and Expenses of the Surface Transportation Board to fund salaries and expenses from a direct appropriation, instead of $26,495,000 as proposed by the House and $25,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes language that allows the Board to offset $1,250,000 of this appropriation from fees collected during the fiscal year, as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement also states that the Board should use its appropriation to fund its highest programmatic priorities.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Section 180 retains the provision as proposed by both the House and the Senate that allows the Department of Transportation (DOT) to use funds for aircraft, motor vehicles, liability insurance, uniforms, or allowances, as authorized by law.

Section 181 retains the provision that limits appropriations for services authorized by 5 U.S.C. 3109 to the rate for an Executive Level IV, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

Section 182 retains the provision that prohibits funds from being used for salaries and expenses of more than 110 political and Presidential appointees in DOT. The provision also requires that none of the personnel covered by this provision may be assigned on temporary detail outside DOT, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 183 retains the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate that prohibits funds from being used to implement section 404 of title 23, United States Code.

Section 184 retains the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate that prohibits recipients of funds made available in this Act from releasing certain personal information and photographs from a driver's license or motor vehicle record, without express consent of the person to whom such information pertains; and prohibits the withholding of funds provided in this Act for any grantee if a State is in noncompliance with this provision.

Section 185 retains the provision that permits funds received by specified DOT agencies from States or other private or public sources for expenses incurred for training to be credited to certain specified agency accounts, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

Section 186 retains the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate that authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to allow issuers of any preferred stock sold to the Department to redeem or repurchase such stock upon the payment to the Department of an amount determined by the Secretary.

Section 187 modifies language proposed by the House that prohibits funds from being used to make a grant unless the Secretary of Transportation notifies the House and the Senate Committees on Appropriations no less than three days in advance of any discretionary grant award, letter of intent, or full funding grant agreement totaling $500,000 or more, and directs the Secretary give concurrent notification for any ''quick release'' of funds from the Federal Highway Administration's emergency relief program.

Section 188 retains the provision that allows funds received from rebates, refunds, and similar sources to be credited to appropriations of the DOT, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

Section 189 retains the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate that allows amounts from improper payments to a third party contractor that are lawfully recovered by the DOT to be available to cover expenses incurred in the recovery of such payments.

Section 190 retains the provision as proposed by the House that reprograms funds from fiscal year 1992 for improvement to Route 101 in Monterey County, California. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Section 191 retains a provision proposed by the House that reprograms funds from fiscal year 2001 for the Spring Valley Road project in Marlboro Township, New Jersey. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Section 192 retains a provision proposed by the Senate mandating that reprogramming actions are to be approved or denied solely by the Appropriations Committee. The House did not include a similar provision.

Section 193 includes a new provision that prohibits DOT from using funds in this Act to provide a congressional budget justification to any committee other than the House or Senate Committees on Appropriation prior to May 31.

Section 194 modifies a provision proposed by the Senate relating to the Surface Transportation Board's authority to regulate solid waste transfer and sorting facilities on railroad properties.

Section 195 retains a provision proposed by the Senate that caps the amount of fees the Surface Transportation Board can charge and collect for rate complaints filed at the amount authorized for court civil suit filing fees. The House did not include a similar provision.

Section 196 retains the provision proposed by the Senate that directs the Secretary to amend its website to include a direct link to the DOT's Inspector General's webpage and create a mechanism for reporting waste, fraud, and abuse in the Department of Transportation. The House did not include a similar provision.

Section 197 modifies a provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits funds from being used to discontinue the use of the Federal Aviation Academy as the primary facility for air traffic controller training. The House did not include a similar provision.

Section 198 retains a provision proposed by the Senate that prohibits tolling in Texas. The House did not include a similar provision.

Section 199 includes a new provision to prohibit the reallocation of fiscal year 2004 funds for the Schuykill Valley Metro project. The House and Senate did not include a similar provision.

The conference agreement deletes section 193 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement deletes section 197 as proposed by the Senate.

TITLE II—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

The conferees reiterate that the Department must limit the reprogramming of funds between the programs, projects, and activities within each account to not more than $500,000 without prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations. Unless otherwise identified in this Statement of Managers or Committee reports, the most detailed allocation of funds presented in the budget justifications is approved, with any deviation from such approved allocation subject to the normal reprogramming requirements. Further, it is the intent of the conferees that all carryover funds in the various accounts, including recaptures and de-obligations, are

subject to the normal reprogramming requirements outlined above. Further, no changes may be made to any program, project, or activity if it is construed to be policy or a change in policy, without prior approval of the Committees on Appropriations. Finally, the conferees expect to be notified regarding reorganizations of offices, programs or activities prior to the planned implementation of such reorganizations, as well as be notified, on a monthly basis, of all ongoing litigation, including any negotiations or discussions, planned or ongoing, regarding a consent decree between the Department and any other entity, including the estimated costs of such decrees. Unless otherwise provided, the conferees reiterate that the Department must limit reprogramming to $500,000.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTION

The conference agreement includes modified language to provide salaries and expenses to the Department, instead of language proposed by the House and Senate. Through a new structure of nine separate accounts, the conference agreement fully funds the Department's request of $1,222,000,000, as proposed by the Senate. Further, the conference agreement provides flexibility to prevent disruption at the Department or the dislocation of employees. The conferees expect the Department to use this account structure in presenting the FY09 budget justification and all future budgets.

The conference agreement provides $24,980,000 for Executive Direction, as follows:

Immediate office of the Secretary and Deputy Secretary	$3,930,000
Office of Hearings and Appeals	1,580,000
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization	510,000
Immediate Office of the Chief Financial Officer	725,000
Immediate Office of the General Counsel	1,155,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations	2,670,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs	2,520,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	1,630,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Affairs	1,620,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Community and Planning Development	1,520,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing, Federal Housing Commissioner	3,600,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research	1,570,000
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity	1,950,000

The conference agreement provides that the Secretary is authorized to transfer funds within offices under Executive Direction following the written notification to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations, provided that no amount for any office may be increased or decreased by more than 5 percent by all transfers. Notice of any change in funding greater than 5 percent must be submitted for prior approval by the Committees. Further, the Secretary must provide quarterly written notification to the Committees regarding the status of pending congressional reports. The conference agreement also provides that no more than $25,000 provided under the immediate Office of the Secretary shall be available for the official reception and representation expenses as the Secretary may determine.

ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS AND MANAGEMENT

The conference agreement provides $503,630,000 for the administrative functions of the Department, provided as follows:

Office of Administration Personnel Compensation and Benefits	$69,070,000
Office of Departmental Operations and Coordination Personnel Compensation and Benefits	10,630,000
Office of Field Policy and Management Personnel Compensation and Benefits	51,300,000
Office of the Chief Procurement Officer Personnel Compensation and Benefits	12,370,000
Office of the Chief Financial Officer Personnel Compensation and Benefits	31,600,000
Office of the General Counsel Personnel Compensation and Benefits	80,670,000
Office of the Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity Personnel Compensation and Benefits	2,810,000
Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives Personnel Compensation and Benefits	1,160,000
Non-personnel expenses	244,020,000

The conference agreement provides that funds are provided for necessary administrative and non-administrative expenses of the Department and that funds may be used for advertising and promotional activities that support the housing mission area. Further, the Secretary is authorized to transfer funds between offices under this account, after such transfer has been submitted to, and received written approval by, the Committees. No appropriation for any office may be increased or decreased by more than 10 percent.

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The conference agreement provides $173,310,000 for the personnel compensation and benefits for this account.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVLEOPMENT PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The conference agreement provides $90,310,000 for the personnel compensation and benefits for this account.

HOUSING PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The conference agreement provides $334,450,000 for the personnel compensation and benefits for this account.

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The conference agreement provides $8,250,000 for the personnel compensation and benefits for this account.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The conference agreement provides $16,950,000 for the personnel compensation and benefits for this account.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PERSONNEL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The conference agreement provides $63,140,000 for the personnel compensation and benefits for this account.

OFFICE OF HEALTHY HOMES AND LEAD HAZARD CONTROL COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The conference agreement provides $6,980,000 for the personnel compensation and benefits for this account.

PUBLIC AND INDIAN HOUSING

TENANT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The joint statement of the managers herein reflects the agreement of the conferees on tenant-based rental assistance. The conference agreement provides $16,436,000,000 for all tenant-based Section 8 (voucher) activities under the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance Account. The House proposed $16,330,000,000 and the Senate proposed $16,598,694,000 for these activities. Language is included designating funds provided as follows:

Activity	*Conference agreement*
Voucher Renewals	$14,694,506,000
Tenant Protection Vouchers	200,000,000
Administrative Fees	1,351,000,000
HUD–VASH Vouchers	75,000,000
Nonelderly Disabled Vouchers	30,000,000
Family Unification Vouchers	30,000,000
Family Self-Sufficiency Coordinators	49,000,000
Working Capital Fund	6,494,000
Total, Tenant Based Rental Assistance	16,436,000,000

Section 8 Voucher Renewals.—The conference agreement includes $14,694,506,000, instead of $14,744,506,000 as proposed by the House and $14,929,200,000, as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement provides that funding for renewals shall be distributed based on VMS data for the most recent Federal fiscal year. The conference agreement also provides an exception to this funding formula for PHAs impacted by the 2005 hurricanes, those PHAs that went into receivership within the previous 24 months, and PHAs that overspent their FY07 allocation. The House had not proposed to revise the allocation methodology from FY07.

The conferees instruct the Department that the entire amount for renewals shall be administered through the LOCCS system and provided to PHAs in the same manner as in effect in FY06 and prior years. Further, PHAs shall be notified of their allocation within 60 days of enactment of this Act, unless the Secretary requests a waiver from the Committees.

The conference agreement provides that $50,000,000 shall be available to adjust the allocations for PHAs that experienced a significant increase in renewal costs due to portability or for PHAs with a higher leasing rate at the end of the Federal fiscal year than the average for the entire year.

Tenant Protection.—The conference agreement includes $200,000,000 for rental subsidies for tenant protection activities instead of $150,000,000 as proposed by the House and Senate. HUD is instructed to issue tenant protection vouchers for all units that were occupied within the previous 24 months. The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the House concerning recaptures and carryover.

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the House regarding the costs of judgments and settlements.

Administrative Fees.—The conference agreement includes $1,351,000,000 for public housing agencies' administrative costs and other

expenses, as proposed by the House and Senate. Of these funds, $1,316,000,000 shall be administered as provided in section 8(q) of QHWRA, as proposed by the House and Senate. The conference report does not include $5,000,000 for an incentive for PHAs to consolidate, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

Family Self Sufficiency Coordinators.—The conference agreement includes $49,000,000 for public housing agencies family self-sufficiency coordinator staff, instead of $48,000,000 as proposed by the House and $50,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

HUD–VASH Vouchers.—The conference agreement includes $75,000,000 for incremental voucher assistance for use through a supported housing program administered in conjunction with the Department of Veterans Affairs, as proposed by the Senate. This funding will be made available to PHAs that partner with eligible VA Medical Centers and other entities based on geographic need for such assistance. The conferees expect that these vouchers will be made available to all homeless veterans, including recently returning veterans. These vouchers shall remain available for homeless veterans upon turnover.

Nonelderly Disabled Vouchers.—The conference agreement provides $30,000,000, as proposed by the House, for incremental assistance to nonelderly disabled families. These vouchers shall remain available, to the extent practicable, for nonelderly disabled persons upon turnover.

Family Unification Vouchers.—The conference agreement provides $30,000,000, as proposed by the Senate, for incremental assistance through the Family Unification Program. These vouchers shall remain available, to the extent practicable, for family unification vouchers upon turnover.

Working Capital Fund.—The conference agreement includes up to $6,494,000 that may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund as proposed by the House and Senate.

The conferees instruct HUD not to disburse more than 70 percent of the FY07 advance prior to halfway through the 2008 calendar year.

HOUSING CERTIFICATE FUND

(RESCISSION)

The conference agreement includes a rescission of $1,250,000,000 from unobligated balances and recaptures from prior-year appropriations provided in the tenant-based rental assistance and the project-based rental assistance accounts or any other account within this title. This rescission is to be effected no later than September 30, 2008. The House proposed $1,300,000,000 and the Senate proposed $1,100,000,000.

PROJECT-BASED RENTAL ASSISTANCE

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement provides $6,381,810,000 for project-based rental assistance activities instead of $6,479,810,000 as proposed by the House and $5,813,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement provides funds as follows:

Activity	*Conference agreement*
Project-Based Contract Renewals	$6,139,122,000
Contract Administrators	238,728,000
Working Capital Fund	3,960,000
Total, Project-Based Rental Assistance	6,381,810,000

Language is included, as proposed by the House, designating not less than $238,728,000 but not to exceed $286,230,000 for performance-based contract administrators.

The conferees note the Department's inability to identify actual funding needs for Project-Based Rental Assistance renewals. The conferees also find that the Department has not been aggressive in reducing the impact that its decisions are having on the affordable housing community. In light of what appears to be a severe funding shortage, the Department has taken the drastic step of abandoning its practice of 12-month contracts and has been sending short-term renewal contracts that impact owners, landlords, financial institutions, and, most importantly, tenants of Project-Based housing.

A large part of the problem is that the administration has not determined if 12-month contracts can be conditioned on the availability of funds and can be funded incrementally. The conferees instruct HUD and OMB to make a final determination about whether an Anti-Deficiency Act (ADA) violation would exist under those circumstances within one month of enactment of this Act. If no violation would exist, then HUD is instructed to immediately begin issuing 12-month contracts subject to the availability of funds. If a violation would exist or has occurred, the administration must report that violation to the Committees immediately.

The conference agreement does not include the report on a project-by-project analysis that verifies the funding request for renewals and amendments as part of the FY09 budget justification, as proposed by the House, as this issue is addressed in the general provisions of this title, as proposed by the Senate.

PUBLIC HOUSING CAPITAL FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement provides $2,438,964,000 for the Public Housing Capital Fund as proposed by the House, instead of $2,500,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Within the total funding the conference agreement includes: up to $12,000,000 for section 9(h) of the 1937 Housing Act, instead of $10,890,000 as proposed by the House and $14,890,000 as proposed by the Senate; not to exceed $16,847,000 may be transferred for information technology systems as proposed by the Senate instead of $10,000,000 as proposed by the House; not to exceed $18,500,000 for emergency capital needs resulting from unforeseen emergencies or natural disasters in fiscal year 2008 instead of $17,000,000 as proposed by the House or $20,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $40,000,000 for the Resident Opportunity Self-Sufficiency (ROSS) program as proposed by the Senate instead of $38,000,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement provides that the Secretary shall provide performance bonuses in FY08 for PHAs that are high performers.

The conference agreement instructs HUD to report quarterly to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the status of all PHAs in receivership, the technical assistance provided to these agencies, and the demonstrated achievements of the agencies. This submission shall begin with the transmission of the FY09 budget justification.

The conferees direct HUD to perform an updated Capital Needs Assessment (CNA) from funds made available under this account for the public housing portfolio, including the projected annual cost to adequately maintain that portfolio. To conduct the new CNA, HUD shall contract with a nationally recognized research entity with experience in conducting physical needs assessments of a representative sample of public housing or similar development projects. The review shall include a statistical sample for projects of 500 units or less and one-for-one review for projects in excess of 500 units. HUD shall award a contract for the study within 120 days after the enactment of this Act and shall report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on the progress of the study by June 30, 2008. HUD shall submit a final report to the Committees by July 31, 2009, that includes national cost estimates and a comparison of those estimates with capital needs as of 1996, after adjusting for changes in the composition of the public housing stock resulting from HOPE VI funding and other actions. The report shall also discuss whether REAC physical inspection scores can support ongoing national estimates of public housing capital needs.

PUBLIC HOUSING OPERATING FUND

The conference agreement provides $4,200,000,000 for the Public Housing Operating Fund as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement provides that HUD shall use $5,940,000, as proposed by the Senate, for competitive grants and contracts to third parties for the provision of technical assistance to public housing agencies related to the transition and implementation of asset-based management in public housing.

The conferees do not instruct the IG to study asset-based management, as proposed by the House.

REVITALIZATION OF SEVERELY DISTRESSED PUBLIC HOUSING (HOPE VI)

The conference agreement provides $120,000,000 for the Revitalization of Severely Distressed Public Housing program (HOPE VI) as proposed by the House, instead of $100,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees provide that not to exceed $2,400,000 shall be used for technical assistance as proposed by the House instead of $1,980,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement also directs HUD to use unobligated and unexpended technical assistance funding provided in prior years and to use these resources to focus on grants awarded before 2001 that have large unexpended balances.

NATIVE AMERICAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANTS

The conference agreement provides $630,000,000 as proposed by the Senate instead of $626,965,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement includes $4,250,000 for inspections, training, and technical assistance, including up to $300,000 for related travel, as proposed by the House and the Senate. The conference agreement provides that $2,000,000 shall be contracted as technical assistance and capacity building for a national organization representing Native American Housing interests for providing training and technical assistance to Indian Housing authorities and tribally designated housing entities as authorized by NAHASDA, as proposed by the Senate. The House addressed this issue in report language, and recedes to the Senate.

The conference agreement requires that HUD distribute the needs portion of the formula distribution on the basis of either single race or multi race data whichever is the most advantageous to the grant recipient, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement includes $1,980,000 for guaranteed loans to subsidize a total guaranteed loan principal of up to $17,000,000 as proposed by both the House and Senate and does not include a transfer to the Salaries and Expenses account, as proposed by the House.

The conferees do not require the two studies proposed by the House on the funding formula for these grants and the housing needs of the Indian community.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING BLOCK GRANT

The conference agreement provides $9,000,000 for the Native Hawaiian Housing Block Grant, of which $300,000 shall be for training and technical assistance, as proposed by the Senate. The House proposed $8,727,000 and $299,211, respectively.

The conference agreement directs HUD to award these formula grants promptly in FY08, as the Department has been slow to obligate these funds in previous years.

The conferees do not require a letter pertaining to the status of funds expended in this account, as proposed by the House.

INDIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides $7,450,000, to subsidize a loan limitation of up to $367,000,000 as proposed by the House and Senate.

The conference agreement does not include a transfer to the Salaries and Expenses account, as proposed by the House.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN HOUSING LOAN GUARANTEE FUND PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement provides $1,044,000 for guaranteed loans for Native Hawaiian housing to subsidize a total guaranteed loan principal of up to $41,504,255 as proposed by the House and Senate.

The conference agreement does not include a transfer to the Salaries and Expenses account, as proposed by the House.

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS (HOPWA)

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement provides $300,100,000 for Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) as proposed by the House and Senate. Up to $1,485,000 is provided for technical assistance as proposed by the House and Senate. Not to exceed $1,485,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund.

RURAL HOUSING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The conference agreement provides $17,000,000 for rural housing and economic development as proposed by the Senate, instead of $16,830,000 as proposed by the House.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement provides $4,000,000,000 for the Community Development Fund, compared to $4,180,000,000 proposed by the House and $4,060,000,000 proposed by the Senate. The conferees agree to the following:

Formula distribution of funds	$3,790,000,000
Economic Development Initiative Grants	183,500,000
Transfer to the Working Capital Fund	1,570,000
Indian Economic Block Grants	62,000,000
Neighborhood Initiatives Program	26,500,000

The conference agreement includes modified language making technical corrections to certain targeted economic development initiative grants funded under this heading in prior appropriations Acts, similar to language that was proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement provides $3,000,000 for technical assistance as authorized by section 107(b)(4), as proposed by the Senate. The House had no similar provision.

The conference agreement includes that not to exceed $1,570,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund, as proposed by the Senate. The House proposed a $1,584,000 transfer.

The conference agreement includes $183,500,000 for the Economic Development Initiative with specific requirements on how these funds can be used. The conference agreement directs HUD to implement the Economic Development Initiative program as follows:

Grantee	Purpose	Funding
Ada Public Works Authority in Ada, OK	for construction of 1 million gallon water storage tower	$250,000
African American Cultural Center in Lumberton, NC	for renovation and buildout of the facility	$150,000
African American History Foundation of Nashville, TN	for planning, design and construction of a museum	$100,000
African-American Male Achievers Network in Los Angeles, CA	for acquisition and renovation of a facility to provide educational opportunities for youth	$150,000
Alexandria Central Economic Development District in Alexandria, LA	for development of marina, related dockside, access and utilities	$600,000
Allegheny County Department of Planning in Pittsburg, PA	for planning, design, renovation, construction and buildout of a brownfields site	$100,000
Allentown Art Museum of the Lehigh Valley in Allentown, PA	for expansion	$250,000
Alpine Heritage Preservation in Thomas, WV	for renovation and buildout of the historic opera house	$200,000
America's Second Harvest of South Georgia in Valdosta, GA	for construction, expansion, and renovation of food distribution center	$225,000
Amherst Cinema Arts Center, Inc. in Amherst, MA	for acquisition, renovation and buildout of an arts center, as part of area redevelopment	$265,000
Amherst Youth Foundation in Amherst, NY	for renovations to the Independent Health Youth and Family Center	$150,000
Anderson Arts Center in Anderson, SC	for completion of the renovation of the Anderson Arts Warehouse Facility	$100,000
Appalachian Service Project, Inc. in Johnson City, TN	for emergency home repair for disadvantaged families	$150,000
Arc Mercer Inc. in Ewing, NJ	for upgrading facilities to serve people with developmental disabilities	$50,000
Ardmore Development Authority in Ardmore, OK	for a centrally located resource center	$350,000

Ark Memorial Foundation in Laramie, WY	for completion of construction of a national Creative Arts Center	$150,000
Arkansas State University at Mountain Home, in Mountain Home, AR	for construction, renovation, and buildout of a multipurpose facility	$250,000
Arkansas State University-Newport in Newport, AR	for construction of the Regional Transportation Technology Center, an educational and training facility	$350,000
Arlington Chamber of Commerce in Arlington, TX	for commercialization of technology, especially bio- and nano-technology at University of Texas at Arlington	$100,000
Arlington Housing Corporation in Arlingon, VA	for renovation, expansion and construction of low-income housing	$200,000
Armed Services YMCA in Killeen, TX	for construction of a full service YMCA	$400,000
ArtsQuest of Bethlehem, PA	for revitalization of a brownsfield site and development of the SteelStax Performing Arts Center on the site	$250,000
Asian Youth Center of San Gabriel, CA	for acquisition of a multipurpose facility for the center	$150,000
Atchison County Memorial Building Foundation in Atchison County, MO	for renovation of the Atchison County Memorial Building	$250,000
Atlanta Botanical Gardens in Atlanta, GA	for construction of the Canopy Walk, an educational nature walk	$150,000
Atlantic County, NJ	for development of an industrial park to foster economic development	$100,000
Audie Murphy/American Cotton Museum in Greenville, TX	for construction of a memorial and building	$100,000
Avesta Housing in Portland, ME	for planning, design, construction and buildout of the Florence House Center for Homeless Women	$150,000
Bacon County Board of Commissioners in Bacon County, GA	for restoration of an old school building for community use	$225,000
Ballard County, KY	for the Ballard County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Community Shelter	$50,000
Barrington Stage Company in Pittsfield, MA	for renovation and buildout of the Berkshire Music Hall and Octagon House	$275,000
Bassett Historical Center in Hendry County, VA	for expansion of a facility	$100,000

Bay Area Food Bank in Mobile, AL	for construction of a commerical-size kitchen	$250,000
Beatitude House in Warren, OH	for renovation and construction of a facility for homeless women and children	$200,000
Bel Alton High School Alumni Association CDC in Bel Alton, MD	for renovation, construction and buildout of a community center	$400,000
Belmont Complex in Kittanning, PA	for renovation and construction of the Belmont Complex	$300,000
Berrien County Economic Development Authority in Berrien County, GA	for design and construction of new sewer system	$300,000
Bethel School District in Spanaway, WA	for construction and buildout of a community center for seniors and youth	$150,000
Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, FL	for rehabilitation and renovation of the School of Nursing	$150,000
Billings Food Bank in Billings, MT	for demoliton of buidling	$300,000
Bi-State Authority,Lawrence ville-Vincennes Airport in Lawrenceville, IL	for construction of a new airport building for a public use area	$100,000
Black Ensemble Theater in Chicago, IL	for planning, design and construction of the theater	$200,000
Blount County Government in Blount County, TN	for infrastructure for Pellisippi Research Centre	$150,000
Bolingbrook Park District in Bolingbrook, IL	for construction of the LEED Platinum nature center	$150,000
Bonnie CLAC Lebanon, NH	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund to assist low-income populations with transportation needs	$100,000
Boricua College in Brooklyn, NY	for renovation and buildout of the North Side Campus	$150,000
Borough of Coraopolis, PA	for streetscape improvements in downtown Coraopolis	$100,000
Borough of High Bridge, NJ	for construction of ramps and elevators	$250,000
Borough of Robesonia, PA	for signage and streetscape improvements as part of the Robesonia Downtown Revitalization project	$150,000
Borough of Telford, PA	for renovation of a freight building, enhancement of handicap access and development of a community pavillion	$250,000

Borough of West Paterson, NJ	for construction of an urban bikeway	$150,000
Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency in Boynton Beach, FL	for construction of an educational facility	$300,000
Brainerd Institute of Chester, SC	for renovation and buildout of multipurpose facilities at the Brainerd Institute	$100,000
Brooklyn Children's Museum in Brooklyn, NY	for renovation and construction of the museum	$170,000
Buhl Farm Trust in Sharon, PA	for building renovation at Bhul Farm	$300,000
Burchfield-Penney Art Center in Buffalo, NY	for construction and buildout	$400,000
Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI	for renovation of a historic building in downown Grand Rapids	$100,000
Camp Wood YMCA in Elmdale, KS	for construction of alternative energy structures for facilities	$50,000
Campbellsville-Taylor Co. Industrial Development in Campbellsville, KY	for development of two engineered, pad ready sites in the current business park	$100,000
Carlisle Regional Perfroming Arts Center in Calisle, PA	for renovation of the Carlisle Theater	$100,000
Caroll County Community Center in Carrollton, OH	for planning, design and construction of a community center	$300,000
Carroll County Watershed Authority in Carroll County, TN	for land acquisition	$150,000
Catholic Charities in Louisville, KY	for renovation of a historic building to create affordable housing for seniors	$100,000
Central Bradford Progress Authority in Towanda, PA	for renovation of facilities as part of a redevelopment plan	$310,000
Central Connecticut Coast YMCA, Inc. in New Haven, CT	for planning, design and construction of a community recreational facility	$300,000
Charlotte County, FL	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Family Services Center	$200,000

Charter Township of White Lake, MI	for land purchases, roadway improvements, public spaces, streetscape and pathways	$150,000
Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center in Enid, OK	for renovation and construction of the center	$100,000
Chicago Parks District in Chicago, IL	for renovation of the historic Theatre on the Lake	$700,000
Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. in Phoenix, AZ	for acquisition of a facility to be used as a business incubator and training facility	$500,000
Child Care Services Association in Chapel Hill, NC	for planning, design and construction of a child care resource center in Durham	$275,000
Citizens for a Civic Auditorium in Casper, WY	for construction of a multipurpose Casper Civic Auditorium facility	$200,000
City College of New York in New York, NY	for planning, design, construction, renovation and buildout of a multipurpose educational facility	$250,000
City of Agoura Hills, CA	for land acquisition to protect open space	$150,000
City of Ansonia, CT	for planning and design of affordable housing as part of a redevelopment plan at the Riverside Apartment Complex	$100,000
City of Astoria, OR	for planning, design and construction of the Chinese Heritage Park	$150,000
City of Austin, TX	for streetscape and façade improvements as part of the East Austin Façade Improvement Project	$150,000
City of Azusa, CA	for renovation of the Azusa National Guard Armory to become a recreational facility for seniors and youth	$150,000
City of Bastrop, TX	for planning, design and construction of a recreational trail	$250,000
City of Bellflower, CA	for construction and buildout of the Los Angeles County Fire Museum	$500,000
City of Bellmead, TX	for facility construction, renovation and buildout	$300,000
City of Benicia, CA	for renovation, construction and buildout of a facility for veterans	$150,000
City of Birmingham, AL	for land acquisition and construction of an urban park	$250,000
City of Cadiz Downtown Development Project in Cadiz, KY	for economic development and community growth	$50,000
City of Cedar Rapids, IA	for revitalization of a brownfields site	$150,000
City of Center Point, AL	for the Polly Reed Road Greenway and Pedestrian Walkway Project	$250,000
City of Charlotte, NC	for land acquisition in the development of the Belvedere Business Park	$150,000

City of Clearwater, FL	for a comprehensive plan, and to make corresponding infrastructure improvements to revitalize downtown Clearwater	$100,000
City of Clearwater, FL	for a comprehensive plan to revitalize downtown Clearwater	$200,000
City of Columbus, IN	for planning, design, construction and buildout of an educational facility	$150,000
City of Commerce City, CO	for renovation and construction of a Boys and Girls Club	$170,000
City of Daytona Beach, FL	for construction of a community center for services to disadvantaged youths	$50,000
City of Desert Hot Springs, CA	for construction and site improvements for a civic and community center	$200,000
City of Detroit, MI	for demolition of abandoned properties as part of a redevelopment plan	$300,000
City of Doral, FL	for redevelopment of recreation facilities	$150,000
City of Eagle Mountain, UT	for park development to complete Phase I of the economic development area in Eagle Mountain City	$420,000
City of Edmonds, WA	for renovation of the Edmunds Center for the Arts	$150,000
City of Evansville, IN	for renovation, construction and buildout of the historic Alhambra Theatre	$200,000
City of Fayetteville, NC	for planning, design and construction of the Fayetteville Military Business Park	$150,000
City of Fort Dodge, IA	for the acquisition and/or demolition of the former Beef Processors production plant	$100,000
City of Fredonia, KS	for sidewalks and streetscape improvements in the central business district	$100,000
City of Gillette, WY	for design costs for an addition to the current Campbell County Senior Center	$150,000
City of Green Bay, WI	for construction of the Riverfront Boardwalk, as part of a redevelopment plan	$400,000
City of Greenville, IL	for construction of a business incubator	$150,000
City of Hackensack, NJ	for improvements to Foschini Park	$200,000
City of Hammond, LA	for fire protection water services	$250,000
City of Hearne, TX	for construction of a visitors center and museum for the WWII POW Camp	$250,000
City of Hermiston, OR	for construction of a learning center	$50,000
City of Imperial, CA	for planning, design and construction of a regional parks facility	$150,000
City of Indianola, MS	for a revolving loan fund to provide affordable housing, as part of the Indianola Housing Initiative	$250,000
City of Jackson, AL	for construction of a building in conjunction with a 240-acre Industrial Development Park	$250,000
City of Jacob in Cottondale, FL	for acquisition and renovation of a community center	$300,000
City of Joplin, MO	for streetscape improvements in Center City	$700,000

City of Kaysville City, UT	for reclamation and conversion of a city-owned property to an economic use	$150,000
City of La Puente, CA	for planning, design and construction of a Nature Education Center for children	$250,000
City of Lauderdale Lakes, FL	for renovation and construction of a new educational and cultural addition to the library	$200,000
City of Livermore, CA	for capitalization of a housing loan fund through the Tri-Valley Housing Opportunity Center	$150,000
City of Los Angeles, CA	for improvements to MacArthur Park	$200,000
City of Lufkin, TX	for construction of a convention center	$100,000
City of Luling, TX	for renovation, construction and buildout of a historic facility as part of the Zedler Mill Park Pavilion Restoration project	$200,000
City of Lynwood, CA	for construction of a public park	$150,000
City of Madeira Beach, FL	for renovation of John's Pass Village to enhance public use	$50,000
City of Maitland, FL	for the Minihaha Park development	$240,000
City of Marathon, FL	for improvements to Boot Key Municial Harbor facilites	$100,000
City of Memphis, TN	for demolition and planning as part of the University Place Revitalization project	$225,000
City of Minneapolis, MN	for land and building acquisition, renovation and construction as part of the City's redevelopment plan	$270,000
City of Monroe, NC	for renovation of the Old Armory Building site into a community center	$500,000
City of Montrose, CO	for planning, design and construction of the Montrose Higher Education and Technology Park	$150,000
City of Mount Vernon, IN	for construction of a riverfront plaza as part of a redevelopment plan	$50,000
City of New Bedford, MA	for demolition of abandoned buildings as part of a redevelopment plan	$400,000
City of New Braunfels, TX	for relocation of the utilities underground	$100,000
City of New Brunswick, NJ	for planning, design, streetscape improvements and sidewalks	$150,000
City of New Iberia, LA	for planning, design, and construction of a multipurpose facility	$150,000
City of North Las Vegas, NV	for planning, design and construction of a senior center	$150,000
City of Ottawa, KS	for land acquisition, renovation and construction of the Ottawa Industrial Park	$300,000
City of Paxville, SC	for construction and buildout of a technology center for youth and senior citizens	$100,000
City of Phoenix, AZ	for streetscape improvements as part of the Maryvale Revitalization Project	$150,000
City of Prattville, AL	for Phase II of the public acess and use at Cooters Pond Park	$100,000
City of Raeford, NC	for sidewalks and streetscape improvements	$200,000
City of Rainsville, AL	for further construction of the Rainesville Ag center	$330,000
City of Rancho Cordova, CA	for construction and buildout of a community building at the White Rock Community Park	$150,000

City of Raytown, MO	for the demolition of an abandoned church as part of a redevelopment plan	$550,000
City of Riverdale, GA	for planning, design and construction of a multipurpose facility for low- and moderate-income residents	$250,000
City of Romney, WV	for continued renovation and adaptive reuse of the Coca Cola Bottling plant as a cultural and arts center	$100,000
City of Round Rock, TX	for infrastructure and sidewalk improvements on Main Street from IH35 to San Saba Street	$400,000
City of San Antonio, TX	for construction and buildout of an educational facility	$400,000
City of San Clemente, CA	for continued construction of the Coastal Trail	$300,000
City of San Juan, TX	for planning, design and construction of a new library	$250,000
City of San Leandro, CA	for construction and buildout of senior center	$250,000
City of Santa Maria, CA	for construction, renovation and buildout of a library	$150,000
City of Sarasota, FL	for renovation of the Robert L. Taylor Community Center	$375,000
City of Somerton in Tucson, AZ	for construction and buildout of the Dunbar Project Youth Cultural Center	$250,000
City of Springfield, OH	for acquisition, relocation, remediation and infrastructure improvements for the Community/Mercy Health Partners Hospital	$500,000
City of St. Louis, MO	for streetscape improvements on Cherokee Street	$150,000
City of Suffolk, VA	for renovation of the former East Suffolk High School into a community and recreation center	$200,000
City of Tamarac, FL	for expansion, renovation and buildout of a recreational facility	$150,000
City of Tampa, FL	for construction of the Tampa Riverwalk as part of a redevelopment plan	$300,000
City of Toledo, OH	for construction, renovation and buildout in low-income neighborhoods	$250,000
City of Topeka, KS	for land acquisition for a public park	$100,000
City of Valdosta, GA	for reconstruction and development of an eight block corridor	$250,000
City of Wakefield, MI	for renovation, construction and buildout of the historic Wakefield Memorial Community Building	$150,000
City of Waterbury, CT	for demolition of abandoned structures as part of a redevelopment plan	$300,000
City of Waterloo, IA	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Cedar Valley TechWorks Technology Center	$200,000
City of Wichita, KS	for redevelopment of Dunbar Theater	$300,000
City of Yucaipa, CA	for construction of a joint recreation facility for the City of Yucaipa and Crafton Hills Community College	$200,000
Clay County Drug Treatment Center in Manchester, KY	for construction of residential drug treatment facility	$500,000
College of Mount Saint Vincent in Riverdale, NY	for renovation of the college's nursing laboratories	$250,000

Collier County, FL	for construction of a Community Center in South Immokalee	$150,000
Community Health Connections in Gardner, MA	for renovation of a former elementary school for a multipurpose health facility	$325,000
Community Rehabilitation Center, Inc., in Jacksonville, FL	for streetscape improvements and renovation of Pearl Street Plaza	$150,000
Community Reinvestment Association of North Carolina in Durham, NC	for capitalization of a housing loan fund as part of the Manufactured Housing Redevelopment Fund	$275,000
Conemaugh Township Community Center in Saltsburg, PA	for improvements to the Center to meet ADA requirements	$50,000
Conway County, AR	for renovation and buildout of the historic Morrilton Post Office building	$150,000
Cornucopia Adult Day Services in Albuquerque, NM	for renovation to the building located at 2002 Bridge Boulevard, SW	$100,000
Council on Aging of Sonoma County in Santa Rosa, CA	for construction, renovation and buildout of a multipurpose facility for seniors	$150,000
County of San Joaquin, CA	for construction and buildout of an economic development facility, the San Joaquin Agricultural Center	$500,000
Crystal Lake Art Center in Frankfort, MI	for improvements to the former Frankfort Coast Guard station for use by the Crystal Lake Art Center	$100,000
Cumberland County, KY	for the Burkesville Industrial Development Project	$100,000
Custer County, ID	for acquistion of an unused middle school building	$100,000
Cypress Creek Fine Art Association in Spring, TX	for construction of the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts	$100,000
Dayton Metropolitan Housing Authority in Dayton, OH	for demolition and redevelopment of Cliburn Manor	$50,000
DBA Greater Honesdale Partnership in Honesdale, PA	for acquisition, renovation and construction of a facility	$300,000
Destination Plymouth in Plymouth, MA	for renovation and buildout of facilities	$100,000
Detroit Science Center in Detroit, MI	for construction of the Michigan Careers in Engineering Theater	$750,000

Downtown Improvement Program in Beaumont, TX	for redevelopment and enhancement to the streets, including Neches Street from Laurel to College Streets and Park Street from North to College Streets	$50,000
Downtown Roanoke, VA	for infrastructure renovations for awnings of the historic market	$250,000
East County Family YMCA in San Diego, CA	for construction of the McGrath Family YMCA	$150,000
East Mississippi Community College Golden Triangle, MS	for construction of a metal-working facility for job training	$500,000
Eastern Shore Community College in Melfa, VA	for additional laboratory, related equipment and infrastructure development at the Eastern Shore Community College	$100,000
Eastern Shore Rural Health System, Inc. in Onley, VA	for construction of a new Onley Community Health facility	$200,000
Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL	for construction of a center for programs serving low income and at-risk youth	$100,000
El Centro de Servicios Sociales, Inc. in Lorain, OH	for renovation and buildout of the South Lorain Lincoln Community Center, a community facility for youth and seniors	$200,000
Elmira College in Elmira, NY	for preparation of construction plans to renovate a building	$400,000
Emergency Housing Consortium in San Jose, CA	for construction of the Sobrato Transitional Center, a residential facility for homeless individuals and families	$200,000
Enon-Coulter CDC in Philadelphia, PA	for streetscape improvements and redevelopment in low-income neighborhoods	$100,000
Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut in Bristol, CT	for construction of an educational facility	$200,000
Fairfax County Park Authority in Annandale, VA	for revitalization of Ossian Park	$50,000
Fairfax County Park Authority in Annandale, VA	for revitalization of athletic facilities at Mason District Park	$50,000
Farnum Neighborhood House in New Haven, CT	for renovation and buildout of Camp Farnum, a facility serving low-income children	$100,000
Feedback Foundation in Anaheim, CA	for renovation and buildout of a facility that provides meals for low-income seniors	$150,000
Florida Southern College in Lakeland, FL	for construction of library to house historic documents of Frank Loyd Wright	$200,000

FM Kirby Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA	for renovation and buildout of a historic building	$150,000
Focus on Renewal in McKees Rocks, PA	for planning, design and construction of the Sto-Rox Cultural Arts Center	$100,000
Food Bank of the Virginia Peninsula in Newport News, VA	for renovation and buildout of a facility to provide food to low-income populations	$150,000
Friendship Circle of the South Bay in Redondo Beach, CA	for construction of a multipurpose facility for children with special needs	$150,000
Gannon University in Erie, PA	for development of the Erie Technology Incubator for economic development	$100,000
Genesee County Land Bank Authority in Flint, MI	for renovation and construction of the historic Durant Hotel as part of a redevelopment plan	$150,000
Girls and Boys Town USA in Boys Town, NE	for construction of facilities at priority national projects	$250,000
Girls and Boys Town USA in Oviedo, FL	for expansion of facilities	$250,000
Goodwill Industries of North Louisiana in Shreveport, LA	for renvoation of a donated building for use by the Goodwill	$150,000
Governing Body Supervisors of Berlin Township in Beach Lake, PA	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Berlin Township Community Center	$140,000
Government of Guam Department of Public Works in Tamuning, Guam	for sidewalks, street furniture and façade improvements	$250,000
Grafton County Economic Development Council in Bristol, NH	for acquisition, renovation and buildout of a business incubator	$200,000
Grant County Family YMCA in Marion, IN	for renovation of the Memorial Coliseum	$200,000
Grant County Housing Authority in Petersburg, WV	for streetscape improvements and construction of ADA accessible entrances for affordable housing	$100,000

Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras, NC	for completion of construction of the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum	$150,000
Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Black Brigade Fund in Cincinnati, OH	for construction of a monument to commemorate the Black Brigade of Cincinnati	$50,000
Greene County Community Center in Waynesburg, PA	for construction, renovation and buildout of recreational facilities	$200,000
Group Ministries, Inc. in Buffalo, NY	for renovation and buildout of a community services building	$200,000
Halifax County Historical Society in South Boston, VA	for installation of the Crossing of the Dan exhibit project	$225,000
Hamilton County, TN	for construction of a building to house the Center for Entrepreneurial Growth	$100,000
Harris County Commissioner's Office, Preciinct Three in Houston, TX	for construction and buildout of a multipurpose facility, the Bayland Park Community Aquatic Center	$150,000
Harris County Community and Economic Development Department in Houston, TX	for planning studies and streetscape improvements	$100,000
Harvest Community Foundation in Billings, MT	for construction of Billings Heights Community Center	$200,000
Heidelberg College in Tiffin, OH	for construction of a Wellness and Recreation Center	$100,000
Helen Keller Services for the Blind in Brooklyn, NY	for renovation and construction of a recreational facility for handicapped children	$150,000
Hendry County, FL	for planning, design, and construction of recreational facilities at the Hendry LaBelle Regional Park	$300,000
Henry County Fiscal Court in Henry County, KY	for enabling the fiscal court to make the Henry County Commerce Park "site ready"	$300,000
Highgate Recreation Center in Highgate, VT	for renovation of a recreational center	$200,000
Hillsborough Township, NJ	for construction of a community center	$50,000

Historic Globe Main Street Program in Globa, AZ	for renovation of the historic Gila County Courthouse for use as a community center	$100,000
Historic St. Mary's City, MD	for construction and renovation of a historic facility	$400,000
Hocking Athens Perry Community Action in Athens, OH	for renovation and construction of a community center	$200,000
Holocaust Documentation and Education Center in North Miami Beach, FL	for facility renovation, construction and buildout of the museum	$300,000
Housing Partnership Network, Inc. of Boston, MA	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund for affordable housing	$300,000
Housing Trust of Santa Clara County in San Jose, CA	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund for first time homebuyers	$150,000
Houston Fire Museum in Houston, TX	for construction of an Education Center	$250,000
Houston Zoo in Houston, TX	for development of an educational broadcast program	$300,000
Hudson Area Joint Library in Hudson, WI	for land acquisition, planning, design and construction of a new library	$150,000
Hudson Guild Fulton Center in New York, NY	for construction, renovation and buildout of a community services center for seniors	$150,000
Hudson Opera House, Inc. in Hudson, NY	for renovation of the Historic Hudson Opera House Arts Community Center	$125,000
Huntingdon County Community Center in Huntingdon, PA	for expansion of the facilities	$100,000
Huntsville Museum of Art in Huntsville, AL	for facility construction, expansion, renovation and buildout of the museum as part of the redevelopment of downtown Huntsville	$200,000
Iberville Parish, LA	for construction of a visitors center	$100,000
Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria in Peoria, IL	for planning, construction, and design of a building at the Illinois College of Medicine	$100,000
Indiana State University in Bedford, IN	for relocation and expansion of the ISU Learning Center	$150,000
Institute of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture in Chicago, IL	for construction, renovation and buildout of a historic building	$250,000

Intergenerational Resource Center, Inc. in Atlanta, GA	for construction of the Martin Luther King, Sr. Community Resource Center, Inc.	$200,000
Isles Incorporated in Trenton, NJ	for redevelopment of a former textile mill as job training center for Youthbuild	$100,000
Jewish Home for the Aging in Reseda, CA	for renovation and buildout of a residential facility for seniors with disabilities	$150,000
Jim Hogg County, TX	for land acquisition and construction of a multipurpose community park	$150,000
Jimmie Hale Mission in Birmingham, AL	for construction of the Jimmie Hale Mission Men's Center Education and Administration Building	$250,000
John Avery Boys and Girls Club, Inc. in Durham, NC	for construction, expansion, renovation and buildout of a multipurpose facility for Durham's youth and families	$100,000
John P. Parker Historical Society in Ripley, OH	for refinement of site investigations and improvements for the John P. Parker residence	$100,000
Josephone Solomon Ellis Foundation, Inc. in Philedelphia, PA	for acquisition, renovation and construction of affordable housing for senior citizens	$150,000
Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club, Inc. in Bronx, NY	for renovation and buildout of the West Bronx Clubhouse	$200,000
Kitsap County Consolidated Housing Authority in Silverdale, WA	for construction of a public waterfront facility, as part of a redevelopment plan	$400,000
Kokomo YMCA in Kokomo, IN	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Kokomo YMCA	$100,000
Lake Erie College in Painesville, OH	for construction associated with the Austin Hall of Science Renovation Project	$50,000
Lakeview Museum in Peoria, IL	for planning, design, and construction of the Lakeview Museum in Peoria	$100,000
Laveen Community Council in Phoenix, AZ	construction and buildout of the Laveen Community Center	$200,000
Lawrence Community Works in Lawrence, MA	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Community Learning Center	$75,000
Lawrence Economic Development Corporation in South Point, OH	for construction and buildout of the Point Industrial Park	$170,000
Lesley University in Cambridge, MA	for construction, renovation and buildout of science labs	$250,000

Lineville Downtown Redevelopment Authority in Lineville, AL	for renovation of theater for ecomomic and community purposes	$200,000
Los Angeles Fashion District in Los Angeles, CA	for signage and streetscape improvements	$100,000
Louis Armstrong House Museum in Flushing, NY	for design and construction of a visitor's center	$150,000
Lovington Community Unit School District in Lovington, IL	for roof replacement on school buildings and electrial upgrades to the interior lighting system	$50,000
Lowcountry Food Bank in Charleston, SC	for construction of a new facility or renovation of an existing structure for storage of food	$100,000
Luna County, NM	for renovation to Sunshine School to house a drug treatment program	$50,000
Lynchburg Academy of Fine Arts in Lynchburg, VA	for renovations to Lynchburg Academy of Music	$250,000
Mahar Regional School in	for renovation, construction and facility buildout of a recreational field	$275,000
Mamaroneck Public Library in Mamaroneck, NY	for renovation, construction and buildout of the library	$200,000
Mariner's Museum in Newport News, VA	for promoting development and tourism related to the USS Monitor Center	$100,000
Marion County 4-H Camp Board Association in Fairmont, WV	for renovation, construction and buildout of at the 4-H camp	$150,000
Marshall County Commission in Marshall County, AL	for purchase and renovation of the Douglas Senior Center	$120,000
Marshall University in Huntington, WV	for design, planning and construction of the Advanced Engineering and Applied Technology Complex	$250,000
Masores Bais Yaakov in Brooklyn, NY	for construction of a community center for youth and adults	$150,000
Mayfair Community Development Corporation in Philadelphia, PA	for construction, renovation and buildout of the Devon Theatre of Performing Arts as part of a redevelopment plan	$150,000

Mecklenburg County Community Service Corporation in Mecklenburg County, VA	for construction of a community center	$200,000
Mercy Hospital of Folsom in Folsom, CA	for construction of an above ground helipad at the Mercy Hospital	$100,000
Mesabi Academy of KidsPeace in Buhl, MN	for construction, renovation, expansion and buildout of the youth services facility	$150,000
Methuen Arlington Neighborhood, Inc. in Methuen, MA	for planning, design and construction of a multipurpose facility for low-income residents	$100,000
Metropolitan Business Collaborative in Milwaukee, WI	for planning, design and construction of the Urban Entrepreneurship Center, a multipurpose facility to promote the growth of small businesses	$200,000
Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty in New York, NY	for planning, design, construction, renovation and buildout of affordable housing	$200,000
Meyersdale Community Center Roof Improvement in Meyersdale, PA	for rehabilitation of the center	$50,000
Miami Dade College in Haleah, FL	for construction of an addition to the Hialeah Campus' Learning Resources and Media Services Center	$150,000
Miami-Dade County, FL	for renovation and buildout of educational laboratories at the Poinciana Industrial Park	$150,000
Michigan Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills, MI	for construction of the Children's Gallery exhibit	$500,000
Monroe County Fairgrounds Association in Rochester, NY	for the Monroe County Fairgrounds Rehabilitation and Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Project	$100,000
Montgomery County Community College in Pottstown, PA	for expansion of West Campus	$100,000
Morehouse University School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA	for land acquisition and construction of the medical school campus	$300,000
Municipality of Corozal, Puerto Rico	for renovation and sidewalk improvements	$100,000

Municipality of Gurabo, Puerto Rico	for construction of a recreational and cultural center	$100,000
Municipality of Monroeville, PA	for redesign of main thoroughfare as pedestiran friendly along US Rt. 22	$100,000
Municipality of Salinas, Puerto Rico	for construction of a boardwalk in La Playa	$100,000
Municipality of Yauco, Puerto Rico	for construction of low income housing units in Bo. Pueblo Sur	$100,000
Muntu Dance Theatre in Chicago, IL	for construction of a cultural arts facility	$250,000
National Association of Latino Art and Culture in San Antonio, TX	for renovation of the Buena Vista Gardens building and an adjacent property to create a community arts space	$250,000
National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville, AL	for renovation, construction and buildout at the Child Abuse Digital Library and the training facility	$300,000
National Forest Recreation Association in Woodlake, CA	for construction of a National Mule and Packers Museum in Bishop CA	$50,000
National Sports Center for the Disabled in Denver, CO	for land acquisition, planning, design and construction of a multipurpose facility for disabled children and adults	$150,000
Near North Development Corporation in Indianapolis, IN	for construction and renovation of affordable housing as part of The Children's District Neighborhood Revitalization Project	$250,000
New Song Urban Ministries, Inc. in Baltimore, MD	for renovation and construction of the Community Learning Center	$250,000
New York State Education and Research Network in Troy, NY	for development of a Disaster Recovery and Business Continuation Facility	$500,000
New Zion Community Resource Center in Louisville, KY	for renovation and buildout of facilities for at-risk youth	$200,000
Newkirk Senior Citizens, Inc. in Newkirk, OK	for construction of the Newkirk Senior Citizens Center	$100,000
Ninth District Development Financing in Abingdon, VA	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund	$150,000
Of One Accord, Inc. Ministry in Rogersville, TN	for renovation and expansion of Food Pantry in Hawkins and Hancock Counties	$75,000

Office of Economic Development in Detroit, MI	for demolition of vacant buildings as part of a redevelopment plan	$300,000
Office of the Board of Selectmen, MA	for construction of recreational facilities at Oliver Ames High School	$200,000
Office of Town Manager of Miami, AZ	for repair and clearing of housing in the Town of Miami	$100,000
Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources, Division of Parks in Columbus, OH	for enhancements to the Punderson State Park Lodge	$100,000
Ohio Rail Development Commission in Columbus, OH	for rehabilitation of an industrial building	$75,000
Olympic Theater Arts in Sequim, WA	for renovation, construction and buildout of a community theater	$100,000
Opportunity Village in Las Vegas, NV	for construction of Employment and Training Center	$300,000
Orleans County Cornell Cooperative Extension in Albion, NY	for renovations to Trolley building	$75,000
Overton County, TN	for construction and buildout of the new Overton County Library	$150,000
Peace At Home Family Shelter in Fayettevill, AR	for establishment of "safe housing" transitional housing in several counties	$200,000
Peoria/NEXT in Peoria, IL	for construction of the Innovation Center for bioscience and technology small business incubator	$50,000
Phenix City, AL	for riverfront development	$250,000
Players of Utica in New Hartford, NY	for construction and buildout of a community theater	$100,000
Plum Senior Community Center in Pittsburgh, PA	for planning, design and construction of a senior center	$300,000
Polk County, Florida Community Center Project in Polk County, FL	for construction of a community center	$200,000
Port of Cascade Locks, OR	for final design, engineering and permitting services for Cascade Locks Waterfront Park	$100,000
Porter County, IN	for sidewalks and streetscape improvements in the South Haven community	$300,000

Portland State University in Portland, OR	for renovation, construction and buildout of a multipurpose facility	$100,000
Pregones Theater in Bronx, NY	for renovation and buildout of the theater	$75,000
Prime Time House in Torrington, CT	for renovation and construction of a community services facility	$210,000
Project One in Cincinnati, OH	for procurement of computers and other education equipment for Project One	$100,000
Pueblo of Acoma, NM	for the Acoma Community Center and Wellness facility	$50,000
Quapaw Community Center in Hot Springs, AR	for renovation and buildout of a community center for senior citizens	$50,000
Quinn Chapel in Chicago, IL	for renovation and buildout of a historic building	$250,000
R.M. Warren Community Center Society for Helping, Inc. in Philadelphia, PA	for the purchase of a community center for disabled populations	$100,000
Rainbow Senior Center in Boerne, TX	for equiping a health and wellness center with senior-oriented facilities and equipment	$100,000
Red Lake Band Chippewa Indians in Red Lake, MN	for construction, renovation, and buildout of a multipurpose facility	$150,000
Red Mountain Greenway and Recreational Area Commission in Jefferson County, AL	for land acquisition and construction of the Red Mountain Greenway and Recreation Area	$250,000
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Corry, PA	for redevelopment of six buildings located on the west side of Center Street	$100,000
Rehabilitiation of Matthew Street in Westland, MI	for renovation of existing paved street and boulevard areas	$100,000
Reid Community Development Corporation in Glenn Dale, MD	for land acquisition as part of the development of a small business and employment center	$150,000
Rembert Area Community Coalition in Rembert, SC	for planning, design and construction of a community center	$200,000
Renaissance Art Center, Inc. in Rupert, ID	for renovations to the historic theater	$150,000

Rialto Square Theater in Joliet, IL	for repairs to the Rialto Square Theater	$100,000
Riverton City, UT	for reconstruction of a historic building for a senior center and community center	$300,000
Rocking the Boat in Bronx, NY	for construction of a facility for educational programs	$225,000
Rocky Mountain Development Council in Helena, MT	for completion of Eagle Manor III project	$200,000
Rome Community Brownfield Restoration Corporation in Rome, NY	for renovation and construction of a brownfields site	$200,000
Russell School Community Service Center, Inc. in Lexington, KY	for renovation, construction and buildout of affordable housing for seniors and a community center	$200,000
Rutgers University, Camden-LEAP in Camden, NJ	for planning, design and construction of the Rutgers/LEAP Early Learning Research Academy	$150,000
Sacramento Food Bank Services in Sacramento, CA	for conversion of an existing facility for use by the Sacremento Food Bank Services	$350,000
Saint Francis University Achatz Hall at Fort Wayne, IN	for renovation and equipment	$250,000
Saint Richard Parish in Chicago, IL	for construction, renovation and buildout of a new community center	$250,000
San Antonio Food Bank in San Antonio, TX	for construction and buildout of a new food bank	$350,000
San Jose Conservation Corps and Charter School Youthbuild in San Jose, CA	for construction of low-income housing	$150,000
San Mateo County, CA	for acquisition, renovation and buildout of an apartment complex to provide transitional housing for special needs populations	$150,000
Santa Cruz Redevelopment Agency in Santa Cruz, CA	for streetscape and façade improvements at an affordable housing complex	$200,000
Sayville American Legion Post in Sayville, NY	for renovation and buildout of a historic building	$200,000
Second Harvest Foodbank in Madison, WI	for renovation, construction and buildout of the food bank	$200,000

Sheboygan Development Corporation in Sheboygan, WI	for construction of the Great Lakes Aerospace Science and Education Center	$100,000
Simsbury Public Library in Simsbury, CT	for renovation and buildout of the library	$150,000
South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind in Spartenburg, SC	for renovation of rehabilitation facility	$250,000
South Salem Library Association in South Salem, NY	for construction of a new library	$200,000
Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, MO	for renovation and construction for the new River Campus	$500,000
Southeast Rio Vista YMCA in Huntington Park, CA	for renovation and buildout of the Southeast Rio Vista YMCA	$50,000
Southeastern Massachusetts Veterans Housing Program, Inc. in New Bedford, MA	for renovation, construction and buildout of a housing facility for low-income veterans	$200,000
Southfield Youth Center Committee in Southfield, MI	for construction, renovation and buildout of the Southfield Youth Center	$150,000
SOWEGA Council on Aging in Albany, GA	for construction of a senior center	$250,000
Spanish Speaking Unity Council in Oakland, CA	for renovation and construction of a facility for the Fruitvale Cultural and Performing Arts Center	$200,000
Spring Hill Community Center Redevelopment Agency in DeLand, FL	for construction of a facility for low income adolescents	$50,000
Springfield Arts Council in Springfield, OH	for construction of Phase III of the west plaza comfort station	$300,000
St. Mary's Development Corporation in Dayton, OH	for implementation of a master plan to revitalize several neighborhoods	$100,000
Stanislaus Ag Center Foundation in Modesto, CA	for planning, design and construction of The Ag Science Center	$100,000

Stark County Park District in Canton, OH	for purchase of 100 acres and additional right of way to link to Towpath Trail	$100,000
State Employee's Credit Union Family House in Chapel Hill, NC	for planning, design and construction of a residential facility for critically ill patients and their families	$175,000
State University of New York at Fredonia in Fredonia, NY	for renovation, construction and buildout of the SUNY Fredonia High Technology Incubator	$150,000
Stephenson County Board in Freeport, IL	for development of the Mill Race Crossing Industrial Park	$150,000
Strand Theater Performing Arts Center in Plattsburgh, NY	for restoration of the 1924 Vaudeville Theater to create a performing arts cener	$100,000
Syracuse Neighborhood Initiative in Syracuse, NY	for rehabilitation and revitalization of neighborhoods throughout Syracuse	$700,000
Tech2020 in Oak Ridge, TN	for construction of a Nanotechnology Commercialization Center	$100,000
Texas College in Tyler, TX	for construction and renovation of existing space and for equipment for childcare, healthcare and learning needs	$100,000
Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, TX	for renovation of the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone surronding Texas Wesleyan University	$150,000
The Black World History Museum in St. Louis, MO	for facility upgrades, renovation, construction and buildout	$200,000
The Blairstown Historic Preservation Commission in Blairstown, NJ	for renovation of a historic structure into an education center and museum	$50,000
The Hunting & Fishing Museum of Pennsylvania in Tionesta, PA	for development and to create interactive, educational, and historical exhibits for the main museum building	$200,000
The Lincoln Museum in Hodgenville, KY	for expansion and renovation of the museum	$100,000
The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg in Greensburg, PA	for expansion of McKenna Hall	$50,000
Time and Space Limited Theatre Company, Inc. in Hudson, NY	for construction and buildout of a youth center	$125,000
Titusville YMCA in Titusville, PA	for bringing facility into compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act	$350,000
To Interact in Raleigh, NC	for renovation and buildout of a shelter for victims of domestic violence	$150,000

To the Helen Keller Birthplace Foundation in Tuscumbia, AL	for renovation of Ivy Green, the birthplace of Helen Keller	$100,000
To the Martin Luther King Family Center in Dallas, TX	for renovation and construction of a family center	$250,000
To the University of North Carolina-Asheville in Asheville, NC	for construction and buildout of the Zeis Science and Multimedia Building	$100,000
Toledo Lucas County Port Authority in Toledo, OH	for improvements to South Airport Industrial Park site	$100,000
Toledo Metroparks in Toledo, OH	for land acquisiton of Kiel Farm	$350,000
Town of Boydton, VA	for development of the Walking Tour of Boydton	$100,000
Town of Boylston, MA	for renovation and buildout of the historic John Bartholomew Gough Estate	$250,000
Town of Clarkstown, NY	for mainstreet revitalization and streetscape improvements	$300,000
Town of Enfield, CT	for streetscape improvements and ADA compliance on North Main Street	$100,000
Town of Manchester, CT	for renovation and buildout of the Spruce Street Youth Center	$200,000
Town of Millinocket, ME	for planning and design of the Penobscot Indian Cultural Center	$250,000
Town of North Hempstead, NY	for renovation, construction and buildout of two community recreational centers	$150,000
Town of Piedmont, WV	for planning, streetscaping, downtown infrastructure improvements and revitalization	$150,000
Town of Schererville, IN	for renovation and construction of Rohrman Park	$200,000
Town of South Hill, VA	for renovations to the historic Colonial Theatre	$300,000
Town of Tatum, NM	for demoliton and rebuilding of housing for the elderly and low-middle-income families	$100,000
Town of Wakefield, MA	for planning, design and construction of the Wakefield Community Recreational Facility	$200,000
Town of Watertown, MA	for an economic development planning study	$75,000
Town of Willington, CT	for construction of low- and moderate-income housing for senior citizens	$200,000
Town of Yucca Valley, CA	for development of a park and recreational facilites	$200,000
Township of Delaware, NJ	for planning, design and construction of the Delaware Township Community Center	$150,000
Tri-City Community Action Program, Inc. in Malden, MA	for acquisition, renovation and buildout of facilities for low-income families	$250,000

Tri-County Community College in Robbinsville, NC	for construction of an occupational and technical training facility for students	$200,000
Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, RI	for renovation and construction of the Lederer Theater	$250,000
Trinity River Vision in Fort Worth, TX	for facilities design, construction, and property acquistion of the Trinity River Vision plan	$550,000
Tri-State Center for the Arts in Sharon, CT	for renovation, construction and buildout of the arts facility	$100,000
Troy Chamber of Commerce in Troy, MI	for purchase of a solar green house from Lawrence Tech University	$350,000
Tubman African American Museum in Macon, GA	for construction and buildout of a new facility at the museum	$200,000
Ukiah Cultural and Recreational Center in Ukiah, CA	for construction and buildout of the recreational facility	$150,000
Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS	for downtown streetscape improvements	$150,000
United Teen Equality Center in Lowell, MA	for renovation and buildout of a youth center	$100,000
Unity House of Troy, Inc. in Troy, NY	for renovation and buildout of an emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence	$200,000
Urban League of Springfield, MA, Inc.	for construction, renovation and buildout activities at a camp for inner-city children	$250,000
Valley Family Center in San Fernando, CA	for construction and buildout of a family center	$150,000
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4927 in Centereach, NY	for building renovation and buildout of a veterans center	$150,000
Veterans Village of San Diego, CA	for construction of affordable housing for homeless veterans	$150,000
Village of Clyde, NY	for downtown lighting and other streetscape infrastructure improvements	$400,000
Village of Dixmoor, IL	for buildout of a community center	$100,000
Village of Ellenville, NY	for streetscape improvements and sidewalk furniture	$300,000
Village of Ridgewood, NJ	for repair of the roof of a historic building	$100,000
Village of Riverdale, IL	for construction and renovation of the Pacesetter residential properties	$100,000

Village of Sauget, IL	for renovations at the Sauget Business Park	$400,000
Village of Tijeras Senior Center in Tijeras, NM	for construction of a Senior Center for seniors in Tijeras and East Mountain areas	$100,000
Village of Wappingers Falls, NY	for land acquisition as part of a redevelopment plan	$200,000
Wabash County YMCA in Wabash, IN	for rehabilitation of a brownfield site in the city of Wabash	$400,000
Wakely Lodge Resort in Hamilton County, NY	for renovation of the Wakely Lodge	$100,000
Wakpa Sica Reconciliation Place in Ft. Pierre, SD	for facility construction and buildout	$250,000
Wallace Community College in Dothan, AL	for conversion of an existing building to a multi-purpose instructional and training facility on the Sparks Campus in Eufaula	$150,000
Walsh College in Troy, MI	for completion of construction of the Walsh College Library	$750,000
Walter Clore Wine and Culinary Center in Prosser, WA	for construction of the Walter Clore Wine and Culinary Center	$250,000
Warner Theatre in Torrington, CT	for renovation, construction and buildout of the theater	$250,000
Warren County Economic Development Corporation in Glens Falls, NY	for renovation and construction of the Glens Falls Civic Center	$150,000
Washington Technology Center in Seattle, WA	for construction, renovation and buildout of a technology center	$150,000
Wattstar Theatre in Los Angeles, CA	for construction and buildout of a theater and educational facility in Watts	$300,000
Wayne Theatre Alliance in Waynesboro, VA	for renovations for the Wayne Theatre	$300,000
Waynesburg College Center for Economic Development in Waynesburg, PA	for construction of a multipurpose facility	$300,000
Western Kentucky University Business Accelerator in Bowling Green, KY	for expansion of the WKU Business Accelerator	$50,000

Western Mining and Railroad Museum in Helper, UT	for construction and renovation of an addition to the museum to improve accessibility	$150,000
Western Reserve Land Conservancy in Geauga County, OH	for puchase of 246 acres in Lake and Geuga Counties, to be converted to a public park	$100,000
Western States Black Research & Education Center in Culver City, CA	for renovation and buildout of the Mayme Clayton Library	$250,000
Westfield Vocational Technical High School in Westfield, MA	for buildout of the Manufacturing Technology Program	$300,000
Whitman-Walker Clinic, Inc. of Washington, DC	for design, planning and land acquisition for a new facility	$150,000
Willowbrook Wildlife Center in Glen Ellyn, IL	for design and construction of an education center and wildlife rehabilitation and recovery clinic	$150,000
Wilson Community Improvement Association, Inc. in Wilson, NC	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Gee Corbett Village Senior Center	$250,000
Woodbridge Township, NJ	for construction of a Woodbridge Historical Museum	$50,000
Wright Dunbar, Inc. in Dayton; OH	for revitalization of Wright Dunbar Village	$50,000
Wyckoff Heights Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY	for construction of a health care facility for low-income populations	$400,000
Year Up in Boston, MA	for construction, renovation and buildout of a technology training facility	$100,000
YMCA of Greater New York in New York, NY	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Rockaway YMCA	$150,000
YMCA of Greater New York-Castle Hill in Bronx, NY	for construction of a multipurpose facility at the YMCA	$300,000
YMCA of High Point, NC Archdale Trinity Branch in Archdale, NC	for construction of a YMCA facility	$150,000
Youthville Dodge City Campus in Dodge City, KS	for expansion of central kitchen and dining facility	$100,000
Ypsilanti Housing Commission in Ypsilanti, MI	for acquisition of the Parkview Apartments for low-income housing	$150,000
YWCA Columbus in Columbus, OH	for restoration of the historic Griswold Building that houses the YWCA	$200,000

Grantee and Purpose	
Acadiana Outreach Center Housing Redevelopment; Lafayette, Louisiana	$280,000
Affordable Housing Revolving Loan Fund and Grant Pool, Scott County Housing Council, Davenport, IA. For affordable housing for those making lass than 80% of the AMI	$268,000
Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, Akron, Ohio for building renovations	$368,500
Appalachia Service Project Home Repair Program, Southern West Virginia, for the repair of low and moderate income housing.	$500,000
Appalachia Service Project, Chavies, KY to continue free home repair services to Kentucky's low-income families	$140,000
Armory District Revitalization Planning, NY, for planning and design efforts within the City's Armory District to aid in the redevelopment of this deteriorating corridor.	$200,000
Asian Counseling and Referral Service, Seattle, WA, Asian Counseling and Referral Service for construction of a new building	$500,000
Audubon Arkansas, Development of Little Rock Audubon Center, Little Rock, AR, To complete the second phase of development of the Little Rock Audubon Center	$200,000
Audubon Mississippi, Pascagoula River Audubon Center, Moss Point, Mississippi, To construct a nature-based education facility that will contribute to the economic and community recovery on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.	$700,000
Beautiful Gate Outreach Center; "Reaching Out and Saving Lives!" Project; Wilmington, Delaware; for construction of a larger facility to be used for HIV testing services and prevention programs in New Castle County	$335,000
Bell-Whitley Community Agency, Bell County, KY to Complete construction of One Stop Training Center	$140,000
Bemidji Regional Airport, Bemidji, Minnesota, for the Bemidji JOBZ infrastructure development project to support light manufacturing facilities.	$335,000
Bernalillo County, NM; Metropolitan Assessment and Treatment Services Transitional Housing Facility; Bernalillo County, NM.	$150,000
Bold Vision Capital Campaign for The Center for Family Resources: Georgia	$350,000
Borough of Collingswood, NJ, Collingswood Theatre Project, for comprehensive renovation of the Scottish Rite Theatre which is the focal point of the Borough's revitalization program.	$200,000
Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Alexandria for the renovation of the Alexandria, Virginia, Branch Boys and Girls Club	$300,000
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Manchester, NH, for renovation and expansion of facility	$210,000
Boys and Girls Club of Magic Valley, Twin Falls, Idaho, for construction of a Boys and Girls Club facility in the town of Buhl, Idaho	$175,000

Boys and Girls Clubs of Socorro County, Construction of Facility, Socorro, New Mexico, provide services and activities for youth throughout Socorro County, NM.	$120,000
Business Support Incubator, UAPB to complete construction of the Business Support Incubator to support job creation in Central Arkansas	$402,000
Calvin Coolidge State historic site in Plymouth Notch, Vermont for an expanded visitor's center.	$200,000
Camp Barnabas; Missouri	$375,000
Canyon Lake Revitalization Study, Rapid City, South Dakota	$140,000
Capital District YMCA, Schenectady, New York for construction of new YMCA at the side of a brownfield	$200,000
Capitol Region RSVP/Volunteer Center of Rhode Island, RSVP Veterans Computer Center, Providence, RI for construction of a computer lab and purchase of equipment to train disabled veterans.	$200,000
Cather Foundation, Red Cloud, NE for the Moon Block project for historic renovations	$600,000
Catholic Charities of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii, to renovate recently acquired property in Makiki to establish permanent facilities for CCH's Social Services Community Center	$200,000
CEDARS Youth Services, Lincoln, NE, CEDARS Children's Crisis Center, for construction of the CEDARS Children's Crisis Shelter	$335,000
Champlain Area Agency on Aging, Winooski, Vermont, for renovation Vermont senior centers	$200,000
Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid, OK	$140,000
Cheyenne River Youth Project (CRYP), Teen Center Expansion, Eagle Butte, SD	$200,000
Children's Home Society, Expansion of Van Demark House and the Loving School, Sioux Falls, South Dakota	$560,000
Chippewa Cree Tribe, Transportation and Rehabilitation of Malmstrom Air Force Base Housing Units, to transport and rehabilitate housing units from Malmstrom Air Force base that would otherwise be destroyed to the Rocky Boy's Reservation	$402,000
City and County of Denver; CO, Homeless Veterans Supportive Housing, for supportive housing units for homeless veterans with special needs	$201,000
City and County of San Francisco, CA, San Francisco Supportive and Transitional Housing Program, to develop 3,0000 supporting housing units	$536,000
City of Aberdeen, SD, Downtown revitalization	$200,000
City of Albany, WiFi Service in Albany in Albany, New York, public access to technology project	$200,000
City of Asheville, NC for Reid Center Renovation	$140,000
City of Atchison, Kansas for Atchison Pedestrian Mall Redevelopment, Kansas	$350,000
City of Bangor, Maine to support ongoing efforts to redevelop the Bangor Waterfront	$262,500
City of Battle Ground, WA, Battle Ground Community Center, for a construction of a community center	$400,000
City of Beaumont, Downtown Improvement Program, Beaumont, TX, for streetscape improvements	$140,000

City of Belen, NM; Multipurpose Community Center Phase III; Belen, NM, to provide a centralized venue for community events and activities.	$450,000
City of Bellingham, WA, for the construction of the Bellingham Marine Trades Center	$250,000
City of Bethlehem; South Bethlehem Workforce Training and Development Center; Bethlehem, PA - redevelopment, renovation and construction of a South Bethlehem Workforce Training and Development Center	$140,000
City of Billings, Housing First Project,, to build houses for homeless families	$268,000
City of Billings, MT, Big Sky Economic Development Authority for historic preservation of the Cobb Field facility	$335,000
City of Boise, Public Works Department, Boise, Idaho, for design and construction of city's geothermal system expansion	$175,000
City of Brewer, Maine for a redevelopment project on the site of the former Eastern Fine Paper Mill	$262,500
City of Browns Valley, Browns Valley, MN, To aid in recovery efforts of a major flood	$750,000
City of Buffalo, NY for the construction and renovation of the Buffalo Urban Arts Center	$200,000
City of Canton, MS, to transform the Historic Canton High School into the Canton Municipal Government Complex.	$400,000
City of Central Falls, Central Falls Urban Revitalization Project, Central Falls, RI for the remediation of the Old Public Works Building and rehabilitation of city recreational facilities.	$201,000
City of College Park, MD for blight removal along the Route 1 Corridor	$469,000
City of Columbus, IN, Golden Castings Foundry Demolition and Site Remediation Project to raze and remediate the site of the former Golden Castings Foundry for the demolition and environmental remediation costs of the Golden Castings foundry site	$335,000
City of Columbus, Indiana, Mill Race Center for Active Adults for construction of the new 30,000-square-foot Mill Race Center for Active Adults (the "Mill Race Center") that offers a wide variety of programs for senior citizens	$670,000
City of Conover, North Carolina, Broyhill Furniture Industrial Site Redevelopment, to demolish unusable manufacturing structures at the abandoned Broyhill furniture manufacturing plant and refurbish facility.	$750,000
City of Council Bluffs, Sunset Park North Neighborhood Redevelopment, Council Bluffs, IA, to redevelop the Katelman neighborhood.	$335,000
City of Detroit, MI, for infrastructure improvements to continue the revitalization of the Brush Park Historic District neighborhood	$200,000
City of Everett, WA, for the expansion of the Everett Senior Activity Center	$600,000
City of Fayetteville, Fayetteville Attainable Housing Partnership, Fayetteville, Arkansas, To support the Fayetteville Attainable Housing Partnership	$670,000

City of Florence, City of Florence Community Activity Center, SC, to provide for a new activity center	$150,000
City of Gardiner, Maine for waterfront infrastructure	$150,000
City of Grand Junction, CO, Grand Junction, CO, to create park in LMI neighborhood and/or eliminate slum and blight.	$201,000
City of Greenville, Community Recreation Centers, Greenville, SC for renovation of Greenville's recreation outdated recreation centers	$150,000
City of Grenada, Taylor Hall Renovation Project, Grenada, MS, for the renovation of the historic Taylor Hall.	$200,000
City of Hamilton, Fulton Bridge Industrial Park, Hamilton, AL, Development of Industrial Park	$700,000
City of Hillsboro, Downtown Streetscape Project, Hillsboro, TX, for streetscape improvements	$140,000
City of Humboldt, Iowa for Brownfields clean-up at Frit Industries site.	$750,000
City of Kansas City, MO for redevelopment of the 11th and Grand Neighborhood	$750,000
City of Kearney, Kearney, NE, Peterson Senior Activity Center, for construction of the Peterson Senior Activity Center	$670,000
City of Lake Charles, Lake Charles, LA, America's Wetland Center; to establish a center focused on increasing public awareness of the national importance of sustainable wetlands conservation, preservation, and restoration	$400,000
City of Las Vegas, NV, Post Office Museum Las Vegas, Nevada, to complete renovation and transformation of the historic Post Office in downtown Las Vegas to a museum on local history.	$200,000
City of Lincoln, NE for Antelope Valley Project Community Revitalization	$180,000
City of Madison, MS, City of Madison Historic Gateway Project, Madison, MS. To support the developments of a new town square and renovation of the Madison Co. Cultural Center.	$750,000
City of Marion, Iowa for Central Corridor Redevelopment Project	$350,000
City of Marshall, Memorial Hall Visitor and History Center Renovation, Marshall, TX, for the renovation of a historic building	$140,000
City of Marshalltown, Iowa, for Grant Park Neighborhood Redevelopment Initiative	$140,000
City of Medford; Santo Community Center – Phase III; Medford, OR; To create a gymnasium and large community classroom in Medford, OR.	$360,000
City of Miami Beach, Florida; Miami Beach City Center Housing; Miami Beach, Florida; to maintain affordable housing for low-income residents of Miami Beach, Florida.	$525,000
City of Milford, Connecticut, Eisenhower Park Renovation, for the rehabilitation of Eisenhower Park	$348,400

City of Muncie, IN, Unity Center, Muncie, IN for a New community center	$350,000
City of Northampton, Massachusetts, Northampton State Hospital Renovation, to assist the City of Northampton in developing more than 200 units of affordable housing.	$200,000
City of Oakland, Oakland Transit-Oriented Villages, Oakland, CA for he development of new housing	$335,000
City of Orlando, FL, Parramore Neighborhood Revitalization, to redevelop this distressed area of downtown Orlando into a safe and prosperous community with a mixture of residential and supportive accessory opportunities.	$670,000
City of Philadelphia, Green City Strategy, Philadelphia, PA to "clean and green" 450 parcels – or about 450,000 square feet – of vacant land in Philadelphia using top soil, grass, trees, and wood fencing.	$201,000
City of Pittsburgh, South Side Works, Pittsburgh; redevelop to enhance mobility	$200,000
City of Pittsfield, MA, Downtown Building Renovation and Rehabilitation	$200,000
City of Pocatello, Pocatello, Idaho, for renovation and modernization of the Community Recreational Center	$140,000
City of Port Townsend, WA, for the construction of the Northwest Maritime Center	$450,000
City of Portland, OR, Washington Monroe Community Center, for the design and construction of the community center and supporting elements	$670,000
City of Portland; Regional Bridges to Housing Program; Portland, OR and Vancouver, WA; to develop affordable, permanent family-sized housing	$402,000
City of Quincy; Riverfront Infrastructure Improvement; Quincy, Illinois; to connect public facilities and public space in an economically distressed area in Quincy.	$250,000
City of Reno Nevada, NV, Oliver-Montello Affordable Housing Project, to purchase vacant buildings in an effort to revitalize an area of northeast Reno and transition it from commercial to residential.	$600,000
City of Rocky Mount, NC for renovations to the Booker T. Washington High School	$140,000
City of Rugby, REAP Zones, Rugby, North Dakota to expand economic development opportunities in two REAP zones	$268,000
City of Saginaw, MI, for acquisition and development of the Saginaw riverfront site	$670,000
City of Scranton; Scranton Housing and Community Space Initiative; Scranton, PA - planning, design and construction of apartments and community space, as part of a downtown revitalization initiative.	$140,000
City of Sparks, NV, Larry D. Johnson Community Center, to complete construction of a multi-purpose community center that will provide low income households and at-risk children with various educational classes.	$250,000
City of Spearfish, SD, Spearfish Industrial Park Infrastructure Construction	$200,000

City of Suffolk, Virginia, To renovate and restore the Phoenix Bank of Nansemond building for purposes of the Museum	$120,000
City of Taunton, MA, to make structural and facility repairs to a low-income senior center	$200,000
City of Temple, Downtown Redevelopment/Performing Arts Centre, Temple, TX, for downtown redevelopment	$140,000
City of Tonasket, WA, Tonasket Community Center for building renovations	$200,000
City of Waterloo, IA Neighborhood Revitalization Area	$350,000
City of Waterloo, IA, Chamberlain demolition project	$350,000
City of Watertown, SD, Uptown Revitalization	$200,000
City of Wilson, North Carolina, City of Wilson Downtown Redevelopment Project, to clear blighted old tobacco barns and old office buildings that currently exist in Wilson and to construct new homes for owner-occupancy	$375,000
City Year, Inc. City Year Headquarters Renovation, to assist City Year, Inc. in the renovation of their headquarters to allow them to better serve their low-income students.	$200,000
Coastal Heritage Society, Savannah Battlefield Historic Paint and Coach Shops, Savannah, GA, for revitalization and repair of the Georgia Central Railway Historic Paint and Coach Shops	$450,000
Coffeyville Community Enhancement Foundation, Coffeyville, KS, for infrastructure rehabilitation and construction	$400,000
Coles County Council on Aging; Coles County, Illinois, Coles County Council on Aging Senior Center to construct a new senior center	$250,000
Community Chest, Virginia City, NV, Storey County Youth and Community Resource Center, to complete construction on a multi-purpose community resource center.	$200,000
Community Church of Christ, Sean Bell Memorial Field of Dreams, Community Youth Center, 167-04 108th Avenue, Jamaica, NY, for securing a site and/or purchasing a building for the Sean Bell Memorial Field of Dreams, Community Youth Center	$200,000
CommunityWorks, Inc. for construction, including the finishing of the interior of the ExplorationWorks building	$435,500
Cooper University Hospital, Camden, NJ for the Camden Cooper Urban Development Initiative, for neighborhood housing redevelopment.	$200,000
County of Hudson, Jersey City, Redevelopment of Koppers Coke brownfield site, to transform the former Koppers Coke site in Kearny into a two million square foot industrial park that includes warehousing and distribution space	$268,000
County of Umatilla, OR, Umatilla County Fairgrounds Exposition Center to replace the obsolete Umatilla County Exposition Center with an 18,000 square-foot exhibition hall	$450,000
Covenant House Alaska for Covenant House Enhancement and Relocation, to construct a new and larger facility	$280,000

Coventry Cares Community Center, Coventry Cares Community Center and Project Friends, Coventry, RI for the construction of an intergenerational complex comprised of human services, adult day care, and a senior center.	$335,000
Crossroads Rhode Island, Crossroads Rhode Island Child Care and Community Center, North Kingstown, RI for the construction of a child care and community center to provide both homeless families and neighborhood residents with affordable child care.	$201,000
Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Treatment Facility Renovation, Minot, ND, to upgrade the mechanical heating and water lines, alarm system, and address accessibility concerns.	$234,500
Daly Mansion Preservation Trust, to preserve and interpret the Daly Mansion, its buildings, grounds and the history it conveys	$268,000
Delaware Children's Museum, Inc., for the construction of the Delaware Children's Museum in Wilmington, Delaware, as part of the effort to remove blight and redevelop brownfields along the Christina Riverfront	$268,000
Development Workshop, Inc., Upper Valley Industries Plant Facility, Idaho Falls, Idaho, for planning and design of a new facility to provide job services for people with disabilities	$300,000
Dillon County, I-95 Industrial Park Spec Building, Dillon, South Carolina, to provide for the construction of an industrial park spec building near the City of Dillon on I-95	$150,000
East Baltimore Development, Inc. (EBDI), Baltimore, MD, East Baltimore Development Project, to provide for workforce development, clean and safe programs, and infrastructure improvements.	$200,000
Easter Seals Hawaii, Easter Seals Hawaii Kapolei Service Center, Hawaii, to construct a multi-program service center to provide therapy and early intervention services to children with physical and developmental disabilities, as well as programs for teens and adults with disabilities.	$200,000
Easter Seals New Hampshire, Flood Repair and Renovation Project, Manchester, NH for Reconstruction and renovation of Easter Seals New Hampshire building	$500,000
Edison Wetlands Association, Edison, NJ for the Dismal Swamp Conservation Area Trails Project, for the design and construction of trails for public recreation in the Dismal Swamp Conservation Area.	$200,000
El Centro de la Raza, Seattle, WA, El Centro de la Raza for facility improvements	$300,000
Empower New Haven, Brownfield's redevelopment initiative, New Haven, CT Redevelopment of a commercial venture and economic catalyst program	$502,500
Erie County; Erie Technology Incubator, Erie, PA for construction of the Erie Technology Incubator, which will promote economic development.	$140,000
Fairfax County, Fairfax, to develop and build 15-30 units of single room occupancy housing for the chronically homeless	$300,000
FAME assistance corporation, Los Angeles, CA for redevelopment of a blighted neighborhood	$335,000

Fondean Revitalization Project, MS for the revitalization of the Fondren area in Jackson, MS.	$600,000
Food Bank of Alaska, Food Bank of Alaska Mat-Su Branch Building Purchase, to allow the Food Bank of Alaska to purchase the collaborative anti-hunger facility in the Mat-Su Valley	$280,000
Four Bands Community Fund, Inc., Revolving Loan Fund recapitalization, Eagle Butte, South Dakota	$200,000
Gambit Manufacturing and business technology center, Orem, UT	$140,000
Global Samaritan Resources, Abilene, Texas, to build a 25,000 square foot warehouse facility for receiving, storing and shipping of goods used for humanitarian aid.	$100,000
Goodrich-Gannett Neighborhood Center Cleveland, OH; Early Childhood/Family Services Center Campus Completion, to renovate and construct a new childcare/family services center	$300,000
Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc., Kapolei, HI, to construct the Goodwill Ohana Career and Learning Center to provide workforce development and job placement assistance to unemployed and under-employed low-income residents	$200,000
Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc., Columbia, MD, to provide the last stage of construction funding for the only emergency services shelter in Howard County, Maryland	$200,000
Gregory House Programs, Honolulu, HI, to renovate housing for a temporary housing facility that provides housing and support services for individuals suffering from HIV/AIDS	$200,000
Harbor Homes Inc., Veterans Center, Buckingham Place, Nashua, NH, to provide transitional housing and support services for homeless veterans	$350,000
Hattiesburg Area Development Partnership, Old Hattiesburg High School, Hattiesburg, MS. For the renovation of the old high school.	$750,000
Hawaii Nature Center Makiki Valley, Honolulu, Hawaii, Makiki Valley Watershed Education Center Project	$200,000
Herriman City, UT, to acquire and restore three historically significant buildings in the community.	$140,000
Holbrook Community Foundation in Harpswell, Maine for repair and renovation of Holbrook's Wharf	$150,000
Homeward, Inc.; Equity for Rural Iowa-Revolving Loan Equity Fund; Iowa; Provide equity investment in rural communities	$201,000
Housing and Neighborhood Development Services, Inc., Orange, NJ for the Berg Hat Factory Commercial Arts Center, to build out a business incubator and community arts complex within a formerly abandoned hat factory in a low income neighborhood	$200,000
Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee, Convent Hill Green Roof, to add a green roof to an affordable housing highrise for low-income seniors.	$200,000
Institute for the Study and Practive of Nonviolence, RI, for Building renovations	$200,000
International Peace Garden, International Peace Garden facility renovation, Dunseith, ND to renovate the facilities at this international garden.	$301,500

Iowa Department of Economic Development, Des Moines, Iowa. To rehabilitate Main Street Communities	$536,000
Irvine Urban Outreach Center, Baltimore County, Maryland, for an urban outreach center	$335,000
Jackson Medical Mall District Economic and Community Development, Ms for housing development	$400,000
Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, Inc., Rockville, MD, Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, to acquire and renovate a single-family home into an Alternative Living Unit for three adults with developmental disabilities	$200,000
Keehi Memorial Organization (KMO), Keehi Adult Day Health Center and Child Care Center, Honolulu, Hawaii for an intergenerational health and child care center that will provide services to low and moderate income children and the elderly.	$234,000
Kenai Peninsula Food Bank, Soldotna, AK to construct an expansion of the existing Kenai Pens	$140,000
Kipahulu Community Association, Inc, Hana, Hawaii, Kipahulu Certified Kitchen, The project will enable low income community members to gather as an intergenerational community and create jobs in Native Hawaiian food harvesting and processing.	$200,000
Lakeview Museum; Lakeview Museum construction; Peoria, Illinois; the museum will promote economic development and tourism in downtown Peoria.	$250,000
Lamar County Commission, Lamar County Industrial Park, Lamar County, Alabama, Infrastructure Development for Industrial Park	$560,000
Las Cruces Families and Youth, Inc. Las Cruces, NM, for construction of a new Transitional Living Program facility to house outpatient counseling for at risk youth and their families	$200,000
Las Cumbres Community Services; Espanola, NM; for construction of new facility for community services.	$300,000
Longview Housing Authority, Longview, WA, Phoenix House, for construction of low-income housing	$500,000
Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition, for economic development of Illinois historic sites	$500,000
Los Fresnos Boys and Girls Club; Construction of a new Boys and Girls Club facility in Los Fresnos, Cameron County,Texas	$250,000
Los Pueblos Community Council, Ribera, NM for Restoration and Preservation of Old Ribera School Building to use of building as community and cultural center.	$240,000
Lutheran Settlement House; Low-Income Housing and Multi-Purpose Space; Philadelphia, PA - planning, design, redevelopment and construction of a facility, which will include affordable housing.	$140,000
Maine State Music Theatre in Brunswick, Maine to complete the renovation of rehearsal and office space in the newly acquired facility	$250,000
Marguerite's Place, Nashua, New Hampshire, for the provision of transitional housing and supportive services to homeless women and children who have been victims of domestic abuse	$210,000

Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, Rock Island Illinois, for the renovation and expansion of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center	$670,000
McKinley County, New Mexico, Construction of a new regional juvenile crisis complex	$335,000
Mercer County Commission; For repair and renovation of the Memorial Building, Princeton, WV	$1,000,000
Mercy Housing Incorporated, Mercy housing project in Holyoke, Massachusetts, to build 50 new homes for low-income senior citizens in Holyoke, Massachusetts.	$200,000
Mid-America-Research and Development Foundation in Jefferson City, MO to provide equipment to produce emerging plant-based economic development options for rural communities	$375,000
Missoula Food Bank Inc, Statewide Food Bank Transportation System, Missoula, MT to purchase eight new vehicles to rescue more local food	$301,500
Mobile C.A.R.E. Foundation, Chicago, IL for the acquisition and operation of Asthma Vans	$201,000
Mohawk Theater Restoration, North Adams, Massachusetts, to assist in the renovation of the Mohawk Theater and in the redevelopment of downtown North Adams.	$200,000
Monmouth County, NJ for the NJ Children's Advocacy Center for the construction of a children's advocacy center for victims of child abuse.	$200,000
Montgomery County Government, Silver Spring, MD, Long Branch Pedestrian Safety Linkages and Way-Finding Community Markers, to provide for pedestrian safety in the Long Branch community	$268,000
Morningstar Community Development Corporation in Kansas City, MO, to construct a youth family center	$750,000
Morning Star Ranch in Florence, KS, to renovate facilities	$595,000
Mount Airy USA; Mount Airy Urban Renewal Initiative; Philadelphia, PA - blight removal, development, and construction, as part of an urban renewal initiative.	$140,000
Municipality of Anchorage, Mountain View Revitalization Project, Anchorage, Alaska to restore buildings in the Mountain View area.	$700,000
Murray-Calloway County Economic Development Corporation for the Murray-Calloway Economic Development Corporation Industrial Park Acquisition and Development Project in Murray, Kentucky, to construct an industrial park to support economic growth	$2,000,000
Muskegon Heights Housing Commission, Muskegon Heights, MI, for community networking	$200,000
Nathan Adelson Hospice, Adult Day Care Center, Henderson / Las Vegas, NV	$500,000
National Tropical Botanical Garden; Kalaheo, Kaua'i, Hawai'i; to construct a Native Hawaiian community learning center	$200,000
Nebraska Innovation Center (Whitier) to renovate and improve the Whittier school for use as the Nebraska Innovation Center	$670,000

Neighborhood House, Seattle, WA, Highpoint Neighborhood Center, for construction of a community center	$600,000
Neighbors for Kids, Depoe Bay, OR; to make an addition to their current facility.	$180,000
New Center Council Inc., Detroit, MI, for infrastructure improvements to enhance the economic viability of the Historic New Center	$670,000
NH Division of Parks and Recreation, Robert Frost Farm, Derry, New Hampshire, for reconstruction	$210,000
Norman Economic Development Corp, Norman, OK for the construction of an engineering incubator that will create a new industrial center for Norman, OK.	$140,000
Northeast Community Center Association in Spokane, WA, Northeast Community Center, for facility construction	$500,000
Northern Community Investment Corporation to expand and secure the region's economy and public services by providing high speed, high technology connectivity throughout the region.	$700,000
Northwest Tennessee Port Authority, Tiptonville, Tennessee for the construction of this new facility will promote growth in the region and take advantage of unique transportation opportunities that will tie in the port	$525,000
Ocean Community YMCA, Camp Watchaug Redevelopment, Westerly, RI for the renovations to create a state-of-the-art learning center.	$200,000
OK Native American Cultural and Educational Authority for American Indian Cultural Center and Museum, Oklahoma City, OK	$140,000
Old Town Boys and Girls Club, Albuquerque, NM, for renovation of the existing Old Town Boys and Girls Club accompanied by construction of new areas for the Club	$335,000
Our Children's Homestead, Central Iowa for Housing/Vocational Education Program for Foster Children – Aging Out; Iowa	$210,000
Our City Reading; Housing Initiative; Reading, PA - rehabilitation of abandoned houses and provide down payment assistance to home buyers	$140,000
PACE Training and Evaluation Center, Morgantown, WV, for the construction of a new training facility	$1,500,000
Patterson Park Community Development Corp, Library Square Revitalization Project, Baltimore, MD, to provide for the revitalization of an under-used area of Baltimore City	$201,000
Pearl City Foundation, Pearl City, Hawaii, Momilani Community Center Adult Day Care and Child Care Facility Construction Project, to construct a new facility of 6,700 square feet for the Elderly Daycare/Day Health and an Early Educational Daycare of the Head Start Program	$200,000
Penobscot Theatre Company in Bangor, Maine to renovate the Bangor Opera House	$150,000

Port of Gold Beach, OR, Port of Gold Beach High Dock Rehabilitation, to rebuild the High Dock at the Port of Gold Beach that provides critical infrastructure for water-dependent and water-related commercial and retail activities.	$450,000
Preble Street in Portland, Maine for the development of Florence House, a comprehensive center for homeless women	$200,000
Providence Connections, Inc.; Providence Family Support Center; Pittsburgh, PA for planning, renovation and redevelopment of the Providence Family Support Center.	$140,000
Provo City Downtown Parking Structure Project, Utah	$140,000
Rainier Vista Boys and Girls Club, Seattle WA, Rainier Vista Boys and Girls Club for facility construction	$500,000
Randolph County YMCA, IN to build a new licensed child care facility for 93 children	$140,000
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 30th Street Industrial Corridor-Milwaukee Wisconsin for blight elimination and redevelopment of the 30th Street Corridor	$502,500
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Racine, WI for blight removal and reconstruction efforts	$200,000
RurAL CAP, Inc for Rural Alaska Community Head Start Facility Upgrades	$140,000
Saginaw Depot Preservation Corporation, Saginaw, MI, to restore the historic Potter Street storefronts and add street enhancements	$670,000
Salina City, to build a senior citizens and civic center for the three communities in the area of Salina, UT.	$525,000
Salvation Army Alaska Division for Anchorage Salvation Army Family Enrichment Center to build a family shelter, a commercial-grade kitchen,	$280,000
San Bernardino Boys & Girls Club, Boys & Girls Club Improvements, San Bernardino CA, for facility expansion	$201,000
San Francisco Museum and Historical Society, Redevelopment of the Old Mint facility, San Francisco, CA	$335,000
Santa Clara Pueblo, Construction of Regional Adult Day Care Center, Espanola, NM, Regional Adult Day Care Center	$300,000
Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee, Seattle, WA, Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall, for construction	$250,000
Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana, Inc, for Food Bank Capital Improvements Project	$700,000
Smithfield City, UT, to construct a new city complex	$525,000
Souhegan Boys and Girls Club, Milford, NH, for renovations and reconstruction after severe flood damage	$140,000
South Dakota State Fair Foundation, Huron, SD, upgrade South Dakota State Fair Open Class Beef Complex and Hippodrome	$200,000
Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation, Vicksburg, MS; for the renovation of the Southern Cultural Heritage Center Auditorium	$200,000

Southern Nevada Convention Training Trust , Las Vegas, NV, Convention and Trade Training Center, to construct a facility in Las Vegas to provide trade training for the convention industry to students who are unemployed, underemployed, or in transition.	$378,000
Southern West Virginia Multicultural Museum and Community Center, Raleigh County, West Virginia, for the establishment of a multicultural museum and community center in Beckley, WV	$200,000
Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance, Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance Blight Removal, Hartford, CT, for activities associated the acquisition, removal, and redevelopment of blighted properties in Hartford, Connecticut.	$200,000
Spaulding Fibre Remediation and Demolition, NY to demolish the structures and remediate any environmental problems and develop new infrastructure on the site	$1,170,000
Springfield Boys and Girls Club; Community Center; Springfield, IL; Planning, development, land acquisition, and construction costs for a new community center in Springfield.	$200,000
St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce Inc, Regional Rural Broadband Expansion, Canton, NY. To expand broadband access to rural areas.	$200,000
St. Louis Area Food Bank, St. Louis County, MO, Foodbank Warehouse Acquisition Project	$375,000
Stanford Settlement, Inc. Carl R. Hansen Teen Center, Sacramento, CA. Funds will be used to construct a new teen center facility for at-risk youth in the northern area of Sacramento, CA	$200,000
Synergy Services, Inc in K.C.,MO. To design and construct a homeless youth shelter and campus	$562,500
Syracuse City, Utah for Syracuse City Utah Municipal Center Expansion Project	$210,000
Tallahatchie County Board of Supervisors, Sumner, MS, Tallahatchie County Courthouse Restoration, for the restoration of the Tallahatchie County Courthouse	$700,000
TechTown, Detroit, MI for renovations for historic structures for economic development	$200,000
The Arc of Hilo, Arc of Hilo Client Support Services Facility Construction, in Hilo, HI, to construct a multi-purpose job training, day program, and community center for people with disabilities	$268,000
The ARC of Madison County Facilities Expansion, AL	$175,000
The Children's Center of the Cumberlands, Scott County, Tennessee, expand the Children's Center and allow expanded service and care for abused children	$175,000
The Children's Home, Children's Home (CH) Residential Facility Improvement Initiative, Cromwell, Connecticut, for the redesign of residential facilities	$200,000
The City of Newport News, VA, Jefferson Park Revitalization, VA, for acquisition, demolition, relocation activities and capital improvements of dilapidated housing	$670,000

The Civic Center of Moreau, Inc. The Moreau Community Center, Campaign to Establish the New Regional Community Center at Moreau, South Glens Falls, NY, for the construction of the Regional Community Center at Moreau which will provide dramatically improved educational, recreational, and community service facilities as well as substantial economic development	$200,000
The Greater Boston Food Bank, Boston, Massachusetts, for the development of a new facility to distribute food to Massachusetts families in need.	$200,000
The Ministry of Caring Inc.; Mary Mother of Hope House I – Renovation Project, Wilmington, DE, to renovate the Mary Mother of Hope House which provides housing and support services from homeless women 18 and older	$670,000
The Westfield Boys and Girls Club, Westfield, Massachusetts, Westfield Boys and Girls Club, for renovation and repair	$200,000
TLC for Children and Families, Olathe, KS: , for an emergency shelter and social services for children and youth in the Kansas City	$525,000
To Bridgeton Board of Education, Bridgeton, NJ for the restoration of the historic Bridgeton High School facility which was built during the New Deal by the WPA	$200,000
To Paterson Board of Education, Paterson, NJ, Hinchliffe facility, for the restoration of the historic Hinchliffe facility	$200,000
To the Goodwill Rescue Mission, Newark, NJ for the renovation of transitional living facilities.	$200,000
Tom Green County, San Angelo, TX, for the relocation and expansion of the Tom Green County Library, the only public library in the region.	$140,000
Town of Colebrook, Mohawk River Retaining Wall, Colebrook, NH, repair retaining wall and two water mains along the Mohawk River.	$300,000
Town of Colmar Manor, Colmar Manor Community Center, Colmar Manor, Maryland, to construct a multi-use community facility that combines community organizations and municipal services	$402,000
Town of Marietta, MS, for the construction of a multi-purpose facility	$200,000
Town of Vernon, Amberbelle Mill Historic Restoration Initiative, Vernon, Connecticut, for exterior and interior upgrades to the historic Amberbelle Mill facility.	$200,000
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, Turtle Mountain Youth Center, Belcourt, ND to construct a youth center for Native Americans on the reservation.	$335,000
United Methodist Youthville, Dodge City, Kansas to provide a central kitchen/dining facility for the campus in compliance with federal regulations	$210,000
United Way for Southeastern Michigan, Detroit, MI, to construct a training center for non-profit social service providers	$268,000
United Way of Treasure Valley, Boise, Idaho, for construction of a Community Detox Center	$175,000

Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts, Roxbury, Massachusetts, to assist in the expansion of the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts facility expansion	$200,000
Urban League of Rhode Island, South Providence Neighborhood Center Building Project, Providence, RI for the construction of a three-story, 9,00 square foot addition to house a community meeting room, senior center, and office space.	$335,000
Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, VT, for affordable housing and community development linked with land conservation and historic preservation	$1,742,000
Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse, Roxbury, MA, Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse renovation, to renovate the Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse facility to allow the non-profit organization to expand its programs to assist low-income veterans across Massachusetts.	$200,000
Waipahu Jack Hall Memorial Housing Corporation, Oahu, HI, to renovate, repair, and maintain the Kunia Village Housing Complex and to bring it in compliance with Honolulu City and County housing codes	$234,000
Washington County Free Library, New Washington County Free Library Branch in Boonsboro, MD, to facilitate design and construction of new library branch	$200,000
Western Elmore County Recreation District, Mountain Home Community Center Complex, Mountain Home, Idaho, for planning, design, and construction of an energy efficient, multi use community center.	$300,000
Where to Turn, Hands and Hearts, Staten Island, NY for the construction of a 9/11 living memorial	$468,000
Wichita, KS for the 21st Street Industrial Corridor Revitalization Plan and Pre-Engineering Designs	$210,000
Wilmington Housing Authority, Wilmington, DE, Sprinkler Retrofit of High Rise Building, to retrofit the Crestview Apartments with a fire suppression sprinkler system	$670,000
Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership, Center for Excellence, Milwaukee, WI, to complete renovation of the Center of Excellence for the assessment, preparation and placement of job-ready candidates for careers in skilled trades and industries.	$200,000
World Impact, St. Louis, MO, to renovate the former YMCA North Building	$562,500
YMCA of Spokane, WA, YMCA/YWCA of Spokane, for facility construction	$500,000
YMCA of Tacoma-Pierce County, Tacoma, WA, YMCA of Tacoma-Pierce County for facility construction	$250,000
YWCA of Greater Los Angeles, Union Pacific Child Development and Family Center, Los Angeles, CA: for the construction of the new Union Pacific Child Development and Family Center	$200,000

The conference agreement includes $26,500,000 for the Neighborhood Initiatives program and directs HUD to implement the program as follows:

Grantee	Purpose	Funding
Bucks County Community College in Newtown, PA	for design and construction of a training facility	$100,000
CAP Services, Inc. in Stevens Point, WI	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund for small business development	$500,000
Chicago Parks District in Chicago, IL	for renovation and construction as part of the Lane Tech High School Field Improvement Project	$700,000
City and County of San Francisco Mayor's Office of Housing in San Francisco, CA	for construction of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals as part of the Mason Street Project	$600,000
City of Charleston, SC	for planning, design, construction and buildout of the City of Charleston's International African American Museum	$800,000
City of College Park, MD	for construction in coordination with the Downtown College Park Redevelopment Project	$300,000
Douglas County, WI	for extension of sewer and water utilities to the Parkland Industrial Park	$500,000
Housing Assistance Council	for nationwide capacity building, outreach and training	$3,000,000
La Raza HOPE Fund	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund to be used for nationwide community development activities	$1,000,000
Metropolitan Development Association in Syracuse, NY	for implementation of a comprehensive regional economic development strategy	$375,000
National American Indian Housing Council	for nationwide capacity building, outreach and training	$1,000,000
National Housing Development Corporation in Rancho Cucamonga, CA	for development and preservation of affordable housing	$1,000,000
North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in Wausau, WI	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund for new business development	$400,000

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the House to require a 25 percent match for EDI and NI grants in FY09.

San Francisco Housing Authority in San Francisco, CA	for demolition, planning, design, and construction of mixed-income housing at the Hunters View Housing Project	$1,200,000
United Veterans of America, Inc. in Leeds, MA	for construction and buildout of a permanent housing facility for veterans in Pittsfield, MA	$900,000
University of Hartford in Hartford, CT	for renovation and buildout of a historic building	$200,000
Yardley Borough, PA	for acquisition and installation of equipment to improve stormwater systems as part of a redevelopment plan	$280,000
	Grantee and Purpose	
	Bering Straits Native Corporation, Nome, Alaska, funds will be used for the construction and expansion of the site pad for the quarry	$562,500
	Center for Planning Excellence; Center for Planning Excellence; Baton Rouge, LA to continue to coordinates urban and rural planning efforts in South Louisiana	$2,000,000
	Central Wyoming College Foundation; Intertribal Education and Community Center; Riverton, Wyoming; to complete construction of and purchase equipment for the Intertribal Education and Community Center	$420,000
	City of Forsyth, Georgia to renovate and repair the buildings on the former Tift College campus so that it will be ready to house the hundreds of employees of the State Department of Corrections.	$350,000
	City of Green Bay, Wisconsin, Neighborhood Block Redevelopment, to purchase, demolish and refurbish blighted properties to eliminate overcrowding, reduce crime and stabilize a struggling neighborhood	$1,500,000
	City of Rochester, NY, Rochester Lead Hazard Prevention Program, to enhance lead hazard assessments, inspections, remediation training and outreach to expedite lead hazard remediation in public housing	$156,000
	Emergency Demolition of the Former Swift Plant (KD Station) in Sioux City, Iowa	$700,000
	Hiawatha Village Low Income Housing Development Project, Seattle, WA	$750,000
	homeWORD, Missoula, MT to develop rental housing that is affordable to working families in Missoula, MT	$670,000
	John C. Stennis Institute for Capacity Development Imitative	$800,000
	Kitsap County Resources Community Services Center Construction, Bremerton, WA	$200,000
	Miami Dade College, FL, Cuban American Historical Museum at the Miami Dade College Freedom Tower, Florida	$350,000
	NeighborhoodsNOW, Community Foundation of Wyandotte County, Kansas City, KS	$1,200,000
	Passage Point Transitional Housing Construction, King County, WA	$500,000
	Poplar Bluff Historic Depot Restoration; Missouri	$187,500

Robinson Film Center Building; Shreveport, Louisiana	$280,000
Salishan HOPE VI Redevelopment Project, Tacoma, WA	$1,500,000
Starr Commonwealth of Ohio, Van Wert and Columbus, Ohio, Starr Commonwealth facilities renovations for positive environments where children flourish	$544,000
Washington State Housing Finance Commission, Seattle, WA for capacity building	$700,000

Funding Employer Relocation using CDBG funding.—The conferees encourage HUD to develop expeditiously its guidelines to ensure CDBG compliance with federal statutory restrictions on job relocation as cited in the recently released GAO report: Economic Development: Format Monitoring Approaches Needed to Help Ensure Compliance with Restrictions on Funding Employer Relocation (GAO–07–1005).

HOME INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement provides a total of $1,767,000,000 for this account, instead of $1,764,010,000 as proposed by the House and $1,970,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement provides $50,000,000 for housing counseling, instead of $48,340,000 as proposed by the House and $150,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

In addition, $12,500,000 is reserved for technical assistance, instead of $9,900,000 as proposed by the House and $15,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. Of amounts made available for technical assistance, $8,500,000 is for qualified non-profit intermediaries to provide technical assistance to CDHOs and $4,000,000 is for intermediaries to provide technical assistance to HOME participating jurisdictions.

The conference agreement includes $15,000,000 for the American Dream Downpayment Initiative, instead of $25,000,000 as proposed by the Senate. The House had no similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include two provisions within the HOME account that provided $200,000,000 for counseling and foreclosure activities, as proposed by the Senate. Instead, the conference agreement provides funding in Title III of this Act through the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation for such activities. The conferees do not instruct HUD on issuance of a NOFA, as proposed by the Senate.

SELF-HELP AND ASSISTED HOMEOWNERSHIP OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

The conference agreement provides $60,000,000 for this account, as opposed to $59,700,000 proposed by the House and $70,000,000 proposed by the Senate. Of the total, $26,500,000 is provided for the SHOP program as proposed by the Senate, instead of $27,710,000 as proposed by the House. Of the total, $33,500,000 is provided for the first four capacity building activities authorized under section 4(b)(3), of which up to $5,000,000 may be made available for rural capacity building activities, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not include such a provision.

HOMELESS ASSISTANCE GRANTS

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement provides $1,585,990,000 for Homeless Assistance Grants, as proposed by the Senate instead of $1,560,990,000 proposed by the House. Funds are available for two years except for $5,000,000, which is available until expended, as proposed by the Senate. Sufficient funding is provided for renewal of Shelter Plus Care contracts. The conference agreement transfers $2,475,000 to the Working Capital Fund as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement provides $25,000,000 for the Secretary to conduct a demonstration program on the effectiveness of rapid re-housing programs in reducing the number of homeless families as proposed by the Senate. The conferees direct HUD to select a limited number of sites to receive funding for this demonstration program as a part of the Homeless Assistance Grants competition, and should consider the following criteria when selecting sites: proven experience in rapid re-housing, performance of the Continuum of Care, and geographic diversity. Selected programs should provide families with housing placement services, short-term housing assistance, including up to 18 months of rental assistance, and an array of appropriate services for families. The conferees have also included language that allows the Secretary to use up to $1,250,000 to conduct an evaluation of the demonstration program. This evaluation should include, but is not limited to, a cost-benefit analysis, including both direct and indirect social benefits of rapid re-housing programs, as well as the success of such programs in keeping families in stable housing.

The conference agreement modifies a provision of the Senate that requires HUD to submit the AHAR report by June 21, 2008, as opposed to March 21, 2008.

HOUSING PROGRAMS

HOUSING FOR THE ELDERLY

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement provides $735,000,000 for the section 202 program as proposed by the Senate, instead of $734,580,000 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement allocates funds as follows: $628,850,000 for new capital and PRAC contracts, amendments to contracts and for the renewal of contracts for up to one year terms and for supportive services; $60,000,000 for service coordinators and the continuation of congregate services grants. The House had proposed $59,400,000 for this purpose; $24,750,000 for assisted living conversion grants and emergency capital repairs as proposed by the House and Senate; $20,000,000 for competitive grants to private nonprofit organizations and consumer cooperatives for covering costs of architectural and engineering work, site control, and other planning related to the development of supportive housing for the elderly that is eligible for assistance under section 202 of the Housing Act of 1959; and not to exceed $1,400,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund for information technology activities as proposed by the Senate instead of $1,980,000 proposed by the House.

The conference agreement requires HUD to submit a plan by June 15, 2008, detailing the status of PRAC funding, including reasons for delays, instead of March 15, 2008, as proposed by the House.

HOUSING FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement recommends a total program level of $237,000,000 for the Section 811 program as proposed by the Senate, instead of $236,610,000 proposed by the House. As proposed by the Senate, not to exceed $600,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund, instead of $990,000 as proposed by the House.

The conferees require a report from HUD on the number of non-elderly disabled vouchers that are still in circulation and being used by non-elderly disabled individuals by May 15, 2008.

OTHER ASSISTED HOUSING PROGRAMS

RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE

The conference agreement provides $27,600,000 for Section 236 payments to State-aided, non-insured projects as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

RENT SUPPLEMENT

(RESCISSION)

The conference agreement rescinds $27,600,000 from the Rent Supplement account, as proposed by the House and Senate.

FLEXIBLE SUBSIDY FUND

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes language permanently transferring excess rental charges to the Flexible Subsidy Fund as proposed by the House and Senate.

MANUFACTURED HOUSING FEES TRUST FUND

The conference agreement provides up to $16,000,000 for authorized activities from fees collected in the Fund as proposed by the House and Senate.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement establishes an $185,000,000,000 limitation on commitments to guarantee single-family loans during fiscal year 2008, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement establishes a $50,000,000 limitation on direct loans to nonprofits and governmental entities in connection with the sale of HUD-owned single-family properties, as proposed by the House and the Senate.

The conference agreement does not include funds for administrative expenses, as proposed by the House.

As proposed by both the House and the Senate, the conference agreement provides $77,400,000 for administrative contract expenses, of which not to exceed $25,500,000 may be transferred to the Working Capital Fund. Of this amount, up to $5,000,000 shall be for education and outreach of FHA single-family loan products, as proposed by the Senate.

GENERAL AND SPECIAL RISK PROGRAM ACCOUNT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

The conference agreement includes the following, as proposed by both the House and the Senate: establishes a $45,000,000,000 limitation on multifamily and specialized loan guarantees during fiscal year 2008; and provides $8,600,000 for subsidy costs to support certain multifamily and special purpose loan guarantee programs as proposed by both the House and Senate.

The conference agreement does not include funds for administrative expenses, as proposed by the House.

Language is also included allowing up to $5,000,000 to be made available for discount sales of multifamily real property to units of local government, as proposed by the Senate. It is the intent of the conferees that the units affected remain affordable.

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the House to study the impact of discounted sales on the FHA fund.

GOVERNMENT NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION

GUARANTEES OF MORTGAGE-BACKED SECURITIES LOAN GUARANTEE PROGRAM ACCOUNT

The conference agreement includes up to $200,000,000,000 for new commitments, as proposed by the House and Senate. The conference agreement does not include language appropriating administrative expenses or transferring funds to the Salaries and Expenses account, as proposed by the House.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY

The conference agreement provides $61,440,000 for research and technology as proposed by the Senate, instead of $59,087,000 as proposed by the House.

Of the amount provided the conference agreement directs that $23,000,000 is provided for Section 107 grants to academic institutions, and is to be distributed as follows:

Section 107	$23,000,000
Native Alaskan and Hawaiian Serving Institutions	(3,000,000)
Tribal colleges and Universities	(5,000,000)

HBCUs	(9,000,000)
Hispanic Serving Institutions	(6,000,000)

The conference agreement also includes language that directs that the implementation of $5,000,000 for the Partnership for the Advancement of Technology in Housing (PATH) be administered by PD&R, as proposed by the House. The conferees reiterate the provision that all PATH funds shall be competitively awarded and the resources shall be focused on energy-efficiency in low-income housing.

The conference agreement includes $500,000 instead of $1,000,000 as proposed by the House to establish an interagency working group between HUD and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA). The conferees direct HUD and FTA to develop a best practices manual which will serve to assist communities as they seek to establish mixed-income transit-oriented development. HUD and FTA should also jointly report back to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations within six months of enactment of this Act, on new ways the two agencies can better coordinate transportation and housing programs to promote affordable housing near transit.

FAIR HOUSING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

FAIR HOUSING ACTIVITIES

The conference agreement provides $50,000,000 for this program instead of $52,380,000 as proposed by the Senate and $45,540,000 as proposed by the House. Of this amount, $25,620,000 is for the Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) and $24,000,000 is for the Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP).

The conferees direct the Secretary to identify essential documents to translate for individuals with limited English proficiency to further enhance access and services for HUD assisted programs. Within the resources provided under this section, the Secretary, in consultation with the appropriate housing providers and interest groups, shall give priority to specific languages that currently have high concentrations in HUD assisted properties and activities.

OFFICE OF LEAD HAZARD CONTROL

LEAD HAZARD REDUCTION

The conference agreement provides $145,000,000 for the Lead Hazard Reduction program instead of $130,000,000 proposed by the House and $151,000,000 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement allocates funds as follows: $8,800,000 for Operation LEAP, as proposed by the Senate; $7,000,000 for technical assistance; $8,800,000 for the Healthy Homes Initiative, as proposed by the Senate; and $48,000,000 for an initiative to target lead abatement funds to areas with the highest lead paint abatement needs, as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement includes language requiring a match of 25 percent for grantees under this competitive program, as proposed by the House, and authorizes the Secretary to waive this match requirement if it is determined that such action will facilitate the best use of funds, especially for low and very low-income communities.

The conference agreement does not include language proposed by the House on funding levels for the lead-based paint hazard grant program and the Lead Hazard Demonstration Program.

The conference agreement includes $2,000,000 for the Big Buy Program, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not have a similar provision.

MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement does not include this House-proposed account. Funding is instead reflected in a new compensation and benefits structure funded in nine appropriated accounts at the beginning of Title II of this Act.

WORKING CAPITAL FUND

The conference agreement includes $155,000,000 for the Working Capital Fund (WCF) instead of $175,000,000 as proposed by the Senate and $125,000,000 as proposed by the House.

The conferees instruct GAO to conduct a study on the status of current information systems, not the HUD IG, as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement states that no funds under this account may be used for e-Gov unless approved by the Committees.

In addition, the conference agreement includes language proposed by both the House and Senate that allows transfers from other accounts to be used for the purposes of the fund and for which the funds were appropriated.

OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

The conference agreement provides $112,000,000 for the Office of Inspector General as proposed by the Senate instead of $107,000,000 as proposed by the House. The conference agreement does not include a transfer of funds, as proposed by the House.

OFFICE OF FEDERAL HOUSING ENTERPRISE OVERSIGHT

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides $66,000,000 for the Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight (OFHEO) to be derived from collections available in the Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight Fund as proposed by the House and the Senate.

GENERAL PROVISIONS—DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Section 201 splits overpayments 50/50 between Treasury and State HFAs, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 202 precludes the use of funds to prosecute or investigate legal activities under the Fair Housing Act, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 203 continues language to correct anomalies for HOPWA and specifies jurisdictions in New York and New Jersey and uses a three year average as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 204 requires that funds are to be subject to competition unless specified otherwise in statute as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 205 allows HUD to use funds for services or facilities of GNMA and Fannie Mae as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 206 requires HUD to comport with the budget estimates except as otherwise provided in this Act or through an approved reprogramming, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 207 provides authorization for HUD corporations to utilize funds under certain conditions and restrictions, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 208 requires that technical assistance and training funds be subject to an approved operating plan as proposed by the House and Senate due by March 15, 2008.

Section 209 requires a report on unexpended balances each quarter as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 210 specifies the distribution of AIDS funds to New Jersey and North Carolina, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 211 requires a report annually on number of leased units and average costs, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 212 requires that the administration's budget and the Department's budget justifications shall be submitted in the identical account and sub-account structure provided in this Act.

Section 213 requires that non-elderly disabled assistance shall continue for non-elderly disabled persons upon turnover to the extent practicable, as proposed by the House and Senate. Further, assistance provided through the Family Unification Program shall remain available for this purpose upon turnover, to the extent practicable.

Section 214 exempts residency requirement for PHA Boards in Alaska, Iowa, and Mississippi, as proposed by the House and Senate, and the County of Los Angeles, as proposed by the Senate.

Section 215 authorizes HUD to transfer debt and use agreements from an obsolete project to a viable project or projects, provided that no additional costs are incurred, and other conditions are met, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 216 distributes 2008 Native American Housing Block grant funds to the same Native Alaskan recipients as 2005, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 217 prohibits the IG from changing the basis on which the audit of GNMA is conducted. The Senate did not have a similar provision.

Section 218 sets forth requirements for eligibility for Section 8 voucher assistance, and includes a consideration for persons with disabilities, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 219 authorizes the Secretary to insure mortgages under Section 255 of the National Housing Act, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 220 instructs HUD on managing and disposing of any multifamily property that is owned by HUD, as proposed by the Senate.

Section 221 amends the National Housing Act in specified areas related to FHA multifamily loan limits, as proposed by the House and Senate.

Section 222 retains a provision proposed by the House that authorizes the Secretary to waive certain requirements on adjusted income for certain assisted living projects for counties in Michigan. The Senate did not have a similar provision.

Section 223 retains a provision proposed by the House that allows the recipient of a section 202 grant to establish a single-asset nonprofit entity to own the project and may lend the grant funds to such entity. The Senate did not have a similar provision.

Section 224 amends section 24 of the 1937 Housing Act by extending the HOPE VI program through September 30, 2008, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 225 modifies a provision proposed by the Senate by allowing PHAs that own and operate 400 units or fewer of public housing to be exempt from asset management requirements. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 226 modifies a provision proposed by the Senate to restrict the Secretary from imposing any requirement or guideline relating to asset management that restricts or limits the use of capital funds for central office costs, up to the limit established in QWHRA. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 227 requires that the Secretary shall report quarterly on the status of all Project-Based Section 8 housing, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 228 provides that the Secretary shall report quarterly on HUD's use of all sole source contracts, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 229 extends existing 12-year energy contracts held by PHAs up to a term of 20

years without requiring the reprocurement of energy performance contractors, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 230 modifies provisions proposed by the House and Senate by increasing the number of Moving-to-Work (MTW) agencies and by making the Santa Clara and San Jose PHAs, the San Bernardino PHA, and the Alaska Housing Finance Corporation MTW agencies.

Section 231 directs that the Secretary may not rescind or take any adverse action with respect to the Moving-to-Work program designation for the Housing Authority of Baltimore City based on any alleged administrative or procedural errors in making such designation, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 232 amends the CDBG statute to allow Alton and Granite City, Illinois to be considered metropolitan cities, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 233 provides that amounts provided under the Section 108 loan guarantee program may be used to guarantee notes or other obligations issued by any State on behalf of non-entitlement communities in the State, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 234 directs that not later than 30 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall place on the HUD homepage a direct link to the website of the HUD IG and a link by which individuals may anonymously report waste, fraud and abuse, as proposed by the Senate. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 235 amends a provision proposed by the Senate that that not later than 60 days after enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a complete and accurate accounting for 2007 and 2008 of the actual project-based renewal costs, revised estimates of the funding needed to fully fund all 12 months of all contracts, and all sources of funding that will be used to fully fund 12 months of contracts for fiscal years 2007 and 2008. The House did not have a similar provision.

Section 236 provides that no employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development shall be designated as an allotment holder unless the CFO determines that such allotment holder has received training. The CFO shall ensure that each HUD subaccount has a trained allotment holder within 90 days of the enactment of this Act.

Section 237 provides that funding for indemnities is limited to non-programmatic litigation and is restricted to the payment of attorney fees only.

TITLE—III

RELATED AGENCIES

ARCHITECTURAL AND TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS COMPLIANCE BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $6,150,000 for the Salaries and Expenses of the Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board as proposed by both the House and the Senate.

FEDERAL MARITIME COMMISSION

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $22,072,000 for the Salaries and Expenses of the Federal Maritime Commission as proposed by the House, instead of $22,322,000 as proposed by the Senate.

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

SALARIES AND EXPENSES

The conference agreement includes $84,499,000 instead of $85,000,000 as proposed by the House and $84,500,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conferees direct that not less than $1,424,000 of the total appropriation shall fund 11 additional critical safety staff, and, consistent with the House language, prohibit these funds from being used for the Academy.

Within the funds provided, the conferees direct a total of $74,063 to address the Board's most recent Anti-Deficiency Act violation that occurred from fiscal years 1998 through 2006 related to inappropriate purchase of death and dismemberment insurance for agency employees on official travel. The conferees also include language allowing NTSB to continue to make lease payments for the NTSB Academy in fiscal year 2008 as proposed by the House and Senate.

NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

PAYMENT TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD REINVESTMENT CORPORATION

The conference agreement provides $319,800,000 for the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation instead of $119,800,000 as proposed by the House and Senate.

The conference agreement includes $200,000,000 to be administered by the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation (NRC) to make grants to NRC- or HUD-approved counseling intermediaries (including State housing finance agencies) for mortgage foreclosure mitigation assistance of owner-occupied homes.

NRC is a Congressionally-chartered nonprofit corporation, and since 1978, NRC has been providing quality housing counseling. The conferees note that NRC was one of the first organizations to begin responding to the subprime mortgage crisis by establishing its Center for Foreclosure Solutions. NRC will manage a competition for housing counseling organizations with demonstrated experience in this field, and will begin awarding grants within 60 days of enactment of this Act. The NRC can administer this competition rapidly and can thus facilitate help for homeowners almost immediately.

This $200,000,000 is one-time funding to be available until expended by the NRC in response to the ongoing lending and credit crisis. This crisis is fueled by more than 2 million mortgages that now face significant risk of default and foreclosure as the housing markets slow and adverse mortgage terms, such as adjustable rate mortgages, reset.

This program is designed to assist homeowners with subprime or other single-family mortgages that are likely to be in default and/or foreclosure. This is not designed as a bailout for either financial institutions or homeowners with mortgages that are likely to fail. Instead, the goal of the program is to provide counseling assistance that will prevent foreclosure and result in the long-term affordability of the mortgage or another positive outcome for the homeowner. No Federal funds are to be used to directly benefit financial institutions or homeowners.

The conferees believe that the funding is needed, will be well-used, and will help stabilize the single-family mortgage marketplace. However, the conference agreement notes that $200,000,000 is a rapid expansion of housing counseling assistance. As a result, the conferees direct that $50,000,000 will be awarded within 60 days of enactment, which the conferees expect will result in a rapid investment of these funds.

Finally, the conference agreement directs the NRC to provide a bi-annual report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations as well as the House Financial Services Committee and the Senate Banking Committee. These reports will identify the use of funds in the program, models of success and an overall analysis of the program, its strategies for success and its evolution, among other things.

UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

OPERATING EXPENSES

The conference agreement provides $2,150,000 instead of $2,000,000 as proposed by the House and $2,300,000 as proposed by the Senate. The conference agreement extends the expiration date for the Council until September 30, 2008.

The conferees direct the Council to report within 180 days of enactment to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations on a comprehensive funding strategy to meet the agency's ten year goal to end chronic homelessness. The report should specify how local and Federal agencies will contribute to the achievement of this goal.

The conferees agree to a limit of $50,000 for travel by the Executive Director.

TITLE IV—GENERAL PROVISIONS THIS ACT

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

Section 401 continues the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate requiring pay raises to be funded within appropriated levels in this Act or previous Appropriations Acts.

Section 402 continues the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate prohibiting pay and other expenses for non-Federal parties in regulatory or adjudicatory proceedings funded in this Act.

Section 403 continues the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate prohibiting obligations beyond the current fiscal year and prohibits transfers of funds unless expressly so provided herein.

Section 404 continues the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate limiting consulting service expenditures of public record in procurement contracts.

Section 405 continues the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate specifying reprogramming procedures by subjecting the establishment of new offices and reorganizations to the reprogramming process.

Section 406 continues the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate providing that fifty percent of unobligated balances may remain available for certain purposes.

Section 407 continues the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate requiring agencies and departments funded herein to report on sole source contracts.

Section 408 continues the provision as proposed by the House and the Senate prohibiting Federal training not directly related to the performance of official duties.

Section 409 includes a provision as proposed by the House that prohibits funds in this Act from being used to provide homeownership assistance for applicants described in Section 247A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Section 410 includes a provision as proposed by the House that prohibits funds from being used to employ workers described in Section 247A(h)(3) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. The Senate did not include a similar provision.

Section 411 modifies the Senate language that prohibits funds from being used for any project that seeks to use the power of eminent domain unless eminent domain is employed only for a public use.

Section 412 includes a provision as proposed by the Senate that denies the transfer of funds made available in this Act to any instrumentality of the United States Government except as authorized by this Act or any other Appropriations Act. The House did not include a similar provision.

Section 413 includes a provision as proposed by the Senate that prohibits funds in

this Act from being used to permanently replace an employee intent on retuning to his or her past occupation after completion of military service. The House did not include a similar provision.

Section 414 continues a provision as proposed by the Senate that prohibits funds in this Act from being used unless the expenditure is in compliance with the Buy American Act. The House did not include a similar provision.

Section 415 continues a provision as proposed by the Senate that prohibits funds from being appropriated or made available to any person or entity that has been convicted of violating the Buy American Act. The House did not include a similar provision.

The conference agreement does not include section 409 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include section 411 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include section 412 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include section 413 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include section 414 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include section 415 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include section 418 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include section 419 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include section 420 as proposed by the House.

The conference agreement does not include section 414 as proposed by the Senate.

The conference agreement does not include section 415 as proposed by the Senate.

COMPLIANCE WITH RULE XXI, CL. 9 (HOUSE) AND WITH RULE XLIV (SENATE)

The following list is submitted in compliance with clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives and rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate, which require publication of a list of congressionally directed spending items (Senate), congressional earmarks (House), limited tax benefits, and limited tariff benefits included in the conference report, or in the joint statement of managers accompanying the conference report, including the name of each Senator, House Member, Delegate, or Resident Commissioner who submitted a request to the Committee of jurisdiction for each item so identified. Congressionally directed spending items (as defined in the Senate rule) and congressional earmarks (as defined in the House rule) in the conference report or joint statement of managers are listed below. Neither the conference report nor the statement of managers contains any limited tax benefits or limited tariff benefits as defined in the applicable House and Senate rules.

The following list is also submitted in compliance with House Resolution 491, which requires a listing of congressional earmarks in the conference report or joint statement of managers that were not committed to the committee of conference by either House, not in a report on a bill committed to conference, and not in a Senate committee report on a companion measure. Such earmarks are marked with an asterisk in the list below.

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Akutan Airport, AK	$2,625,000	Sen. Stevens
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Franklin Field Airport, AL	$1,575,000	Sen. Shelby
*AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Mobile Downtown Airport Ramp Rehabilitation and Drain Repair, AL	$750,000	Sen. Sessions, Rep. Jo Bonner
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Scottsboro Municipal Airport, AL improvements	$550,000	Rep. Robert Cramer, Sen. Shelby
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Tuscaloosa Regional Airport Masterplan, AL	$200,000	Rep. Artur Davis
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport, AR	$2,680,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Texarkana Regional—Webb Field Airport, AR	$670,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Sky Harbor, Phoenix, AZ taxiway improvements	$1,250,000	Rep. Ed Pastor, Sen. Kyl
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Williams Gateway Airport, AZ taxiway B construction	$1,750,000	Rep. Harry Mitchell, Sen. Kyl
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Meadows Field Airport Expansion, CA	$650,000	Rep. Kevin McCarthy
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Denver International Airport Pavement Rehabilitation, CO	$2,010,000	Sen. Salazar, Rep. Diana DeGette
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Eagle County Regional Airport Runway Extension, CO	$350,000	Rep. Mark Udall, Sen. Salazar
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Walker Field Grand Junction Runway Resurfacing, CO	$900,000	Rep. John Salazar, Sen. Salazar
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Albert Whitted Airport Improvements, FL	$1,000,000	Rep. C.W. Young
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Gainesville Regional Airport Taxiway Rehabilitation, FL	$400,000	Rep. Cliff Stearns, Sen. Martinez
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	St. Lucie County International New Parallel Runway Construction, FL	$500,000	Rep. Alcee Hastings
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Augusta Bush Field terminal expansion, GA	$1,500,000	Rep. John Barrow, Sen. Chambliss
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Glynn County Airport Commission Improvements, GA	$1,000,000	Rep. Jack Kingston, Sen. Chambliss
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Middle Georgia Regional Airport, GA improvements	$750,000	Rep. Jim Marshall
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Paulding County Airport land acquisition, site preparation and construction, GA	$600,000	Rep. Phil Gingrey, Sen. Chambliss
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Turner County Airport Renovations, GA	$150,000	Rep. Jim Marshall
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Boise Airport Runway Improvements, ID	$750,000	Sen. Craig, Sen. Crapo, Rep. Michael Simpson
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Lake in the Hills Airport, IL	$750,000	Sen. Durbin
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Lewis University Airport, IL	$750,000	Sen. Durbin, Sen. Obama, Rep. Judy Biggert
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Waukegan Regional Airport, IL	$750,000	Sen. Durbin
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Clark County Runway Extension, IN	$1,150,000	Rep. Baron Hill
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Fort Wayne International Airport, IN	$167,500	Sen. Bayh, Sen. Lugar, Rep. Mark Souder
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Huntingburg Airport Upgrades, IN	$150,000	Rep. Baron Hill
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Manhattan Airport Runway Safety Improvements, KS	$1,400,000	Sen. Brownback, Rep. Nancy Boyda
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Cincinnati Northern Kentucky International Airport, rehabilitation, Boone County, KY	$500,000	Rep. Geoff Davis
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Louisville International Airport Runway Widening/Improvements, KY	$1,250,000	Sen. McConnell, Rep. John Yarmuth
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Alexandria International Airport, LA	$700,000	Sen. Vitter, Sen. Landrieu
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Lafayette Regional Airport Airport Upgrades, LA	$1,500,000	Rep. Charles Boustany, Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Vitter
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Monroe Regional Airport New Terminal, LA	$400,000	Rep. Rodney Alexander, Sen. Vitter, Sen. Landrieu

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Nantucket Municipal Airport, MA facility replacement	$500,000	Rep. William Delahunt, Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	New Bedford Safety Upgrades (PAPI) , MA	$100,000	Rep. Barney Frank
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Norwood Airport Reconstruction, MA	$200,000	Rep. Steven Lynch
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Capital City Airport Phase II Runway Extension, MI	$3,600,000	Sen. Stabenow, Sen. Levin, Rep. Mike Rogers (MI)
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Detroit Metro-Wayne County Airport Taxiway Kilo Rehabilitation, MI	$1,000,000	Rep. John Dingell
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Kalamazoo Battle Creek Airport terminal, MI	$500,000	Rep. Fred Upton
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	MBS International Airport, MI	$1,340,000	Sen. Stabenow, Sen. Levin, Rep. Dave Camp
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Oakland County International Airport, MI improvement and noise mitigation programs	$1,000,000	Rep. Joe Knollenberg, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Pellston Regional Airport Improvements, MI	$600,000	Rep. Bart Stupak
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	St. Clair County Airport Improvements, MI	$300,000	Rep. Candice Miller
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	W.K. Kellogg Airport, Battle Creek, Runway, MI	$500,000	Rep. Timothy Walberg, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Bemidji Regional Airport Terminal Modernization/Expansion, MN	$500,000	Rep. Collin Peterson
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	St. Cloud Airport, MN	$1,125,000	Sen. Coleman, Sen. Klobuchar
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Columbia Regional Airport, MO	$2,025,000	Sen. Bond
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Eldon Model Airpark, MO	$315,000	Sen. Bond
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Max B. Swisher Skyhave Airport, MO	$1,035,000	Sen. Bond
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Springfield-Branson National Airport Midfield Replacement Terminal Construction, MO	$1,000,000	Rep. Roy Blunt
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport, MS	$2,000,000	Sen. Cochran, Sen. Lott
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Jackson Evers International Airport Airfield Infrastructure Improvements, MS	$2,000,000	Sen. Cochran, Rep. Charles Pickering
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	John Bell Williams Airport, MS	$1,500,000	Sen. Lott
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Tunica Airport, MS	$1,250,000	Sen. Cochran
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Airport Improvements, Stanly County, NC	$500,000	Rep. Robin Hayes
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Andrews-Murphy Airport Expansion Murphy, NC	$1,500,000	Rep. Heath Shuler, Sen. Dole
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Brunswick County Airport Runway Extension, NC	$400,000	Rep. Mike McIntyre, Sen. Dole
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Burlington-Alamance County Regional Airport Runway Taxiway Extension, NC	$1,000,000	Rep. Howard Coble, Sen. Dole
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Concord Regional Airport improvements, NC	$400,000	Rep. Robin Hayes, Rep. Melvin Watt, Sen. Dole
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Franklin County Airport Runway Extension, Land Acquisition and Improvements, NC	$250,000	Rep. Bob Etheridge
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Montgomery County Regional Airport improvements, NC	$400,000	Rep. Robin Hayes
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Rowan County Airport Land Acquisition (runway protection zone), NC	$600,000	Rep. Melvin Watt, Rep. Howard Coble, Sen. Dole
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Statesville Regional Airport improvement, NC	$1,500,000	Rep. Virginia Foxx, Rep. Patrick McHenry, Sen. Dole, Sen. Burr
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Grand Forks Airport, Grand Forks Improvements, ND	$1,340,000	Sen. Conrad, Sen. Dorgan, Rep. Earl Pomeroy
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Airport Authority of the County of Scotts Bluff, NE	$670,000	Sen. Ben Nelson
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Atlantic City International Airport Terminal Apron, NJ	$500,000	Rep. Frank LoBiondo, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Albuquerque International Sunport Airport, NM	$1,200,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman, Rep. Heather Wilson

AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Carson City Airport, NV	$2,100,000	Sen. Reid
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Buffalo-Niagara International Subsurface Engineered Wetland Water Quality Project, NY	$400,000	Rep. Brian Higgins, Sen. Clinton
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Niagara Falls International Airport Cargo Apron-phase 1B, NY	$1,950,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton, Rep. Louise Slaughter
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Niagara Falls International Airport Improvements, NY	$500,000	Rep. Thomas Reynolds, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Akron-Canton Regional Parking Apron Construction, OH	$900,000	Rep. Ralph Regula
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Cuyahoga County Airport Pavement Maintenance and Rehabilitation, OH	$500,000	Rep. Stephanie Jones, Sen. Voinovich
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Ohio University Airport Improvements, OH	$800,000	Rep. Zachary Space, Rep. Charles Wilson, Sen. Voinovich
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Toledo Express Airport Improvements, OH	$750,000	Rep. Marcy Kaptur
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Altus/Quartz Mountain Regional Airport, OK	$600,000	Rep. Frank Lucas
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	McNary Field Airport, OR	$1,005,000	Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Roberts Field, Redmond Municipal Airport, OR	$2,512,500	Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith, Rep. Greg Walden
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Erie International Airport, PA	$1,050,000	Sen. Specter
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Philadelphia International Airport Runway Rehabilitation (9R/27L), PA	$650,000	Rep. Chaka Fattah
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Georgetown Airport Runway Extension, SC	$1,000,000	Rep. Henry Brown, Rep. James Clyburn
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Chattanooga Airport taxiway relocation & reconstruction, TN	$2,000,000	Rep. Zach Wamp
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Upper Cumberland Regional Airport Improvements, TN	$700,000	Sen. Alexander, Rep. Lincoln Davis
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Alliance Airport runway extension, Fort Worth, TX	$800,000	Rep. Michael Burgess, Rep. Kay Granger, Sen. Hutchison
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Collin County Regional Airport Tower Construction, TX	$1,500,000	Sen. Hutchison, Sen. Cornyn, Rep. Ralph Hall, Rep. Sam Johnson
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Edinburg International Airport Improvements, Hidalgo County, TX	$850,000	Rep. Ruben Hinojosa
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	George Bush Intercontinental, Houston Noise Mitigation, TX	$500,000	Rep. Ted Poe
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	San Marcos Municipal Airport, TX	$1,575,000	Sen. Hutchison, Rep. Lloyd Doggett
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Sugar Land Airport Expansion, TX	$2,000,000	Rep. Nick Lampson
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Ogden Hinckley Airport taxiway project, Ogden, UT	$900,000	Rep. Rob Bishop
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Danville Regional Airport Improvements, VA	$500,000	Rep. Virgil Goode
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	New River Valley Airport Runway and Taxiway Rehabilitation, VA	$400,000	Rep. Rick Boucher
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Vermont Statewide Airport, VT	$1,005,000	Sen. Sanders
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Austin Straubel International Airport, Runway 6/24 Pavement Reconstruction, WI	$1,500,000	Rep. Steve Kagen
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Chippewa Valley Regional Airport, WI	$2,177,500	Sen. Kohl, Rep. David Obey
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Dane County Regional Airport improvements, Madison, WI	$400,000	Rep. Tammy Baldwin, Sen. Kohl
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	New Richmond Regional Airport Improvements, WI	$600,000	Rep. Ron Kind, Sen. Kohl
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Outagamie County Regional Airport Improvements, WI	$500,000	Rep. Steve Kagen
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	Taylor County Airport, Medford Improvements, WI	$2,500,000	Rep. David Obey, Sen. Kohl
AIP—Airport Improvement Program	West Virginia Statewide Airport, WV	$4,680,000	Sen. Byrd
Alternatives Analysis	Mesa Extension Alternatives Analysis—Mesa, AZ	$200,000	Rep. Harry Mitchell, Sen. Kyl
Alternatives Analysis	METRO I-10 Extension Alternative Analysis, AZ	$1,200,000	Rep. Ed Pastor
Alternatives Analysis	Tempe Extension Alternatives Analysis—Tempe, AZ	$200,000	Rep. Harry Mitchell
Alternatives Analysis	Bus Rapid Transit Alternatives Analysis, San Jose	$250,000	Rep. Zoe Lofgren
Alternatives Analysis	Red Car Trolley Engineering Study, CA	$100,000	Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Alternatives Analysis	Southeastern Connecticut Bus Rapid Transit System, CT	$1,340,000	Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman
Alternatives Analysis	Bus Rapid Transit Improvements, Broward County, FL	$700,000	Sen. Martinez, Sen. Bill Nelson
Alternatives Analysis	Downtown Orlando East-West Circulator System, Orlando, FL	$700,000	Sen. Martinez, Sen. Bill Nelson, Rep. Corrine Brown
Alternatives Analysis	Downtown Transit Circulator, Fort Lauderdale, FL	$670,000	Sen. Bill Nelson, Sen. Martinez, Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Alternatives Analysis	Miami-Dade County Metrorail Orange Line Expansion, FL	$1,400,000	Sen. Martinez, Sen. Bill Nelson, Rep. Kendrick Meek
Alternatives Analysis	BeltLine Environment Impact, Atlanta, GA	$300,000	Rep. John Lewis, Sen. Chambliss
Alternatives Analysis	I–285 Bus Rapid Transit Project in Atlanta, GA	$500,000	Rep. John Lewis, Rep. Tom Price
Alternatives Analysis	MARTA Clifton Corridor (Lindbergh-Emory), GA	$750,000	Sen. Chambliss, Sen. Isakson
Alternatives Analysis	DART Alternatives Analysis Design, Des Moines, IA	$250,000	Rep. Leonard Boswell, Sen. Grassley
Alternatives Analysis	CTA Circle Line, IL	$3,920,000	Sen. Durbin, Rep. Rahm Emanuel
Alternatives Analysis	CTA Orange Line Extension, IL	$500,000	Rep. Daniel Lipinski, Sen. Durbin
Alternatives Analysis	CTA Red Line Extension, IL	$600,000	Rep. Jesse Jackson, Sen. Durbin
Alternatives Analysis	CTA Yellow Line Extension-Village of Skokie, IL	$600,000	Rep. Janice Schakowsky, Sen. Durbin
Alternatives Analysis	Illinois Valley Commuter Rail, Ottawa, IL	$250,000	Rep. Jerry Weller
Alternatives Analysis	The Rapid Feasibility Study, MI	$500,000	Rep. Vernon Ehlers
Alternatives Analysis	Light-rail Alternatives Analysis Study, KC, MO	$1,875,000	Sen. Bond, Rep. Emanuel Cleaver
Alternatives Analysis	Charlotte Rapid Transit Extension-Northeast Corridor Light Rail Project, NC	$2,750,000	Sen. Dole, Sen. Burr, Rep. Melvin Watt, Rep. Sue Myrick
Alternatives Analysis	Northern Branch Rail Service Restoration, NJ	$500,000	Rep. Steven Rothman, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Alternatives Analysis	West Shore Corridor Alternatives Analysis, OH	$350,000	Rep. Betty Sutton
Alternatives Analysis	LTD Alternatives Analysis for Third EmX Corridor, OR	$250,000	Rep. Peter DeFazio, Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden
Alternatives Analysis	East West Corridor Rapid Transit, Allegheny Cty, PA	$1,000,000	Rep. Jason Altmire, Rep. Michael Doyle
Alternatives Analysis	Northwest New Jersey/Northeast Pennsylvania Commuter Rail Service, PA	$1,340,000	Sen. Casey, Sen. Specter
Alternatives Analysis	Philadelphia Navy Yard Transit Extension Study, PA	$400,000	Rep. Robert Brady
Alternatives Analysis	Commuter Rail Station at Carmel Church, VA	$500,000	Rep. Jo Ann Davis
Alternatives Analysis	I–66 Bus Rapid Transit Study, VA	$1,000,000	Rep. Frank Wolf
Alternatives Analysis	Spokane Streetcar Study, Spokane, WA	$300,000	Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Appalachian Development Highway System	Corridor H, West Virginia	$16,000,000	Sen. Byrd
Buses & Bus Facilities	Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities Enhancements, AK	$375,000	Sen. Stevens, Sen. Murkowski
Buses & Bus Facilities	Alabama Senior Transportation Program, AL	$700,000	Sen. Shelby
Buses & Bus Facilities	Birmingham Intermodal Transit Facility, AL	$400,000	Rep. Artur Davis, Sen. Shelby
Buses & Bus Facilities	City of Mobile's Transit System, AL	$1,400,000	Sen. Shelby, Rep. Jo Bonner
Buses & Bus Facilities	Huntsville, AL Multimodal Dallas Branch	$1,250,000	Rep. Robert Cramer, Sen. Shelby
Buses & Bus Facilities	State of Arkansas, Bus and Bus Facilities, AR	$3,350,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor, Rep. Marion Berry, Rep. John Boozeman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Expansion—Phoenix, Avondale, Glendale, AZ	$250,000	Rep. Ed Pastor

Buses & Bus Facilities	Buses and Bus Maintenance Facility, Tucson, AZ	$1,000,000	Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, Rep. Raul Grijalva, Sen. Kyl
Buses & Bus Facilities	Construction of Intermodal Center, Scottsdale, AZ	$200,000	Rep. Harry Mitchell
Buses & Bus Facilities	East Valley Bus Maintenance Facility—Tempe, AZ	$400,000	Rep. Harry Mitchell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Main Street Bus Rapid Transit Buses, Mesa, AZ	$500,000	Sen. Kyl, Rep. Harry Mitchell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Phoenix Regional Heavy Bus Maintenance Facility, AZ	$500,000	Rep. Ed Pastor
Buses & Bus Facilities	Phoenix/Glendale West Valley Operating Facility, AZ	$750,000	Rep. Harry Mitchell, Rep. Ed Pastor
Buses & Bus Facilities	Anaheim Regional Intermodal Center, Orange County, CA	$600,000	Rep. Loretta Sanchez, Rep. Edward Royce, Sen. Feinstein
Buses & Bus Facilities	BART Intermodal Station Infrastructure Improvements to Improve Bus Safety and Access, CA	$670,000	Sen. Feinstein, Rep. Ellen Tauscher
Buses & Bus Facilities	Beach Cities Transit Equipment, Redondo Beach, CA	$500,000	Rep. Jane Harman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Shelters for Bellflower, CA	$500,000	Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard
Buses & Bus Facilities	City of Modesto Bus Maintenance Facility, CA	$250,000	Rep. George Radanovich
Buses & Bus Facilities	Clean Air Bus Purchase Program, Baldwin Park, CA	$400,000	Rep. Hilda Solis
Buses & Bus Facilities	Culver City Multi-Modal Light Rail Station, CA	$670,000	Sen. Feinstein
Buses & Bus Facilities	East County Bus Maintenance Facility, El Cajon, CA	$350,000	Rep. Duncan Hunter
Buses & Bus Facilities	Ed Roberts Campus—Berkeley, CA	$500,000	Rep. Barbara Lee
Buses & Bus Facilities	Fairfield/Vacaville Intermodal Station, CA	$200,000	Rep. Ellen Tauscher
Buses & Bus Facilities	Foothill Transit Oriented Neighborhood, CA	$500,000	Rep. David Dreier, Rep. Hilda Solis
Buses & Bus Facilities	Inter-County Express Bus, Orange County, CA	$500,000	Rep. Ken Calvert
*Buses & Bus Facilities	Los Angeles Southwest College Transit Center, CA	$400,000	Rep. Maxine Waters
Buses & Bus Facilities	Monrovia Transit Village, CA	$500,000	Rep. David Dreier
Buses & Bus Facilities	Monterey Salinas Transit Bus Financing, CA	$200,000	Rep. Sam Farr
Buses & Bus Facilities	Muni Bus Rehabilitation, San Francisco, CA	$1,000,000	Rep. Nancy Pelosi
Buses & Bus Facilities	Municipal Transit Operators Coalition (MTOC), CA	$1,100,000	Rep. Jane Harman, Rep. Grace Napolitano, Rep. Maxine Waters, Rep. Diane Watson, Rep. Henry Waxman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Pacific Station Multimodal-Multiuse Facility, CA	$500,000	Rep. Anna Eshoo, Rep. Sam Farr
Buses & Bus Facilities	Palmdale Transportation Center Parking Lot, CA	$250,000	Rep. Howard McKeon
Buses & Bus Facilities	Palo Alto Intermodal Transit Center, CA	$400,000	Rep. Anna Eshoo
Buses & Bus Facilities	Regional Bus Replacement, San Diego, CA	$500,000	Rep. Susan Davis
Buses & Bus Facilities	Rio Hondo College Buses—Los Angeles, CA	$500,000	Rep. Grace Napolitano
Buses & Bus Facilities	Riverside and Corona Transit Centers, CA	$700,000	Rep. Ken Calvert, Sen. Feinstein
Buses & Bus Facilities	SamTrans Revenue Collection System, CA	$500,000	Rep. Tom Lantos
Buses & Bus Facilities	San Diego Balboa Park Trolleys, CA	$335,000	Sen. Feinstein, Rep. Susan Davis
Buses & Bus Facilities	San Joaquin Regional Transit District, CA	$750,000	Rep. Dennis Cardoza, Rep. Jerry McNerney, Sen. Boxer
Buses & Bus Facilities	San Luis Rey Transit Center, CA	$250,000	Rep. Darrell Issa
Buses & Bus Facilities	Santa Maria Intermodal Transit Center, CA	$500,000	Rep. Lois Capps
Buses & Bus Facilities	Street Shuttle Buses for Artesia, CA	$600,000	Rep. Linda Sanchez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Transit Access Passenger Integration, Los Angeles, CA	$750,000	Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard, Sen. Feinstein
Buses & Bus Facilities	Transit Center, California State Univ, Northridge	$400,000	Rep. Brad Sherman

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Buses & Bus Facilities	Tri-Delta Transit Park-and-Ride Lots, CA	$500,000	Rep. Ellen Tauscher
Buses & Bus Facilities	Union City Intermodal Station, Union City, CA	$400,000	Rep. Fortney Stark
Buses & Bus Facilities	Venice/Robertson Multi-Modal Station, CA	$500,000	Rep. Diane Watson
Buses & Bus Facilities	VTA Zero Emission Bus Demonstration Program, CA	$400,000	Rep. Michael Honda
Buses & Bus Facilities	Yolo County Bus Maintenance Facility Improvements, CA	$400,000	Rep. Mike Thompson
Buses & Bus Facilities	Colorado Transit Coalition Statewide Request	$3,600,000	Sen. Allard, Sen. Salazar, Rep. Diana DeGette, Rep. Marilyn Musgrave, Rep. Ed Perlmutter, Rep. John Salazar, Rep. Tom Tancredo, Rep. Mark Udall
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bridgeport Intermodal Center, CT	$4,395,000	Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman, Rep. Christopher Shays
Buses & Bus Facilities	Intermodal Center, Mansfield, CT	$500,000	Rep. Joe Courtney, Sen. Lieberman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Norwalk Pulse Point Facility Safety Improvements, CT	$150,000	Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Norwich Intermodal Transportation Center, CT	$2,010,000	Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman
Buses & Bus Facilities	South Norwalk Intermodal Facility Phase 2, CT	$500,000	Rep. Christopher Shays, Sen. Lieberman
Buses & Bus Facilities	West Haven Intermodal Station, CT	$600,000	Rep. Rosa DeLauro, Sen. Lieberman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Union Station Intermodal Transportation Facility, DC	$500,000	Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton
Buses & Bus Facilities	Automotive-Based Fuel Cell Hybrid Bus Program, DE	$1,005,000	Sen. Biden, Sen. Carper, Rep. Michael Castle
Buses & Bus Facilities	Replacement of Fixed Route Transit Buses, DE	$670,000	Sen. Biden, Sen. Carper, Rep. Michael Castle
Buses & Bus Facilities	7th Avenue Transit Hub, FL	$500,000	Rep. Kendrick Meek, Sen. Martinez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Basic Transit Infrastructure, Hillsborough, FL	$300,000	Rep. Kathy Castor, Rep. Gus Bilirakis
Buses & Bus Facilities	Broward Bus Procurement, FL	$200,000	Rep. Robert Wexler, Sen. Martinez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Broward County Southwest Transit Facility, FL	$500,000	Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart
Buses & Bus Facilities	Flagler County Bus and Bus Facilities, FL	$500,000	Rep. John Mica
Buses & Bus Facilities	HART Bus and Paratransit Van Acquisition, FL	$300,000	Rep. Gus Bilirakis
Buses & Bus Facilities	Jacksonville Intermodal Center, FL	$500,000	Rep. Ander Crenshaw
Buses & Bus Facilities	Jacksonville Trans. Auth., Bus and Bus Facilities, FL	$500,000	Rep. Corrine Brown, Rep. Ander Crenshaw
Buses & Bus Facilities	Lakeland Area Mass Transit District, Lakeland, FL	$300,000	Rep. Adam Putnam
Buses & Bus Facilities	Lower Keys Shuttle, Key West, FL	$300,000	Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Buses & Bus Facilities	LYNX Bus Acquisition, Orlando, Florida	$1,400,000	Sen. Martinez, Rep. Corrine Brown
Buses & Bus Facilities	Miami Lakes Transit Program, FL	$300,000	Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart
Buses & Bus Facilities	Miami-Dade Transit Bus Procurement Plan, FL	$700,000	Sen. Martinez, Sen. Bill Nelson
Buses & Bus Facilities	Multi-Modal Transportation Program, Boca Raton, FL	$350,000	Rep. Ron Klein
Buses & Bus Facilities	North Orange/South Seminole ITS Enhanced Circulator, City of Orlando, FL	$1,172,500	Sen. Bill Nelson, Sen. Martinez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Palm Beach County AVL/APC & Fareboxes, FL	$750,000	Rep. Ron Klein, Rep. Tim Mahoney
Buses & Bus Facilities	Pasco County Public Transportation (Bus Purchase), FL	$300,000	Rep. Gus Bilirakis
Buses & Bus Facilities	Pinellas Suncoast Transit Auth bus replacement, FL	$400,000	Rep. C.W. Young

Buses & Bus Facilities	PSTA Bus and Bus Facilities, St. Petersburg, FL	$260,000	Rep. Kathy Castor
Buses & Bus Facilities	Sarasota County Area Transit Bus acquisition, FL	$500,000	Rep. Vern Buchanan
Buses & Bus Facilities	StarMetro Intelligent Transpo System, Tallahassee, FL	$500,000	Rep. Allen Boyd
Buses & Bus Facilities	Suntran Bus Acquisition, Marion County, FL	$200,000	Rep. Cliff Stearns
Buses & Bus Facilities	Town Center Transit Hub in Miramar, FL	$400,000	Rep. Alcee Hastings
Buses & Bus Facilities	Winter Haven Transit Bus and Bus Facility, FL	$300,000	Rep. Adam Putnam
Buses & Bus Facilities	Acquisition of MARTA Clean Fuel Buses, GA	$3,000,000	Sen. Chambliss, Sen. Isakson, Rep. Jack Kingston, Rep. John Lewis
Buses & Bus Facilities	Chatham County, Savannah Bus Facility, GA	$400,000	Rep. John Barrow, Rep. Jack Kingston
Buses & Bus Facilities	City of Moultrie Intermodal Facility, GA	$350,000	Sen. Chambliss, Rep. Jim Marshall
Buses & Bus Facilities	Honolulu Bus and Paratransit Replacement Program, HI	$200,000	Rep. Neil Abercrombie, Rep. Mazie Hirono, Sen. Inouye, Sen. Akaka
Buses & Bus Facilities	Public Transportation Vehicle Enhancement Project, HI	$400,000	Rep. Mazie Hirono
Buses & Bus Facilities	Rural Bus Program for Hawaii, Maui and Kauai Counties, HI	$1,560,000	Sen. Inouye
Buses & Bus Facilities	Coralville Intermodal Facility, IA	$670,000	Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley, Rep. David Loebsack
Buses & Bus Facilities	Statewide Bus Replacement, IA	$4,690,000	Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley, Rep. David Loebsack
Buses & Bus Facilities	Idaho Transit Coalition Buses and Bus Facilities, ID	$3,212,000	Sen. Crapo, Sen. Craig, Rep. Michael Simpson
Buses & Bus Facilities	Treasure Valley Transit Facilities, ID	$288,000	Sen. Craig, Sen. Crapo
Buses & Bus Facilities	Berwyn Intermodal Transit Facility, IL	$400,000	Rep. Daniel Lipinski
Buses & Bus Facilities	Chicago Transit Authority/69th Street Transit Center, IL	$500,000	Rep. Bobby Rush
Buses & Bus Facilities	Grand Ave. Transit Signal Priority Lake County, IL	$320,000	Rep. Melissa Bean
Buses & Bus Facilities	Illinois Bus and Bus Facilities, IL	$6,000,000	Sen. Durbin, Rep. Ray LaHood
Buses & Bus Facilities	MetroLINK Transit Facility, Rock Island, IL	$500,000	Rep. Phil Hare, Sen. Durbin, Sen. Obama
Buses & Bus Facilities	Mobile Data Terminal/Chicago Paratransit Vehicles, IL	$200,000	Rep. Danny Davis, Rep. Luis Gutierrez, Sen. Obama
Buses & Bus Facilities	Mobile data terminals for PACE, Arlington Hts, IL	$400,000	Rep. Danny Davis, Sen. Obama
Buses & Bus Facilities	Multimodal Center, Normal, IL	$250,000	Rep. Timothy Johnson, Rep. Jerry Weller, Sen. Obama
Buses & Bus Facilities	PACE Bus Park-N-Ride Facility, Plainfield, IL	$250,000	Rep. Judy Biggert, Sen. Obama
Buses & Bus Facilities	PACE South Suburban Signal Transit Signal Priority, IL	$250,000	Rep. Jesse Jackson, Sen. Obama
Buses & Bus Facilities	PACE Suburban Bus Roosevelt Rd/Arlington Hts, IL	$250,000	Rep. Peter Roskam, Sen. Obama
Buses & Bus Facilities	River Valley Metro, Kankakee, IL	$500,000	Rep. Jerry Weller, Sen. Durbin
Buses & Bus Facilities	City Bus Replacement Plan Lafayette, IN	$200,000	Rep. Steve Buyer
Buses & Bus Facilities	City of Anderson, IN, Transit	$400,000	Rep. Mike Pence, Sen. Lugar
Buses & Bus Facilities	Indianapolis Downtown Transit Center & Fleet Additions, IN	$1,490,000	Sen. Bayh, Sen. Lugar, Rep. Julia Carson
Buses & Bus Facilities	Statewide Electric Hybrid Bus Initiative by the Indiana Transit Association, IN	$2,800,000	Sen. Lugar
Buses & Bus Facilities	TRANSPO Bus Operations Center, South Bend, IN	$670,000	Sen. Bayh, Sen. Lugar, Rep. Joe Donnelly
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Fleet Replacement, Topeka Metropolitan Transit, KS	$300,000	Rep. Nancy Boyda
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Replacement for Unified Government of Wyandotte County, KS	$700,000	Sen. Brownback, Sen. Roberts, Rep. Dennis Moore
Buses & Bus Facilities	City of Lawrence, KS—Bus Replacement	$150,000	Rep. Dennis Moore
Buses & Bus Facilities	Johnson County Transit Bus Replacement, KS	$150,000	Rep. Dennis Moore

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Replacement Program, TANK, Ft. Wright, KY	$250,000	Rep. Geoff Davis
Buses & Bus Facilities	Fulton County Transit Authority, KY	$400,000	Rep. Ed Whitfield
Buses & Bus Facilities	Paducah Area Transit System, KY	$2,000,000	Sen. McConnell, Rep. Ed Whitfield
Buses & Bus Facilities	TARC Clean Bus program, KY	$250,000	Rep. John Yarmuth
Buses & Bus Facilities	Transit Authority of Northern Kentucky Bus Replacement Project, KY	$1,000,000	Sen. McConnell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Transportation to Wellness, Covington, KY	$200,000	Rep. Geoff Davis
Buses & Bus Facilities	Multimodel Transportation Facility, Lafayette, LA	$825,000	Sen. Vitter, Sen. Landrieu, Rep. Charles Boustany
Buses & Bus Facilities	New Orleans Regional Transit Authority, LA	$500,000	Rep. William Jefferson, Sen. Vitter, Sen. Landrieu
Buses & Bus Facilities	SporTran Buses for the City of Shreveport, LA	$250,000	Rep. Jim McCrery, Sen. Vitter, Sen. Landrieu
Buses & Bus Facilities	Attleboro Intermodal Center, Attleboro MA	$500,000	Rep. James McGovern, Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
Buses & Bus Facilities	Brockton Area Transit Authority Bus Replacement, MA	$500,000	Rep. Stephen Lynch, Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Fleet Replacement Project, WRTA, Worcester, MA	$200,000	Rep. James McGovern
Buses & Bus Facilities	Commonwealth Avenue Green Line Station, MA	$670,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry, Rep. Michael Capuano
Buses & Bus Facilities	Construction of Amesbury Bus Facility, MA	$250,000	Rep. John Tierney
Buses & Bus Facilities	Council on Aging, LRTA; Lowell, MA	$75,000	Rep. Martin Meehan
Buses & Bus Facilities	FRTA, Franklin Regional Transit Center, MA	$800,000	Rep. John Olver
Buses & Bus Facilities	Intermodal Stations in Salem and Beverly, MA	$250,000	Rep. John Tierney
Buses & Bus Facilities	MART Bus and Commuter Facilities, MA	$750,000	Rep. John Olver
Buses & Bus Facilities	MART Commuter Parking and Facilities, MA	$750,000	Rep. John Olver
Buses & Bus Facilities	MBTA Commuter Rail Station Improvements, Melrose, MA	$700,000	Rep. Edward Markey
*Buses & Bus Facilities	Merrimack Valley RTA Buses, MA	$400,000	Rep. Niki Tsongas
Buses & Bus Facilities	Newton Rapid Transit Handicap Accessibility, MA	$400,000	Rep. Barney Frank
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bi-County Transit Center, Langley Park, MD	$835,000	Sen. Mikulski, Sen. Cardin, Rep. Chris Van Hollen
Buses & Bus Facilities	Central MD Transit Operations Facility, Anne Arundel County, MD	$670,000	Sen. Mikulski, Sen. Cardin, Rep. Elijah Cummings, Rep. C.A. Ruppersberger, Rep. John Sarbanes
Buses & Bus Facilities	Maryland Statewide Bus and Bus Facility Program	$750,000	Rep. Elijah Cummings, Rep. Wayne Gilchrest, Rep. Chris Van Hollen, Rep. Albert Wynn, Sen. Cardin
Buses & Bus Facilities	Southern Maryland Commuter Bus Park and Ride Lots	$1,300,000	Rep. Steny Hoyer, Sen. Mikulski
Buses & Bus Facilities	Statewide Buses and Bus Facilities, ME	$300,000	Rep. Thomas Allen, Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe
Buses & Bus Facilities	1st District Bus Replacement and Facilities, MI	$4,020,000	Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow, Rep. Bart Stupak
Buses & Bus Facilities	Alma Dial-a-Ride (Gratiot County), MI	$300,000	Rep. Dave Camp, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Buses & Bus Facilities	Ann Arbor Transportation Authority Transit Center, MI	$750,000	Rep. John Dingell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Belding Dial-A-Ride vehicle, equipment acquisition, MI	$48,000	Rep. Vernon Ehlers
Buses & Bus Facilities	Berrien County Transit, MI	$100,000	Rep. Fred Upton, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Component Overhaul, Detroit, MI	$250,000	Rep. John Conyers, Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow

Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Maintenance Facility, Detroit, MI	$750,000	Rep. John Conyers, Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Buses & Bus Facilities	Clare County Transit Corporation/Harrison Airport Facility, MI	$502,500	Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow, Rep. Dave Camp
Buses & Bus Facilities	Greater Lapeer Transportation Authority Lapeer, MI	$200,000	Rep. Candice Miller
Buses & Bus Facilities	Harbor Transit, MI	$250,000	Rep. Peter Hoekstra
Buses & Bus Facilities	Ionia Dial-A-Ride vehicle, equipment acquisition, MI	$392,000	Rep. Vernon Ehlers
Buses & Bus Facilities	Isabella County Transportation Commission, MI	$500,000	Rep. Dave Camp
Buses & Bus Facilities	JTA bus replacement, Jackson, MI	$350,000	Rep. Timothy Walberg
Buses & Bus Facilities	Kalamazoo Metro Transit, MI	$250,000	Rep. Fred Upton
Buses & Bus Facilities	Mass Transportation Authority, Flint, Michigan Fiscal Year 2008 Bus and Bus Facilities Program, MI	$2,680,000	Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow, Rep. Dale Kildee
Buses & Bus Facilities	Midland Dial-a-Ride (Midland County), MI	$179,000	Rep. Dave Camp, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Buses & Bus Facilities	Muskegon Area Transit System, MI	$250,000	Rep. Peter Hoekstra
Buses & Bus Facilities	Replacement Buses, Detroit, MI	$250,000	Rep. John Conyers, Rep. Carolyn Kilpatrick, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Buses & Bus Facilities	Sanilac Transportation Authority Carsonville, MI	$400,000	Rep. Candice Miller
Buses & Bus Facilities	STARS Operations Center & Fare Boxes, Saginaw, MI	$500,000	Rep. Dale Kildee, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Buses & Bus Facilities	Yates Dial-A-Ride, MI	$250,000	Rep. Peter Hoekstra
Buses & Bus Facilities	Albert Lea Transit Facility, MN	$300,000	Rep. Timothy Walz
Buses & Bus Facilities	Greater Minnesota Transit Bus and Bus Facilities, MN	$3,000,000	Sen. Coleman, Sen. Klobuchar
Buses & Bus Facilities	Replacement Small Buses, St. Cloud Metro Bus, MN	$820,000	Sen. Klobuchar, Sen. Coleman, Rep. Michele Bachmann
Buses & Bus Facilities	Transit Bus Facilities, Duluth, MN	$400,000	Rep. James Oberstar
Buses & Bus Facilities	Union Depot Multi-Modal Hub, St. Paul, MN	$670,000	Sen. Klobuchar, Rep. Betty McCollum
Buses & Bus Facilities	White Earth Tribal Nation SMART Transit and Buses, MN	$400,000	Rep. Collin Peterson, Sen. Klobuchar
Buses & Bus Facilities	City Utilities of Springfield Intermodal Transfer Facility, MO	$1,500,000	Sen. Bond
Buses & Bus Facilities	Forest Park Circulator/I-64 Closure Alleviation, MO	$750,000	Sen. Bond
Buses & Bus Facilities	Franklin County Transit, MO	$176,000	Rep. Kenny Hulshof
Buses & Bus Facilities	Kansas City Area Transportation Authority Bus Replacement (KCATA), MO	$750,000	Sen. Bond
Buses & Bus Facilities	Southeast Missouri Transportation Service (SMTS), MO	$750,000	Sen. Bond
Buses & Bus Facilities	St. Louis Metro Bus & Paratransit Rolling Stock, MO	$500,000	Rep. William Clay
Buses & Bus Facilities	Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities, MO	$1,500,000	Sen. Bond
Buses & Bus Facilities	Coast Transit Authority Bus and Bus Facilities, MS	$3,000,000	Sen. Cochran
Buses & Bus Facilities	JATRAN Fleet Replacement, MS	$1,125,000	Sen. Cochran
Buses & Bus Facilities	LOU Public Transit System, Oxford, MS	$875,000	Sen. Cochran, Rep. Roger Wicker
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus and Bus Facilities, MT	$670,000	Sen. Baucus, Sen. Tester
Buses & Bus Facilities	CSKT Reservation Transportation Program, MT	$234,500	Sen. Tester, Sen. Baucus
Buses & Bus Facilities	Asheville Replacement Buses Asheville, NC	$300,000	Rep. Heath Shuler
Buses & Bus Facilities	Intermodal Transportation Facility, Winston-Salem, NC	$400,000	Rep. Melvin Watt
Buses & Bus Facilities	North Carolina Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities	$1,250,000	Rep. Howard Coble, Rep. Robin Hayes, Rep. David Price, Rep. Melvin Watt, Sen. Dole

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Buses & Bus Facilities	TTA Replacement Buses, NC	$500,000	Rep. Brad Miller
Buses & Bus Facilities	North Dakota Statewide Transit	$1,633,500	Sen. Conrad, Sen. Dorgan, Rep. Earl Pomeroy
Buses & Bus Facilities	Metro Area Transit, Omaha, NE—Video Surveillance Security System for Transit Buses/Americans with Disabilities Act Complimentary Paratransit Vehicles, NE	$500,000	Sen. Ben Nelson
Buses & Bus Facilities	I-89 Park and Ride/Bus Terminal, NH	$500,000	Rep. Paul Hodes
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Shuttle Project for Seniors, Irvington, NJ	$400,000	Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Hudson County Intermodal Station Pedestrian Bridge, NJ	$300,000	Rep. Albio Sires, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Lakewood Multi-Modal Facility, Phase I, NJ	$1,340,000	Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Morris County Intermodel Park and Ride, NJ	$500,000	Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Newark Penn Station Intermodel Improvement, NJ	$1,340,000	Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez, Rep. Donald Payne
Buses & Bus Facilities	Northern New Jersey Intermodal Stations & Park-N-Ride	$200,000	Rep. Steven Rothman, Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Northwest NJ Intermodal Transit Improvements, NJ	$600,000	Rep. Scott Garrett, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Buses & Bus Facilities	Passaic/Bergen Intermodal Facilities, NJ	$500,000	Rep. Bill Pascrell, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Buses & Bus Facilities	South Amboy Intermodal Transportation Initiative, NJ	$500,000	Rep. Frank Pallone, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Buses & Bus Facilities	West Orange Township Senior Citizen & Handicap Shuttle Bus, NJ	$200,000	Sen. Lautenberg
Buses & Bus Facilities	Albuquerque Transit Facility Rehabilitation, NM	$510,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus and Bus Facilities, City of Roswell, NM	$300,000	Sen. Bingaman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus and Bus Facilities, Grant County, NM	$1,005,000	Sen. Bingaman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Fleet and Capital Items Los Alamos County Transit System, NM	$600,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Buses & Bus Facilities	New Mexico Commuter Rail, Santa Fe/Bernalillo Intermodal Facility, NM	$1,105,000	Sen. Bingaman, Sen. Domenici, Rep. Tom Udall
Buses & Bus Facilities	Para-Transit Van Replacement, Las Cruces, NM	$480,000	Rep. Stevan Pearce, Sen. Bingaman, Sen. Domenici
Buses & Bus Facilities	Santa Fe Place Transit Center, NM	$600,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Santa Fe Trails Transit Vehicles, NM	$300,000	Rep. Tom Udall, Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Transit Vehicle Fleet Upgrades, NM	$1,248,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Buses & Bus Facilities	Acquisition of Two Senior Transit Vehicles, NV	$100,000	Rep. Jon Porter
Buses & Bus Facilities	Central City Intermodal Transportation Terminal, NV	$300,000	Rep. Shelley Berkley, Sen. Reid, Sen. Ensign
Buses & Bus Facilities	Reno & Sparks Intermodal Transportation Centers, NV	$750,000	Sen. Reid, Sen. Ensign, Rep. Dean Heller
Buses & Bus Facilities	Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities, NV	$750,000	Sen. Ensign, Sen. Reid, Rep. Dean Heller
Buses & Bus Facilities	Sunset (RTC) Maintenance Facility, NV	$750,000	Sen. Reid
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bronx Zoo Intermodal Transporation Facility, NY	$600,000	Rep. Eliot Engel, Sen. Schumer
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus replacement/service expansion Suffolk Co, NY	$250,000	Rep. Timothy Bishop
Buses & Bus Facilities	Central New York Regional Transportation Authority, NY	$1,600,000	Rep. James Walsh
Buses & Bus Facilities	City of Poughkeepsie Transit Hub, NY	$780,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Buses & Bus Facilities	CNYRTA Transit Garage—Oneida County—Utica, NY	$400,000	Rep. Michael Arcuri

Buses & Bus Facilities	Intermodal Transit Center, Port Chester, NY	$700,000	Rep. Nita Lowey
Buses & Bus Facilities	Jamaica Intermodal Facilities, Jamaica, NY	$500,000	Rep. Gregory Meeks, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Buses & Bus Facilities	Lincoln Center Corridor Redevelopment Project, NY	$500,000	Rep. Jerrold Nadler, Rep. Charles Rangel, Rep. Edolphus Towns, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
Buses & Bus Facilities	Long Island Bus Fleet Replacement, NY	$500,000	Rep. Carolyn McCarthy, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Buses & Bus Facilities	Nassau County Hub, NY	$1,560,000	Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
Buses & Bus Facilities	NFTA, Purchase Hybrid Buses, NY	$300,000	Rep. Brian Higgins, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
Buses & Bus Facilities	Preliminary Design of a Saratoga Bus Facility, NY	$250,000	Rep. Kirsten Gillibrand, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Buses & Bus Facilities	Replacement Buses for the Westchester County Bee-Line Bus System, NY	$780,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Purchase, Portage Area Transit, Kent, OH	$500,000	Rep. Tim Ryan
Buses & Bus Facilities	Central Ohio Transit Authority Bus Replacement, OH	$600,000	Rep. Deborah Pryce, Sen. Voinovich
Buses & Bus Facilities	Greater Dayton RTA Bus Replacement, OH	$500,000	Rep. Michael Turner
Buses & Bus Facilities	Kent State Geauga, Regional Transit Shelter, OH	$450,000	Rep. Steven LaTourette
Buses & Bus Facilities	Kent State Multimodal Transportation Facility, Kent, OH	$200,000	Rep. Tim Ryan, Sen. Voinovich
Buses & Bus Facilities	Senior Transportation Connection, OH	$1,222,000	Sen. Brown, Rep. Stephanie Jones, Rep. Dennis Kucinich, Sen. Voinovich
Buses & Bus Facilities	TARTA Bus and Bus Facilities, OH	$1,000,000	Rep. Marcy Kaptur
Buses & Bus Facilities	West Price Hill Park and Ride, OH	$200,000	Rep. Steve Chabot
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus and ParaTransit Vans, OK	$300,000	Rep. Mary Fallin, Sen. Inhofe
Buses & Bus Facilities	Sect. 5309 Capital Appropriation-Tulsa Transit, OK	$250,000	Rep. John Sullivan
Buses & Bus Facilities	Sandy Transit Fleet Replacement, Sandy, OR	$400,000	Rep. Earl Blumenauer, Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith
Buses & Bus Facilities	Yamhill County Transit Project, OR	$150,000	Rep. David Wu, Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith
Buses & Bus Facilities	69th Street Terminal Parking Facility, Upper Darby Township, PA	$500,000	Rep. Joe Sestak
Buses & Bus Facilities	Advanced CNG Buses Fleet Replacement—CATA, PA	$750,000	Rep. John Peterson, Sen. Specter
Buses & Bus Facilities	Altoona, PA Intermodal Transportation Center, PA	$335,000	Sen. Casey
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bethlehem Transit Transfer Center, PA	$500,000	Rep. Charles Dent
Buses & Bus Facilities	Butler Multi-Modal Transit Center, PA	$500,000	Rep. Phil English
Buses & Bus Facilities	Church Street Transportation Center, PA	$2,400,000	Rep. Christopher Carney
Buses & Bus Facilities	Expansion of the Scranton Electric Trolley System, PA	$200,000	Rep. Paul Kanjorski
Buses & Bus Facilities	Franklin Street Station Intermodel, Reading PA	$1,250,000	Sen. Specter, Rep. Jim Gerlach
Buses & Bus Facilities	Hybrid-Electric Bus Acquisition (SEPTA), PA	$2,000,000	Sen. Specter, Rep. Joe Sestak, Rep. Patrick Murphy
Buses & Bus Facilities	Paoli Transportation Center, Paoli, PA	$500,000	Rep. Jim Gerlach, Rep. Joe Sestak
Buses & Bus Facilities	Purchase of transit vehicles, York County, PA	$350,000	Rep. Todd Platts
Buses & Bus Facilities	Replacement Buses, Centre Area Transportation Authority (CATA), PA	$700,000	Sen. Specter, Sen. Casey, Rep. Michael Doyle
Buses & Bus Facilities	SEPTA Hybrid Fuel Buses, PA	$500,000	Rep. Patrick Murphy, Rep. Joe Sestak, Sen. Specter
Buses & Bus Facilities	SEPTA Interoperability Communications Initiative, PA	$670,000	Sen. Casey
Buses & Bus Facilities	Union Station Intermodal Trade and Transit Center, PA	$400,000	Rep. Tim Holden
Buses & Bus Facilities	Vehicle Replacement—DuFAST, PA	$600,000	Rep. John Peterson
Buses & Bus Facilities	Rhode Island Public Transit Authority Intelligent Transportation System, RI	$1,368,900	Sen. Reed

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Buses & Bus Facilities	Columbia Transit Facility, SC	$750,000	Rep. James Clyburn
Buses & Bus Facilities	CARTA N. Shore Shuttle Parking & Terminal Facility, TN	$600,000	Rep. Zach Wamp
Buses & Bus Facilities	Memphis Area Transit Authority, TN	$500,000	Rep. Steve Cohen
Buses & Bus Facilities	MTSU Intermodal Transportation Hub, TN	$200,000	Rep. Bart Gordon
Buses & Bus Facilities	Tennessee DOT, Bus and Bus Facilities Replacement	$4,450,000	Sen. Alexander, Rep. Steve Cohen, Rep. Jim Cooper, Rep. John Duncan, Rep. Bart Gordon, Rep. John Tanner
Buses & Bus Facilities	Abilene Paratransit Vehicle Replacement, TX	$440,000	Sen. Cornyn, Sen. Hutchison, Rep. Randy Neugebauer
Buses & Bus Facilities	Advanced Transit Program / METRO Solutions Bus Expansion, TX	$500,000	Rep. Al Green
Buses & Bus Facilities	Capital Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Austin, TX	$260,000	Sen. Cornyn, Sen. Hutchison
Buses & Bus Facilities	City of El Paso Paratransit Van Replacement, TX	$500,000	Rep. Silvestre Reyes, Sen. Cornyn
Buses & Bus Facilities	City of El Paso, Neighborhood Circulator, TX	$400,000	Rep. Silvestre Reyes
Buses & Bus Facilities	City of Lubbock/Citibus for Alternative Fuel Buses, TX	$500,000	Rep. Randy Neugebauer, Sen. Hutchison
Buses & Bus Facilities	Concho Valley Multi-modal Terminal Building, TX	$250,000	Rep. K. Conaway
Buses & Bus Facilities	Corpus Christi RTA Bus & Bus Facilities, TX	$500,000	Rep. Solomon Ortiz, Sen. Hutchison
Buses & Bus Facilities	Fort Bend County Sienna Plantation Park and Ride, TX	$300,000	Rep. Nick Lampson
Buses & Bus Facilities	Fort Worth Transportation Authority, TX	$300,000	Rep. Joe Barton
Buses & Bus Facilities	Greater Southeast District Transit Facility, TX	$200,000	Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee
Buses & Bus Facilities	Houston Downtown Clean Fuel Transit Initiative, TX	$1,500,000	Sen. Cornyn
Buses & Bus Facilities	METRO Bus Expansion, Houston, TX	$400,000	Rep. John Culberson
Buses & Bus Facilities	Rio Metro Intercity Transit, Hidalgo County, TX	$500,000	Rep. Ruben Hinojosa
Buses & Bus Facilities	The Woodlands Capital Cost of Contracting, TX	$300,000	Rep. Kevin Brady
Buses & Bus Facilities	Urban Commuter Rail Circulator Vehicles, TX	$250,000	Rep. Michael McCaul
Buses & Bus Facilities	VIA Bus Improvements/Facility Modernization, San Antonio, TX	$2,475,000	Sen. Hutchison, Sen. Cornyn, Rep. Charles Gonzalez, Rep. Ciro Rodriguez, Rep. Lamar Smith
Buses & Bus Facilities	Victoria Bus Replacement, TX	$300,000	Rep. Ron Paul
Buses & Bus Facilities	Intermodal Facilities, UT	$4,200,000	Sen. Bennett, Sen. Hatch
Buses & Bus Facilities	Greater Richmond Transit Company Bus Operations and Maintenance Facility, VA	$450,000	Rep. Robert Scott, Sen. Webb, Sen. Warner
Buses & Bus Facilities	HRTSouthside Bus Facility Replacement, Norfolk, VA	$700,000	Rep. Thelma Drake, Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb
Buses & Bus Facilities	PRTC Bus Facilities, VA	$1,000,000	Rep. Frank Wolf, Sen. Warner
Buses & Bus Facilities	Southside Bus Facility Replacement in Hampton Roads, VA	$1,200,000	Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb, Rep. Robert Scott
Buses & Bus Facilities	WMATA Bus and Bus Facilities, DC/MD/VA	$1,140,000	Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb
Buses & Bus Facilities	WMATA Bus Safety Initiative, VA	$200,000	Rep. James Moran, Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton, Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb
Buses & Bus Facilities	VITRAN Purchase, USVI	$400,000	Rep. Donna Christensen
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bennington Multi-Modal Facility, VT	$335,000	Sen. Sanders
Buses & Bus Facilities	Bus Replacement for Rural Community Transportation of St. Johnsbury, VT	$335,000	Sen. Sanders

Buses & Bus Facilities	CCTA Buses, Facilities and Equipment, VT	$2,680,000	Sen. Leahy, Sen. Sanders, Rep. Peter Welch
Buses & Bus Facilities	Vans for Vermont Senior Centers, VT	$200,000	Sen. Sanders
Buses & Bus Facilities	Vermont Statewide Buses, Facilities and Equipment, VT	$670,000	Sen. Leahy, Sen. Sanders
Buses & Bus Facilities	Ben Franklin Transit, Fleet Expansion and Modernization, WA	$700,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell Rep. Doc Hastings
Buses & Bus Facilities	Clallam Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$196,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Columbia County Public Transportation Vehicle Replacement, WA	$84,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Community Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$1,050,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell, Rep. Jay Inslee
Buses & Bus Facilities	C–TRAN Vehicle Replacement, WA	$490,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Everett Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$600,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Grays Harbor Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$105,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Hybrid Bus Program, WA	$300,000	Rep. Jim McDermott, Rep. David Reichert, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Intercity Transit Multimodal Facility Olympia, WA	$350,000	Rep. Brian Baird, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Island Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$420,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Jefferson Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$350,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Link Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$550,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Mason Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$280,000	Sen. Murray
Buses & Bus Facilities	Pacific Transit Vehicle Replacement, WA	$35,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Pierce Transit Peninsula Park & Ride, WA	$1,050,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell, Rep. Norman Dicks
Buses & Bus Facilities	Port Angles International Gateway Project, WA	$350,000	Sen. Murray
Buses & Bus Facilities	Pullman Transit Maintenance Facility Expansion, WA	$800,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Skagit Transit Bus Replacement, WA	$200,000	Rep. Rick Larsen, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	Spokane Transit Smart Bus Technology Modernization, WA	$700,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Buses & Bus Facilities	University Place Intermodal Transit Facility, WA	$750,000	Sen. Murray
Buses & Bus Facilities	7th District Bus Services, WI	$1,250,000	Rep. David Obey
Buses & Bus Facilities	Janseville City Transit System, WI	$750,000	Rep. Paul Ryan
Buses & Bus Facilities	Milwaukee County Bus Capital, WI	$500,000	Rep. Gwen Moore
Buses & Bus Facilities	Wisconsin Statewide Bus and Bus Facilities, WI	$3,350,000	Sen. Kohl, Rep. Steve Kagen, Rep. Paul Ryan
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Caruthersville Downtown Infrastructure Road Redevelopment, Caruthersville, MO	$375,000	Sen. Bond
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Highway 67 (Wappapello Bridge) Four Lane Improvement Project, MO	$2,250,000	Sen. Bond, Rep. Jo Ann Emerson
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Newburg Bridge Replacement, MO	$180,000	Sen. Bond
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Route AB Route Extension, Cape Girardeau, MO	$570,000	Sen. Bond, Rep. Jo Ann Emerson
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Route AB/Nash Road Improvement Project, MO	$750,000	Sen. Bond, Rep. Jo Ann Emerson
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Route D Road Improvement Project, MO	$1,875,000	Sen. Bond
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Route EE Road/Multi-Modal Improvement Project, MO	$750,000	Sen. Bond

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Route Y Safety Improvement Project, MO	$750,000	Sen. Bond, Rep. Jo Ann Emerson
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Canton Parkway, MS	$2,800,000	Sen. Cochran
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Greenville Street Revitilization, MS	$1,500,000	Sen. Cochran
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Marks Airport, MS	$1,000,000	Sen. Cochran
Delta Regional Transportation Development Program	Statesman Boulevard and Trail, MS	$1,500,000	Sen. Cochran
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Alaska Volcano Monitoring/Observatory Program, AK	$2,700,000	Sen. Stevens, The President
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Alaskan NAS Interfacility Communications System, AK	$2,000,000	Sen. Stevens, The President
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Approach Lighting System Improvement Program, AK	$2,550,000	Sen. Stevens
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Saline County Airport ILS Continuation, AR	$400,000	Rep. Vic Snyder
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Integrated Control and Monitoring System, CA	$2,000,000	Rep. David Dreier
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	NextGen Integrated Airport Project, FL	$2,000,000	Sen. Bill Nelson, Rep. John Mica
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Council Bluffs Municipal Airport, IA	$1,640,000	Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley, Rep. Steve King
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Airport Surveillance Radar (ASR–9) at O'Hare Airport, IL	$5,000,000	Sen. Durbin
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Independence Municipal Airport, KS	$700,000	Rep. Todd Tiahrt
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Completion of ILS installation, Somerset Airport, KY	$510,000	Rep. Harold Rogers
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Center for Aviation Safety Research, MO	$2,250,000	Sen. Bond
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Runway Obstruction Warning System, Gulfport, MS	$2,000,000	Sen. Cochran
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Runway Touchdown Zone and Centerline Lighting, Gulfport-Biloxi Airport, MS	$500,000	Rep. Gene Taylor, Sen. Cochran
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Northeastern Regional Airport ILS Completion, Edenton, NC	$500,000	Rep. G. K. Butterfield, Sen. Burr
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Piedmont Triad International Airport, NC	$1,050,000	Sen. Burr
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Radar Relocation, Bismark Municipal Airport, ND	$1,000,000	Sen. Dorgan, Sen. Conrad, Rep. Earl Pomeroy
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Alliance Municipal Airport, NE	$468,000	Sen. Ben Nelson
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Wind Hazard Detection Equipment, NV	$800,000	Sen. Reid
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	ILS at Aiken Municipal Airport, SC	$950,000	Sen. Graham, Rep. J. Barrett
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Multilateration Air Traffic Surveillance, Provo, UT	$700,000	Sen. Bennett, Sen. Hatch
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	Rutland State Airport Lighting (MALSR) Improvements, VT	$1,350,000	Sen. Leahy, Rep. Peter Welch
*F&E—Facilities and Equipment	SEATAC ASDE–X Relocation and Upgrade, Seattle, WA	$5,000,000	Sen. Murray
F&E—Facilities and Equipment	System-Wide Information Management/Mobile Objects Technology, WA	$2,100,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
F&E—Towers	Oakland, CA Air Traffic Control Facilities	$4,600,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Palm Springs Airport Air Traffic Control Tower, CA	$2,000,000	Rep. Mary Bono, Sen. Boxer, The President
F&E—Towers	San Francisco Control Tower Replacement, CA	$1,500,000	Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Rep. Tom Lantos, Rep. Ellen Tauscher
F&E—Towers	Jefferson County Air Traffic Control Tower, CO	$2,500,000	Rep. Mark Udall, Rep. Tom Tancredo, Sen. Salazar, The President

F&E—Towers	Fort Lauderdale, FL Air Traffic Control Facilities	$1,000,000	Sen. Martinez, The President
F&E—Towers	Orlando, FL Air Traffic Control Facilities	$7,000,000	Sen. Martinez, The President
F&E—Towers	Pensacola, FL Air Traffic Control Facilities	$4,180,000	Sen. Martinez, The President
F&E—Towers	West Palm Beach Air Traffic Control Facility, FL	$7,590,000	Rep. Robert Wexler, Sen. Martinez, The President
F&E—Towers	Boise, ID Air Traffic Control Facilities	$9,074,000	Sen. Craig, Sen. Crapo, The President
F&E—Towers	Barnstable Municipal Airport, MA	$3,250,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry, Rep. William Delahunt
F&E—Towers	Nantucket Memorial Airport, MA	$2,750,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry, Rep. William Delahunt
F&E—Towers	Kalamazoo, MI Air Traffic Control Facilities	$22,550,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Traverse City, MI Air Traffic Control Facilities	$1,150,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Greenwood Airport Tower Construction, MS	$1,500,000	Sen. Cochran, Sen. Lott
F&E—Towers	Gulfport, MS Air Traffic Control Facilities	$11,997,000	Sen. Cochran, The President
F&E—Towers	Missoula, MT Air Traffic Control Facilities	$754,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Reno, NV Air Traffic Control Facilities	$15,223,000	The President
F&E—Towers	LaGuardia, NY Air Traffic Control Facilities	$9,000,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Dayton, OH Air Traffic Control Facilities	$2,300,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Toledo, OH Air Traffic Control Facilities	$1,450,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Medford, OR Air Traffic Control Facilities	$1,100,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Memphis, TN Air Traffic Control Facilities	$4,760,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Abilene, TX Air Traffic Control Facilities	$2,200,000	The President
F&E—Towers	Houston, TX Air Traffic Control Facilities	$29,072,000	The President
FAA—Operations	Medallion Program, AK	$2,550,000	Sen. Stevens
FAA—Operations	Alien Species Action Plan (ASAP), HI	$1,250,000	Sen. Inouye
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Berkeley/Albany Ferry Service, CA	$750,000	Rep. Barbara Lee
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Ferry Maintenance Facility in Vallejo, CA	$1,000,000	Rep. George Miller
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	San Francisco Bay Area Water Transit Ferry Boat, CA	$670,000	Sen. Feinstein
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Mayport Ferry Replacement Vessel, Jacksonville, FL	$500,000	Rep. Ander Crenshaw
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Green River Ferry Rehabilitation, KY	$364,000	Rep. Ron Lewis
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Oak Bluffs Ferry Terminal Reconstruction, MA	$1,375,000	Rep. William Delahunt, Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Water Taxi/Ferry Service, City of Medford, MA	$825,000	Rep. Edward Markey
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Swan's Island Ferry Facilities, ME	$1,875,000	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Landing Craft for Mackinac Island, MI	$300,000	Rep. Bart Stupak
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Port of Detroit Public Dock and Terminal Project, MI	$2,345,000	Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Port of New Bourbon, Ste. Genevieve, MO	$500,000	Rep. Russ Carnahan
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	North Carolina Statewide Ferry System, NC	$2,325,000	Sen. Dole
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Bemus-Stow Ferry and Facilities Upgrades, NY	$500,000	Rep. Brian Higgins
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Engineering & construction of Glen Cove Ferry and Facilities, NY	$1,350,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton, Rep. Peter King
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Ferry infrastructure, NY	$750,000	Rep. Anthony Weiner, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Haverstraw Ferry Terminal, NY	$312,000	Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Ocean Beach Ferry Terminal Enhancement, NY	$1,300,000	Rep. Steve Israel
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Excursion Vessel Project, OH	$500,000	Rep. Betty Sutton
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Put-In-Bay Ferry Terminal Improvements, OH	$500,000	Rep. Marcy Kaptur
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	River Ferry Boat Transportation Program, City of Oklahoma City, OK	$1,750,000	Sen. Inhofe
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Port Aransas Ferryboat Expansion, TX	$750,000	Rep. Solomon Ortiz
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Ferry Boats, USVI	$750,000	Rep. Donna Christensen
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Ferry in Wahkiakum County, WA	$200,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell, Rep. Brian Baird
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Kitsap Transit, Low-wake Passenger-only Ferry, WA	$1,000,000	Rep. Norman Dicks
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Kitsap Transit, Rich-Passage Wake Impact Study, WA	$1,540,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Multimodal Terminal Redevelopment, Mukilteo, WA	$1,000,000	Rep. Rick Larsen, Sen. Murray
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	New Ferry Boat Construction, WA	$500,000	Rep. Jay Inslee, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	SR 304/Bremerton Transportation Center Project, WA	$5,900,000	Rep. Norman Dicks, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
FB—Ferry Boats and Terminal Facilities	Vashon Island Passenger Only Ferry, WA	$600,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell, Rep. Jim McDermott
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	U.S. Forest Highway 4, Winston County, Alabama	$1,000,000	Rep. Robert Aderholt, Sen. Shelby
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Highway Improvements in Sells, AZ	$1,000,000	Rep. Raul Grijalva
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Hoover Dam Bypass Bridge, AZ	$2,000,000	Sen. Kyl, Rep. Trent Franks
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Paving of FS 512 (Young Road), AZ	$750,000	Rep. Rick Renzi
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Road from Hardrock to Pinon, AZ (Navajo Reservation)	$750,000	Rep. Rick Renzi
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Bald Hill Slide Mitigation and Repair Project, CA	$1,000,000	Rep. Mike Thompson
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Forest Highway 171 Widening, Butte County, CA	$1,000,000	Rep. Wally Herger
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Golden Gate National Park Conservancy, Park Access and Trails, San Francisco, CA	$3,000,000	Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Rep. Tom Lantos, Rep. Lynn Woolsey, Sen. Feinstein
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Needles Highway, Needles, CA	$2,300,000	Rep. Jerry Lewis
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Pacific Way Bridge, Marin County, CA	$500,000	Rep. Lynn Woolsey
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	South Access to Golden Gate Bridge, Doyle Drive, CA	$1,500,000	Rep. Nancy Pelosi
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	SH 115, CO	$500,000	Rep. Doug Lamborn, Sen. Salazar
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	SH 13 from Wyoming State Line South through CO	$500,000	Rep. John Salazar, Sen. Salazar
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	SH9, Frisco to Breckenridge, CO	$1,000,000	Rep. Mark Udall, Sen. Salazar
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	State Highway 150 (US 160N to Great Sand Dunes), CO	$2,260,000	Sen. Salazar, Sen. Allard, Rep. John Salazar
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	U.S. 491, Montezuma County, CO	$1,000,000	Rep. John Salazar, Sen. Salazar
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Recreation Trail, DE	$700,000	Rep. Michael Castle
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Sharpes Ferry Bridge Replacement, Marion County, FL	$1,000,000	Rep. Ric Keller
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Federal Lands Program, State of HI	$1,170,000	Sen. Inouye
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	City of Rocks Back Country Byway, ID	$3,950,000	Sen. Crapo, Sen. Craig, Rep. Michael Simpson
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	FH-24, Banks to Lowman, ID	$500,000	Rep. Bill Sali, Sen. Craig

FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Reconstruction of K-20 between US75 and Horton, KS	$250,000	Rep. Nancy Boyda
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Riverwalk Construction Phase 2 Section 3, Lowell, MA	$1,000,000	Rep. Marty Meehan
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	APG Highway Access, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD	$250,000	Rep. C.A. Ruppersberger, Sen. Mikulski
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	BRAC Related Improvements, Harford County, MD	$2,010,000	Sen. Mikulski, Sen. Cardin, Rep. C.A. Ruppersberger
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	BRAC/MD 355—Transportation Analysis, Bethesda, MD	$2,010,000	Sen. Mikulski, Sen. Cardin, Rep. Chris Van Hollen
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	MD 175 Improvements, Anne Arundel County, MD	$500,000	Rep. C.A. Ruppersberger, Rep. John Sarbanes. Sen. Mikulski, Sen. Cardin
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	MD 4 at Suitland Parkway, Prince George's County, MD	$2,500,000	Rep. Steny Hoyer, Rep. Albert Wynn, Sen. Mikulski, Sen. Cardin
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	U.S. 15 at Monocacy Boulevard, Frederick, MD	$250,000	Rep. Roscoe Bartlett, Sen. Cardin
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Western Maryland Welcome Center Frederick Co MD	$250,000	Rep. Roscoe Bartlett
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	MN TH 38 Improvements, MN	$500,000	Rep. James Oberstar
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Safety Project on Environmental Effects of Dust Suppressant Chemicals on Federal Lands Highways, MO	$1,312,500	Sen. Bond
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	SR 601 from I-10 to SR 26, MS	$1,000,000	Rep. Gene Taylor
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Tupelo Thoroughfare Corridor, Tupelo, MS	$1,000,000	Rep. Roger Wicker
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Montana Secondary 323 from Ekalaka to Alzada, MT	$1,600,000	Rep. Dennis Rehberg, Sen. Baucus
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Blue Ridge Parkway, Asheville, NC	$1,000,000	Rep. Heath Shuler
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	NC 143 in Graham County, NC	$750,000	Rep. Heath Shuler
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Lewis and Clark Legacy Trail, ND	$536,000	Sen. Conrad, Sen. Dorgan
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Three Affiliated Tribes Wells Road, ND	$1,000,000	Rep. Earl Pomeroy, Sen. Dorgan, Sen. Conrad
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Valentine National Wildlife Refuge Roads, NE	$300,000	Rep. Adrian Smith, Sen. Hagel
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	West Jemez Bypass Construction, Los Alamos County, NM	$1,340,000	Sen. Bingaman
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Carson Freeway, Phase 2, Carson City, NV	$1,000,000	Rep. Dean Heller
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Craig Road Grade Separation/Overpass, NV	$500,000	Rep. Shelley Berkley, Sen. Reid
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	I-15 Corridor Study, NV	$250,000	Rep. Shelley Berkley, Rep. Jon Porter, Sen. Reid
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	I-80 at Vista Boulevard and McCarran Boulevard, NV	$750,000	Sen. Reid
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Southern Nevada Beltway Interchanges, NV	$1,100,000	Sen. Reid, Rep. Shelley Berkley, Rep. Jon Porter
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	SR-160 Blue Diamond Highway-Clark and Nye Counties, NV	$1,500,000	Sen. Ensign, Sen. Reid, Rep. John Porter
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	U.S. 93/Interstate 15 interchange, NV	$700,000	Rep. Dean Heller, Rep. Jon Porter, Sen. Reid
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Fort Drum Connector Road, NY	$800,000	Rep. John McHugh, Sen. Schumer
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Hudson Valley Welcome Center, Hyde Park, NY	$1,725,000	Rep. Kristen Gillibrand, Sen. Schumer
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Granger Road/Transportation Boulevard Improvement, OH	$1,000,000	Rep. Dennis Kucinich
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Improved Access to Cuyahoga Valley National Park, OH	$500,000	Rep. Betty Sutton
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Sequoyah Refuge Road, Sequoyah, OK	$500,000	Rep. Dan Boren
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	United Keetowah Band Tribal Roads, Tahlequah, OK	$500,000	Rep. Dan Boren
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	I-84 Sandy River Delta Project, Salem, OR	$1,000,000	Rep. Earl Blumenauer, Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	BIA Route 14 (Gooseneck Road)-Oglala Sioux Tribe, SD	$1,692,000	Sen. Johnson
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Kenel Road Rehabilitation and Resurfacing-Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, SD	$2,000,000	Sen. Johnson
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Pave from Sitting Bull Monument to US 12 and from US 12 to north of SD 1806P from SD 1806 to end of pavement in Wakpala, SD	$593,600	Sen. Thune

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	SD 44 and SD 73, Paving in Jackson and Mellette Counties, SD	$630,000	Sen. Thune
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	US 212 Paving from Eagle Butte to East of the SD 63 East Junction, Serving Cheyenne River Reservation, SD	$700,000	Sen. Johnson, Sen. Thune
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	State Route 374 from SR 149 to 77 Montgomery Co,TN	$500,000	Rep. Marsha Blackburn
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Stones River National Battlefield Tour Route, TN	$1,000,000	Rep. Bart Gordon
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Bear River Access Road Forest Street Improvements Project, UT	$875,000	Sen. Hatch, Sen. Bennett, Rep. Rob Bishop
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Halchita Bridge, San Juan County, UT	$500,000	Rep. Jim Matheson
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	State Route 92, Lehi to Highland, UT	$500,000	Rep. Jim Matheson
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	14th Street Bridge/GW Memorial Parkway, VA	$3,000,000	Rep. James Moran
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Route 1/619 Traffic Circle at Quantico, VA	$500,000	Rep. Jo Ann Davis
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Vermont Federal Lands Projects, VT	$335,000	Sen. Leahy
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	116th Street NE Interchange Improvement Project, Tulalip Tribes, WA	$1,050,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Discovery Trail, Long Beach to Port of Ilwaco, WA	$375,000	Rep. Brian Baird, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Fidalgo Bay Improvement Project, Samish Tribe, WA	$500,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Skomish Tribe Access Road and US 101 Realignment, WA	$1,000,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Welcome Center on SR 410, WA	$750,000	Rep. David Reichert, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	17-Mile Road Reconstruction, Wind River Indian Reservation, WY	$2,100,000	Sen. Enzi, Sen. Thomas, Sen. Barrasso, Rep. Barbara Cubin
*FL—Federal lands (Public Lands Highways)	Grand Teton National Park Pathways System, WY	$1,750,000	Sen. Barrasso
Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors	Grade Crossing Hazard Elimination, Glendale, CA	$500,000	Rep. Adam Schiff, Sen. Feinstein
Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors	Leucadia Boulevard/At-Grade Rail Safety Improvements, CA	$500,000	Rep. Brian Bilbray
Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors	Southern California Regional Rail Authority, San Fernando Valley, CA	$1,000,000	Rep. Howard Berman
Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors	Ventura County, Metrolink Grade Crossing Improvements, CA	$500,000	Rep. Elton Gallegly
Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors	Gulf Coast Corridor Grade Crossing Hazard Elimination, MS and LA	$500,000	Rep. William Jefferson, Rep. Gene Taylor
Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors	Hopson Road Grade Separation, Raleigh, NC	$500,000	Rep. David Price
Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors	Klumac Road Grade Separation, Salisbury, NC	$300,000	Rep. Melvin Watt
Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors	Private Crossing Safety Initiative, NC	$275,000	Rep. Melvin Watt
Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors	Quiet Zone at Union Pacific Grade Crossings, Round Rock, TX	$500,000	Rep. John Carter
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Highway 55 Hurricane Evacuation Corridor Study, AL	$250,000	Rep. Terry Everett, Sen. Shelby
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Lighting along Interstate 85 at Exits 77 and 70, AL	$125,000	Rep. Mike Rogers (AL), Sen. Shelby
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate 69/Great River Bridge: Highway 65-MS Highway 1, AR	$2,680,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstates 430/630 Interchange Modifications, AR	$3,180,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor, Rep. Vic Snyder

IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-10 Improvements, Western Maricopa County, AZ	$1,375,000	Rep. Raul Grijalva, Sen. Kyl, Rep. Trent Franks
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate-10, Pepper Avenue, San Bernardino, CA	$1,000,000	Rep. Joe Baca
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Lathrop Road/Interstate 5 Interchange Improvements, CA	$500,000	Rep. Dennis Cardoza
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Ranchero Road Corridor Project, Hesperia, CA	$1,500,000	Rep. Jerry Lewis
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Rancho Cucamonga, CA I15/Baseline Rd. Interchange, CA	$750,000	Rep. David Dreier
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	San Diego Freeway (I-405) Widening and Improvement, CA	$500,000	Rep. Dana Rohrabacher
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	SR-56 Connectors and I-5 Widening, CA	$500,000	Rep. Brian Bilbray
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	State Route 76 widening and realignment, CA	$250,000	Rep. Darrell Issa
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-225 Corridor Improvements, CO	$670,000	Sen. Salazar, Sen. Allard, Rep. Ed Perlmutter
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-25 / SH 16 (Fort Carson Interchange), CO	$2,260,000	Sen. Salazar, Sen. Allard, Rep. Doug Lamborn
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-25 North of SH 66, CO	$500,000	Rep. Marilyn Musgrave
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-70 Stapleton Interchange, Denver, CO	$500,000	Rep. Diana DeGette, Sen. Salazar
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-76 (Colorado's NE Gateway), CO	$500,000	Rep. Marilyn Musgrave, Sen. Salazar
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	State of Delaware Turnpike Improvements Project, DE	$1,490,000	Sen. Biden, Sen. Carper, Rep. Michael Castle
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-75/Collier Blvd/SR 84 Interchange Improvements, FL	$500,000	Rep. Connie Mack
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-75/Everglades Blvd. Interchange Study, FL	$250,000	Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-75/Griffin Road Interchange, FL	$1,500,000	Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-95 Interchange at Yamato Road and Spanish River Boca, FL	$1,000,000	Rep. Ron Klein
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-95 Interchange, Boca Raton, FL	$500,000	Rep. Robert Wexler
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate 75 in Manatee County, FL	$500,000	Rep. Vern Buchanan
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-85 at CR98/Gabbettville Road, Troup County, GA	$1,125,000	Sen. Chambliss
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Widen Lee Road bridge at I-20, GA	$500,000	Rep. David Scott
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	H-1 Improvements Kinau and Lusitana Ramps Project, HI	$3,900,000	Sen. Inouye
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Kapolei Interchange Complex, HI	$1,000,000	Rep. Neil Abercrombie, Rep. Maize Hirono
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-235 Storm Water Management Improvements, IA	$1,000,000	Rep. Leonard Boswell, Sen. Grassley, Sen. Harkin
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate 29 Reconstruction/Utility Relocation, Sioux City, IA	$1,050,000	Sen. Grassley, Sen. Harkin, Rep. Steve King
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Recontruct Interstate 80, Johnson County, IA	$500,000	Rep. Dave Loebsack, Sen. Harkin
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	U.S. 34 Bridge Mills County, IA	$250,000	Rep. Steve King
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-84, Curtis Road to Broadway Interchange Widening, ID	$1,500,000	Sen. Crapo, Sen. Craig, Rep. Michael Simpson
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I55 Noise Abatement Project (North), Woodridge, IL	$400,000	Rep. Judy Biggert
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I-235/US 54 & I-235/Central Ave Interchange, KS	$500,000	Rep. Todd Tiahrt, Sen. Brownback
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate 70 Viaduct Realignment, Topeka, KS	$750,000	Sen. Brownback, Rep. Nancy Boyda
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Green River Area Transportation Corridor 2025 Plan, KY	$350,000	Sen. Bunning
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Improvement of Highland Pike (KY 1072) to Farrell Drive, KY	$350,000	Sen. Bunning
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	KY Ohio River Bridges Project, Louisville, KY	$1,000,000	Rep. John Yarmuth
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–20 Transp. Corridor Program-Lincoln Parish, LA	$500,000	Rep. Rodney Alexander, Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Vitter
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–49 North, LA	$700,000	Sen. Vitter, Sen. Landrieu
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate 49 North LA, I–220 to AR State Line, LA	$500,000	Rep. Jim McCrery

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–91 Fiber and Conduit Project, MA	$1,000,000	Rep. John Olver
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–93 P&D Const. Andover, Tewksbury, Wilmington, MA	$400,000	Rep. Marty Meehan
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Route 495 Southbound Ramp, Mansfield & Norton, MA	$750,000	Rep. Barney Frank
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–270 at MD 85, Frederick County MD	$500,000	Rep. Roscoe Bartlett
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–695 (Baltimore Beltway) NE, Baltimore County, MD	$750,000	Rep. C.A. Ruppersberger, Rep. John Sarbanes, Sen. Mikulski
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–295, Exit 4 Improvement Project, ME	$375,000	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe, Rep. Thomas Allen
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Bridge Replacement I–75 at M–21/Corunna Rd Flint, MI	$500,000	Rep. Dale Kildee
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–94/I–275 Interchange Ramp Reconstruction, MI	$1,000,000	Rep. John Dingell
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Latson Road interchange at I–96 in Livingston City, MI	$500,000	Rep. Mike Rogers (MI)
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Rehabilitation of I–696 from M–53 to I–94, MI	$500,000	Rep. Sander Levin
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–35/MN TH 95, MN	$1,500,000	Rep. James Oberstar
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–35W Reconstruction Design, New Brighton, MN	$900,000	Rep. Betty McCollum, Sen. Klobuchar
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate 44 at State Route 5, Laclede County, MO	$500,000	Rep. Ike Skelton
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Route 266 & Interchange with I44 Springfield, MO	$500,000	Rep. Roy Blunt
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Study for improvm, I–270 at I–44, St. Louis County, MO	$250,000	Rep. Robert Akin
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Byram-Clinton Norrell Corridor Project, MS	$500,000	Sen. Cochran, Rep. Bennie Thompson
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–15 Helena Custer Avenue Interchange, MT	$1,005,000	Sen. Tester, Sen. Baucus
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–40 in McDowell County, NC	$1,000,000	Rep. Heath Shuler
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–40/I–77 Interchange in Iredell County, NC	$750,000	Sen. Dole
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–77 in Mecklenburg County, NC	$500,000	Rep. Melvin Watt, Sen. Dole
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–95 in Cumberland, Harnett, and Johnston Counties, NC	$750,000	Sen. Dole, Rep. Bob Etheridge
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–29/52nd Avenue S Interchange Reconstruction, Fargo, ND	$670,000	Sen. Conrad, Sen. Dorgan, Rep. Earl Pomeroy
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–80 Westbound Bridge over Missouri River, NE	$600,000	Sen. Hagel
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–25 Mesa del Sol Interchange, Albuquerque, NM	$500,000	Rep. Heather Wilson, Sen. Bingaman, Sen. Domenici
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Fernley Interchange at I–80, NV	$500,000	Sen. Ensign, Rep. Dean Heller
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Henderson Starr Road Interchange, NV	$500,000	Rep. Jon Porter, Sen. Reid
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–90 Exit 8 Phase 2 Connector, Rensselaer, NY	$500,000	Rep. Michael McNulty
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Brent Spence Bridge Study, OH	$670,000	Sen. Brown, Sen. Voinovich
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	City of Columbus Interstate 70/71 Cap Project, OH	$350,000	Sen. Voinovich, Rep. Deborah Price
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Galbraith Road Interchange (exit) northbound I–75, OH	$500,000	Rep. Steve Chabot
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–280 Veterans Glass City Skyway Lighting Enhancement, OH	$500,000	Rep. Marcy Kaptur
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–670/Stelzer Road Interchange, OH	$500,000	Rep. Patrick Tiberi
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–71 Corridor Access Improvements at MLK, OH	$750,000	Sen. Voinovich, Rep. Steve Chabot
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–71/Rt 665 Interchange, Grove City, OH	$500,000	Rep. Deborah Pryce, Sen. Voinovich

IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I –44 Arkansas River East to Yale Avenue, Tulsa, OK	$500,000	Rep. John Sullivan
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate 40 Crosstown Expressway, Oklahoma City, OK	$500,000	Rep. Mary Fallin
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Columbia River Crossing, Portland, OR	$750,000	Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden, Rep. Earl Blumenauer
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–5/Wilsonville Interchange, OR	$500,000	Rep. Darlene Hooley, Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–84 Burnt River Canyon, OR	$1,340,000	Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith, Rep. Greg Walden
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Pennsylvania Turnpike/I–95 Connection, PA	$700,000	Rep. Patrick Murphy, Sen. Casey
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–195 Relocation in Providence, RI	$1,500,000	Rep. Patrick Kennedy, Rep. James Langevin, Sen. Reed, Sen. Whitehouse
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Fairview Street/I–385 Interchange, SC	$375,000	Sen. Graham, Rep. Bob Inglis
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–95 and SC 327 Interchange Improvement Project, SC	$500,000	Rep. John Spratt
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–95/SC 301 Interchange Improvement Project, SC	$4,000,000	Rep. James Clyburn, Rep. Joe Wilson, Sen. Graham
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	US 278 Corridor Construction, SC	$250,000	Sen. Graham
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Monroe County Tennessee High Mast Lighting, TN	$500,000	Rep. John Duncan
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	IH–35W Congestion Relief, TX	$350,000	Sen. Hutchison
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate 69 (Texas Portion)	$1,000,000	Rep. Nick Lampson, Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee, Rep. Kevin Brady, Rep. Ralph Hall
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	University of Texas at El Paso, Reconstruction of Off-Ramp	$500,000	Rep. Silvestre Reyes
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	US 287 Ennis Bypass from BU 287 to South of SH 34, TX	$500,000	Rep. Joe Barton
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–15 Bluff Street Interchange, UT	$700,000	Sen. Hatch, Sen. Bennett, Rep. Jim Matheson
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–15 Dixie Drive Interchange, UT	$500,000	Rep. Jim Matheson
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–95/Fairfax County Parkway Interchange at Newington Road, VA	$2,010,000	Sen. Webb
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Lee Highway Corridor Improvement Project, VA	$500,000	Rep. Tom Davis
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–5 Port of Tacoma Interchange Project, WA	$1,000,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–5/I–205 Salmon Creek Interchange Project, WA	$700,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell, Rep. Brian Baird
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–5/SR 510 Lacey Interchange Improvement Project, WA	$500,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	I–5/SR18/SR161—Triangle Project, Federal Way, WA	$500,000	Rep. Adam Smith, Sen. Cantwell
IM—Interstate Maintenance Discretionary	Interstate 25 reconstruction, Glenrock to Hat Six, WY	$950,000	Sen. Enzi, Sen. Thomas, Rep. Barbara Cubin
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Central Phoenix/East Valley Light Rail-Phoenix, AZ	$90,000,000	The President, Rep. Harry Mitchell, Rep. Ed Pastor
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension, Los Angeles, CA	$80,000,000	The President, Rep. Lucille Roybal Allard, Sen. Feinstein, Sen. Boxer
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	South Sacramento Corridor Phase 2 Project, CA	$4,500,000	Rep. Daniel Lungren, Rep. Doris Matsui, Sen. Boxer, Sen. Feinstein
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Third Street Light Rail Transit Project-Central, San Francisco, CA	$12,000,000	Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Sen. Feinstein
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Southeast Corridor Multi-Modal Project (T–REX), CO	$51,560,484	The President, Sen. Allard, Sen. Salazar, Rep. Diana DeGette, Rep. Tom Tancredo, Rep. Mark Udall
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	West Corridor Light Rail Project, Denver, CO	$40,000,000	The President, Sen. Allard, Sen. Salazar, Rep. Diana DeGette, Rep Ed Perlmutter, Rep. Tom Tancredo, Rep. Mark Udall
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	New-Britain-Hartford Busway, CT	$3,338,400	Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman, Rep. John Larson
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	JTA Bus Rapid Transit System, Jacksonville, FL	$9,520,000	Sen. Martinez, Sen. Bill Nelson, Rep. Corrine Brown
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Metrorail Orange Line Expansion, FL	$2,000,000	Rep. Kendrick Meek, Sen. Martinez, Sen. Bill Nelson
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Honolulu High Capacity Transit Corridor Project, HI	$15,500,000	Sen. Inouye, Sen. Akaka, Rep. Neil Abercrombie, Rep. Maize Hirono

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	CTA Brown Line Capacity Expansion (Ravenswood), IL	$40,000,000	The President, Rep. Rahm Emanuel, Sen. Durbin
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Metra Connects, Southeast Service, IL	$7,375,000	Rep. Jesse Jackson, Sen. Durbin, Sen. Obama
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	METRA, STAR Line, Northeastern IL	$7,375,000	Rep. Melissa Bean, Rep. Judy Biggert, Rep. J. Hastert, Rep. Mark Kirk, Rep. Peter Roskam, Rep. Jerry Weller, Sen. Durbin, Sen. Obama
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	METRA, Union Pacific Northwest Line, Northeastern IL	$7,375,000	Rep. Melissa Bean, Rep. Rahm Emanuel, Rep. Mark Kirk, Sen. Durbin, Sen. Obama
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Northern Indiana Commuter Transit District Recapitalization, IN	$5,000,000	Rep. Peter Visclosky, Rep. Joe Donnelly, Sen. Lugar
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	North Shore Corridor and Blue Line Extension, MA	$2,000,000	Rep. John Tierney
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Largo Metrorail Extension, MD	$35,000,000	Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	MARC Commuter Rail Improvements and Rolling Stock, MD	$10,000,000	Sen. Cardin, Sen. Mikulski, Rep. John Sarbanes
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Central Corridor Light Rail, Ramsey County, MN	$10,400,000	Sen. Coleman, Sen. Klobuchar, Rep. Keith Ellison, Rep. Betty McCollum
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	NorthStar Commuter Rail, MN	$55,000,000	Sen. Coleman, Sen. Klobuchar, Rep. Keith Ellison, Rep. James Oberstar
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Charlotte Rapid Transit Extension, NC	$2,000,000	Rep. Sue Myrick, Rep. Melvin Watt, Sen. Dole, Sen. Burr
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Monmouth-Ocean-Middlesex Cnty Passenger Rail Line, NJ	$1,000,000	Rep. Jim Saxton, Rep. Christopher Smith, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	MOS2 of the Hudson Bergen Light Rail, NJ	$55,192,995	The President, Rep. Albio Sires, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Northwest NJ-Northeast PA Passenger Rail Project	$3,000,000	Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Trans-Hudson Midtown Corridor, New Jersey	$15,000,000	Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez, Rep. Albio Sires
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Long Island Rail Road East Side Access, New York, NY	$215,000,000	The President, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Second Avenue Subway Phase 1, NY	$171,235,000	The President, Rep. Carolyn Maloney, Rep. Jerrold Nadler, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	I-205/Portland Mall Light Rail, OR	$80,000,000	The President, Rep. Darlene Hooley, Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	North Shore LRT Connector, Pittsburgh, PA	$33,516,444	The President
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	South County Commuter Rail, Wickford Junction Station, RI	$12,519,846	Sen. Reed
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	DCTA Fixed Guideway/Engineering, Lewisville, TX	$250,000	Rep. Michael Burgess
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	North Corridor BRT, Houston and Southeast Corridor BRT, TX	$20,000,000	Sen. Hutchison, Rep. John Culberson, Rep. Al Green, Rep. Gene Green
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	NW/SE LRT MOS in Dallas, TX	$86,250,000	The President, Rep. Joe Barton, Rep. Ralph Hall, Rep. Eddie Johnson, Rep. Sam Johnson, Rep. Pete Sessions, Sen. Cornyn, Sen. Hutchison
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Mid-Jordan Light Rail Extension, UT	$20,000,000	Sen. Bennett, Sen. Hatch
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Weber County to Salt Lake City Commuter Rail, UT	$80,000,000	The President, Rep. Rob Bishop, Sen. Bennett, Sen. Hatch
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, VA	$35,000,000	Rep. Frank Wolf, Rep. Tom Davis, Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Norfolk Light Rail Project, VA	$23,500,000	Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb, Rep. Robert Scott
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	VRE Rolling Stock, VA	$4,000,000	Sen. Webb
New Starts / Fixed Guideway	Central Link Initial Segment, Seattle, WA	$70,000,000	The President, Sen. Murray

New Starts / Fixed Guideway	University Link LRT Extension, Seattle, WA	$20,000,000	The President, Sen. Murray
Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Program	Sacramento Intermodal Terminal Facility Track Relocation, CA	$400,000	Rep. Matsui, Sen. Feinstein
Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Program	Pecos Street grade crossing, CO	$200,000	Rep. Ed Perlmutter, Rep. Mark Udall, Sen. Salazar
Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Program	Railroad Grade Separation Project, Elkhart, IN	$450,000	Rep. Joe Donnelly, Sen. Lugar
Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Program	Railroad Relocation Planning, Terre Haute, IN	$450,000	Rep. Brad Ellsworth, Sen. Lugar
Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Program	Rail Safety Upgrades, Coos County, NH	$400,000	Rep. Paul Hodes
Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Program	Mount Vernon Railroad Cut, NY	$250,000	Rep. Eliot Engel, Sen. Schumer
Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Program	Rail Line Relocation in Chester, SC	$400,000	Rep. John Spratt
Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Program	Pierre Rail Improvements, Pierre, SD	$200,000	Rep. Stephanie Herseth
Rail Line Relocation and Improvement Program	Wisconsin West Rail Transit Authority, Barron, WI	$2,500,000	Rep. David Obey, Sen. Kohl
Research (FAA)	Airframe Maintenance Technology AAS Degree Program, DE	$335,000	Sen. Carper
Research (FAA)	Jet Engine Technology Inspection, IA	$500,000	Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley
Research (FAA)	Support of Aircraft Fleet Evaluation Research, IA	$335,000	Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley
Research (FAA)	National Institute for Aviation Research, KS	$2,400,000	Sen. Brownback, Rep. Todd Tiahrt
Research (FAA)	Research on Small Aircraft, National Institute for Aviation Research, KS	$700,000	Sen. Brownback, Sen. Roberts
Research (FAA)	Advance Materials in Transport Aircraft Structures, WA	$700,000	Sen. Murray
Research (FAA)	Advanced Materials and Manufacturing Innovation Center, WA	$525,000	Sen. Murray
Research (FAA)	Spiroid Winglet Fuel Efficiency Research, WA	$2,100,000	Sen. Murray
Research (FRA)	Positive Train Control Technology, AK	$750,000	Sen. Stevens
Research (FRA)	Center for Commercial Deployment of Transportation Technologies, CA	$250,000	Rep. Dana Rohrabacher
*Research (FRA)	Public Education and Enforcement Research Study (PEERS), IL	$500,000	Sen. Durbin
Research (FRA)	Advanced Freight Locomotive Safety and Monitoring System, MA	$1,000,000	Rep. John Olver
Research (FRA)	Constructed Facilities Center at West Virginia University, WV	$195,000	Sen. Byrd
Research (FRA)	Track Stability Technology, Marshall University, WV	$585,000	Sen. Byrd
Research (FTA)	Southern Fuel Cell Coalition Demonstration Project, GA	$200,000	Rep. John Lewis
Research (FTA)	Community Transportation Association of America, Nationwide Joblinks	$1,700,000	Rep. John Olver
Research (FTA)	BuSolutions Advanced Transit Research, MI	$700,000	Rep. Joe Knollenberg
Research (FTA)	Missouri Transportation Institute, MO	$1,750,000	Sen. Bond
Research (FTA)	Staten Island Transit Enhancements Plan—Phase II, NY	$225,000	Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer, Rep. Jerrold Nadler
Research (FTA)	Prototype Vehicle Domestic Manufacturer, OR	$500,000	Sen. Wyden
Research (FTA)	American Cities Transportation Institute, PA	$300,000	Rep. Chaka Fattah
Research (FTA)	East Tennessee Hydrogen Initiative, TN	$700,000	Rep. John Duncan, Rep. Zach Wamp
Research (FTA)	WVU Exhaust Emission Testing Initiative, WV	$780,000	Sen. Byrd

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Research (NHTSA)	Commercial Vehicle Rollover Prevention Technology Demonstration, MI	$1,000,000	Rep. Joe Knollenberg
*Research (NHTSA)	Teens in the Drivers Seat, TX	$350,000	Rep. Ciro Rodriguez
Research (NHTSA)	Lightweight Plastic and Composite Vehicles, WA	$350,000	Sen. Murray
Small Starts	AC Transit BRT Corridor—Alameda County, CA	$500,000	Rep. Barbara Lee
Small Starts	Metro Rapid Bus System Gap Closure, Los Angeles, CA	$16,681,000	The President, Sen. Boxer
Small Starts	Perris Valley Line Metrolink Extension, CA	$2,000,000	Sen. Feinstein
Small Starts	Rapid Transit (BRT) Project, Livermore, CA	$3,000,000	Rep. Jerry McNerney, Rep. Ellen Tauscher
Small Starts	SMART EIS and PE, CA	$2,000,000	Rep. Mike Thompson, Rep. Lynn Woolsey
Small Starts	Telegraph Avenue-International Boulevard-East 14th Street Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Improvements, CA	$2,000,000	Sen. Feinstein
Small Starts	Planning and Design, Bus Rapid Transit-State Avenue Corridor, Wyandotte County, KS	$1,500,000	Sen. Brownback
Small Starts	MBTA Fitchburg to Boston Rail Corridor Project Development and Construction, MA	$6,000,000	Rep. John Olver
Small Starts	Troost Corridor Bus Rapid Transit, MO	$6,260,000	The President, Sen. Bond, Rep. Emanuel Cleaver
*Small Starts	I-69 HOV/BRT, MS	$7,700,000	Sen. Cochran
Small Starts	Lane Transit District, Pioneer Parkway EmX Corridor, OR	$14,800,000	The President, Rep. Peter DeFazio, Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith
Small Starts	Bus Rapid Transit, Cumberland County, PA	$300,000	Rep. Todd Platts
Small Starts	CORRIDORone, PA	$11,200,000	Rep. Joseph Pitts, Sen. Specter, Rep. Tim Holden, Sen. Casey
Small Starts	Pawtucket/Central Falls Commuter Rail Station, RI	$2,000,000	Sen. Reed
Small Starts	Galveston Rail Trolley Extenstion to Seawall Boulevard, TX	$2,000,000	Sen. Hutchison
Small Starts	VIA Bus Rapid Transit Corridor Project, San Antonio, TX	$5,000,000	Rep. Charles Gonzalez, Rep. Ciro Rodriguez
Small Starts	Provo Orem Bus Rapid Transit, UT	$4,100,000	Sen. Bennett, Sen. Hatch, Rep. Chris Cannon
Small Starts	Route 1 Bus Rapid Transit, Potomac Yard-Crystal City, Alexandria and Arlington, VA	$1,000,000	Sen. Webb, Sen. Warner, Rep. James Moran
Small Starts	Virginia Railway Express Extension-Gainesville/Haymarket, VA	$500,000	Rep. Tom Davis
Small Starts	King County Pacific Highway South BRT, Seattle, WA	$14,076,000	The President, Sen. Murray, Rep. Adam Smith
Surface Transportation Priorities	Denali Commission, Alaska for transportation infrastructure projects throughout rural Alaska, AK	$7,500,000	Sen. Stevens
Surface Transportation Priorities	Atmore, Alabama Road Improvement	$250,000	Rep. Jo Bonner, Sen. Shelby
Surface Transportation Priorities	Church Street Overpass, Huntsville, AL	$1,000,000	Rep. Robert Cramer, Sen. Shelby
Surface Transportation Priorities	City of Tuscaloosa Downtown Revitalization Project, AL—Twenty First Avenue Phase I and University Boulevard Phase III, AL	$4,200,000	Sen. Shelby
Surface Transportation Priorities	Southside bridge replacement, Etowah County, AL	$1,000,000	Rep. Robert Aderholt, Sen. Shelby
Surface Transportation Priorities	Wall Triana Road Project, Madison County, AL	$500,000	Rep. Robert Cramer, Sen. Shelby
Surface Transportation Priorities	Winchester Road Widening, City of Huntsville, AL	$750,000	Rep. Robert Cramer, Sen. Shelby
Surface Transportation Priorities	Bella Vista Bypass, AR	$500,000	Rep. John Boozman, Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highway 165 Overpass, Stuttgart, AR	$500,000	Rep. Marion Berry, Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highway 71/Future Interstate 49 Development and Construction between Louisiana Line and Doddridge, AR	$1,000,000	Rep. Mike Ross, Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highway 77 Rail Grade Separation, Marion, AR	$500,000	Rep. Marion Berry, Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor

Surface Transportation Priorities	I-555 Access Road, Poinsett County, AR	$1,000,000	Rep. Marion Berry, Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor
Surface Transportation Priorities	Westside (Caraway) Overpass, City of Jonesboro, AR	$1,840,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor, Rep. Marion Berry
Surface Transportation Priorities	Houghton Road Corridor Bridge Replacement, Tucson, AZ	$750,000	Rep. Gabrielle Giffords
Surface Transportation Priorities	Indian Bend Road Improvements, Scottsdale, AZ	$1,000,000	Rep. Harry Mitchell
Surface Transportation Priorities	Twin Peaks Corridor Project, Marana, AZ	$1,500,000	Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, Rep. Ed Pastor
Surface Transportation Priorities	16th Street, San Miguel Railroad Crossing Safety, CA	$250,000	Rep. Kevin McCarthy
Surface Transportation Priorities	Airport Boulevard/Highway 101 Interchange, Monterey, CA	$500,000	Rep. Sam Farr
Surface Transportation Priorities	Blossom Hill/Monterey Highway Crossing, San Jose, CA	$500,000	Rep. Zoe Lofgren, Sen. Feinstein
Surface Transportation Priorities	Brentwood Boulevard/SR 4 Improvements, Brentwood, CA	$750,000	Rep. Jerry McNerney
Surface Transportation Priorities	Bristol Street Widening, Orange County, CA	$670,000	Sen. Feinstein
Surface Transportation Priorities	Dorsey Drive Interchange in Grass Valley, CA	$750,000	Rep. John Doolittle
Surface Transportation Priorities	Friant Corridor, CA	$500,000	Rep. George Radanovich
Surface Transportation Priorities	Fullerton, CA-State College/BNSF Grade Separation, CA	$500,000	Rep. Edward Royce
Surface Transportation Priorities	Golden Gate Bridge Moveable Median Barrier, CA	$500,000	Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Rep. Lynn Woolsey, Sen. Feinstein
Surface Transportation Priorities	Grade Separations in Riverside, CA	$1,420,000	Rep. Ken Calvert, Sen. Boxer, Sen. Feinstein
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highland Park Streetscape, Los Angeles, CA	$250,000	Rep. Xavier Becerra
Surface Transportation Priorities	Lincoln Bypass on SR65 in Placer County, CA	$950,000	Rep. John Doolittle
*Surface Transportation Priorities	Los Banos Bypass—SR 152; Merced, CA	$500,000	Rep. Dennis Cardoza
Surface Transportation Priorities	Mission Road Beautification Project, Alhambra, CA	$250,000	Rep. Adam Schiff
Surface Transportation Priorities	Mission Street Pedestrian Improvements, South Pasadena, CA	$250,000	Rep. Adam Schiff
Surface Transportation Priorities	Montclair, CA Ramona Ave grade separation, CA	$250,000	Rep. David Dreier
Surface Transportation Priorities	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Scenic Trail, CA	$500,000	Rep. Sam Farr
Surface Transportation Priorities	Park Place Extension and Railroad Grade Separation, El Segundo, CA	$750,000	Rep. Jane Harman
*Surface Transportation Priorities	Park Street Streetscape Improvement, Alameda, CA	$500,000	Rep. Fortney Stark
Surface Transportation Priorities	Potrero Boulevard/SR 60 Interchange, Beaumont, CA	$1,500,000	Rep. Jerry Lewis
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reconstruct French Camp/I-5 interchange and Sperry Road Connection, San Joaquin County, CA	$1,000,000	Rep. Jerry McNerney, Sen. Feinstein
Surface Transportation Priorities	Repair of San Tomas Expressway Box Culvert, Santa Clara County, CA	$500,000	Rep. Michael Honda
Surface Transportation Priorities	Resurfacing and Reconstruction of Pacific Boulevard, Huntington Park, CA	$800,000	Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard
Surface Transportation Priorities	Rice Avenue Interchange at U.S. Highway 101, Ventura County, CA	$500,000	Rep. Lois Capps, Sen. Feinstein
Surface Transportation Priorities	Santa Clarita Cross Valley Connector, CA	$500,000	Rep. Howard McKeon, Sen. Feinstein
Surface Transportation Priorities	SFgo Market Street improvements, San Francisco, CA	$500,000	Rep. Nancy Pelosi
Surface Transportation Priorities	Sheila Street at Commerce Way Improvements, Commerce, CA	$500,000	Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard
Surface Transportation Priorities	Shoal Creek Pedestrian Bridge, CA	$250,000	Rep. Duncan Hunter
Surface Transportation Priorities	Sidewalk Construction in Ashland/Cherryland, CA	$750,000	Rep. Barbara Lee
Surface Transportation Priorities	Slauson Avenue Corrider Improvement Project, Maywood, CA	$800,000	Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard
Surface Transportation Priorities	University Parkway/I-215, San Bernardino, CA	$750,000	Rep. Jerry Lewis
Surface Transportation Priorities	VTA High Occupancy Toll Lane Demonstration Project, Santa Clara County, CA	$500,000	Rep. Michael Honda
Surface Transportation Priorities	West Vista Way widening, CA	$250,000	Rep. Darrell Issa

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Surface Transportation Priorities	Westchester Streetscape Improvement Project, CA	$1,000,000	Rep. Maxine Waters
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 287 at Lamar, Colorado: Ports to Plains, CO	$1,340,000	Sen. Salazar, Sen. Allard
Surface Transportation Priorities	Wadsworth Interchange/State Highway 128, CO	$600,000	Sen. Allard, Sen. Salazar
Surface Transportation Priorities	Atlantic Rail Underpass and Road Realignment Project, CT	$250,000	Rep. Christopher Shays, Sen. Lieberman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Depot Street Bridge Revitalization, Beacon Falls, CT	$1,600,000	Rep. Rosa DeLauro, Sen. Dodd
Surface Transportation Priorities	Fall Mountain Water Road Paving, Plymouth, CT	$500,000	Rep. Christopher Murphy, Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Mystic River Bridge Rehabilitation, CT	$1,000,000	Rep. Joe Courtney
Surface Transportation Priorities	Naugatuck River Greenway Design Study, CT	$150,000	Rep. Rosa DeLauro, Rep. Christopher Murphy
Surface Transportation Priorities	North Main Street Streetscape Enhancements, CT	$234,500	Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Pedestrian Plaza Improvements at the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford, CT	$670,000	Sen. Lieberman, Sen. Dodd
Surface Transportation Priorities	Redevelopment of Front Street and Constitution Way in Hartford, CT	$1,340,000	Sen. Lieberman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Torrington Gateway, CT	$240,000	Rep. Christopher Murphy
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 44 Improvements, Avon, CT	$750,000	Rep. Christopher Murphy
*Surface Transportation Priorities	American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial Related Transportation Improvements, DC	$1,000,000	Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton
Surface Transportation Priorities	Forest City Southeast Federal Center and Anacostia Waterfront Improvements, DC	$500,000	Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton
Surface Transportation Priorities	DelTrac Integrated Transportation Management System, DE	$804,000	Sen. Biden, Sen. Carper, Rep. Michael Castle
Surface Transportation Priorities	Port of Wilmington Rail Improvement Project, DE	$1,005,000	Sen. Carper, Sen. Biden, Rep. Michael Castle
Surface Transportation Priorities	118th Avenue Expressway—Pinellas County, FL	$1,750,000	Rep. C.W. Young
Surface Transportation Priorities	Beckett Bascule Bridge Alternative Analysis, FL	$100,000	Rep. Gus Bilirakis
Surface Transportation Priorities	Belleview Bypass, Marion County, FL	$250,000	Rep. Cliff Stearns
Surface Transportation Priorities	Burnt Store Road: Evacuation Route Widening, FL	$200,000	Rep. Connie Mack, Rep. Tim Mahoney, Sen. Bill Nelson
Surface Transportation Priorities	City of Miami Beach Atlantic Corridor Greenway, FL	$500,000	Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Surface Transportation Priorities	Expands SR 46 to 4-lanes, Sanford, FL	$500,000	Rep. Tom Feeney, Sen. Martinez
Surface Transportation Priorities	Four Lane State Road 87 Santa Rosa County, FL	$500,000	Rep. Jeff Miller, Sen. Martinez
Surface Transportation Priorities	Grand Lagoon Bridge Replacement and Thomas Drive Widening Project, Bay County, FL	$500,000	Rep. Allen Boyd, Sen. Bill Nelson, Sen. Martinez
Surface Transportation Priorities	Hurricane Evacuation Route Signalization, FL	$250,000	Rep. Ric Keller
Surface Transportation Priorities	Indian Street Bridge, Martin County, FL	$1,000,000	Rep. Tim Mahoney
Surface Transportation Priorities	Interchanger at Interstate and University Parkway, FL	$1,000,000	Rep. Vern Buchanan
Surface Transportation Priorities	Mahan Drive Phase II, Leon County, FL	$725,000	Sen. Bill Nelson, Rep. Allen Boyd
Surface Transportation Priorities	Palm Bay Parkway, Palm Bay, FL	$2,760,000	Sen. Bill Nelson, Rep. Dave Weldon
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Road 9B, St. Johns County, FL	$500,000	Rep. John Mica
Surface Transportation Priorities	TECO Line Streetcar System Extension, Tampa, FL	$1,000,000	Rep. Kathy Castor
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 17–92–US 192, Kissimmee, FL	$1,000,000	Rep. Dave Weldon
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 41 Enhancements, Charlotte County, FL	$500,000	Rep. Vern Buchanan, Rep. Tim Mahoney, Sen. Martinez, Sen. Bill Nelson

Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S.–41 Capacity Improvements in Lee County, FL	$100,000	Rep. Connie Mack
Surface Transportation Priorities	Downtown Development Authority District Streetscape, Dahlonega GA	$100,000	Rep. Nathan Deal
Surface Transportation Priorities	Glenwood Road Pedestrian Safety Improvements, DeKalb County, GA	$1,000,000	Rep. Henry Johnson
Surface Transportation Priorities	McGinnis Ferry Road—Gwinnett County, GA	$400,000	Rep. John Linder, Sen. Chambliss
Surface Transportation Priorities	SR 151 at CR 162/Colbert Hollow Road, Catoosa County, GA	$150,000	Rep. Nathan Deal
Surface Transportation Priorities	SR 8/US 29 Plsnt. Hl/Lester Rd., Gwinnett Co., GA	$400,000	Rep. John Linder
Surface Transportation Priorities	SR 9 south of Cumming from SR 141 to SR 20, GA	$250,000	Rep. Nathan Deal
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Road 39/State Road 91 and US 84 Improvements, Donalsonville, GA	$750,000	Rep. Sanford Bishop
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Road 982/Talbotton Road Improvements, Columbus, GA	$750,000	Rep. Sanford Bishop
Surface Transportation Priorities	Terry Creek Bridge Widening, GA	$1,000,000	Rep. Jack Kingston
Surface Transportation Priorities	19th Street SW Grade Separation Mason City, IA	$1,100,000	Rep. Tom Latham, Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley
Surface Transportation Priorities	CEMAR Trail, IA	$335,000	Sen. Harkin
Surface Transportation Priorities	Cold Storage Spur Line, IA	$1,170,000	Sen. Harkin, Rep. Leonard Boswell
Surface Transportation Priorities	Roger Snedden Drive Grade Separation Boone, IA	$500,000	Rep. Tom Latham, Sen. Grassley
Surface Transportation Priorities	Warren County, Southwest Connector Interchange, IA	$550,000	Rep. Tom Latham, Sen. Grassley
Surface Transportation Priorities	College of Southern Idaho Student Safety Initiative, ID	$480,000	Sen. Craig, Sen. Crapo
Surface Transportation Priorities	I-84, Exit 29 (Franklin Road) Local Systems Improvement, ID	$480,000	Sen. Craig, Sen. Crapo
Surface Transportation Priorities	Lewiston Partnership Project, ID	$240,000	Sen. Craig, Sen. Crapo
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S.–95, Thorncreek Road to Moscow, ID	$500,000	Rep. Bill Sali, Sen. Craig
Surface Transportation Priorities	Algonquin Road Extension, McHenry County, IL	$250,000	Rep. Donald Manzullo
Surface Transportation Priorities	Grand Avenue Underpass, Chicago, IL	$1,340,000	Sen. Obama
Surface Transportation Priorities	I-355 Corridor Improvement Project, IL	$435,000	Sen. Durbin
Surface Transportation Priorities	Jack Dame Road Extension, City of Rochelle, IL	$250,000	Rep. Donald Manzullo, Sen. Obama
Surface Transportation Priorities	Lincoln/Belmont/Ashland Streetscape Project, Chicago, IL	$1,250,000	Rep. Rahm Emanuel
Surface Transportation Priorities	Milwaukee Avenue Reconstruction Project, Chicago, IL	$1,250,000	Rep. Rahm Emanuel
Surface Transportation Priorities	Morgan Street Improvments, City of Elmwood, IL	$250,000	Rep. Ray LaHood
Surface Transportation Priorities	North Seminary Street Railroad Grade Separation Bridge, Galesburg, IL	$500,000	Rep. Phil Hare
Surface Transportation Priorities	Oak Ridge Cemetery, Springfield, IL	$250,000	Rep. Ray LaHood
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reconstruction of the Wood Dale and Irving Park Rd, IL	$500,000	Rep. Peter Roskam
Surface Transportation Priorities	River Tech Boulevard Road Construction, Moline, IL	$1,200,000	Sen. Durbin, Sen. Obama
Surface Transportation Priorities	Sheridan Crossing improvements, North Chicago, IL	$250,000	Rep. Mark Kirk
Surface Transportation Priorities	Southwest Rochelle Truck Loop, Ogle County, IL	$100,500	Sen. Obama
Surface Transportation Priorities	Street extension, Champaign, IL	$500,000	Rep. Timothy Johnson
Surface Transportation Priorities	Twin Bridge Road, Decatur, IL	$500,000	Rep. Ray LaHood
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. Rt 40 Water St. to Evergreen Ave, Teutopolis, IL	$400,000	Rep. John Shimkus
Surface Transportation Priorities	White County, IL	$100,000	Rep. John Shimkus
Surface Transportation Priorities	18th Street Corridor and Railroad Crossing Project, Logansport, IN	$350,000	Rep. Joe Donnelly
Surface Transportation Priorities	Calumet Avenue and 45th Street Grade Separation, Munster, IN	$1,250,000	Rep. Peter Visclosky, Sen. Bayh, Sen. Lugar

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Surface Transportation Priorities	Fort Wayne Clinton Street Bridge Replacement, IN	$1,420,000	Rep. Mark Souder, Sen. Bayh, Sen. Lugar
Surface Transportation Priorities	Improve bike trails in Highland, IN	$400,000	Rep. Peter Visclosky
Surface Transportation Priorities	Renovation of Monument Circle, Indianapolis, IN	$335,000	Sen. Bayh, Sen. Lugar
Surface Transportation Priorities	Ronald Reagan Parkway, Hendricks County, Indiana	$500,000	Rep. Steve Buyer, Sen. Lugar
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Road 62/337 Construction, Harrison County, IN	$1,250,000	Rep. Baron Hill, Sen. Lugar
Surface Transportation Priorities	Study Improvements to 109th Avenue, Winfield, IN	$250,000	Rep. Peter Visclosky
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 31 Freeway Upgrade Project in Marshall, Fulton, Miami and Tipton Counties, IN	$350,000	Rep. Joe Donnelly, Sen. Lugar
Surface Transportation Priorities	159th Street bridge replacement, Andover, KS	$1,000,000	Rep. Todd Tiahrt
Surface Transportation Priorities	87th Street Parkway Improvements, Lenexa, KS	$250,000	Sen. Brownback
Surface Transportation Priorities	Intersection Rehabilitation and Improvements, US–24 and Marlatt Avenue, Manhattan, KS	$700,000	Sen. Brownback, Sen. Roberts
Surface Transportation Priorities	Interchange Construction at US–73 and 20th Street, Leavenworth, KS	$700,000	Sen. Brownback
*Surface Transportation Priorities	Intersection Rehabilitation, US–166 and US–169, Montgomery County, KS	$600,000	Sen. Brownback
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reconstruction of Two Interchanges on I–235, Wichita, KS	$700,000	Sen. Brownback
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reconstruction of US–50 in Gray County, KS	$600,000	Sen. Brownback
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reconstruction of US–50 in Reno County, KS	$500,000	Sen. Brownback
Surface Transportation Priorities	Replacement of the Big River Bridge on US–77, KS	$500,000	Rep. Jerry Moran
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 69 Improvements, Crawford County, KS	$1,000,000	Rep. Nancy Boyda
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 54 Greenburg, KS	$600,000	Sen. Brownback
Surface Transportation Priorities	21st Century Parks Project in Louisville, KY	$6,000,000	Sen. McConnell
Surface Transportation Priorities	Interstate 66 Pike County, KY	$1,000,000	Rep. Harold Rogers
Surface Transportation Priorities	Interstate 66 Somerset to London, KY	$1,500,000	Rep. Harold Rogers
Surface Transportation Priorities	Lexington Traffic Movement and Revitalization Study, Lexington, KY	$500,000	Rep. Ben Chandler
Surface Transportation Priorities	Paducah Waterfront Development Project, KY	$4,000,000	Sen. McConnell
Surface Transportation Priorities	South Airport Connector Road, Boone County, KY	$250,000	Rep. Geoff Davis
Surface Transportation Priorities	Baton Rouge Riverfront Development and Levee Pedestrian and Bike Path, LA	$1,000,000	Sen. Landrieu
Surface Transportation Priorities	Bossier Parish Congestion Relief Program, LA	$1,812,000	Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Vitter, Rep. Jim McCrery
Surface Transportation Priorities	Greater Ouachita Port and Intermodal Facility, LA	$500,000	Rep. Rodney Alexander, Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Vitter
Surface Transportation Priorities	I–69, LA	$2,800,000	Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Vitter
Surface Transportation Priorities	LA 675 Lane Improvements, Iberia Parish, LA	$500,000	Rep. Charlie Melancon, Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Vitter
Surface Transportation Priorities	LA–42; Ascension Parish, LA	$250,000	Rep. Richard Baker
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 11 Corridor Improvements, St. Tammany Parish, LA	$2,000,000	Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Vitter
Surface Transportation Priorities	Widening of LA 16; Livingston Parish, LA	$250,000	Rep. Richard Baker, Sen. Vitter
Surface Transportation Priorities	Blackstone River Canal Replication Project, Worcester, MA	$750,000	Rep. James McGovern
Surface Transportation Priorities	Community Transportation Association of America, Nationwide Joblinks	$900,000	Rep. John Olver

Surface Transportation Priorities	Downtown Streetscape Improvements, Framingham, MA	$500,000	Rep. Edward Markey
Surface Transportation Priorities	Edwards Street Improvement, Springfield, MA	$750,000	Rep. Richard Neal
Surface Transportation Priorities	Holy Cross Road Safety Project, Worcester, MA	$750,000	Rep. James McGovern
Surface Transportation Priorities	Massachusetts Avenue Design and Recontruction, Arlington, MA	$750,000	Rep. Edward Markey
Surface Transportation Priorities	Massachusetts Landscape Connectivity Study, MA	$200,000	Rep. John Olver
Surface Transportation Priorities	Northern Avenue Bridge Revitilzation, MA	$1,000,000	Rep. Stephen Lynch
Surface Transportation Priorities	Pittsfield Downtown Streetscape, MA	$1,500,000	Rep. John Olver
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reconstruction of Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA	$1,000,000	Rep. Michael Capuano
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 116 and Bay Road Intersection and Road Improvements, Amherst, MA	$1,500,000	Rep. John Olver
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 195/Coggeshall Street Interchange, New Bedford, MA	$500,000	Rep. Barney Frank
Surface Transportation Priorities	Crisfield County Dock, Somerset County, MD	$100,000	Rep. Wayne Gilchrest
Surface Transportation Priorities	Gwynns Falls Trail/CSX Bridge, MD	$335,000	Sen. Cardin
Surface Transportation Priorities	MD 237, Pegg Road to MD 235, St. Mary's County, MD	$1,000,000	Rep. Steny Hoyer, Sen. Mikulski
Surface Transportation Priorities	MD 246/MD 235 to Saratoga Drive, Lexington Park, MD	$500,000	Rep. Steny Hoyer
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 5 Overpass and River Center, St. Mary's County, MD	$500,000	Rep. Steny Hoyer
Surface Transportation Priorities	South Capitol Street Corridor Improvements, DC	$500,000	Rep. Steny Hoyer
Surface Transportation Priorities	Suitland Road Gateway Project, Prince George's County, MD	$1,000,000	Rep. Steny Hoyer, Rep. Albert Wynn
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 301 Improvement in Charles and Prince George's County, MD	$1,000,000	Rep. Steny Hoyer, Sen. Mikulski
Surface Transportation Priorities	Arnold Bridge Improvement, Willimantic, ME	$500,000	Rep. Michael Michaud
Surface Transportation Priorities	Somerset Street Extension, Portland, ME	$500,000	Rep. Thomas Allen, Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe
Surface Transportation Priorities	Belleville Road/Ecorse Road Intersection, Wayne County, MI	$750,000	Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Surface Transportation Priorities	Greenway Path and Bridge, Southgate, Wayne County, MI	$250,000	Rep. John Conyers
Surface Transportation Priorities	Maple Rd. SCATS signals; Bloomfield Twp. 6 miles, MI	$1,000,000	Rep. Joe Knollenberg
Surface Transportation Priorities	Maple Rd. widening; 1.5 Miles; Walled Lake City, MI	$500,000	Rep. Thaddeus McCotter, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Surface Transportation Priorities	Northwestern Corridor Roundabouts; ROW and Construction, MI	$1,000,000	Rep. Joe Knollenberg, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Surface Transportation Priorities	Pinnacle Aeropark, Wayne County, MI	$670,000	Sen. Stabenow, Sen. Levin
Surface Transportation Priorities	Port Huron, NAFTA Corridor Congestion Mitigation Project, Phase I, MI	$670,000	Sen. Stabenow, Sen. Levin
Surface Transportation Priorities	Walton Boulevard Bridge widening, MI	$500,000	Rep. Joe Knollenberg
Surface Transportation Priorities	Blue Earth CSAH 12 Extension/TH 14 Interchange, MN	$1,340,000	Sen. Klobuchar, Sen. Coleman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Cambridge-Isanti Bike/Walk Trail, MN	$700,000	Rep. James Oberstar
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highway 610 Corridor, MN	$500,000	Rep. Jim Ramstad, Sen. Coleman, Sen. Klobuchar
Surface Transportation Priorities	Snelling Avenue/University Avenue Intersection Redesign, St. Paul, MN	$500,000	Rep. Betty McCollum
Surface Transportation Priorities	Grant City Downtown Square Street Improvments, MO	$375,000	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	Heart of America Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge, MO	$562,500	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highway 13 at Broadmoor Intersection in Springfield, MO	$375,000	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highway 13 Bypass, MO	$2,250,000	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	Improvements to Route 266 and Interchange with Interstate 44, MO	$2,250,000	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	Joe Dice Suspension Bridge, MO	$562,500	Sen. Bond

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Surface Transportation Priorities	MO 740 (Stadium Boulevard) Extension, MO	$300,000	Rep. Kenny Hulshof
Surface Transportation Priorities	Nash Road/Route AB, Cape Girardeau County, MO	$800,000	Rep. Jo Ann Emerson
Surface Transportation Priorities	New Alignment South Bridge, MO	$2,125,000	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	Paseo Street Corridor Improvements, MO	$562,500	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 221, St. Francois and Iron Counties, MO	$250,000	Rep. Jo Ann Emerson
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 63, Howell/Oregon Counties, MO	$250,000	Rep. Jo Ann Emerson
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route Y, Stoddard County MO	$500,000	Rep. Jo Ann Emerson
Surface Transportation Priorities	Rt. 47 and Warrior Ave., Warrenton, MO	$200,000	Rep. Kenny Hulshof
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 54 Corridor Expansion, MO	$750,000	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 60 Corridor Improvements, MO	$562,500	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 63 and Gans Road Overpass, MO	$750,000	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	Upgrade and partly relocate MO Rt 141, St L County, MO	$250,000	Rep. Todd Akin
Surface Transportation Priorities	Upgrade MO Rt 94 (Page Ext Ph 2), St Chas Cnty, MO	$250,000	Rep. Todd Akin
Surface Transportation Priorities	Uptown St. Joseph Transportation District, MO	$1,500,000	Sen. Bond
Surface Transportation Priorities	East Brandon Bypass, MS	$750,000	Sen. Lott
Surface Transportation Priorities	East Metropolitan Corridor, MS	$3,000,000	Sen. Cochran, Sen. Lott
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highway 9 4-Lane Corridor, MS	$3,000,000	Sen. Cochran
Surface Transportation Priorities	Hugh White State Park Access Road, Grenada, MS	$1,000,000	Rep. Roger Wicker
Surface Transportation Priorities	I–55/Gluckstadt Interchange Improvements, MS	$1,500,000	Sen. Lott, Sen. Cochran
Surface Transportation Priorities	Martin Bluff Road, MS	$1,700,000	Sen. Lott
Surface Transportation Priorities	Northside Drive, Clinton, MS	$3,250,000	Sen. Cochran
Surface Transportation Priorities	Star Landing Road Corridor, DeSoto County, MS	$2,400,000	Sen. Cochran, Sen. Lott
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. Highway 49/Highway 7 Connector, MS	$2,750,000	Sen. Cochran
Surface Transportation Priorities	Urban Collector Road, Jackson and Harrison Counties, MS	$2,000,000	Sen. Cochran
Surface Transportation Priorities	Bridge over Broadway, Missoula to Rattlesnake National Recreation Area, MT	$670,000	Sen. Baucus, Sen. Tester
Surface Transportation Priorities	Kalispell Bypass, MT	$4,020,000	Sen. Tester, Sen. Baucus
Surface Transportation Priorities	Shiloh Road Corridor, Billings, MT	$4,690,000	Sen. Baucus, Sen. Tester
Surface Transportation Priorities	I–540 Western Wake Freeway, NC	$1,000,000	Rep. David Price
Surface Transportation Priorities	Tenth St. Connector, Greenville, NC	$250,000	Rep. Walter Jones, Sen. Dole
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 17 in Craven County, NC	$250,000	Rep. Walter Jones
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 74 Interchange at NC 211, Brunswick County, NC	$500,000	Rep. Mike McIntyre
Surface Transportation Priorities	Walker Street Grade Separation, Town of Cary, NC	$1,000,000	Rep. David Price, Sen. Burr, Sen. Dole
Surface Transportation Priorities	Antelope Valley Transportation Improvements, NE	$500,000	Rep. Jeff Fortenberry, Sen. Ben Nelson, Sen. Hagel
Surface Transportation Priorities	Realignment of Saddle Creek Road, NE	$1,340,000	Sen. Ben Nelson, Sen. Hagel

Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 30, Columbus Viaduct Replacement, NE	$500,000	Rep. Adrian Smith
Surface Transportation Priorities	Chocorua Village Safety Improvement Project, Tamworth, NH	$500,000	Rep. Carol Shea-Porter
Surface Transportation Priorities	Downtown Franklin Revitalization, Franklin, NH	$800,000	Rep. Paul Hodes
Surface Transportation Priorities	Granite Street Reconstruction Project, NH	$1,700,000	Sen. Gregg, Rep. Carol Shea-Porter
Surface Transportation Priorities	Little Bay Bridges/Spaulding Turnpike, NH	$1,750,000	Sen. Gregg
Surface Transportation Priorities	Battleship New Jersey Access Road (Clinton Street) Repaving Project, NJ	$422,100	Sen. Menendez, Sen. Lautenberg
Surface Transportation Priorities	Bridge Street, Clay Street, Jackson Street Bridges, Essex County, NJ	$1,000,000	Rep. Albio Sires, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Surface Transportation Priorities	Downtown Streetscape Project, New Providence, NJ	$250,000	Rep. Mike Ferguson, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 22 Sustainable Corridor, Somerset County, NJ	$4,000,000	Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, Rep. Mike Ferguson, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 29 Boulevard Conversion Project from Memorial Drive to Route 1 Bridge, Trenton, NJ	$750,000	Rep. Rush Holt, Rep. Christopher Smith, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 537/State Route 34 Intersection Monmouth, NJ	$250,000	Rep. Christopher Smith, Sen. Menendez
Surface Transportation Priorities	Rte 295/42/I-76, Direct Connection, Camden County, NJ	$500,000	Rep. Robert Andrews
Surface Transportation Priorities	Bridge Replacements, McKinley County, NM	$300,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Design, engineering, environmental assessment and initial constructions of East Aztec Arterial Route, NM	$600,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Hobbs East Bypass Project, NM	$600,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Las Cruces Downtown Revitalization, NM	$1,200,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Northwest Loop Access Road, Sandoval County, NM	$975,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman, Rep. Tom Udall
Surface Transportation Priorities	Pinon Hills Boulevard East and Animus River Bridge, NM	$900,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Surface Transportation Priorities	San Juan County Road 3900, NM	$600,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Surface Transportation Priorities	San Juan County Road Bridge #567, NM	$500,000	Rep. Tom Udall, Sen. Bingaman
Surface Transportation Priorities	San Juan County Road CR 7500, NM	$300,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Village Plaza Streets and Drainage, Village of Angel Fire, NM	$120,000	Sen. Domenici
Surface Transportation Priorities	West Lea Street Improvements, Carlsbad, NM	$180,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
Surface Transportation Priorities	Boulder City Bypass Project, NV	$250,000	Rep. Jon Porter, Sen. Reid
Surface Transportation Priorities	Henderson Lake Mead Parkway, NV	$200,000	Sen. Reid
Surface Transportation Priorities	Mountain Edge Parkway Environmental Assessment, Las Vegas, NV	$750,000	Sen. Reid
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reno Rail Access Corridor Enhancements, NV	$500,000	Sen. Reid, Sen. Ensign
Surface Transportation Priorities	Commack Road Bypass Study, Suffolk County, NY	$500,000	Rep. Steve Israel
Surface Transportation Priorities	Construction/Enhancement of Motts Lane, Penfield, NY	$100,000	Rep. Louise Slaughter
Surface Transportation Priorities	Design & construction of Glen Cove Connector Road, NY	$100,000	Rep. Peter King, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
Surface Transportation Priorities	Downtown Parking Improvements, Ossining, NY	$175,000	Rep. Nita Lowey
Surface Transportation Priorities	Eastern Hills Corridor, Clarence, NY	$250,000	Rep. Thomas Reynolds
* Surface Transportation Priorities	Environmental Shield, Queens, NY	$750,000	Rep. Joseph Crowley
Surface Transportation Priorities	Fruit Belt Redevelopment Plan, Buffalo, NY	$1,600,000	Rep. Louise Slaughter, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Surface Transportation Priorities	Grand Avenue Improvements, City of Poughkeepsie, NY	$1,000,000	Rep. Maurice Hinchey, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highway-Rail Grade Crossing Bypass, Silver Springs, NY	$300,000	Rep. Thomas Reynolds
Surface Transportation Priorities	Hylan Drive, Henrietta, NY	$850,000	Rep. John Kuhl

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Surface Transportation Priorities	Library Lane-Coles Lane Improvements, Bronx, NY	$1,000,000	Rep. Jose Serrano
Surface Transportation Priorities	Murray Athletic Center, NY	$100,000	Rep. John Kuhl, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Surface Transportation Priorities	North Main Street Corridor Master Plan, Freeport, NY	$200,000	Rep. Carolyn McCarthy, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Surface Transportation Priorities	Parking Expansion, Dobbs Ferry, NY	$250,000	Rep. Nita Lowey
Surface Transportation Priorities	Prospect and Gowanus Expressways ITS Deployment, NY	$1,000,000	Rep. Yvette Clarke, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reconstruct Route 6, Town of Cortlandt, NY	$2,000,000	Rep. John Hall
Surface Transportation Priorities	Revitalization and redevelopment of the Hamlet of Brewerton, NY	$780,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Surface Transportation Priorities	Safety and Traffic Improvements, Ardsley, NY	$150,000	Rep. Nita Lowey
Surface Transportation Priorities	South Bronx Greenway, Hunts Point Landing, NY	$500,000	Rep. Jose Serrano
Surface Transportation Priorities	South Bronx Greenway, Randall's Island Connector, NY	$500,000	Rep. Jose Serrano
Surface Transportation Priorities	Streetscape Improvements, Eastchester, NY	$300,000	Rep. Nita Lowey
Surface Transportation Priorities	Walden Trail Connection, Town of Montgomery, NY	$351,000	Rep. Maurice Hinchey
Surface Transportation Priorities	Chesapeake By-Pass, Lawrence County, OH	$750,000	Rep. Charlie Wilson
Surface Transportation Priorities	Diley Road Widening, City of Pickerington, OH	$500,000	Rep. David Hobson
Surface Transportation Priorities	East Market Street Widen/Improve Design, Akron, OH	$500,000	Rep. Tim Ryan
Surface Transportation Priorities	Fulton Dr. and Wales Ave. Intersection Improvement, OH	$600,000	Rep. Ralph Regula
Surface Transportation Priorities	Harrison County Road 29, OH	$1,000,000	Rep. Zack Space
Surface Transportation Priorities	Holmes County Trail: Phase 5 Holmes County, OH	$750,000	Rep. Zack Space, Sen. Brown
Surface Transportation Priorities	Mahoning Avenue Improvements, Youngstown, OH	$500,000	Rep. Tim Ryan
Surface Transportation Priorities	Quadral Drive extension, Wadsworth, OH	$900,000	Rep. Ralph Regula
Surface Transportation Priorities	Rickenbacker Rail Spur, Pickaway and Franklin Counties, OH	$500,000	Rep. David Hobson, Sen. Brown, Sen. Voinovich
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Route 794 Relocation Initiative, OH	$1,000,000	Rep. David Hobson
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 20 Southwyck Corridor Improvements, OH	$750,000	Rep. Marcy Kaptur
Surface Transportation Priorities	Downtown Revitalization Project, Lawton, OK	$250,000	Rep. Tom Cole
Surface Transportation Priorities	19th Street Extension at Deschutes Junction, OR	$500,000	Rep. Greg Walden, Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden
Surface Transportation Priorities	Brewery Grade/Highway 30 Intersection and Flour Mill Property Redevelopment, OR	$670,000	Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith
Surface Transportation Priorities	Highway 217, Beaverton-Hillsday Highway to Allen Boulevard, Washington County, OR	$750,000	Rep. David Wu, Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden
Surface Transportation Priorities	American Parkway, PA	$2,100,000	Sen. Specter, Sen. Casey
Surface Transportation Priorities	Bridge Over Brandywine Creek, Downingtown, PA	$500,000	Rep. Jim Gerlach
Surface Transportation Priorities	Chicora Bridge Safety Improvements, Butler, PA	$250,000	Rep. Phil English, Sen. Casey
Surface Transportation Priorities	Dillerville Rail Yard Relocation, PA	$1,385,000	Sen. Specter, Sen. Casey
Surface Transportation Priorities	East Carson Street Widening, PA	$1,250,000	Sen. Specter, Sen. Casey, Rep. Michael Doyle
Surface Transportation Priorities	Freedom Crider Road Upgrade, Beaver County, PA	$750,000	Rep. Jason Altmire
Surface Transportation Priorities	I-81 Rebuild/Expansion, PA	$1,400,000	Sen. Specter, Sen. Casey

Surface Transportation Priorities	Martinsburg Borough Streetscape Project, PA	$100,000	Rep. Bill Shuster
Surface Transportation Priorities	Memorial Park Drive in Upper Moreland Township, PA	$300,000	Rep. Allyson Schwartz
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reading Lighting and Streetscape Enhancement Initiative, PA	$167,500	Sen. Casey
Surface Transportation Priorities	Regional Telecommunications System on Pennsylvania Turnpike, PA	$500,000	Rep. Robert Brady
Surface Transportation Priorities	Rehabilitation of the Martin's Mill Covered Bridge, PA	$250,000	Rep. Bill Shuster
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 60/422 Interchange, Union Township, PA	$750,000	Rep. Jason Altmire
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Route 21 Improvements and Upgrades, Fayette County, PA	$1,500,000	Rep. John Murtha
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Route 21 Intersection at Junction Deli, Green County, PA	$1,090,000	Rep. John Murtha
*Surface Transportation Priorities	Stoopville Road Improvements, PA	$500,000	Rep. Patrick Murphy
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 422 River Crossing Complex Projects, PA	$750,000	Rep. Joe Sestak
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. Route 30/Harrisburg Pike Gateway Interchange Project, PA	$1,400,000	Sen. Specter
Surface Transportation Priorities	Upgrade signalized intersections, Allentown, PA	$500,000	Rep. Charles Dent
Surface Transportation Priorities	Valley View Business Park Access Road, PA	$670,000	Sen. Casey, Rep. Christopher Carney
Surface Transportation Priorities	RI Bridge and Tunnel Authority EZPass Project for Claiborne Pell Bridge, RI	$500,000	Rep. Patrick Kennedy, Sen. Reed, Sen. Whitehouse
Surface Transportation Priorities	Greene Street/Williams Street connector, SC	$500,000	Rep. James Clyburn
Surface Transportation Priorities	Phase 2 road improvements for Tri-County Technical, SC	$300,000	Rep. J. Barrett
Surface Transportation Priorities	SC 9 Improvements, SC	$500,000	Rep. Bob Inglis
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 278 Corridor, Beaufort County, SC	$500,000	Rep. Joe Wilson, Sen. Graham
Surface Transportation Priorities	SD 11 and SD 42 in Sioux Falls, SD	$2,310,000	Sen. Johnson
Surface Transportation Priorities	South Dakota School of Mines and Technology Connector Road, SD	$390,000	Sen. Johnson, Sen. Thune
Surface Transportation Priorities	Interstate 69, TN	$2,100,000	Sen. Alexander
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Route 218 Extension, Henry County, TN	$750,000	Rep. John Tanner
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Route 437 By-Pass in Bedford County, TN	$700,000	Sen. Alexander
Surface Transportation Priorities	Upgrade S.R. 31 in Mooresburg, Hawkins County, TN	$500,000	Rep. David Davis
Surface Transportation Priorities	Alsbury Boulevard Extension, Burleson, TX	$600,000	Rep. Chet Edwards
Surface Transportation Priorities	Austin Intelligent Transportation Systems, TX	$250,000	Rep. Michael McCaul, Rep. Lamar Smith
Surface Transportation Priorities	Brazos Valley Transportation Management Center, TX	$600,000	Rep. Chet Edwards
Surface Transportation Priorities	Collard Street Reconstruction, Madisonville, TX	$200,000	Rep. Chet Edwards
Surface Transportation Priorities	CR 172 Improvements, Grimes County, TX	$400,000	Rep. Chet Edwards
Surface Transportation Priorities	Dallas Woodall Rodgers Freeway Deck Plaza, TX	$100,000	Rep. Pete Sessions
Surface Transportation Priorities	Del Rio Roadway Construction, Val Verde County, TX	$1,000,000	Rep. Ciro Rodriguez
Surface Transportation Priorities	East Loop, TX	$420,000	Sen. Hutchison
Surface Transportation Priorities	East Texas Higher Speed Rail Feasibility Study, TX	$455,000	Sen. Hutchison
Surface Transportation Priorities	FM 3503 Relocation Improvements, TX	$500,000	Rep. K. Conaway
Surface Transportation Priorities	FM509 Extension, TX	$700,000	Sen. Hutchison, Sen. Cornyn
Surface Transportation Priorities	I-69, US-77 Upgrades from Harlingen to I-37, TX	$525,000	Sen. Hutchison
Surface Transportation Priorities	IH30 Interchange at Monty Stratton Pkwy-Greenville, TX	$250,000	Rep. Ralph Hall
Surface Transportation Priorities	Lake Ridge Parkway Extension in Grand Prairie, TX	$500,000	Rep. Kenny Marchant, Sen. Cornyn

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Surface Transportation Priorities	Memorial Drive Feasibility Study, Beverly Hill, TX	$300,000	Rep. Chet Edwards
Surface Transportation Priorities	Northeast Inner Loop intersection Improvements, TX	$350,000	Rep. John Carter
Surface Transportation Priorities	Port of Orange Intermodal Project, Orange, Texas	$500,000	Rep. Kevin Brady
Surface Transportation Priorities	Reconstruction of Long Point Road in Houston, TX	$750,000	Rep. John Culberson
Surface Transportation Priorities	SH66 from SH205 to FM 549, Rockwall TX	$250,000	Rep. Ralph Hall
Surface Transportation Priorities	Thomas Road Project, McAllen, TX	$700,000	Rep. Henry Cuellar
Surface Transportation Priorities	Trinity River Vision Bridges, Ft Worth, TX	$1,750,000	Rep. Kay Granger, Sen. Cornyn, Sen. Hutchison
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 290/S.H. 36 Improvements, TX	$250,000	Rep. Michael McCaul, Sen. Cornyn
Surface Transportation Priorities	White Bluff Intersection Widening Project, White Bluff, TX	$200,000	Rep. Chet Edwards
Surface Transportation Priorities	Widening Loop 281, Longview, TX	$500,000	Rep. Louie Gohmert
Surface Transportation Priorities	500 South, I-15 to Redwood Road, UT	$600,000	Sen. Bennett, Sen. Hatch
Surface Transportation Priorities	Geneva RD & Provo Center ST, UT	$250,000	Rep. Chris Cannon
Surface Transportation Priorities	I-15 Auxiliary Lanes, Kaysville to 31st Street, UT	$1,200,000	Sen. Bennett, Sen. Hatch
Surface Transportation Priorities	Ft. Lee Access Points, Prince George, VA	$750,000	Rep. Robert Scott, Rep. J. Forbes, Sen. Webb, Sen. Warner
Surface Transportation Priorities	Streetscape Project—Town of Scottsville, VA	$400,000	Rep. Virgil Goode
Surface Transportation Priorities	US Route 1/SR 123 Interchange Improvements, Prince William County, VA	$2,010,000	Sen. Webb
Surface Transportation Priorities	Vienna Sidewalk construction, VA	$100,000	Rep. Tom Davis
Surface Transportation Priorities	Widen Route 10, Chesterfield, VA	$250,000	Rep. J. Forbes
Surface Transportation Priorities	Chittenden County Road Improvement Projects in Colchester (VT Route 15/Campus Road) and Essex Junction (VT Route 15), VT	$1,675,000	Sen. Leahy
Surface Transportation Priorities	Streetscape Improvement Project, Bennington, VT	$500,000	Rep. Peter Welch
Surface Transportation Priorities	Vermont Downtown Streetscape and Sidewalk Improvements in Springfield and Bristol, VT	$670,000	Sen. Leahy
Surface Transportation Priorities	A-B Street Corridor Connector, WA	$1,260,000	Sen. Murray
Surface Transportation Priorities	Beaudry Road Crossing and Pathway, Yakima Co. WA	$200,000	Rep. Doc Hastings
Surface Transportation Priorities	Big Pasco Industrial Center Intermodal Project, Phase 4, WA	$900,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Surface Transportation Priorities	City of Granite Falls Freight Access Project, WA	$1,050,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Surface Transportation Priorities	Coal Creek Parkway Corridor Completion Project, WA	$700,000	Sen. Murray
Surface Transportation Priorities	FAST Corridor Grade Separations, WA	$500,000	Rep. David Reichert, Rep. Adam Smith
Surface Transportation Priorities	Hanford Reach National Monument Transportation Improvements, WA	$700,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Surface Transportation Priorities	Icicle Station Project, Leavenworth, WA	$300,000	Sen. Murray
Surface Transportation Priorities	Implementing Red Mountain Area Plan, Benton Co. WA	$300,000	Rep. Doc Hastings, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Surface Transportation Priorities	Lincoln Avenue Grade Separation Project, WA	$1,050,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Surface Transportation Priorities	Post Street Centennial Trail and Utility Bridge, WA	$1,400,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Surface Transportation Priorities	South Lake Union Streetcar Project Capital Improvements, WA	$805,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Surface Transportation Priorities	Tacoma Rail Mountain Division Track Improvements, WA	$770,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell

Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 2 Safety Improvements, WA	$650,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell, Rep. Rick Larsen
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. 395, North Spokane Corridor, WA	$500,000	Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Surface Transportation Priorities	West Vancouver Freight Access Project, WA	$1,400,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Surface Transportation Priorities	1/2 Street, Town of Turtle Lake, WI	$350,000	Rep. David Obey
Surface Transportation Priorities	College Avenue Bridge Project, Appleton, WI	$500,000	Rep. Steve Kagen, Sen. Kohl
Surface Transportation Priorities	County Highway C Road Improvements, Bayfield County, WI	$1,750,000	Rep. David Obey, Sen. Kohl
Surface Transportation Priorities	County Highway F Reconstruction, Douglas County, WI	$1,500,000	Rep. David Obey, Sen. Kohl
Surface Transportation Priorities	Engineering Project for NFDL Railyard Crossing, WI	$600,000	Rep. Thomas Petri
Surface Transportation Priorities	State Highway 53 Improvements, Barron County, WI	$1,000,000	Rep. David Obey
Surface Transportation Priorities	STH 44—Oshkosh, WI	$400,000	Rep. Thomas Petri
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. Highway 10 Improvements between Marshfield and Stevens Point, WI	$2,500,000	Rep. David Obey, Sen. Kohl
Surface Transportation Priorities	U.S. Highway 41 Construction Project from Oconto, WI, to Peshtigo, WI	$1,000,000	Rep. Steve Kagen, Sen. Kohl
Surface Transportation Priorities	Wisconsin State Highway 57 Expansion from Dyckesville to Sturgeon Bay, WI	$500,000	Rep. Steve Kagen, Sen. Kohl
Surface Transportation Priorities	Coalfields Expressway, WV	$4,000,000	Sen. Byrd
Surface Transportation Priorities	Friends of Cheat Rails-to-Trails program, WV	$300,000	Rep. Alan Mollohan
Surface Transportation Priorities	Interstate 68 Access Road—Monongalia County, WV	$2,000,000	Sen. Byrd
Surface Transportation Priorities	King Coal Highway, WV	$4,000,000	Sen. Byrd
Surface Transportation Priorities	Paw Paw Bends Trail, Morgan County, WV	$1,000,000	Sen. Byrd
Surface Transportation Priorities	Raleigh Street Extension, WV	$500,000	Rep. Shelley Capito
Surface Transportation Priorities	Route 10 Upgrade from I-64 to Corridor G, WV	$1,000,000	Rep. Nick Rahall
Surface Transportation Priorities	West Virginia Route 2 Improvements, WV	$7,643,100	Sen. Byrd
Surface Transportation Priorities	West Virginia Route 9, WV	$8,000,000	Sen. Byrd
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Brannon Stand Bridge, AL	$250,000	Rep. Terry Everett, Sen. Shelby
*TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Red Mountain Park Project, Birmingham, AL	$1,000,000	Sen. Sessions
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Northwest Arkansas Western Beltway, AR	$670,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor, Rep. John Boozman
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Safety Improvements to Highway 69, AZ	$250,000	Rep. Rick Renzi
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Central Expressway Auxiliary Lanes, Santa Clara County, CA	$500,000	Rep. Anna Eshoo
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Citracado Parkway Project, CA	$250,000	Rep. Brian Bilbray
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Fairfield Ranch Road, Chino Hills, CA	$250,000	Rep. Gary Miller
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Friant Road Widening, CA	$1,170,000	Sen. Feinstein, Rep. Devin Nunes
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Highway 118 Corridor Study, CA	$250,000	Rep. Elton Gallegly
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	La Canada Flintridge, CA I-210 Soundwall, CA	$250,000	Rep. David Dreier

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Reyes Adobe Road/U.S. 101 Interchange Reconstruction, Agoura Hills, CA	$250,000	Rep. Henry Waxman
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	School Zone Safety Improvements, Chula Vista, CA	$500,000	Rep. Bob Filner
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	State Route 198 Expressway Widening, Kings County, CA	$600,000	Rep. Jim Costa
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	U.S. 85 (Highlands Ranch to Castle Rock), CO	$500,000	Rep. Thomas Tancredo, Sen. Salazar
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	West Main Street Streetscape, Meriden, CT	$500,000	Rep. Christopher Murphy
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Construction of Riverside Multi-use Trailways, Parkland, FL	$250,000	Rep. Ron Klein
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Downtown Transit Circulator Streetscapes, Broward County, FL	$250,000	Rep. Ron Klein
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Expansion of County Line Road—Hernando County FL	$500,000	Rep. Ginny Brown-Waite
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Heckscher Drive and Bridge Replacement, FL	$1,000,000	Rep. Ander Crenshaw
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	U.S. 441/SR7 Interchange at 11th Street, Lauderhill, Broward County, FL	$750,000	Rep. Alcee Hastings
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	US 98 Six Lane Widening, FL	$750,000	Rep. Adam Putnam
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Downtown Development Authority District Streetscape, Dahlonega GA	$325,000	Sen. Chambliss
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Extension of the Cobb Parkway, Marietta, GA	$475,000	Sen. Isakson, Sen. Chambliss, Rep. Tom Price
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	I-75/Bruton Smith Pkwy Interchange Improvement, GA	$250,000	Rep. Lynn Westmoreland
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	New interchange & road relocation, I-85 & CR 98, GA	$250,000	Rep. Lynn Westmoreland, Sen. Chambliss
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Ocmulgee Heritage Trail, Bibb County, GA	$400,000	Rep. Jim Marshall
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Rails to Trails/Civic Center Project, Covington, GA	$500,000	Rep. Jim Marshall
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Silver Comet Trail Atlanta Road Connector, GA	$250,000	Rep. Tom Price
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	State Route 24 Widening, Sandersville, Washington County, GA	$500,000	Rep. John Barrow
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	State Route 67 Widening from I-16 to Statesboro bypass, GA	$500,000	Rep. John Barrow
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Union Grove Interchange, Gordon County, GA	$250,000	Rep. Phil Gingrey
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Construct Four Lane Highway 20 West of U.S. 71, IA	$500,000	Rep. Steve King

TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Scott Community College Campus Access Road, Davenport, IA	$500,000	Rep. Bruce Braley, Sen. Grassley
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Southeast Connector Extension from SE 6th Street to SE 14th Street, IA	$2,345,000	Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	University Boulevard Widening, Clive, IA	$350,000	Rep. Leonard Boswell, Sen. Grassley
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	US Highway 63 Reconstruction, Waterloo, IA	$350,000	Sen. Grassley
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	US 30 McCammon to Topaz Bridge, ID	$350,000	Sen. Crapo
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Butterfield Road, Illinois Route 60/Canadian National Railroad Grade Separation, Lake County, IL	$250,000	Rep. Melissa Bean
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Illinois Route 120 Corridor, Lake County, IL	$1,000,000	Rep. Melissa Bean
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Illinois Trails, IL	$3,000,000	Sen. Durbin, Sen. Obama, Rep. Jerry Weller
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Meacham Road Tollway Access Ramp, Schaumburg, IL	$250,000	Rep. Melissa Bean
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Miller Road Widening, McHenry County, IL	$250,000	Rep. Melissa Bean
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Red Gate Road Bridge, St. Charles, IL	$500,000	Rep. J Hastert
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Street improvements in Burnham, IL	$400,000	Rep. Jesse Jackson
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Street improvements in Thornton, IL	$400,000	Rep. Jesse Jackson
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Campus Perimeter Transportation, Vanderburgh, IN	$350,000	Rep. Brad Ellsworth, Sen. Lugar
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Connersville Intermodal Study, Connersville, IN	$350,000	Sen. Lugar
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Pigeon Creek Greenway Passage: Phase I, Evansville, IN	$670,000	Sen. Bayh
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	University Parkway Construction, Vanderburgh County, IN	$350,000	Rep. Brad Ellsworth, Sen. Bayh, Sen. Lugar
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Construction and Improvements to County Road One (RS-209) south of I-70 to K-32, Leavenworth County, KS	$500,000	Sen. Roberts
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Fort Knox Park & Ride Express on US 31W, KY	$350,000	Sen. Bunning
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Kentucky River Palisades Land Preservation, Lexington, KY	$500,000	Rep. Ben Chandler
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Interstate 10 Service Road Corridor, Lake Charles, LA	$2,000,000	Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Vitter
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Signal Synchronization System; Baton Rouge, LA	$350,000	Sen. Vitter
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	U.S. 190/Collin Blvd. Widening, LA	$500,000	Rep. Bobby Jindal, Sen. Vitter, Sen. Landrieu
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Reconstruction of Bangor Street, ME	$375,000	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Highway 14 from North Mankato, MN to New Ulm, MN	$350,000	Rep. Tim Walz, Sen. Klobuchar

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Highway 14 from Waseca, MN to Owatonna, MN	$500,000	Sen. Coleman, Sen. Klobuchar, Rep. Tim Walz
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Highway 241 Improvement, MN	$500,000	Rep. Michele Bachmann, Sen. Klobuchar, Sen. Coleman
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Stony Run Township Road in Yellow Medicine County, MN	$100,000	Rep. Collin Peterson
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	US Highway 212 Expansion-Chaska to Norwood Young America, Carver County, MN	$670,000	Sen. Klobuchar
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Brush Creek Beautification, Kansas City, MO	$1,000,000	Rep. Emanuel Cleaver
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Highway N Improvements, Platte County, MO	$500,000	Rep. Sam Graves
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	East Metropolitan Corridor— Rankin County, MS	$250,000	Sen Cochran, Rep. Charles Pickering
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Hwy 27 Hurricane Evacuation Route, MS	$100,000	Sen. Cochran, Rep. Charles Pickering
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Clayton Pedestrian Grade Separation, Johnston County, NC	$367,500	Sen. Burr
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	US 17 in Beaufort County, NC	$375,000	Sen. Dole, Rep. B. K. Butterfield
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	US 30, Columbus Viaduct, NE	$300,000	Sen. Hagel
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Newark Downtown Core Redevelopment District, NJ	$670,000	Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Safety and Drainage Improvements on Route 46, Lodi, NJ	$250,000	Rep. Steven Rothman
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	South Orange Avenue Roadway Improvements, Essex County, NJ	$250,000	Rep. Bill Pascrell, Rep. Steven Rothman, Rep. Albio Sires, Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	U.S. 550 Improvements, Bernalillo, NM	$500,000	Rep. Heather Wilson, Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	I–15 North I–215 to Apex Interchange, NV	$1,000,000	Sen. Reid, Sen. Ensign, Rep. Shelley Berkley
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Meadowood Interchange Complex, Reno, NV	$750,000	Sen. Reid, Rep. Dean Heller
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Hofstra University's Safe and Sustainable Campus Plan, NY	$780,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Lincoln Center Corridor Redevelopment Project, NY	$500,000	Rep. Jerrold Nadler, Rep. Charles Rangel, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Little Neck Quiet Zone, NY	$250,000	Rep. Gary Ackerman
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Main Street Streetscape, Haverstraw, NY	$175,000	Rep. Nita Lowey
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	New York State Routes 5, 8, 12 Viaduct and Route 5A and 5S, Utica, NY	$750,000	Rep. Michael Arcuri, Sen. Schumer

TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	City of Northwood, OH Wales Road Grade Separation	$500,000	Rep. Paul Gillmor
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Eastgate Area Improvements, OH	$250,000	Rep. Jean Schmidt, Sen. Voinovich
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Flats Eastbank Project, City of Cleveland, OH	$850,000	Sen. Voinovich, Sen. Brown, Rep. Stephanie Jones
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Mehring Way Street Grid East, Cincinnati, OH	$200,000	Rep. Jean Schmidt, Sen. Voinovich
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Scioto Mile River Level Park Project, Columbus, OH	$500,000	Rep. Deborah Pryce, Sen. Voinovich
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	White Pond Drive Expansion, OH	$670,000	Sen. Brown, Rep. Betty Sutton
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Robinson Grade Separation, City of Norman, OK	$350,000	Sen. Inhofe
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	US 169 Highway Widening Environmental Assessment, City of Owasso, OK	$350,000	Sen. Inhofe, Rep. John Sullivan
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	I–5 North Macadam Ramp & Street Capacity Improvements, OR	$375,000	Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Baptist and Broughton Road Intersection, PA	$500,000	Rep. Tim Murphy
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	High Priority Corridor 31 of the National Highway System in southwestern, PA	$670,000	Sen. Casey
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	PUP Ride Share Program, Philadelphia, PA	$1,000,000	Rep. Chaka Fattah
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Ellsworth Air Force Base Road Improvement, SD	$700,000	Sen. Thune
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	North Second Street Corridor Upgrade, Memphis, TN	$500,000	Rep. Steve Cohen
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	U.S. 64—Hardeman/McNairy/Hardin/Wayne Counties, TN	$500,000	Rep. Marsha Blackburn
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Lane expansion of RM 1431, TX	$500,000	Rep. John Carter, Sen. Cornyn
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Port Road Expansion and Improvements, TX	$500,000	Rep. Sheila Jackson-Lee, Rep. Nick Lampson
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Jefferson Park Avenue Project, Charlottesville, VA	$300,000	Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Des Moines Creek Trail Access Project, WA	$500,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Olympic Discovery Trail/Elwha River Pedestrian Bridge, WA	$575,000	Sen. Murray, Rep. Norman Dicks
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Fairmont Gateway Connector, WV	$1,500,000	Rep. Alan Mollohan
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	US Route 35, WV	$400,000	Sen Bryd, Rep. Shelley Capito
TCSP—Transportation & Community & System Preservation	Separated Grade Crossing for Torrington, WY	$350,000	Sen. Enzi, Sen. Thomas
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	Transportation and Public Safety Traffic Information Exchange Pilot Project, DE	$335,000	Sen. Carper, Sen. Biden
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS)	$750,000	Rep. Joe Knollenberg

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	Virtual Accident and Injury Reconstruction Center, MSU, MS	$1,000,000	Sen. Cochran
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	UVM Advanced Ground Penetrating Radar Systems, VT	$670,000	Sen. Leahy
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	Inland Pacific Hub Analysis Project, WA	$250,000	Sen. Murray, Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	SR-520 Innovative Water Quality Protection Project, WA	$350,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	Washington State University Freight Transportation Policy Institute, WA	$450,000	Sen. Murray
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	Ballast Water Research, University of Wisconsin-Superior, WI	$1,000,000	Rep. David Obey
Transportation Planning, Research, and Development	Great Lakes Maritime Research Institute, University of Wisconsin-Superior, WI	$1,000,000	Rep. David Obey

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Economic Development Initiatives

Grantee	Purpose	Funding	Sponsor
Ada Public Works Authority in Ada, OK	for construction of 1 million gallon water storage tower	$250,000	Rep. Cole, Sen. Inofe
African American Cultural Center in Lumberton, NC	for renovation and buildout of the facility	$150,000	Rep. McIntyre
African American History Foundation of Nashville, TN	for planning, design and construction of a museum	$100,000	Rep. Cooper
African-American Male Achievers Network in Los Angeles, CA	for acquisition and renovation of a facility to provide educational opportunities for youth	$150,000	Rep. Waters
Alexandria Central Economic Development District in Alexandria, LA	for development of marina, related dockside, access and utilities	$600,000	Rep. Alexander, Sen. Vitter
Allegheny County Department of Planning in Pittsburgh, PA	for planning, design, renovation, construction and buildout of a brownfields site	$100,000	Rep. Altmire, Rep. Doyle
Allentown Art Museum of the Lehigh Valley in Allentown, PA	for expansion	$250,000	Rep. Dent
Alpine Heritage Preservation in Thomas, WV	for renovation and buildout of the historic opera house	$200,000	Rep. Mollohan
America's Second Harvest of South Georgia in Valdosta, GA	for construction, expansion, and renovation of food distribution center	$225,000	Rep. Kingston
Amherst Cinema Arts Center, Inc. in Amherst, MA	for acquisition, renovation and buildout of an arts center, as part of area redevelopment	$265,000	Rep. Olver
Amherst Youth Foundation in Amherst, NY	for renovations to the Independent Health Youth and Family Center	$150,000	Rep. Reynolds
Anderson Arts Center in Anderson, SC	for completion of the renovation of the Anderson Arts Warehouse Facility	$100,000	Rep. Barrett
Appalachian Service Project, Inc. in Johnson City, TN	for emergency home repair for disadvantaged families	$150,000	Rep. Davis (David)
Arc Mercer Inc. in Ewing, NJ	for upgrading facilities to serve people with developmental disabilities	$50,000	Rep. Smith (Christopher)
Ardmore Development Authority in Ardmore, OK	for a centrally located resource center	$350,000	Rep. Cole, Sen. Inofe
Ark Memorial Foundation in Laramie, WY	for completion of construction of a national Creative Arts Center	$150,000	Rep. Cubin
Arkansas State University at Mountain Home, in Mountain Home, AR	for construction, renovation, and buildout of a multipurpose facility	$250,000	Rep. Berry

Arkansas State University-Newport in Newport, AR	for construction of the Regional Transportation Technology Center, an educational and training facility	$350,000	Rep. Berry
Arlington Chamber of Commerce in Arlington, TX	for commercialization of technology, especially bio- and nano-technology at University of Texas at Arlington	$100,000	Rep. Barton, Sen. Hutchison
Arlington Housing Corporation in Arlingon, VA	for renovation, expansion and construction of low-income housing	$200,000	Rep. Moran (James)
Armed Services YMCA in Killeen, TX	for construction of a full service YMCA	$400,000	Rep. Carter
ArtsQuest of Bethlehem, PA	for revitalization of a brownsfield site and development of the SteelStax Performing Arts Center on the site	$250,000	Rep. Dent
Asian Youth Center of San Gabriel, CA	for acquisition of a multipurpose facility for the center	$150,000	Rep. Schiff
Atchison County Memorial Building Foundation in Atchison County, MO	for renovation of the Atchison County Memorial Building	$250,000	Rep. Graves
Atlanta Botanical Gardens in Atlanta, GA	for construction of the Canopy Walk, an educational nature walk	$150,000	Rep. Lewis (John)
Atlantic County, NJ	for development of an industrial park to foster economic development	$100,000	Rep. LoBiondo
Audie Murphy/American Cotton Museum in Greenville, TX	for construction of a memorial and building	$100,000	Rep. Hall (Ralph)
Avesta Housing in Portland, ME	for planning, design, construction and buildout of the Florence House Center for Homeless Women	$150,000	Rep. Allen
Bacon County Board of Commissioners in Bacon County, GA	for restoration of an old school building for community use	$225,000	Rep. Kingston
Ballard County, KY	for the Ballard County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism Community Shelter	$50,000	Rep. Whitfield
Barrington Stage Company in Pittsfield, MA	for renovation and buildout of the Berkshire Music Hall and Octagon House	$275,000	Rep. Olver
Bassett Historical Center in Hendry County, VA	for expansion of a facility	$100,000	Rep. Goode
Bay Area Food Bank in Mobile, AL	for construction of a commerical-size kitchen	$250,000	Rep. Bonner, Sen. Shelby
Beatitude House in Warren, OH	for renovation and construction of a facility for homeless women and children	$200,000	Rep. Ryan
Bel Alton High School Alumni Association CDC in Bel Alton, MD	for renovation, construction and buildout of a community center	$400,000	Rep. Hoyer
Belmont Complex in Kittanning, PA	for renovation and construction of the Belmont Complex	$300,000	Rep. Murtha
Berrien County Economic Development Authority in Berrien County, GA	for design and construction of new sewer system	$300,000	Rep. Kingston
Bethel School District in Spanaway, WA	for construction and buildout of a community center for seniors and youth	$150,000	Rep. Reichert, Rep. Smith (Adam), Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Bethune-Cookman University in Daytona Beach, FL	for rehabilitation and renovation of the School of Nursing	$150,000	Rep. Mica
Billings Food Bank in Billings, MT	for demoliton of buidling	$300,000	Rep. Rehberg
Bi-State Authority, Lawrenceville-Vincennes Airport in Lawrenceville, IL	for construction of a new airport building for a public use area	$100,000	Rep. Johnson (Timothy)
Black Ensemble Theater in Chicago, IL	for planning, design and construction of the theater	$200,000	Rep. Schakowsky
Blount County Government in Blount County, TN	for infrastructure for Pellisippi Research Centre	$150,000	Rep. Duncan
Bolingbrook Park District in Bolingbrook, IL	for construction of the LEED Platinum nature center	$150,000	Rep. Biggert
Bonnie CLAC Lebanon, NH	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund to assist low-income populations with transportation needs	$100,000	Rep. Hodes
Boricua College in Brooklyn, NY	for renovation and buildout of the North Side Campus	$150,000	Rep. Velazquez
Borough of Coraopolis, PA	for streetscape improvements in downtown Coraopolis	$100,000	Rep. Doyle
Borough of High Bridge, NJ	for construction of ramps and elevators	$250,000	Rep. Ferguson
Borough of Robesonia, PA	for signage and streetscape improvements as part of the Robesonia Downtown Revitalization project	$150,000	Rep. Holden
Borough of Telford, PA	for renovation of a freight building, enhancement of handicap access and development of a community pavillion	$250,000	Rep. Dent
Borough of West Paterson, NJ	for construction of an urban bikeway	$150,000	Rep. Pascrell

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Economic Development Initiatives—Continued

Grantee	Purpose	Funding	Sponsor
Boynton Beach Community Redevelopment Agency in Boynton Beach, FL	for construction of an educational facility	$300,000	Rep. Klein
Brainerd Institute of Chester, SC	for renovation and buildout of multipurpose facilities at the Brainerd Institute	$100,000	Rep. Clyburn
Brooklyn Children's Museum in Brooklyn, NY	for renovation and construction of the museum	$170,000	Rep. Clarke, Rep. Weiner, Sen. Schumer
Buhl Farm Trust in Sharon, PA	for building renovation at Bhul Farm	$300,000	Rep. English
* Burchfield-Penney Art Center in Buffalo, NY	for construction and buildout	$400,000	Rep. Slaughter, Rep. Reynolds
Calvin College in Grand Rapids, MI	for renovation of a historic building in downown Grand Rapids	$100,000	Rep. Ehlers
Camp Wood YMCA in Elmdale, KS	for construction of alternative energy structures for facilities	$50,000	Rep. Moran (Jerry)
Campbellsville-Taylor Co. Industrial Development in Campbellsville, KY	for development of two engineered, pad ready sites in the current business park	$100,000	Rep. Lewis (Ron)
Carlisle Regional Perfroming Arts Center in Calisle, PA	for renovation of the Carlisle Theater	$100,000	Rep. Platts
Caroll County Community Center in Carrollton, OH	for planning, design and construction of a community center	$300,000	Rep. Space
Carroll County Watershed Authority in Carroll County, TN	for land acquisition	$150,000	Rep. Tanner
Catholic Charities in Louisville, KY	for renovation of a historic building to create affordable housing for seniors	$100,000	Rep. Yarmuth
Central Bradford Progress Authority in Towanda, PA	for renovation of facilities as part of a redevelopment plan	$310,000	Rep. Carney
Central Connecticut Coast YMCA, Inc. in New Haven, CT	for planning, design and construction of a community recreational facility	$300,000	Rep. DeLauro
Charlotte County, FL	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Family Services Center	$200,000	Rep. Buchanan, Rep. Mahoney
Charter Township of White Lake, MI	for land purchases, roadway improvements, public spaces, streetscape and pathways	$150,000	Rep. McCotter
Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center in Enid, OK	for renovation and construction of the center	$100,000	Rep. Lucas, Sen. Inofe
Chicago Parks District in Chicago, IL	for renovation of the historic Theatre on the Lake	$700,000	Rep. Emanuel
Chicanos Por La Causa, Inc. in Phoenix, AZ	for acquisition of a facility to be used as a business incubator and training facility	$500,000	Rep. Pastor
Child Care Services Association in Chapel Hill, NC	for planning, design and construction of a child care resource center in Durham	$275,000	Rep. Price
Citizens for a Civic Auditorium in Casper, WY	for construction of a multipurpose Casper Civic Auditorium facility	$200,000	Rep. Cubin
City College of New York in New York, NY	for planning, design, construction, renovation and buildout of a multipurpose educational facility	$250,000	Rep. Rangel
City of Agoura Hills, CA	for land acquisition to protect open space	$150,000	Rep. Waxman

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
City of Ansonia, CT	for planning and design of affordable housing as part of a redevelopment plan at the Riverside Apartment Complex	$100,000	Rep. DeLauro
City of Astoria, OR	for planning, design and construction of the Chinese Heritage Park	$150,000	Rep. Wu
City of Austin, TX	for streetscape and fac<9ade improvements as part of the East Austin Fac<9ade Improvement Project	$150,000	Rep. Doggett, Rep. Smith (Lamar)
City of Azusa, CA	for renovation of the Azusa National Guard Armory to become a recreational facility for seniors and youth	$150,000	Rep. Solis
City of Bastrop, TX	for planning, design and construction of a recreational trail	$250,000	Rep. Doggett
City of Bellflower, CA	for construction and buildout of the Los Angeles County Fire Museum	$500,000	Rep. Roybal-Allard

City of Bellmead, TX	for facility construction, renovation and buildout	$300,000	Rep. Edwards
City of Benicia, CA	for renovation, construction and buildout of a facility for veterans	$150,000	Rep. Miller (George)
City of Birmingham, AL	for land acquisition and construction of an urban park	$250,000	Rep. Davis (Artur), Rep. Bachus, Sen. Shelby
City of Cadiz Downtown Development Project in Cadiz, KY	for economic development and community growth	$50,000	Rep. Whitfield
City of Cedar Rapids, IA	for revitalization of a brownfields site	$150,000	Rep. Loebsack, Sen. Harkin
City of Center Point, AL	for the Polly Reed Road Greenway and Pedestrian Walkway Project	$250,000	Rep. Bachus, Sen. Shelby
City of Charlotte, NC	for land acquisition in the development of the Belvedere Business Park	$150,000	Rep. Watt
City of Clearwater, FL	for a comprehensive plan, and to make corresponding infrastructure improvements to revitalize downtown Clearwater	$100,000	Rep. Bilrakis
City of Clearwater, FL	for a comprehensive plan to revitalize downtown Clearwater	$200,000	Rep. Young (C.W.)
City of Columbus, IN	for planning, design, construction and buildout of an educational facility	$150,000	Rep. Hill, Sen. Lugar
City of Commerce City, CO	for renovation and construction of a Boys and Girls Club	$170,000	Rep. Perlmutter
City of Daytona Beach, FL	for construction of a community center for services to disadvantaged youths	$50,000	Rep. Mica
City of Desert Hot Springs, CA	for construction and site improvements for a civic and community center	$200,000	Rep. Lewis (Jerry)
City of Detroit, MI	for demolition of abandoned properties as part of a redevelopment plan	$300,000	Rep. Conyers, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
City of Doral, FL	for redevelopment of recreation facilities	$150,000	Rep. Diaz-Balart (Lincoln)
City of Eagle Mountain, UT	for park development to complete Phase I of the economic development area in Eagle Mountain City	$420,000	Rep. Cannon, Sen. Hatch, Sen. Bennett
City of Edmonds, WA	for renovation of the Edmunds Center for the Arts	$150,000	Rep. Inslee, Sen. Murray
City of Evansville, IN	for renovation, construction and buildout of the historic Alhambra Theatre	$200,000	Rep. Ellsworth, Sen. Lugar
City of Fayetteville, NC	for planning, design and construction of the Fayetteville Military Business Park	$150,000	Rep. Etheridge, Rep. Hayes, Rep. McIntyre, Sen. Dole
City of Fort Dodge, IA	for the acquisition and/or demolition of the former Beef Processors production plant	$100,000	Rep. Latham, Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley
City of Fredonia, KS	for sidewalks and streetscape improvements in the central business district	$100,000	Rep. Boyda
City of Gillette, WY	for design costs for an addition to the current Campbell County Senior Center	$150,000	Rep. Cubin
City of Green Bay, WI	for construction of the Riverfront Boardwalk, as part of a redevelopment plan	$400,000	Rep. Kagen
City of Greenville, IL	for construction of a business incubator	$150,000	Rep. Shimkus
City of Hackensack, NJ	for improvements to Foschini Park	$200,000	Rep. Rothman
City of Hammond, LA	for fire protection water services	$250,000	Rep. Jindal, Sen. Landrieu
City of Hearne, TX	for construction of a visitors center and museum for the WWII POW Camp	$250,000	Rep. Edwards
City of Hermiston, OR	for construction of a learning center	$50,000	Rep. Walden, Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith
City of Imperial, CA	for planning, design and construction of a regional parks facility	$150,000	Rep. Filner
City of Indianola, MS	for a revolving loan fund to provide affordable housing, as part of the Indianola Housing Initiative	$250,000	Rep. Thompson (Bennie)
City of Jackson, AL	for construction of a building in conjunction with a 240-acre Industrial Development Park	$250,000	Rep. Bonner
City of Jacob in Cottondale, FL	for acquisition and renovation of a community center	$300,000	Rep. Boyd
City of Joplin, MO	for streetscape improvements in Center City	$700,000	Rep. Blunt
City of Kaysville City, UT	for reclamation and conversion of a city-owned property to an economic use	$150,000	Rep. Bishop (Rob), Sen. Bennett
City of La Puente, CA	for planning, design and construction of a Nature Education Center for children	$250,000	Rep. Napolitano
City of Lauderdale Lakes, FL	for renovation and construction of a new educational and cultural addition to the library	$200,000	Rep. Hastings (Alcee)
City of Livermore, CA	for capitalization of a housing loan fund through the Tri-Valley Housing Opportunity Center	$150,000	Rep. Tauscher

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
City of Los Angeles, CA	for improvements to MacArthur Park	$200,000	Rep. Becerra
City of Lufkin, TX	for construction of a convention center	$100,000	Rep. Gohmert
City of Luling, TX	for renovation, construction and buildout of a historic facility as part of the Zedler Mill Park Pavilion Restoration project	$200,000	Rep. Doggett
City of Lynwood, CA	for construction of a public park	$150,000	Rep. Sanchez (Linda)
City of Madeira Beach, FL	for renovation of John's Pass Village to enhance public use	$50,000	Rep. Young (C.W.)
* City of Maitland, FL	for the Minihaha Park development	$240,000	Rep. Brown (Corrine)
City of Marathon, FL	for improvements to Boot Key Municial Harbor facilites	$100,000	Rep. Ros-Lehtinen
City of Memphis, TN	for demolition and planning as part of the University Place Revitalization project	$225,000	Rep. Cohen
City of Minneapolis, MN	for land and building acquisition, renovation and construction as part of the City's redevelopment plan	$270,000	Rep. Ellison, Sen. Coleman, Sen. Klobuchar
City of Monroe, NC	for renovation of the Old Armory Building site into a community center	$500,000	Rep. Hayes, Sen. Burr
City of Montrose, CO	for planning, design and construction of the Montrose Higher Education and Technology Park	$150,000	Rep. Salazar, Sen. Salazar
City of Mount Vernon, IN	for construction of a riverfront plaza as part of a redevelopment plan	$50,000	Rep. Ellsworth
City of New Bedford, MA	for demolition of abandoned buildings as part of a redevelopment plan	$400,000	Rep. Frank (Barney)
City of New Braunfels, TX	for relocation of the utilities underground	$100,000	Rep. Smith (Lamar)
City of New Brunswick, NJ	for planning, design, streetscape improvements and sidewalks	$150,000	Rep. Pallone, Sen. Lautenberg
City of New Iberia, LA	for planning, design, and construction of a multipurpose facility	$150,000	Rep. Melancon, Sen. Vitter
City of North Las Vegas, NV	for planning, design and construction of a senior center	$150,000	Rep. Berkley
City of Ottawa, KS	for land acquisition, renovation and construction of the Ottawa Industrial Park	$300,000	Rep. Boyda
City of Paxville, SC	for construction and buildout of a technology center for youth and senior citizens	$100,000	Rep. Clyburn
City of Phoenix, AZ	for streetscape improvements as part of the Maryvale Revitalization Project	$150,000	Rep. Pastor
City of Prattville, AL	for Phase II of the public acess and use at Cooters Pond Park	$100,000	Rep. Everett
City of Raeford, NC	for sidewalks and streetscape improvements	$200,000	Rep. Hayes
City of Rainsville, AL	for further construction of the Rainesville Ag center	$330,000	Rep. Aderholt, Sen. Shelby
City of Rancho Cordova, CA	for construction and buildout of a community building at the White Rock Community Park	$150,000	Rep. Matsui
City of Raytown, MO	for the demolition of an abandoned church as part of a redevelopment plan	$550,000	Rep. Cleaver
City of Riverdale, GA	for planning, design and construction of a multipurpose facility for low- and moderate-income residents	$250,000	Rep. Scott (David)
City of Romney, WV	for continued renovation and adaptive reuse of the Coca Cola Bottling plant as a cultural and arts center	$100,000	Rep. Capito
City of Round Rock, TX	for infrastructure and sidewalk improvements on Main Street from IH35 to San Saba Street	$400,000	Rep. Carter
City of San Antonio, TX	for construction and buildout of an educational facility	$400,000	Rep. Gonzalez, Rep. Rodriguez
City of San Clemente, CA	for continued construction of the Coastal Trail	$300,000	Rep. Calvert
City of San Juan, TX	for planning, design and construction of a new library	$250,000	Rep. Hinojosa
City of San Leandro, CA	for construction and buildout of senior center	$250,000	Rep. Stark
City of Santa Maria, CA	for construction, renovation and buildout of a library	$150,000	Rep. Capps
City of Sarasota, FL	for renovation of the Robert L. Taylor Community Center	$375,000	Rep. Buchanan, Sen. Martinez

City of Somerton in Tucson, AZ	for construction and buildout of the Dunbar Project Youth Cultural Center	$250,000	Rep. Grijalva
City of Springfield, OH	for acquisition, relocation, remediation and infrastructure improvements for the Community/Mercy Health Partners Hospital	$500,000	Rep. Hobson
City of St. Louis, MO	for streetscape improvements on Cherokee Street	$150,000	Rep. Carnahan
City of Suffolk, VA	for renovation of the former East Suffolk High School into a community and recreation center	$200,000	Rep. Forbes
City of Tamarac, FL	for expansion, renovation and buildout of a recreational facility	$150,000	Rep. Wexler
City of Tampa, FL	for construction of the Tampa Riverwalk as part of a redevelopment plan	$300,000	Rep. Castor
City of Toledo, OH	for construction, renovation and buildout in low-income neighborhoods	$250,000	Rep. Kaptur
City of Topeka, KS	for land acquisition for a public park	$100,000	Rep. Boyda
City of Valdosta, GA	for reconstruction and development of an eight block corridor	$250,000	Rep. Kingston, Sen. Chambliss
City of Wakefield, MI	for renovation, construction and buildout of the historic Wakefield Memorial Community Building	$150,000	Rep. Stupak, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
City of Waterbury, CT	for demolition of abandoned structures as part of a redevelopment plan	$300,000	Rep. Murphy (Christopher)
City of Waterloo, IA	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Cedar Valley TechWorks Technology Center	$200,000	Rep. Braley, Sen. Grassley
City of Wichita, KS	for redevelopment of Dunbar Theater	$300,000	Rep. Tiahrt
City of Yucaipa, CA	for construction of a joint recreation facility for the City of Yucaipa and Crafton Hills Community College	$200,000	Rep. Lewis (Jerry)
Clay County Drug Treatment Center in Manchester, KY	for construction of residential drug treatment facility	$500,000	Rep. Rogers (Harold)
College of Mount Saint Vincent in Riverdale, NY	for renovation of the college's nursing laboratories	$250,000	Rep. Engel
Collier County, FL	for construction of a Community Center in South Immokalee	$150,000	Rep. Diaz-Balart (Mario), Sen. Martinez
Community Health Connections in Gardner, MA	for renovation of a former elementary school for a multipurpose health facility	$325,000	Rep. Olver
Community Rehabilitation Center, Inc., in Jacksonville, FL	for streetscape improvements and renovation of Pearl Street Plaza	$150,000	Rep. Brown
Community Reinvestment Association of North Carolina in Durham, NC	for capitalization of a housing loan fund as part of the Manufactured Housing Redevelopment Fund	$275,000	Rep. Price
Conemaugh Township Community Center in Saltsburg, PA	for improvements to the Center to meet ADA requirements	$50,000	Rep. Shuster
Conway County, AR	for renovation and buildout of the historic Morrilton Post Office building	$150,000	Rep. Snyder
Cornucopia Adult Day Services in Albuquerque, NM	for renovation to the building located at 2002 Bridge Boulevard, SW	$100,000	Rep. Wilson (Heather)
Council on Aging of Sonoma County in Santa Rosa, CA	for construction, renovation and buildout of a multipurpose facility for seniors	$150,000	Rep. Woolsey
County of San Joaquin, CA	for construction and buildout of an economic development facility, the San Joaquin Agricultural Center	$500,000	Rep. McNerney
Crystal Lake Art Center in Frankfort, MI	for improvements to the former Frankfort Coast Guard station for use by the Crystal Lake Art Center	$100,000	Rep. Hoekstra
Cumberland County, KY	for the Burkesville Industrial Development Project	$100,000	Rep. Whitfield
Custer County, ID	for acquistion of an unused middle school building	$100,000	Rep. Simpson
Cypress Creek Fine Art Association in Spring, TX	for construction of the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts	$100,000	Rep. Poe
Dayton Metropolitan Housing Authority in Dayton, OH	for demolition and redevelopment of Cliburn Manor	$50,000	Rep. Turner, Sen. Voinovich
DBA Greater Honesdale Partnership in Honesdale, PA	for acquisition, renovation and construction of a facility	$300,000	Rep. Carney
Destination Plymouth in Plymouth, MA	for renovation and buildout of facilities	$100,000	Rep. Delahunt
Detroit Science Center in Detroit, MI	for construction of the Michigan Careers in Engineering Theater	$750,000	Rep. Knollenberg

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Downtown Improvement Program in Beaumont, TX	for redevelopment and enhancement to the streets, including Neches Street from Laurel to College Streets and Park Street from North to College Streets	$50,000	Rep. Poe, Sen. Hutchison
Downtown Roanoke, VA	for infrastructure renovations for awnings of the historic market	$250,000	Rep. Goodlatte
East County Family YMCA in San Diego, CA	for construction of the McGrath Family YMCA	$150,000	Rep. Hunter
East Mississippi Community College Golden Triangle, MS	for construction of a metal-working facility for job training	$500,000	Rep. Wicker
Eastern Shore Community College in Melfa, VA	for additional laboratory, related equipment and infrastructure development at the Eastern Shore Community College	$100,000	Rep. Drake
Eastern Shore Rural Health System, Inc. in Onley, VA	for construction of a new Onley Community Health facility	$200,000	Rep. Drake
Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, FL	for construction of a center for programs serving low income and at-risk youth	$100,000	Rep. Young (C.W.)
El Centro de Servicios Sociales, Inc. in Lorain, OH	for renovation and buildout of the South Lorain Lincoln Community Center, a community facility for youth and seniors	$200,000	Rep. Sutton
Elmira College in Elmira, NY	for preparation of construction plans to renovate a building	$400,000	Rep. Kuhl, Sen. Schumer
Emergency Housing Consortium in San Jose, CA	for construction of the Sobrato Transitional Center, a residential facility for homeless individuals and families	$200,000	Rep. Honda, Rep. Lofgren
Enon-Coulter CDC in Philadelphia, PA	for streetscape improvements and redevelopment in low-income neighborhoods	$100,000	Rep. Fattah
Environmental Learning Centers of Connecticut in Bristol, CT	for construction of an educational facility	$200,000	Rep. Larson, Sen. Dodd
Fairfax County Park Authority in Annandale, VA	for revitalization of Ossian Park	$50,000	Rep. Davis (Tom)
Fairfax County Park Authority in Annandale, VA	for revitalization of athletic facilities at Mason District Park	$50,000	Rep. Davis (Tom)
Farnum Neighborhood House in New Haven, CT	for renovation and buildout of Camp Farnum, a facility serving low-income children	$100,000	Rep. DeLauro
Feedback Foundation in Anaheim, CA	for renovation and buildout of a facility that provides meals for low-income seniors	$150,000	Rep. Sanchez (Loretta)
Florida Southern College in Lakeland, FL	for construction of library to house historic documents of Frank Loyd Wright	$200,000	Rep. Putnam
FM Kirby Center in Wilkes-Barre, PA	for renovation and buildout of a historic building	$150,000	Rep. Kanjorski
Focus on Renewal in McKees Rocks, PA	for planning, design and construction of the Sto-Rox Cultural Arts Center	$100,000	Rep. Doyle
Food Bank of the Virginia Peninsula in Newport News, VA	for renovation and buildout of a facility to provide food to low-income populations	$150,000	Rep. Scott (Robert)
Friendship Circle of the South Bay in Redondo Beach, CA	for construction of a multipurpose facility for children with special needs	$150,000	Rep. Harman
Gannon University in Erie, PA	for development of the Erie Technology Incubator for economic development	$100,000	Rep. English, Sen. Casey, Sen. Specter
Genesee County Land Bank Authority in Flint, MI	for renovation and construction of the historic Durant Hotel as part of a redevelopment plan	$150,000	Rep. Kildee
Girls and Boys Town USA in Boys Town, NE	for construction of facilities at priority national projects	$250,000	Rep. Fortenberry, Sen. Nelson (Ben)
Girls and Boys Town USA in Oviedo, FL	for expansion of facilities	$250,000	Rep. Feeney
Goodwill Industries of North Louisiana in Shreveport, LA	for renvoation of a donated building for use by the Goodwill	$150,000	Rep. McCrery
Governing Body Supervisors of Berlin Township in Beach Lake, PA	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Berlin Township Community Center	$140,000	Rep. Carney

Government of Guam Department of Public Works in Tamuning, Guam	for sidewalks, street furniture and fac<9ade improvements	$250,000	Rep. Bordallo
Grafton County Economic Development Council in Bristol, NH	for acquisition, renovation and buildout of a business incubator	$200,000	Rep. Hodes
Grant County Family YMCA in Marion, IN	for renovation of the Memorial Coliseum	$200,000	Rep. Burton
Grant County Housing Authority in Petersburg, WV	for streetscape improvements and construction of ADA accessible entrances for affordable housing	$100,000	Rep. Mollohan
Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum in Hatteras, NC	for completion of construction of the Graveyard of the Atlantic Museum	$150,000	Rep. Jones (Walter)
Greater Cincinnati Foundation, Black Brigade Fund in Cincinnati, OH	for construction of a monument to commemorate the Black Brigade of Cincinnati	$50,000	Rep. Schmidt
Greene County Community Center in Waynesburg, PA	for construction, renovation and buildout of recreational facilities	$200,000	Rep. Murtha
Group Ministries, Inc. in Buffalo, NY	for renovation and buildout of a community services building	$200,000	Rep. Slaughter
Halifax County Historical Society in South Boston, VA	for installation of the Crossing of the Dan exhibit project	$225,000	Rep. Goode
Hamilton County, TN	for construction of a building to house the Center for Entrepreneurial Growth	$100,000	Rep. Wamp
Harris County Commissioner's Office, Precinct Three in Houston, TX	for construction and buildout of a multipurpose facility, the Bayland Park Community Aquatic Center	$150,000	Rep. Green (Al)
Harris County Community and Economic Development Department in Houston, TX	for planning studies and streetscape improvements	$100,000	Rep. Green (Gene)
Harvest Community Foundation in Billings, MT	for construction of Billings Heights Community Center	$200,000	Rep. Rehberg
Heidelberg College in Tiffin, OH	for construction of a Wellness and Recreation Center	$100,000	Rep. Gillmor
Helen Keller Services for the Blind in Brooklyn, NY	for renovation and construction of a recreational facility for handicapped children	$150,000	Rep. Towns, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
Hendry County, FL	for planning, design, and construction of recreational facilities at the Hendry LaBelle Regional Park	$300,000	Rep. Mahoney
Henry County Fiscal Court in Henry County, KY	for enabling the fiscal court to make the Henry County Commerce Park site ready	$300,000	Rep. Davis (Geoff)
Highgate Recreation Center in Highgate, VT	for renovation of a recreational center	$200,000	Rep. Welch
Hillsborough Township, NJ	for construction of a community center	$50,000	Rep. Ferguson
Historic Globe Main Street Program in Globa, AZ	for renovation of the historic Gila County Courthouse for use as a community center	$100,000	Rep. Renzi
Historic St. Mary's City, MD	for construction and renovation of a historic facility	$400,000	Rep. Hoyer
Hocking Athens Perry Community Action in Athens, OH	for renovation and construction of a community center	$200,000	Rep. Space
Holocaust Documentation and Education Center in North Miami Beach, FL	for facility renovation, construction and buildout of the museum	$300,000	Rep. Wasserman Schultz, Sen. Nelson (Bill)
Housing Partnership Network, Inc. of Boston, MA	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund for affordable housing	$300,000	Rep. Hoyer
Housing Trust of Santa Clara County in San Jose, CA	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund for first time homebuyers	$150,000	Rep. Eshoo, Rep. Lofgren, Rep. Honda
Houston Fire Museum in Houston, TX	for construction of an Education Center	$250,000	Rep. Jackson-Lee
Houston Zoo in Houston, TX	for development of an educational broadcast program	$300,000	Rep. Culberson, Rep. McCaul
Hudson Area Joint Library in Hudson, WI	for land acquisition, planning, design and construction of a new library	$150,000	Rep. Kind
Hudson Guild Fulton Center in New York, NY	for construction, renovation and buildout of a community services center for seniors	$150,000	Rep. Nadler, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
Hudson Opera House, Inc. in Hudson, NY	for renovation of the Historic Hudson Opera House Arts Community Center	$125,000	Rep. Gillibrand, Sen. Schumer

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Huntingdon County Community Center in Huntingdon, PA	for expansion of the facilities	$100,000	Rep. Shuster
Huntsville Museum of Art in Huntsville, AL	for facility construction, expansion, renovation and buildout of the museum as part of the redevelopment of downtown Huntsville	$200,000	Rep. Cramer, Sen. Shelby
Iberville Parish, LA	for construction of a visitors center	$100,000	Rep. Baker, Sen. Landrieu
Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria in Peoria, IL	for planning, construction, and design of a building at the Illinois College of Medicine	$100,000	Rep. LaHood
Indiana State University in Bedford, IN	for relocation and expansion of the ISU Learning Center	$150,000	Rep. Buyer
Institute of Puerto Rican Arts & Culture in Chicago, IL	for construction, renovation and buildout of a historic building	$250,000	Rep. Gutierrez
* Intergenerational Resource Center, Inc. in Atlanta, GA	for construction of the Martin Luther King, Sr. Community Resource Center, Inc.	$200,000	Rep. Lewis (John)
Isles Incorporated in Trenton, NJ	for redevelopment of a former textile mill as job training center for Youthbuild	$100,000	Rep. Smith (Christopher)
Jewish Home for the Aging in Reseda, CA	for renovation and buildout of a residential facility for seniors with disabilities	$150,000	Rep. Sherman
Jim Hogg County, TX	for land acquisition and construction of a multipurpose community park	$150,000	Rep. Cuellar
Jimmie Hale Mission in Birmingham, AL	for construction of the Jimmie Hale Mission Men's Center Education and Administration Building	$250,000	Rep. Aderholt, Rep. Bachus, Sen. Shelby
John Avery Boys and Girls Club, Inc. in Durham, NC	for construction, expansion, renovation and buildout of a multipurpose facility for Durham's youth and families	$100,000	Rep. Price
John P. Parker Historical Society in Ripley, OH	for refinement of site investigations and improvements for the John P. Parker residence	$100,000	Rep. Schmidt
Josephone Solomon Ellis Foundation, Inc. in Philedelphia, PA	for acquisition, renovation and construction of affordable housing for senior citizens	$150,000	Rep. Brady (Robert)
Kips Bay Boys and Girls Club, Inc. in Bronx, NY	for renovation and buildout of the West Bronx Clubhouse	$200,000	Rep. Serrano
Kitsap County Consolidated Housing Authority in Silverdale, WA	for construction of a public waterfront facility, as part of a redevelopment plan	$400,000	Rep. Dicks
Kokomo YMCA in Kokomo, IN	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Kokomo YMCA	$100,000	Rep. Donnelly
Lake Erie College in Painesville, OH	for construction associated with the Austin Hall of Science Renovation Project	$50,000	Rep. LaTourette
Lakeview Museum in Peoria, IL	for planning, design, and construction of the Lakeview Museum in Peoria	$100,000	Rep. LaHood
Laveen Community Council in Phoenix, AZ	construction and buildout of the Laveen Community Center	$200,000	Rep. Pastor
Lawrence Community Works in Lawrence, MA	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Community Learning Center	$75,000	Rep. Meehan
Lawrence Economic Development Corporation in South Point, OH	for construction and buildout of the Point Industrial Park	$170,000	Rep. Wilson (Charles)
Lesley University in Cambridge, MA	for construction, renovation and buildout of science labs	$250,000	Rep. Capuano
Lineville Downtown Redevelopment Authority in Lineville, AL	for renovation of theater for economic and community purposes	$200,000	Rep. Rogers (Mike), Sen. Shelby
Los Angeles Fashion District in Los Angeles, CA	for signage and streetscape improvements	$100,000	Rep. Roybal-Allard
Louis Armstrong House Museum in Flushing, NY	for design and construction of a visitor's center	$150,000	Rep. Ackerman, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Lovington Community Unit School District in Lovington, IL	for roof replacement on school buildings and electrial upgrades to the interior lighting system	$50,000	Rep. Johnson (Timothy)
Lowcountry Food Bank in Charleston, SC	for construction of a new facility or renovation of an existing structure for storage of food	$100,000	Rep. Brown (Henry)

Luna County, NM	for renovation to Sunshine School to house a drug treatment program	$50,000	Rep. Pearce
Lynchburg Academy of Fine Arts in Lynchburg, VA	for renovations to Lynchburg Academy of Music	$250,000	Rep. Goodlatte
Mahar Regional School in	for renovation, construction and facility buildout of a recreational field	$275,000	Rep. Olver
Mamaroneck Public Library in Mamaroneck, NY	for renovation, construction and buildout of the library	$200,000	Rep. Lowey
Mariner's Museum in Newport News, VA	for promoting development and tourism related to the USS Monitor Center	$100,000	Rep. Davis (Jo Ann)
Marion County 4–H Camp Board Association in Fairmont, WV	for renovation, construction and buildout of at the 4–H camp	$150,000	Rep. Mollohan
Marshall County Commission in Marshall County, AL	for purchase and renovation of the Douglas Senior Center	$120,000	Rep. Aderholt, Sen. Shelby
Marshall University in Huntington, WV	for design, planning and construction of the Advanced Engineering and Applied Technology Complex	$250,000	Rep. Rahall
Masores Bais Yaakov in Brooklyn, NY	for construction of a community center for youth and adults	$150,000	Rep. Weiner
Mayfair Community Development Corporation in Philadelphia, PA	for construction, renovation and buildout of the Devon Theatre of Performing Arts as part of a redevelopment plan	$150,000	Rep. Schwartz
Mecklenburg County Community Service Corporation in Mecklenburg County, VA	for construction of a community center	$200,000	Rep. Goode
Mercy Hospital of Folsom in Folsom, CA	for construction of an above ground helipad at the Mercy Hospital	$100,000	Rep. Lungren
Mesabi Academy of KidsPeace in Buhl, MN	for construction, renovation, expansion and buildout of the youth services facility	$150,000	Rep. Oberstar, Sen. Coleman
Methuen Arlington Neighborhood, Inc. in Methuen, MA	for planning, design and construction of a multipurpose facility for low-income residents	$100,000	Rep. Meehan
Metropolitan Business Collaborative in Milwaukee, WI	for planning, design and construction of the Urban Entrepreneurship Center, a multipurpose facility to promote the growth of small businesses	$200,000	Rep. Moore (Gwen)
Metropolitan Council on Jewish Poverty in New York, NY	for planning, design, construction, renovation and buildout of affordable housing	$200,000	Rep. Maloney, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Meyersdale Community Center Roof Improvement in Meyersdale, PA	for rehabilitation of the center	$50,000	Rep. Shuster
Miami Dade College in Haleah, FL	for construction of an addition to the Hialeah Campus' Learning Resources and Media Services Center	$150,000	Rep. Diaz-Balart (Lincoln)
Miami-Dade County, FL	for renovation and buildout of educational laboratories at the Poinciana Industrial Park	$150,000	Rep. Meek
Michigan Holocaust Memorial Center in Farmington Hills, MI	for construction of the Children's Gallery exhibit	$500,000	Rep. Knollenberg, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Monroe County Fairgrounds Association in Rochester, NY	for the Monroe County Fairgrounds Rehabilitation and Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance Project	$100,000	Rep. Kuhl
Montgomery County Community College in Pottstown, PA	for expansion of West Campus	$100,000	Rep. Gerlach
Morehouse University School of Medicine in Atlanta, GA	for land acquisition and construction of the medical school campus	$300,000	Rep. Barrow
Municipality of Corozal, Puerto Rico	for renovation and sidewalk improvements	$100,000	Rep. Fortuño
Municipality of Gurabo, Puerto Rico	for construction of a recreational and cultural center	$100,000	Rep. Fortuño
Municipality of Monroeville, PA	for redesign of main thoroughfare as pedestiran friendly along US Rt. 22	$100,000	Rep. Murphy (Timothy)
Municipality of Salinas, Puerto Rico	for construction of a boardwalk in La Playa	$100,000	Rep. Fortuño
Municipality of Yauco, Puerto Rico	for construction of low income housing units in Bo. Pueblo Sur	$100,000	Rep. Fortuño
Muntu Dance Theatre in Chicago, IL	for construction of a cultural arts facility	$250,000	Rep. Rush
National Association of Latino Art and Culture in San Antonio, TX	for renovation of the Buena Vista Gardens building and an adjacent property to create a community arts space	$250,000	Rep. Gonzalez

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
National Children's Advocacy Center in Huntsville, AL	for renovation, construction and buildout at the Child Abuse Digital Library and the training facility	$300,000	Rep. Cramer, Sen. Shelby
National Forest Recreation Association in Woodlake, CA	for construction of a National Mule and Packers Museum in Bishop CA	$50,000	Rep. McKeon
National Sports Center for the Disabled in Denver, CO	for land acquisition, planning, design and construction of a multipurpose facility for disabled children and adults	$150,000	Rep. DeGette, Rep. Tancredo, Rep. Udall (Mark), Sen. Salazar
Near North Development Corporation in Indianapolis, IN	for construction and renovation of affordable housing as part of The Children's District Neighborhood Revitalization Project	$250,000	Rep. Carson, Sen. Bayh, Sen. Lugar
New Song Urban Ministries, Inc. in Baltimore, MD	for renovation and construction of the Community Learning Center	$250,000	Rep. Cummings
New York State Education and Research Network in Troy, NY	for development of a Disaster Recovery and Business Continuation Facility	$500,000	Rep. Walsh
New Zion Community Resource Center in Louisville, KY	for renovation and buildout of facilities for at-risk youth	$200,000	Rep. Yarmuth
Newkirk Senior Citizens, Inc. in Newkirk, OK	for construction of the Newkirk Senior Citizens Center	$100,000	Rep. Lucas
Ninth District Development Financing in Abingdon, VA	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund	$150,000	Rep. Boucher
Of One Accord, Inc. Ministry in Rogersville, TN	for renovation and expansion of Food Pantry in Hawkins and Hancock Counties	$75,000	Rep. Davis (David)
Office of Economic Development in Detroit, MI	for demolition of vacant buildings as part of a redevelopment plan	$300,000	Rep. Kilpatrick, Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
Office of the Board of Selectmen, MA	for construction of recreational facilities at Oliver Ames High School	$200,000	Rep. Lynch
Office of Town Manager of Miami, AZ	for repair and clearing of housing in the Town of Miami	$100,000	Rep. Renzi
Ohio Dept. of Natural Resources, Division of Parks in Columbus, OH	for enhancements to the Punderson State Park Lodge	$100,000	Rep. LaTourette
Ohio Rail Development Commission in Columbus, OH	for rehabilitation of an industrial building	$75,000	Rep. Schmidt
Olympic Theater Arts in Sequim, WA	for renovation, construction and buildout of a community theater	$100,000	Rep. Dicks
Opportunity Village in Las Vegas, NV	for construction of Employment and Training Center	$300,000	Rep. Porter, Sen. Reid
Orleans County Cornell Cooperative Extension in Albion, NY	for renovations to Trolley building	$75,000	Rep. Reynolds
Overton County, TN	for construction and buildout of the new Overton County Library	$150,000	Rep. Gordon
Peace At Home Family Shelter in Fayettevill, AR	for establishment of safe housing transitional housing in several counties	$200,000	Rep. Boozman
Peoria/NEXT in Peoria, IL	for construction of the Innovation Center for bioscience and technology small business incubator	$50,000	Rep. LaHood
Phenix City, AL	for riverfront development	$250,000	Rep. Rogers (Mike), Sen. Shelby
Players of Utica in New Hartford, NY	for construction and buildout of a community theater	$100,000	Rep. Arcuri
Plum Senior Community Center in Pittsburgh, PA	for planning, design and construction of a senior center	$300,000	Rep. Altmire
Polk County, Florida Community Center Project in Polk County, FL	for construction of a community center	$200,000	Rep. Putnam
Port of Cascade Locks, OR	for final design, engineering and permitting services for Cascade Locks Waterfront Park	$100,000	Rep. Walden, Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden
Porter County, IN	for sidewalks and streetscape improvements in the South Haven community	$300,000	Rep. Visclosky

Portland State University in Portland, OR	for renovation, construction and buildout of a multipurpose facility	$100,000	Rep. Blumenauer, Rep. Walden, Rep. Wu, Sen. Smith
Pregones Theater in Bronx, NY	for renovation and buildout of the theater	$75,000	Rep. Serrano
Prime Time House in Torrington, CT	for renovation and construction of a community services facility	$210,000	Rep. Murphy (Christopher)
Project One in Cincinnati, OH	for procurement of computers and other education equipment for Project One	$100,000	Rep. Chabot
Pueblo of Acoma, NM	for the Acoma Community Center and Wellness facility	$50,000	Rep. Pearce
Quapaw Community Center in Hot Springs, AR	for renovation and buildout of a community center for senior citizens	$50,000	Rep. Ross
Quinn Chapel in Chicago, IL	for renovation and buildout of a historic building	$250,000	Rep. Davis (Danny)
R.M. Warren Community Center Society for Helping, Inc. in Philadelphia, PA	for the purchase of a community center for disabled populations	$100,000	Rep. Fattah
Rainbow Senior Center in Boerne, TX	for equiping a health and wellness center with senior-oriented facilities and equipment	$100,000	Rep. Smith (Lamar)
Red Lake Band Chippewa Indians in Red Lake, MN	for construction, renovation, and buildout of a multipurpose facility	$150,000	Rep. Peterson, Sen. Klobuchar, Sen. Coleman
Red Mountain Greenway and Recreational Area Commission in Jefferson County, AL	for land acquisition and construction of the Red Mountain Greenway and Recreation Area	$250,000	Rep. Bachus
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Corry, PA	for redevelopment of six buildings located on the west side of Center Street	$100,000	Rep. English
Rehabilitation of Matthew Street in Westland, MI	for renovation of existing paved street and boulevard areas	$100,000	Rep. McCotter
Reid Community Development Corporation in Glenn Dale, MD	for land acquisition as part of the development of a small business and employment center	$150,000	Rep. Wynn
Rembert Area Community Coalition in Rembert, SC	for planning, design and construction of a community center	$200,000	Rep. Spratt
Renaissance Art Center, Inc. in Rupert, ID	for renovations to the historic theater	$150,000	Rep. Simpson
Rialto Square Theater in Joliet, IL	for repairs to the Rialto Square Theater	$100,000	Rep. Weller
Riverton City, UT	for reconstruction of a historic building for a senior center and community center	$300,000	Rep. Cannon, Sen. Hatch
Rocking the Boat in Bronx, NY	for construction of a facility for educational programs	$225,000	Rep. Serrano
Rocky Mountain Development Council in Helena, MT	for completion of Eagle Manor III project	$200,000	Rep. Rehberg
Rome Community Brownfield Restoration Corporation in Rome, NY	for renovation and construction of a brownfields site	$200,000	Rep. Arcuri
Russell School Community Service Center, Inc. in Lexington, KY	for renovation, construction and buildout of affordable housing for seniors and a community center	$200,000	Rep. Chandler
Rutgers University, Camden-LEAP in Camden, NJ	for planning, design and construction of the Rutgers/LEAP Early Learning Research Academy	$150,000	Rep. Andrews
Sacramento Food Bank Services in Sacramento, CA	for conversion of an existing facility for use by the Sacremento Food Bank Services	$350,000	Rep. Doolittle, Rep. Matsui
Saint Francis University Achatz Hall at Fort Wayne, IN	for renovation and equipment	$250,000	Rep. Souder, Sen. Lugar
Saint Richard Parish in Chicago, IL	for construction, renovation and buildout of a new community center	$250,000	Rep. Lipinski
San Antonio Food Bank in San Antonio, TX	for construction and buildout of a new food bank	$350,000	Rep. Rodriguez
San Jose Conservation Corps and Charter School Youthbuild in San Jose, CA	for construction of low-income housing	$150,000	Rep. Lofgren
San Mateo County, CA	for acquisition, renovation and buildout of an apartment complex to provide transitional housing for special needs populations	$150,000	Rep. Lantos
Santa Cruz Redevelopment Agency in Santa Cruz, CA	for streetscape and fac<9ade improvements at an affordable housing complex	$200,000	Rep. Farr

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Sayville American Legion Post in Sayville, NY	for renovation and buildout of a historic building	$200,000	Rep. Israel
Second Harvest Foodbank in Madison, WI	for renovation, construction and buildout of the food bank	$200,000	Rep. Baldwin
Sheboygan Development Corporation in Sheboygan, WI	for construction of the Great Lakes Aerospace Science and Education Center	$100,000	Rep. Petri
Simsbury Public Library in Simsbury, CT	for renovation and buildout of the library	$150,000	Rep. Murphy (Christopher), Sen. Lieberman
South Carolina School for the Deaf and Blind in Spartenburg, SC	for renovation of rehabilitation facility	$250,000	Rep. Inglis
South Salem Library Association in South Salem, NY	for construction of a new library	$200,000	Rep. Hall (John)
Southeast Missouri State University in Cape Girardeau, MO	for renovation and construction for the new River Campus	$500,000	Rep. Emerson
Southeast Rio Vista YMCA in Huntington Park, CA	for renovation and buildout of the Southeast Rio Vista YMCA	$50,000	Rep. Roybal-Allard
Southeastern Massachusetts Veterans Housing Program, Inc. in New Bedford, MA	for renovation, construction and buildout of a housing facility for low-income veterans	$200,000	Rep. Frank (Barney)
Southfield Youth Center Committee in Southfield, MI	for construction, renovation and buildout of the Southfield Youth Center	$150,000	Rep. Levin
SOWEGA Council on Aging in Albany, GA	for construction of a senior center	$250,000	Rep. Bishop (Sanford)
Spanish Speaking Unity Council in Oakland, CA	for renovation and construction of a facility for the Fruitvale Cultural and Performing Arts Center	$200,000	Rep. Lee
Spring Hill Community Center Redevelopment Agency in DeLand, FL	for construction of a facility for low income adolescents	$50,000	Rep. Mica
Springfield Arts Council in Springfield, OH	for construction of Phase III of the west plaza comfort station	$300,000	Rep. Hobson
St. Mary's Development Corporation in Dayton, OH	for implementation of a master plan to revitalize several neighborhoods	$100,000	Rep. Turner
Stanislaus Ag Center Foundation in Modesto, CA	for planning, design and construction of The Ag Science Center	$100,000	Rep. Cardoza
Stark County Park District in Canton, OH	for purchase of 100 acres and additional right of way to link to Towpath Trail	$100,000	Rep. Regula
State Employee's Credit Union Family House in Chapel Hill, NC	for planning, design and construction of a residential facility for critically ill patients and their families	$175,000	Rep. Price
State University of New York at Fredonia in Fredonia, NY	for renovation, construction and buildout of the SUNY Fredonia High Technology Incubator	$150,000	Rep. Higgins
Stephenson County Board in Freeport, IL	for development of the Mill Race Crossing Industrial Park	$150,000	Rep. Manzullo
Strand Theater Performing Arts Center in Plattsburgh, NY	for restoration of the 1924 Vaudeville Theater to create a performing arts cener	$100,000	Rep. McHugh, Sen. Schumer
Syracuse Neighborhood Initiative in Syracuse, NY	for rehabilitation and revitalization of neighborhoods throughout Syracuse	$700,000	Rep. Walsh, Sen. Schumer
Tech2020 in Oak Ridge, TN	for construction of a Nanotechnology Commercialization Center	$100,000	Rep. Wamp
Texas College in Tyler, TX	for construction and renovation of existing space and for equipment for childcare, healthcare and learning needs	$100,000	Rep. Gohmert
Texas Wesleyan University in Fort Worth, TX	for renovation of the Neighborhood Empowerment Zone surronding Texas Wesleyan University	$150,000	Rep. Burgess
The Black World History Museum in St. Louis, MO	for facility upgrades, renovation, construction and buildout	$200,000	Rep. Clay

The Blairstown Historic Preservation Commission in Blairstown, NJ	for renovation of a historic structure into an education center and museum	$50,000	Rep. Garrett
The Hunting & Fishing Museum of Pennsylvania in Tionesta, PA	for development and to create interactive, educational, and historical exhibits for the main museum building	$200,000	Rep. Peterson (John)
The Lincoln Museum in Hodgenville, KY	for expansion and renovation of the museum	$100,000	Rep. Lewis (Ron)
The University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg in Greensburg, PA	for expansion of McKenna Hall	$50,000	Rep. Murphy (Timothy)
Time and Space Limited Theatre Company, Inc. in Hudson, NY	for construction and buildout of a youth center	$125,000	Rep. Gillibrand
Titusville YMCA in Titusville, PA	for bringing facility into compliance with Americans with Disabilities Act	$350,000	Rep. Peterson (John)
To Interact in Raleigh, NC	for renovation and buildout of a shelter for victims of domestic violence	$150,000	Rep. Miller (Brad)
To the Helen Keller Birthplace Foundation in Tuscumbia, AL	for renovation of Ivy Green, the birthplace of Helen Keller	$100,000	Rep. Cramer, Sen. Shelby
To the Martin Luther King Family Center in Dallas, TX	for renovation and construction of a family center	$250,000	Rep. Johnson (E.B.)
To the University of North Carolina-Asheville in Asheville, NC	for construction and buildout of the Zeis Science and Multimedia Building	$100,000	Rep. Shuler
Toledo Lucas County Port Authority in Toledo, OH	for improvements to South Airport Industrial Park site	$100,000	Rep. Gillmor
Toledo Metroparks in Toledo, OH	for land acquisiton of Kiel Farm	$350,000	Rep. Kaptur
Town of Boydton, VA	for development of the Walking Tour of Boydton	$100,000	Rep. Goode
Town of Boylston, MA	for renovation and buildout of the historic John Bartholomew Gough Estate	$250,000	Rep. McGovern
Town of Clarkstown, NY	for mainstreet revitalization and streetscape improvements	$300,000	Rep. Lowey
Town of Enfield, CT	for streetscape improvements and ADA compliance on North Main Street	$100,000	Rep. Courtney, Sen. Lieberman
Town of Manchester, CT	for renovation and buildout of the Spruce Street Youth Center	$200,000	Rep. Larson
Town of Millinocket, ME	for planning and design of the Penobscot Indian Cultural Center	$250,000	Rep. Michaud
Town of North Hempstead, NY	for renovation, construction and buildout of two community recreational centers	$150,000	Rep. McCarthy (Carolyn), Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
Town of Piedmont, WV	for planning, streetscaping, downtown infrastructure improvements and revitalization	$150,000	Rep. Mollohan
Town of Schererville, IN	for renovation and construction of Rohrman Park	$200,000	Rep. Visclosky
Town of South Hill, VA	for renovations to the historic Colonial Theatre	$300,000	Rep. Goode
Town of Tatum, NM	for demoliton and rebuilding of housing for the elderly and low-middle-income families	$100,000	Rep. Pearce
Town of Wakefield, MA	for planning, design and construction of the Wakefield Community Recreational Facility	$200,000	Rep. Tierney
Town of Watertown, MA	for an economic development planning study	$75,000	Rep. Markey
Town of Willington, CT	for construction of low- and moderate-income housing for senior citizens	$200,000	Rep. Courtney
Town of Yucca Valley, CA	for development of a park and recreational facilites	$200,000	Rep. Lewis (Jerry)
Township of Delaware, NJ	for planning, design and construction of the Delaware Township Community Center	$150,000	Rep. Holt
Tri-City Community Action Program, Inc. in Malden, MA	for acquisition, renovation and buildout of facilities for low-income families	$250,000	Rep. Markey
Tri-County Community College in Robbinsville, NC	for construction of an occupational and technical training facility for students	$200,000	Rep. Shuler
Trinity Repertory Company in Providence, RI	for renovation and construction of the Lederer Theater	$250,000	Rep. Kennedy
Trinity River Vision in Fort Worth, TX	for facilities design, construction, and property acquistion of the Trinity River Vision plan	$550,000	Rep. Granger, Sen. Hutchison, Sen. Cornyn
Tri-State Center for the Arts in Sharon, CT	for renovation, construction and buildout of the arts facility	$100,000	Rep. Murphy (Christopher)

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
Troy Chamber of Commerce in Troy, MI	for purchase of a solar green house from Lawrence Tech University	$350,000	Rep. Knollenberg
Tubman African American Museum in Macon, GA	for construction and buildout of a new facility at the museum	$200,000	Rep. Marshall
Ukiah Cultural and Recreational Center in Ukiah, CA	for construction and buildout of the recreational facility	$150,000	Rep. Thompson (Mike)
Unified Government of Wyandotte County and Kansas City, KS	for downtown streetscape improvements	$150,000	Rep. Moore (Dennis), Sen. Roberts
United Teen Equality Center in Lowell, MA	for renovation and buildout of a youth center	$100,000	Rep. Meehan
Unity House of Troy, Inc. in Troy, NY	for renovation and buildout of an emergency shelter for victims of domestic violence	$200,000	Rep. McNulty, Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
Urban League of Springfield, MA, Inc.	for construction, renovation and buildout activities at a camp for inner-city children	$250,000	Rep. Neal
Valley Family Center in San Fernando, CA	for construction and buildout of a family center	$150,000	Rep. Berman
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post #4927 in Centereach, NY	for building renovation and buildout of a veterans center	$150,000	Rep. Bishop (Timothy)
Veterans Village of San Diego, CA	for construction of affordable housing for homeless veterans	$150,000	Rep. Davis (Susan)
Village of Clyde, NY	for downtown lighting and other streetscape infrastructure improvements	$400,000	Rep. Walsh
Village of Dixmoor, IL	for buildout of a community center	$100,000	Rep. Jackson (Jesse), Rep. Rush
Village of Ellenville, NY	for streetscape improvements and sidewalk furniture	$300,000	Rep. Hinchey
Village of Ridgewood, NJ	for repair of the roof of a historic building	$100,000	Rep. Garrett
Village of Riverdale, IL	for construction and renovation of the Pacesetter residential properties	$100,000	Rep. Jackson (Jesse)
Village of Sauget, IL	for renovations at the Sauget Business Park	$400,000	Rep. Costello
Village of Tijeras Senior Center in Tijeras, NM	for construction of a Senior Center for seniors in Tijeras and East Mountain areas	$100,000	Rep. Wilson (Heather)
Village of Wappingers Falls, NY	for land acquisition as part of a redevelopment plan	$200,000	Rep. Hall (John)
Wabash County YMCA in Wabash, IN	for rehabilitation of a brownfield site in the city of Wabash	$400,000	Rep. Burton
Wakely Lodge Resort in Hamilton County, NY	for renovation of the Wakely Lodge	$100,000	Rep. McHugh
Wakpa Sica Reconciliation Place in Ft. Pierre, SD	for facility construction and buildout	$250,000	Rep. Herseth, Sen. Johnson, Sen. Thune
Wallace Community College in Dothan, AL	for conversion of an existing building to a multi-purpose instructional and training facility on the Sparks Campus in Eufaula	$150,000	Rep. Everett
Walsh College in Troy, MI	for completion of construction of the Walsh College Library	$750,000	Rep. Knollenberg
Walter Clore Wine and Culinary Center in Prosser, WA	for construction of the Walter Clore Wine and Culinary Center	$250,000	Rep. Hastings (Doc), Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Warner Theatre in Torrington, CT	for renovation, construction and buildout of the theater	$250,000	Rep. Murphy (Christopher)
Warren County Economic Development Corporation in Glens Falls, NY	for renovation and construction of the Glens Falls Civic Center	$150,000	Rep. Gillibrand
Washington Technology Center in Seattle, WA	for construction, renovation and buildout of a technology center	$150,000	Rep. Baird, Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
Wattstar Theatre in Los Angeles, CA	for construction and buildout of a theater and educational facility in Watts	$300,000	Rep. Richardson
Wayne Theatre Alliance in Waynesboro, VA	for renovations for the Wayne Theatre	$300,000	Rep. Goodlatte
* Waynesburg College Center for Economic Development in Waynesburg, PA	for construction of a multipurpose facility	$300,000	Rep. Murtha

Western Kentucky University Business Accelerator in Bowling Green, KY	for expansion of the WKU Business Accelerator	$50,000	Rep. Lewis (Ron)
Western Mining and Railroad Museum in Helper, UT	for construction and renovation of an addition to the museum to improve accessibility	$150,000	Rep. Matheson
Western Reserve Land Conservancy in Geauga County, OH	for puchase of 246 acres in Lake and Geuga Counties, to be converted to a public park	$100,000	Rep. LaTourette
Western States Black Research & Education Center in Culver City, CA	for renovation and buildout of the Mayme Clayton Library	$250,000	Rep. Watson
Westfield Vocational Technical High School in Westfield, MA	for buildout of the Manufacturing Technology Program	$300,000	Rep. Olver
Whitman-Walker Clinic, Inc. of Washington, DC	for design, planning and land acquisition for a new facility	$150,000	Rep. Norton
Willowbrook Wildlife Center in Glen Ellyn, IL	for design and construction of an education center and wildlife rehabilitation and recovery clinic	$150,000	Rep. Roskam
Wilson Community Improvement Association, Inc. in Wilson, NC	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Gee Corbett Village Senior Center	$250,000	Rep. Butterfield
Woodbridge Township, NJ	for construction of a Woodbridge Historical Museum	$50,000	Rep. Ferguson
Wright Dunbar, Inc. in Dayton, OH	for revitalization of Wright Dunbar Village	$50,000	Rep. Turner
Wyckoff Heights Medical Center in Brooklyn, NY	for construction of a health care facility for low-income populations	$400,000	Rep. Velazquez
Year Up in Boston, MA	for construction, renovation and buildout of a technology training facility	$100,000	Rep. Lynch
YMCA of Greater New York in New York, NY	for renovation, construction and buildout of the Rockaway YMCA	$150,000	Rep. Meeks
YMCA of Greater New York-Castle Hill in Bronx, NY	for construction of a multipurpose facility at the YMCA	$300,000	Rep. Crowley
YMCA of High Point, NC Archdale Trinity Branch in Archdale, NC	for construction of a YMCA facility	$150,000	Rep. Coble
Youthville Dodge City Campus in Dodge City, KS	for expansion of central kitchen and dining facility	$100,000	Rep. Moran (Jerry)
Ypsilanti Housing Commission in Ypsilanti, MI	for acquisition of the Parkview Apartments for low-income housing	$150,000	Rep. Dingell
YWCA Columbus in Columbus, OH	for restoration of the historic Griswold Building that houses the YWCA	$200,000	Rep. Pryce
	Grantee and Purpose		
	Acadiana Outreach Center Housing Redevelopment; Lafayette, Louisiana	$280,000	Sen. Vitter, Sen. Landrieu, Rep. Boustany
	Affordable Housing Revolving Loan Fund and Grant Pool, Scott County Housing Council, Davenport, IA. For affordable housing for those making less than 80% of the AMI	$268,000	Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley
	Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank, Akron, Ohio for building renovations	$368,500	Sen. Brown
	Appalachia Service Project Home Repair Program, Southern West Virginia, for the repair of low and moderate income housing.	$500,000	Sen. Byrd, Rep. Rahall
	Appalachia Service Project, Chavies, KY to continue free home repair services to Kentucky's low-income families	$140,000	Sen. Bunning
	Armory District Revitalization Planning, NY, for planning and design efforts within the City's Armory District to aid in the redevelopment of this deteriorating corridor.	$200,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
	Asian Counseling and Referral Service, Seattle, WA, Asian Counseling and Referral Service for construction of a new building	$500,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell, Rep. McDermott
	Audubon Arkansas, Development of Little Rock Audubon Center, Little Rock, AR, To complete the second phase of development of the Little Rock Audubon Center	$200,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor, Rep. Snyder
	Audubon Mississippi, Pascagoula River Audubon Center, Moss Point, Mississippi, To construct a nature-based education facility that will contribute to the economic and community recovery on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.	$700,000	Sen. Cochran
	Beautiful Gate Outreach Center; Reaching Out and Saving Lives! Project; Wilmington, Delaware; for construction of a larger facility to be used for HIV testing services and prevention programs in New Castle County	$335,000	Sen. Carper, Sen. Biden
	Bell-Whitley Community Agency, Bell County, KY to Complete construction of One Stop Training Center	$140,000	Sen. Bunning, Rep. Rogers

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
	Bemidji Regional Airport, Bemidji, Minnesota, for the Bemidji JOBZ infrastructure development project to support light manufacturing facilities.	$335,000	Sen. Klobuchar
	Bernalillo County, NM; Metropolitan Assessment and Treatment Services Transitional Housing Facility; Bernalillo County, NM.	$150,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
	Bold Vision Capital Campaign for The Center for Family Resources: Georgia	$350,000	Sen. Isakson
	Borough of Collingswood, NJ, Collingswood Theatre Project, for comprehensive renovation of the Scottish Rite Theatre which is the focal point of the Borough's revitalization program.	$200,000	Sen. Menendez, Sen. Lautenberg
	Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington, Alexandria for the renovation of the Alexandria, Virginia, Branch Boys and Girls Club	$300,000	Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb, Rep. Tom Davis
	Boys and Girls Club of Greater Manchester, NH, for renovation and expansion of facility	$210,000	Sen. Gregg
	Boys and Girls Club of Magic Valley, Twin Falls, Idaho, for construction of a Boys and Girls Club facility in the town of Buhl, Idaho	$175,000	Sen. Crapo, Rep. Michael Simpson
	Boys and Girls Clubs of Socorro County, Construction of Facility, Socorro, New Mexico, provide services and activities for youth throughout Socorro County, NM.	$120,000	Sen. Domenici
	Business Support Incubator, UAPB to complete construction of the Business Support Incubator to support job creation in Central Arkansas	$402,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor
	Calvin Coolidge State historic site in Plymouth Notch, Vermont for an expanded visitor's center.	$200,000	Sen. Sanders
	Camp Barnabas; Missouri	$375,000	Sen. Bond
	Canyon Lake Revitalization Study, Rapid City, South Dakota	$140,000	Sen. Thune
	Capital District YMCA, Schenectady, New York for construction of new YMCA at the side of a brownfield	$200,000	Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
	Capitol Region RSVP/Volunteer Center of Rhode Island, RSVP Veterans Computer Center, Providence, RI for construction of a computer lab and purchase of equipment to train disabled veterans.	$200,000	Sen. Reed
	Cather Foundation, Red Cloud, NE for the Moon Block project for historic renovations	$600,000	Sen. Hagel, Sen. Ben Nelson
	Catholic Charities of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii, to renovate recently acquired property in Makiki to establish permanent facilities for CCH's Social Services Community Center	$200,000	Sen. Inouye
	CEDARS Youth Services, Lincoln, NE, CEDARS Children's Crisis Center, for construction of the CEDARS Children's Crisis Shelter	$335,000	Sen. Ben Nelson, Sen. Hagel
	Champlain Area Agency on Aging, Winooski, Vermont, for renovation Vermont senior centers	$200,000	Sen. Sanders
	Cherokee Strip Regional Heritage Center, Enid, OK	$140,000	Sen. Inhofe, Rep. Lucas
	Cheyenne River Youth Project (CRYP), Teen Center Expansion, Eagle Butte, SD	$200,000	Sen. Johnson
	Children's Home Society, Expansion of Van Demark House and the Loving School, Sioux Falls, South Dakota	$560,000	Sen. Thune, Sen. Johnson
	Chippewa Cree Tribe, Transportation and Rehabilitation of Malmstrom Air Force Base Housing Units, to transport and rehabilitate housing units from Malmstrom Air Force base that would otherwise be destroyed to the Rocky Boy's Reservation	$402,000	Sen. Tester
	City and County of Denver; CO, Homeless Veterans Supportive Housing, for supportive housing units for homeless veterans with special needs	$201,000	Sen. Salazar, Rep. DeGette
	City and County of San Francisco, CA, San Francisco Supportive and Transitional Housing Program, to develop 3,0000 supporting housing units	$536,000	Sen. Feinstein
	City of Aberdeen, SD, Downtown revitalization	$200,000	Sen. Johnson
	City of Albany, WiFi Service in Albany in Albany, New York, public access to technology project	$200,000	Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
	City of Asheville, NC for Reid Center Renovation	$140,000	Sen. Burr, Rep. Shuler
	City of Atchison, Kansas for Atchison Pedestrian Mall Redevelopment, Kansas	$350,000	Sen. Roberts
	City of Bangor, Maine to support ongoing efforts to redevelop the Bangor Waterfront	$262,500	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe
	City of Battle Ground, WA, Battle Ground Community Center, for a construction of a community center	$400,000	Sen. Murray

	City of Beaumont, Downtown Improvement Program, Beaumont, TX, for streetscape improvements	$140,000	Sen. Hutchison
	City of Belen, NM; Multipurpose Community Center Phase III; Belen, NM, to provide a centralized venue for community events and activities.	$450,000	Sen. Domenici
	City of Bellingham, WA, for the construction of the Bellingham Marine Trades Center	$250,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell, Rep. Larsen
	City of Bethlehem; South Bethlehem Workforce Training and Development Center; Bethlehem, PA - redevelopment, renovation and construction of a South Bethlehem Workforce Training and Development Center	$140,000	Sen. Specter
	City of Billings, Housing First Project, to build houses for homeless families	$268,000	Sen. Tester
	City of Billings, MT, Big Sky Economic Development Authority for historic preservation of the Cobb Field facility	$335,000	Sen. Baucus, Sen. Tester
	City of Boise, Public Works Department, Boise, Idaho, for design and construction of city's geothermal system expansion	$175,000	Sen. Crapo
	City of Brewer, Maine for a redevelopment project on the site of the former Eastern Fine Paper Mill	$262,500	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe
	City of Browns Valley, Browns Valley, MN, To aid in recovery efforts of a major flood	$750,000	Sen. Coleman
	City of Buffalo, NY for the construction and renovation of the Buffalo Urban Arts Center	$200,000	Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
	City of Canton, MS, to transform the Historic Canton High School into the Canton Municipal Government Complex.	$400,000	Sen. Cochran
	City of Central Falls, Central Falls Urban Revitalization Project, Central Falls, RI for the remediation of the Old Public Works Building and rehabilitation of city recreational facilities.	$201,000	Sen. Reed
	City of College Park, MD for blight removal along the Route 1 Corridor	$469,000	Sen. Mikulski
	City of Columbus, IN, Golden Castings Foundry Demolition and Site Remediation Project to raze and remediate the site of the former Golden Castings Foundry for the demolition and environmental remediation costs of the Golden Castings foundry site	$335,000	Sen. Bayh
	City of Columbus, Indiana, Mill Race Center for Active Adults for construction of the new 30,000-square-foot Mill Race Center for Active Adults (the Mill Race Center) that offers a wide variety of programs for senior citizens	$670,000	Sen. Bayh, Rep. Hill
	City of Conover, North Carolina, Broyhill Furniture Industrial Site Redevelopment, to demolish unusable manufacturing structures at the abandoned Broyhill furniture manufacturing plant and refurbish facility.	$750,000	Sen. Dole
	City of Council Bluffs, Sunset Park North Neighborhood Redevelopment, Council Bluffs, IA, to redevelop the Katelman neighborhood.	$335,000	Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley
	City of Detroit, MI, for infrastructure improvements to continue the revitalization of the Brush Park Historic District neighborhood	$200,000	Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow, Rep. Conyers, Rep. Kilpatrick
	City of Everett, WA, for the expansion of the Everett Senior Activity Center	$600,000	Sen. Murray, Rep. Larsen
	City of Fayetteville, Fayetteville Attainable Housing Partnership, Fayetteville, Arkansas, To support the Fayetteville Attainable Housing Partnership	$670,000	Sen. Lincoln, Sen. Pryor
	City of Florence, City of Florence Community Activity Center, SC, to provide for a new activity center	$150,000	Sen. Graham, L., Rep. Spratt
	City of Gardiner, Maine for waterfront infrastructure	$150,000	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe
	City of Grand Junction, CO, Grand Junction, CO, to create park in LMI neighborhood and/or eliminate slum and blight.	$201,000	Sen. Salazar
	City of Greenville, Community Recreation Centers, Greenville, SC for renovation of Greenville's recreation outdated recreation centers	$150,000	Sen. Graham, L.
	City of Grenada, Taylor Hall Renovation Project, Grenada, MS, for the renovation of the historic Taylor Hall.	$200,000	Sen. Cochran
	City of Hamilton, Fulton Bridge Industrial Park, Hamilton, AL, Development of Industrial Park	$700,000	Sen. Shelby
	City of Hillsboro, Downtown Streetscape Project, Hillsboro, TX, for streetscape improvements	$140,000	Sen. Hutchison, Rep. Edwards
	City of Humboldt, Iowa for Brownfields clean-up at Frit Industries site.	$750,000	Sen. Grassley, Rep. Latham
	Mid-America Research and Development Foundation, MO, to provide equipment to produce emerging plant-based economic development options for rural communities	$750,000	Sen. Bond
	City of Kearney, Kearney, NE, Peterson Senior Activity Center, for construction of the Peterson Senior Activity Center	$670,000	Sen. Ben Nelson
	City of Lake Charles, Lake Charles, LA, America's Wetland Center; to establish a center focused on increasing public awareness of the national importance of sustainable wetlands conservation, preservation, and restoration	$400,000	Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Vitter
	City of Las Vegas, NV, Post Office Museum Las Vegas, Nevada, to complete renovation and transformation of the historic Post Office in downtown Las Vegas to a museum on local history.	$200,000	Sen. Reid
	City of Lincoln, NE for Antelope Valley Project Community Revitalization	$180,000	Sen. Hagel, Sen. Ben Nelson, Rep. Fortenberry

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
	City of Madison, MS, City of Madison Historic Gateway Project, Madison, MS. To support the developments of a new town square and renovation of the Madison Co. Cultural Center.	$750,000	Sen. Lott
	City of Marion, Iowa for Central Corridor Redevelopment Project	$350,000	Sen. Grassley, Sen. Harkin, Rep. Loebsack
	City of Marshall, Memorial Hall Visitor and History Center Renovation, Marshall, TX, for the renovation of a historic building	$140,000	Sen. Hutchison, Rep. Gohmert
	City of Marshalltown, Iowa, for Grant Park Neighborhood Redevelopment Initiative	$140,000	Sen. Grassley, Sen. Harkin, Rep. Latham
	City of Medford; Santo Community Center—Phase III; Medford, OR; To create a gymnasium and large community classroom in Medford, OR.	$360,000	Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden, Rep. Walden
	City of Miami Beach, Florida; Miami Beach City Center Housing; Miami Beach, Florida; to maintain affordable housing for low-income residents of Miami Beach, Florida.	$525,000	Sen. Martinez, Rep. Meek, Rep. Ros-Behtinen
	City of Milford, Connecticut, Eisenhower Park Renovation, for the rehabilitation of Eisenhower Park	$348,400	Sen. Lieberman
	City of Muncie, IN, Unity Center, Muncie, IN for a New community center	$350,000	Sen. Lugar, Sen. Bayh, Rep. Pence
	City of Northampton, Massachusetts, Northampton State Hospital Renovation, to assist the City of Northampton in developing more than 200 units of affordable housing.	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry, Rep. Neal
	City of Oakland, Oakland Transit-Oriented Villages, Oakland, CA for he development of new housing	$335,000	Sen. Feinstein
	City of Orlando, FL, Parramore Neighborhood Revitalization, to redevelop this distressed area of downtown Orlando into a safe and prosperous community with a mixture of residential and supportive accessory opportunities.	$670,000	Sen. Bill Nelson, Sen. Martinez, Rep. Corrine Brown
	City of Philadelphia, Green City Strategy, Philadelphia, PA to—clean and green—450 parcels—or about 450,000 square feet—of vacant land in Philadelphia using top soil, grass, trees, and wood fencing.	$201,000	Sen. Casey
	City of Pittsburgh, South Side Works, Pittsburgh; redevelop to enhance mobility	$200,000	Sen. Casey
	City of Pittsfield, MA, Downtown Building Renovation and Rehabilitation	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
	City of Pocatello, Pocatello, Idaho, for renovation and modernization of the Community Recreational Center	$140,000	Sen. Crapo
	City of Port Townsend, WA, for the construction of the Northwest Maritime Center	$450,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
	City of Portland, OR, Washington Monroe Community Center, for the design and construction of the community center and supporting elements	$670,000	Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith, Rep. Blumenauer
	City of Portland; Regional Bridges to Housing Program; Portland, OR and Vancouver, WA; to develop affordable, permanent family-sized housing	$402,000	Sen. Wyden, Sen. Smith, Rep. Hooley
	City of Quincy; Riverfront Infrastructure Improvement; Quincy, Illinois; to connect public facilities and public space in an economically distressed area in Quincy.	$250,000	Sen. Durbin
	City of Reno Nevada, NV, Oliver-Montello Affordable Housing Project, to purchase vacant buildings in an effort to revitalize an area of northeast Reno and transition it from commercial to residential.	$600,000	Sen. Reid
	City of Rocky Mount, NC for renovations to the Booker T. Washington High School	$140,000	Sen. Burr
	City of Rugby, REAP Zones, Rugby, North Dakota to expand economic development opportunities in two REAP zones	$268,000	Sen. Dorgan, Sen. Conrad
	City of Saginaw, MI, for acquisition and development of the Saginaw riverfront site	$670,000	Sen. Stabenow, Sen. Levin, Rep. Kildee
	City of Scranton; Scranton Housing and Community Space Initiative; Scranton, PA—planning, design and construction of apartments and community space, as part of a downtown revitalization initiative.	$140,000	Sen. Specter
	City of Sparks, NV, Larry D. Johnson Community Center, to complete construction of a multi-purpose community center that will provide low income households and at-risk children with various educational classes.	$250,000	Sen. Reid, Rep. Heller
	City of Spearfish, SD, Spearfish Industrial Park Infrastructure Construction	$200,000	Sen. Johnson
	City of Suffolk, Virginia, To renovate and restore the Phoenix Bank of Nansemond building for purposes of the Museum	$120,000	Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb
	City of Taunton, MA, to make structural and facility repairs to a low-income senior center	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry

	City of Temple, Downtown Redevelopment/Performing Arts Centre, Temple, TX, for downtown redevelopment	$140,000	Sen. Hutchison, Rep. Carter
	City of Tonasket, WA, Tonasket Community Center for building renovations	$200,000	Sen. Murray
	City of Waterloo, IA Neighborhood Revitalization Area	$350,000	Sen. Grassley
	City of Waterloo, IA, Chamberlain demolition project	$350,000	Sen. Grassley
	City of Watertown, SD, Uptown Revitalization	$200,000	Sen. Johnson
	City of Wilson, North Carolina, City of Wilson Downtown Redevelopment Project, to clear blighted old tobacco barns and old office buildings that currently exist in Wilson and to construct new homes for owner-occupancy	$375,000	Sen. Dole
	City Year, Inc. City Year Headquarters Renovation, to assist City Year, Inc. in the renovation of their headquarters to allow them to better serve their low-income students.	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
	Coastal Heritage Society, Savannah Battlefield Historic Paint and Coach Shops, Savannah, GA, for revitalization and repair of the Georgia Central Railway Historic Paint and Coach Shops	$450,000	Sen. Chambliss
*	Coffeyville Community Enhancement Foundation, Coffeyville, KS, for infrastructure rehabilitation and construction	$400,000	Sen. Brownback
	Coles County Council on Aging; Coles County, Illinois, Coles County Council on Aging Senior Center to construct a new senior center	$250,000	Sen. Durbin
	Community Chest, Virginia City, NV, Storey County Youth and Community Resource Center, to complete construction on a multi-purpose community resource center.	$200,000	Sen. Reid
	Community Church of Christ, Sean Bell Memorial Field of Dreams, Community Youth Center, 167–04 108th Avenue, Jamaica, NY, for securing a site and/or purchasing a building for the Sean Bell Memorial Field of Dreams, Community Youth Center	$200,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
	CommunityWorks, Inc. for construction, including the finishing of the interior of the ExplorationWorks building	$435,500	Sen. Baucus
	Cooper University Hospital, Camden, NJ for the Camden Cooper Urban Development Initiative, for neighborhood housing redevelopment.	$200,000	Sen. Lautenberg
	County of Hudson, Jersey City, Redevelopment of Koppers Coke brownfield site, to transform the former Koppers Coke site in Kearny into a two million square foot industrial park that includes warehousing and distribution space	$268,000	Sen. Menendez, Sen. Lautenberg, Rep. Sires, Rep. Rothman
	County of Umatilla, OR, Umatilla County Fairgrounds Exposition Center to replace the obsolete Umatilla County Exposition Center with an 18,000 square-foot exhibition hall	$450,000	Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden, Rep. Walden
	Covenant House Alaska for Covenant House Enhancement and Relocation, to construct a new and larger facility	$280,000	Sen. Murkowski
	Coventry Cares Community Center, Coventry Cares Community Center and Project Friends, Coventry, RI for the construction of an intergenerational complex comprised of human services, adult day care, and a senior center.	$335,000	Sen. Reed, Rep. Langevin
	Crossroads Rhode Island, Crossroads Rhode Island Child Care and Community Center, North Kingstown, RI for the construction of a child care and community center to provide both homeless families and neighborhood residents with affordable child care.	$201,000	Sen. Reed
	Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch, Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Treatment Facility Renovation, Minot, ND, to upgrade the mechanical heating and water lines, alarm system, and address accessibility concerns.	$234,500	Sen. Dorgan, Sen. Conrad, Rep. Pomeroy
	Daly Mansion Preservation Trust, to preserve and interpret the Daly Mansion, its buildings, grounds and the history it conveys	$268,000	Sen. Baucus
	Delaware Children's Museum, Inc., for the construction of the Delaware Children?s Museum in Wilmington, Delaware, as part of the effort to remove blight and redevelop brownfields along the Christina Riverfront	$268,000	Sen. Carper, Sen. Biden
	Development Workshop, Inc., Upper Valley Industries Plant Facility, Idaho Falls, Idaho, for planning and design of a new facility to provide job services for people with disabilities	$300,000	Sen. Craig
	Dillon County, I–95 Industrial Park Spec Building, Dillon, South Carolina, to provide for the construction of an industrial park spec building near the City of Dillon on I–95	$150,000	Sen. Graham, L.
	East Baltimore Development, Inc. (EBDI), Baltimore, MD, East Baltimore Development Project, to provide for workforce development, clean and safe programs, and infrastructure improvements.	$200,000	Sen. Mikulski, Sen. Cardin, Rep. Cummings
	Easter Seals Hawaii, Easter Seals Hawaii Kapolei Service Center, Hawaii, to construct a multi-program service center to provide therapy and early intervention services to children with physical and developmental disabilities, as well as programs for teens and adults with disabilities.	$200,000	Sen. Inouye
	Easter Seals New Hampshire, Flood Repair and Renovation Project, Manchester, NH for Reconstruction and renovation of Easter Seals New Hampshire building	$500,000	Sen. Sununu
	Edison Wetlands Association, Edison, NJ for the Dismal Swamp Conservation Area Trails Project, for the design and construction of trails for public recreation in the Dismal Swamp Conservation Area.	$200,000	Sen. Lautenberg
	El Centro de la Raza, Seattle, WA, El Centro de la Raza for facility improvements	$300,000	Sen. Murray, Rep. McDermott

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
	Empower New Haven, Brownfield's redevelopment initiative, New Haven, CT Redevelopment of a commercial venture and economic catalyst program	$502,500	Sen. Lieberman, Rep. DeLauro
	Erie County; Erie Technology Incubator, Erie, PA for construction of the Erie Technology Incubator, which will promote economic development.	$140,000	Sen. Specter
	Fairfax County, Fairfax, to develop and build 15-30 units of single room occupancy housing for the chronically homeless	$300,000	Sen. Warner, Sen. Webb
	FAME assistance corporation, Los Angeles, CA for redevelopment of a blighted neighborhood	$335,000	Sen. Feinstein
	Fondren Revitalization Project, MS for the revitalization of the Fondren area in Jackson, MS.	$600,000	Sen. Cochran
	Food Bank of Alaska, Food Bank of Alaska Mat-Su Branch Building Purchase, to allow the Food Bank of Alaska to purchase the collaborative anti-hunger facility in the Mat-Su Valley	$280,000	Sen. Murkowski, Rep. Don Young
	Four Bands Community Fund, Inc., Revolving Loan Fund recapitalization, Eagle Butte, South Dakota	$200,000	Sen. Johnson
	Gambit Manufacturing and business technology center, Orem, UT	$140,000	Sen. Hatch, Rep. Cannon
	Global Samaritan Resources, Abilene, Texas, to build a 25,000 square foot warehouse facility for receiving, storing and shipping of goods used for humanitarian aid.	$100,000	Sen. Cornyn
	Goodrich-Gannett Neighborhood Center Cleveland, OH; Early Childhood/Family Services Center Campus Completion, to renovate and construct a new childcare/family services center	$300,000	Sen. Voinovich
	Goodwill Industries of Hawaii, Inc., Kapolei, HI, to construct the Goodwill Ohana Career and Learning Center to provide workforce development and job placement assistance to unemployed and under-employed low-income residents	$200,000	Sen. Inouye
	Grassroots Crisis Intervention Center, Inc., Columbia, MD, to provide the last stage of construction funding for the only emergency services shelter in Howard County, Maryland	$200,000	Sen. Mikulski
	Gregory House Programs, Honolulu, HI, to renovate housing for a temporary housing facility that provides housing and support services for individuals suffering from HIV/AIDS	$200,000	Sen. Akaka
	Harbor Homes Inc., Veterans Center, Buckingham Place, Nashua, NH, to provide transitional housing and support services for homeless veterans	$350,000	Sen. Sununu
	Hattiesburg Area Development Partnership, Old Hattiesburg High School, Hattiesburg, MS. For the renovation of the old high school.	$750,000	Sen. Lott, Sen. Cochran
	Hawaii Nature Center Makiki Valley, Honolulu, Hawaii, Makiki Valley Watershed Education Center Project	$200,000	Sen. Inouye
	Herriman City, UT, to acquire and restore three historically significant buildings in the community.	$140,000	Sen. Bennett
	Holbrook Community Foundation in Harpswell, Maine for repair and renovation of Holbrook's Wharf	$150,000	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe
	Homeward, Inc.; Equity for Rural Iowa-Revolving Loan Equity Fund; Iowa; Provide equity investment in rural communities	$201,000	Sen. Harkin, Sen. Grassley, Rep. Braley
	Housing and Neighborhood Development Services, Inc., Orange, NJ for the Berg Hat Factory Commercial Arts Center, to build out a business incubator and community arts complex within a formerly abandoned hat factory in a low income neighborhood	$200,000	Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez, Rep. Payne
	Housing Authority of the City of Milwaukee, Convent Hill Green Roof, to add a green roof to an affordable housing highrise for low-income seniors.	$200,000	Sen. Kohl
	Institute for the Study and Practice of Nonviolence, RI, for Building renovations	$200,000	Sen. Reed
	International Peace Garden, International Peace Garden facility renovation, Dunseith, ND to renovate the facilities at this international garden.	$301,500	Sen. Dorgan, Sen. Conrad
	Iowa Department of Economic Development, Des Moines, Iowa. To rehabilitate Main Street Communities	$536,000	Sen. Harkin
	Irvine Urban Outreach Center, Baltimore County, Maryland, for an urban outreach center	$335,000	Sen. Cardin, Rep. Sarbanes
	Jackson Medical Mall District Economic and Community Development, MS for housing development	$400,000	Sen. Cochran
	Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, Inc., Rockville, MD, Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, to acquire and renovate a single-family home into an Alternative Living Unit for three adults with developmental disabilities	$200,000	Sen. Mikulski

	Keehi Memorial Organization (KMO), Keehi Adult Day Health Center and Child Care Center, Honolulu, Hawaii for an intergenerational health and child care center that will provide services to low and moderate income children and the elderly.	$234,000	Sen. Inouye
	Kenai Peninsula Food Bank, Soldotna, AK to construct an expansion of the existing Kenai Pens	$140,000	Sen. Murkowski
	Kipahulu Community Association, Inc, Hana, Hawaii, Kipahulu Certified Kitchen. The project will enable low income community members to gather as an intergenerational community and create jobs in Native Hawaiian food harvesting and processing.	$200,000	Sen. Inouye
	Lakeview Museum; Lakeview Museum construction; Peoria, Illinois; the museum will promote economic development and tourism in downtown Peoria.	$250,000	Sen. Durbin, Rep. LaHood
	Lamar County Commission, Lamar County Industrial Park, Lamar County, Alabama, Infrastructure Development for Industrial Park	$560,000	Sen. Shelby
	Las Cruces Families and Youth, Inc., Las Cruces, NM, for construction of a new Transitional Living Program facility to house outpatient counseling for at risk youth and their families	$200,000	Sen. Bingaman
	Las Cumbres Community Services; Espanola, NM; for construction of new facility for community services.	$300,000	Sen. Domenici, Sen. Bingaman
	Longview Housing Authority, Longview, WA, Phoenix House, for construction of low-income housing	$500,000	Sen. Murray
	Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition, for economic development of Illinois historic sites	$500,000	Sen. Durbin
	Los Fresnos Boys and Girls Club; Construction of a new Boys and Girls Club facility in Los Fresnos, Cameron County, Texas	$250,000	Sen. Cornyn, Rep. Ortiz
	Los Pueblos Community Council, Ribera, NM for Restoration and Preservation of Old Ribera School Building to use of building as community and cultural center.	$240,000	Sen. Domenici
	Lutheran Settlement House; Low-Income Housing and Multi-Purpose Space; Philadelphia, PA - planning, design, redevelopment and construction of a facility, which will include affordable housing.	$140,000	Sen. Specter
	Maine State Music Theatre in Brunswick, Maine to complete the renovation of rehearsal and office space in the newly acquired facility	$250,000	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe
	Marguerite's Place, Nashua, New Hampshire, for the provision of transitional housing and supportive services to homeless women and children who have been victims of domestic abuse	$210,000	Sen. Gregg
	Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center, Rock Island Illinois, for the renovation and expansion of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center	$670,000	Sen. Obama, Rep. Hare
	McKinley County, New Mexico, Construction of a new regional juvenile crisis complex	$335,000	Sen. Bingaman
	Mercer County Commission; For repair and renovation of the Memorial Building, Princeton, WV	$1,000,000	Sen. Byrd
	Mercy Housing Incorporated, Mercy housing project in Holyoke, Massachusetts, to build 50 new homes for low-income senior citizens in Holyoke, Massachusetts.	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
	City of Kansas City; MO for redevelopment of the 11th and Grand Neighborhood	$375,000	Sen. Bond
	Missoula Food Bank Inc, Statewide Food Bank Transportation System, Missoula, MT to purchase eight new vehicles to rescue more local food	$301,500	Sen. Tester
	Mobile C.A.R.E. Foundation, Chicago, IL for the acquisition and operation of Asthma Vans	$201,000	Sen. Obama
	Mohawk Theater Restoration, North Adams, Massachusetts, to assist in the renovation of the Mohawk Theater and in the redevelopment of downtown North Adams.	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
	Monmouth County, NJ for the NJ Children's Advocacy Center for the construction of a children's advocacy center for victims of child abuse.	$200,000	Sen. Lautenberg, Sen. Menendez, Rep. Pallone
	Montgomery County Government, Silver Spring, MD, Long Branch Pedestrian Safety Linkages and Way-Finding Community Markers, to provide for pedestrian safety in the Long Branch community	$268,000	Sen. Mikulski, Rep. Wynn
	Morningstar Community Development Corporation in Kansas City, MO, to construct a youth family center	$750,000	Sen. Bond
	Morning Star Ranch in Florence, KS, to renovate facilities	$595,000	Sen. Brownback, Rep. Jerry Moran
	Mount Airy USA; Mount Airy Urban Renewal Initiative; Philadelphia, PA - blight removal, development, and construction, as part of an urban renewal initiative.	$140,000	Sen. Specter
	Municipality of Anchorage, Mountain View Revitalization Project, Anchorage, Alaska to restore buildings in the Mountain View area.	$700,000	Sen. Stevens
	Murray-Calloway County Economic Development Corporation for the Murray-Calloway Economic Development Corporation Industrial Park Acquisition and Development Project in Murray, Kentucky, to construct an industrial park to support economic growth	$2,000,000	Sen. McConnell
	Muskegon Heights Housing Commission, Muskegon Heights, MI, for community networking	$200,000	Sen. Stabenow, Sen. Levin

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
	Nathan Adelson Hospice, Adult Day Care Center, Henderson / Las Vegas, NV	$500,000	Sen. Ensign
	National Tropical Botanical Garden; Kalaheo, Kaua'i, Hawai'i; to construct a Native Hawaiian community learning center	$200,000	Sen. Inouye
	Nebraska Innovation Center (Whitier) to renovate and improve the Whittier school for use as the Nebraska Innovation Center	$670,000	Sen. Ben Nelson, Sen. Hagel
	Neighborhood House, Seattle, WA, Highpoint Neighborhood Center, for construction of a community center	$600,000	Sen. Murray, Rep. McDermott
	Neighbors for Kids, Depoe Bay, OR; to make an addition to their current facility.	$180,000	Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden, Rep. Hooley
	New Center Council Inc., Detroit, MI, for infrastructure improvements to enhance the economic viability of the Historic New Center	$670,000	Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
	NH Division of Parks and Recreation, Robert Frost Farm, Derry, New Hampshire, for reconstruction	$210,000	Sen. Gregg
	Norman Economic Development Corp, Norman, OK for the construction of an engineering incubator that will create a new industrial center for Norman, OK.	$140,000	Sen. Inhofe
	Northeast Community Center Association in Spokane, WA, Northeast Community Center, for facility construction	$500,000	Sen. Murray
	Northern Community Investment Corporation to expand and secure the region's economy and public services by providing high speed, high technology connectivity throughout the region.	$700,000	Sen. Gregg
	Northwest Tennessee Port Authority, Tiptonville, Tennessee for the construction of this new facility will promote growth in the region and take advantage of unique transportation opportunities that will tie in the port	$525,000	Sen. Alexander
	Ocean Community YMCA, Camp Watchaug Redevelopment, Westerly, RI for the renovations to create a state-of-the-art learning center.	$200,000	Sen. Reed, Sen. Whitehouse
	OK Native American Cultural and Educational Authority for American Indian Cultural Center and Museum, Oklahoma City, OK	$140,000	Sen. Inhofe, Rep. Fallin
	Old Town Boys and Girls Club, Albuquerque, NM, for renovation of the existing Old Town Boys and Girls Club accompanied by construction of new areas for the Club	$335,000	Sen. Bingaman
	Our Children's Homestead, Central Iowa for Housing/Vocational Education Program for Foster Children / Aging Out; Iowa	$210,000	Sen. Grassley, Sen. Harkin, Rep. Latham
	Our City Reading; Housing Initiative; Reading, PA - rehabilitation of abandoned houses and provide down payment assistance to home buyers	$140,000	Sen. Specter
	PACE Training and Evaluation Center, Morgantown, WV, for the construction of a new training facility	$1,500,000	Sen. Byrd
	Patterson Park Community Development Corp, Library Square Revitalization Project, Baltimore, MD, to provide for the revitalization of an under-used area of Baltimore City	$201,000	Sen. Mikulski
	Pearl City Foundation, Pearl City, Hawaii, Momilani Community Center Adult Day Care and Child Care Facility Construction Project, to construct a new facility of 6,700 square feet for the Elderly Daycare/Day Health and an Early Educational Daycare of the Head Start Program	$200,000	Sen. Inouye
	Penobscot Theatre Company in Bangor, Maine to renovate the Bangor Opera House	$150,000	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe, Rep. Michaud
	Port of Gold Beach, OR, Port of Gold Beach High Dock Rehabilitation, to rebuild the High Dock at the Port of Gold Beach that provides critical infrastructure for water-dependent and water-related commercial and retail activities.	$450,000	Sen. Smith, Sen. Wyden, Rep. DeFazio
	Preble Street in Portland, Maine for the development of Florence House, a comprehensive center for homeless women	$200,000	Sen. Collins, Sen. Snowe, Rep. Thomas Allen
	Providence Connections, Inc.; Providence Family Support Center; Pittsburgh, PA for planning, renovation and redevelopment of the Providence Family Support Center.	$140,000	Sen. Specter
	Provo City Downtown Parking Structure Project, Utah	$140,000	Sen. Hatch
	Rainier Vista Boys and Girls Club, Seattle WA, Rainier Vista Boys and Girls Club for facility construction	$500,000	Sen. Murray, Rep. McDermott
	Randolph County YMCA, IN to build a new licensed child care facility for 93 children	$140,000	Sen. Lugar
	Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 30th Street Industrial Corridor-Milwaukee Wisconsin for blight elimination and redevelopment of the 30th Street Corridor	$502,500	Sen. Kohl, Rep. Gwen Moore
	Redevelopment Authority of the City of Racine, WI for blight removal and reconstruction efforts	$200,000	Sen. Kohl
	RurAL CAP, Inc for Rural Alaska Community Head Start Facility Upgrades	$140,000	Sen. Murkowski, Rep. Don Young

	Saginaw Depot Preservation Corporation, Saginaw, MI, to restore the historic Potter Street storefronts and add street enhancements	$670,000	Sen. Levin, Sen. Stabenow
	Salina City, to build a senior citizens and civic center for the three communities in the area of Salina, UT	$525,000	Sen. Bennett
	Salvation Army Alaska Division for Anchorage Salvation Army Family Enrichment Center to build a family shelter, a commercial-grade kitchen	$280,000	Sen. Murkowski
	San Bernardino Boys & Girls Club, Boys & Girls Club Improvements, San Bernardino CA, for facility expansion	$201,000	Sen. Boxer, Rep. Baca
	San Francisco Museum and Historical Society, Redevelopment of the Old Mint facility, San Francisco, CA	$335,000	Sen. Boxer, Sen. Feinstein
	Santa Clara Pueblo, Construction of Regional Adult Day Care Center, Espanola, NM, Regional Adult Day Care Center	$300,000	Sen. Domenici, Rep. Tom Udall
	Seattle Nisei Veterans Committee, Seattle, WA, Nisei Veterans Memorial Hall, for construction	$250,000	Sen. Murray
	Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana, Inc, for Food Bank Capital Improvements Project	$700,000	Sen. Lugar
	Smithfield City, UT, to construct a new city complex	$525,000	Sen. Bennett
	Souhegan Boys and Girls Club, Milford, NH, for renovations and reconstruction after severe flood damage	$140,000	Sen. Gregg
	South Dakota State Fair Foundation, Huron, SD, upgrade South Dakota State Fair Open Class Beef Complex and Hippodrome	$200,000	Sen. Johnson
	Southern Cultural Heritage Foundation, Vicksburg, MS; for the renovation of the Southern Cultural Heritage Center Auditorium	$200,000	Sen. Cochran
	Southern Nevada Convention Training Trust, Las Vegas, NV, Convention and Trade Training Center, to construct a facility in Las Vegas to provide trade training for the convention industry to students who are unemployed, underemployed, or in transition.	$378,000	Sen. Reid
	Southern West Virginia Multicultural Museum and Community Center, Raleigh County, West Virginia, for the establishment of a multicultural museum and community center in Beckley, WV	$200,000	Sen. Byrd, Rep. Rahall
	Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance, Southside Institutions Neighborhood Alliance Blight Removal, Hartford, CT, for activities associated the acquisition, removal, and redevelopment of blighted properties in Hartford, Connecticut.	$200,000	Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman, Rep. Larson
	Spaulding Fibre Remediation and Demolition, NY to demolish the structures and remediate any environmental problems and develop new infrastructure on the site	$1,170,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton
	Springfield Boys and Girls Club; Community Center; Springfield, IL; Planning, development, land acquisition, and construction costs for a new community center in Springfield.	$200,000	Sen. Durbin
	St. Lawrence County Chamber of Commerce Inc, Regional Rural Broadband Expansion, Canton, NY. To expand broadband access to rural areas.	$200,000	Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
	St. Louis Area Food Bank, St. Louis County, MO, Foodbank Warehouse Acquisition Project	$375,000	Sen. Bond
	Stanford Settlement, Inc. Carl R. Hansen Teen Center, Sacramento, CA. Funds will be used to construct a new teen center facility for at-risk youth in the northern area of Sacramento, CA	$200,000	Sen. Boxer
	Synergy Services, Inc in K.C., MO. To design and construct a homeless youth shelter and campus	$562,500	Sen. Bond
	Syracuse City, Utah for Syracuse City Utah Municipal Center Expansion Project	$210,000	Sen. Hatch
	Tallahatchie County Board of Supervisors, Sumner, MS, Tallahatchie County Courthouse Restoration, for the restoration of the Tallahatchie County Courthouse	$700,000	Sen. Cochran
	TechTown, Detroit, MI for renovations for historic structures for economic development	$200,000	Sen. Stabenow, Sen. Levin, Rep. Kilpatrick
	The Arc of Hilo, Arc of Hilo Client Support Services Facility Construction, in Hilo, HI, to construct a multi-purpose job training, day program, and community center for people with disabilities	$268,000	Sen. Akaka, Sen. Inouye, Rep. Hirono
	The ARC of Madison County Facilities Expansion, AL	$175,000	Sen. Shelby
	The Children's Center of the Cumberlands, Scott County, Tennessee, expand the Children's Center and allow expanded service and care for abused children	$175,000	Sen. Alexander
	The Children's Home, Children's Home (CH) Residential Facility Improvement Initiative, Cromwell, Connecticut, for the redesign of residential facilities	$200,000	Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman, Rep. Larson
	The City of Newport News, VA, Jefferson Park Revitalization, VA, for acquisition, demolition, relocation activities and capital improvements of dilapidated housing	$670,000	Sen. Webb, Sen. Warner, Rep. Bobby Scott
	The Civic Center of Moreau, Inc. The Moreau Community Center, Campaign to Establish the New Regional Community Center at Moreau, South Glens Falls, NY, for the construction of the Regional Community Center at Moreau which will provide dramatically improved educational, recreational, and community service facilities as well as substantial economic development	$200,000	Sen. Schumer, Sen. Clinton, Rep. Gillibrand

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Continued

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
	The Greater Boston Food Bank, Boston, Massachusetts, for the development of a new facility to distribute food to Massachusetts families in need.	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
	The Ministry of Caring Inc.; Mary Mother of Hope House Renovation Project, Wilmington, DE, to renovate the Mary Mother of Hope House which provides housing and support services for homeless women 18 and older	$670,000	Sen. Biden, Sen. Carper
	The Westfield Boys and Girls Club, Westfield, Massachusetts, Westfield Boys and Girls Club, for renovation and repair	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
	TLC for Children and Families, Olathe, KS, for an emergency shelter and social services for children and youth in the Kansas City	$525,000	Sen. Brownback
	To Bridgeton Board of Education, Bridgeton, NJ for the restoration of the historic Bridgeton High School facility which was built during the New Deal by the WPA	$200,000	Sen. Lautenberg
	To Paterson Board of Education, Paterson, NJ, Hinchliffe facility, for the restoration of the historic Hinchliffe facility	$200,000	Sen. Lautenberg
	To the Goodwill Rescue Mission, Newark, NJ for the renovation of transitional living facilities.	$200,000	Sen. Lautenberg, Rep. Payne
	Tom Green County, San Angelo, TX, for the relocation and expansion of the Tom Green County Library, the only public library in the region.	$140,000	Sen. Hutchison
	Town of Colebrook, Mohawk River Retaining Wall, Colebrook, NH, repair retaining wall and two water mains along the Mohawk River.	$300,000	Sen. Sununu
	Town of Colmar Manor, Colmar Manor Community Center, Colmar Manor, Maryland, to construct a multi-use community facility that combines community organizations and municipal services	$402,000	Sen. Cardin, Rep. Van Hollen
	Town of Marietta, MS, for the construction of a multi-purpose facility	$200,000	Sen. Cochran
	Town of Vernon, Amberbelle Mill Historic Restoration Initiative, Vernon, Connecticut, for exterior and interior upgrades to the historic Amberbelle Mill facility.	$200,000	Sen. Dodd, Sen. Lieberman, Rep. Courtney
	Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa, Turtle Mountain Youth Center, Belcourt, ND to construct a youth center for Native Americans on the reservation.	$335,000	Sen. Dorgan, Sen. Conrad
	United Methodist Youthville, Dodge City, Kansas to provide a central kitchen/dining facility for the campus in compliance with federal regulations	$210,000	Sen. Roberts
	United Way for Southeastern Michigan, Detroit, MI, to construct a training center for non-profit social service providers	$268,000	Sen. Stabenow, Sen. Levin, Rep. Kilpatrick, Rep. Mike Rogers
	United Way of Treasure Valley, Boise, Idaho, for construction of a Community Detox Center	$175,000	Sen. Crapo
	Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts, Roxbury, Massachusetts, to assist in the expansion of the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts facility expansion	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry, Rep. Capuano
	Urban League of Rhode Island, South Providence Neighborhood Center Building Project, Providence, RI for the construction of a three-story, 9,000 square foot addition to house a community meeting room, senior center, and office space.	$335,000	Sen. Reed
	Vermont Housing and Conservation Board, VT, for affordable housing and community development linked with land conservation and historic preservation	$1,742,000	Sen. Leahy
	Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse, Roxbury, MA, Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse renovation, to renovate the Veterans Benefits Clearinghouse facility to allow the non-profit organization to expand its programs to assist low-income veterans across Massachusetts.	$200,000	Sen. Kennedy, Sen. Kerry
	Waipahu Jack Hall Memorial Housing Corporation, Oahu, HI, to renovate, repair, and maintain the Kunia Village Housing Complex and to bring it in compliance with Honolulu City and County housing codes	$234,000	Sen. Inouye
	Washington County Free Library, New Washington County Free Library Branch in Boonsboro, MD, to facilitate design and construction of new library branch	$200,000	Sen. Mikulski
	Western Elmore County Recreation District, Mountain Home Community Center Complex, Mountain Home, Idaho, for planning, design, and construction of an energy efficient, multi-use community center.	$300,000	Sen. Craig
	Where to Turn, Hands and Hearts, Staten Island, NY for the construction of a 9/11 living memorial	$468,000	Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
	Wichita, KS for the 21st Street Industrial Corridor Revitalization Plan and Pre-Engineering Designs	$210,000	Sen. Roberts
	Wilmington Housing Authority, Wilmington, DE, Sprinkler Retrofit of High Rise Building, to retrofit the Crestview Apartments with a fire suppression sprinkler system	$670,000	Sen. Biden, Sen. Carper, Rep. Castle

	Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership, Center for Excellence, Milwaukee, WI, to complete renovation of the Center of Excellence for the assessment, preparation and placement of job-ready candidates for careers in skilled trades and industries.	$200,000	Sen. Kohl
	World Impact, St. Louis, MO, to renovate the former YMCA North Building	$562,500	Sen. Bond
	YMCA of Spokane, WA, YMCA/YWCA of Spokane, for facility construction	$500,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
	YMCA of Tacoma-Pierce County, Tacoma, WA, YMCA of Tacoma-Pierce County for facility construction	$250,000	Sen. Murray
	YWCA of Greater Los Angeles, Union Pacific Child Development and Family Center, Los Angeles, CA: for the construction of the new Union Pacific Child Development and Family Center	$200,000	Sen. Boxer, Rep. Berman

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Neighborhood Initiatives

Grantee	Purpose	Funding	Sponsor
Bucks County Community College in Newtown, PA	for design and construction of a training facility	$100,000	Rep. Murphy (Patrick)
CAP Services, Inc. in Stevens Point, WI	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund for small business development	$500,000	Rep. Obey
Chicago Parks District in Chicago, IL	for renovation and construction as part of the Lane Tech High School Field Improvement Project	$700,000	Rep. Emanuel
City and County of San Francisco Mayor's Office of Housing in San Francisco, CA	for construction of permanent supportive housing for homeless individuals as part of the Mason Street Project	$600,000	Rep. Pelosi, Sen. Boxer
City of Charleston, SC	for planning, design, construction and buildout of the City of Charleston's International African American Museum	$800,000	Rep. Clyburn
City of College Park, MD	for construction in coordination with the Downtown College Park Redevelopment Project	$300,000	Rep. Hoyer
Douglas County, WI	for extension of sewer and water utilities to the Parkland Industrial Park	$500,000	Rep. Obey
Housing Assistance Council	for nationwide capacity building, outreach and training	$3,000,000	Rep. Olver, Rep. Knollenberg, Rep. Pastor, Rep. Hinojosa, Rep. Davis (Geoff), Sen. Domenici, Sen. Leahy, Sen. Inouye
La Raza HOPE Fund	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund to be used for nationwide community development activities	$1,000,000	Rep. Olver, Rep. Walsh, Rep. Gutierrez, Sen. Dodd, Sen. Martinez, Sen. Lieberman, Sen. Obama, Sen. Landrieu, Sen. Kerry, Sen. Bingamen, Sen. Casey, Sen. Menendez, Sen. Brown, Sen. Clinton, Sen. Boxer, Sen. Durbin
Metropolitan Development Association in Syracuse, NY	for implementation of a comprehensive regional economic development strategy	$375,000	Rep. Walsh
National American Indian Housing Council National Housing Development Corporation in Rancho Cucamonga, CA	for nationwide capacity building, outreach and training for development and preservation of affordable housing	$1,000,000 $1,000,000	Rep. Olver, Sen. Johnson, Sen. Domenici Rep. Miller (Gary)
North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission in Wausau, WI	for capitalization of a revolving loan fund for new business development	$400,000	Rep. Obey
San Francisco Housing Authority in San Francisco, CA	for demolition, planning, design, and construction of mixed-income housing at the Hunters View Housing Project	$1,200,000	Rep. Pelosi, Sen. Feinstein
* United Veterans of America, Inc. in Leeds, MA	for construction and buildout of a permanent housing facility for veterans in Pittsfield, MA	$900,000	Rep. Olver
University of Hartford in Hartford, CT	for renovation and buildout of a historic building	$200,000	Rep. Larson
Yardley Borough, PA	for acquisition and installation of equipment to improve stormwater systems as part of a redevelopment plan	$280,000	Rep. Murphy (Patrick)
	Grantee and Purpose		
	Bering Straits Native Corporation, Nome, Alaska, funds will be used for the construction and expansion of the site pad for the quarry	$562,500	Sen. Stevens
	Center for Planning Excellence; Center for Planning Excellence; Baton Rouge, LA to continue to coordinate urban and rural planning efforts in South Louisiana	$2,000,000	Sen. Landrieu
	Central Wyoming College Foundation; Intertribal Education and Community Center; Riverton, Wyoming; to complete construction of and purchase equipment for the Intertribal Education and Community Center	$420,000	Sen. Enzi
	City of Forsyth, Georgia to renovate and repair the buildings on the former Tift College campus so that it will be ready to house the hundreds of employees of the State Department of Corrections.	$350,000	Sen. Isakson

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT—Neighborhood Initiatives—Continued

Grantee	Purpose	Funding	Sponsor
	City of Green Bay, Wisconsin, Neighborhood Block Redevelopment, to purchase, demolish and refurbish blighted properties to eliminate overcrowding, reduce crime and stabilize a struggling neighborhood	$1,500,000	Sen. Kohl
	City of Rochester, NY, Rochester Lead Hazard Prevention Program, to enhance lead hazard assessments, inspections, remediation training and outreach to expedite lead hazard remediation in public housing	$156,000	Sen. Clinton, Sen. Schumer
	Emergency Demolition of the Former Swift Plant (KD Station) in Sioux City, Iowa	$700,000	Sen. Grassley, Sen. Harkin
	Hiawatha Village Low Income Housing Development Project, Seattle, WA	$750,000	Sen. Murray
	homeWORD, Missoula, MT to develop rental housing that is affordable to working families in Missoula, MT	$670,000	Sen. Baucus, Sen. Tester
	John C. Stennis Institute for Capacity Development Initiative	$800,000	Sen. Cochran
	Kitsap County Resources Community Services Center Construction, Bremerton, WA	$200,000	Sen. Murray, Sen. Cantwell
	Miami Dade College, FL, Cuban American Historical Museum at the Miami Dade College Freedom Tower, Florida	$350,000	Sen. Martinez
	NeighborhoodsNOW, Community Foundation of Wyandotte County, Kansas City, KS	$1,200,000	Sen. Brownback
	Passage Point Transitional Housing Construction, King County, WA	$500,000	Sen. Murray
	Poplar Bluff Historic Depot Restoration; Missouri	$187,500	Sen. Bond
	Robinson Film Center Building; Shreveport, Louisiana	$280,000	Sen. Vitter
	Salishan HOPE VI Redevelopment Project, Tacoma, WA	$1,500,000	Sen. Murray
	Starr Commonwealth of Ohio, Van Wert and Columbus, Ohio, Starr Commonwealth facilities renovations for positive environments where children flourish	$544,000	Sen. Brown, Rep. Pryce, Rep. Gillmor
	Washington State Housing Finance Commission, Seattle, WA for capacity building	$700,000	Sen. Murray

TRANSPORTATION / HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT [1]

Account	Project Name	Total Conference Funded Level	Sponsor
FTA Extension [1]	Ardmore transit center, Pennsylvania		Rep. Gerlach
FTA Extension [1]	Area Transit Authority, Pennsylvania		Rep. Peterson
FTA Extension [1]	Area Transportation Authority of North Central Pennsylvania passenger terminal, Pennsylvania		Rep. Peterson
FTA Extension [1]	Buffalo, New York Inner Harbor Redevelopment Project, New York		Rep. Higgins
FTA Extension [1]	Bridgeport Intermodal Center, Connecticut		Rep. Shays
FTA Extension [1]	Broome County hybrid buses, New York		Rep. Hinchey
FTA Extension [1]	Callowhill bus garage replacement, Pennsylvania		Rep. Fattah
FTA Extension [1]	Central New York Regional Transportation Authority, New York		Rep. Walsh
FTA Extension [1]	Glenmont Metrorail parking garage expansion, Maryland		Rep. Van Hollen
FTA Extension [1]	Colorado statewide bus and bus facilities		Rep. DeGette, Rep. Musgrave, Rep. Perlmutter, Rep. Salazar, Rep. Tancredo, Rep. Udall
FTA Extension [1]	Hampton Roads Transit New Maintenance Facilities, Virginia		Rep. Drake, Rep. Scott (VA)
FTA Extension [1]	Howard County Transit repair Facility, Maryland		Rep. Cummings

FTA Extension [1]	I–66/Vienna Metrorail Accessibility Improvements, Virginia		Rep. Davis (VA)
FTA Extension [1]	Irvington Intermodal Upgrades, New York		Rep. Lowey
FTA Extension [1]	Ivy Tech State College multmodal facility, Indiana		Rep. Carson
FTA Extension [1]	Leesburg Train Depot Renovation and Restoration, Georgia		Rep. Bishop (GA)
FTA Extension [1]	Palo Alto Intermodal Transit Center, California		Rep. Eshoo
FTA Extension [1]	Potomac Yard Transit Way, Virginia		Rep. Moran (VA)
FTA Extension [1]	Pulse Point Joint Improvements, Connecticut		Rep. Shays
FTA Extension [1]	Regional Transit Project for Quitman, Clay, Randolph and Stewart Counties, Georgia		Rep. Bishop (GA)
FTA Extension [1]	Renaissance Square, New York		Rep. Walsh
FTA Extension [1]	Rochester Central Bus Terminal, New York		Rep. Walsh
FTA Extension [1]	Springfield Union Station, Springfield, Massachusetts		Rep. Neal
FTA Extension [1]	White Plains Downtown Circulator, New York		Rep. Lowey
FTA Extension [1]	Dulles Corridor Rapid Transit Project, Virginia		Rep Moran. (VA), Rep. Wolf, Rep. Davis (VA)
FTA Extension [1]	Stamford Urban Transitway, all phases, Connecticut		Rep. Shays
FTA Extension [1]	Harrisburg, Pennsylvania CorridorOne		Rep. Pitts

[1] Extension of availability of funds provided in previous appropriations Acts.

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
TITLE I - DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION						
Office of the Secretary						
Salaries and expenses	84,553	96,197	90,678	95,197	93,782	+9,229
Immediate Office of the Secretary	(2,197)	---	(2,305)	(2,314)	(2,310)	(+113)
Immediate Office of the Deputy Secretary	(697)	---	(724)	(737)	(730)	(+33)
Office of the General Counsel	(15,148)	---	(15,753)	(18,719)	(18,720)	(+3,572)
Office of the Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy	(11,635)	---	(12,100)	(11,874)	(11,874)	(+239)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs	(8,465)	---	(8,903)	(10,417)	(9,417)	(+952)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs	(2,291)	---	(2,382)	(2,384)	(2,383)	(+92)
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	(21,880)	---	(23,568)	(24,008)	(23,750)	(+1,870)
Office of Public Affairs	(1,908)	---	(1,984)	(1,988)	(1,986)	(+78)
Executive Secretariat	(1,441)	---	(1,498)	(1,535)	(1,516)	(+75)
Board of Contract Appeals	(696)	---	---	---	---	(-696)
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization	(1,264)	---	(1,314)	(1,335)	(1,335)	(+71)
Office of Intelligence and Security	(2,027)	---	(2,737)	---	(7,874)	(+5,847)
Office of the Chief Information Officer	(11,801)	---	(12,273)	(11,587)	(11,887)	(+86)
Office of Emergency Transportation	(3,103)	---	(5,137)	---	---	(-3,103)
Undesignated pay raise	---	---	---	---	---	---
Subtotal	(84,553)	(96,197)	(90,678)	(95,197)	(93,782)	(+9,229)
Office of Civil Rights	8,528	9,141	9,141	9,141	9,141	+613
Rescission of excess compensation for air carriers	-50,000	-22,000	-22,000	-22,000	-22,000	+28,000

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Transportation planning, research, and development	14,893	9,115	8,515	14,115	14,000	-893
Working capital fund	(118,014)	---	(128,094)	(128,094)	(128,094)	(+10,080)
Minority business resource center program	893	891	893	891	893	---
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(18,367)	(18,367)	(18,367)	(18,367)	(18,367)	---
Minority business outreach	2,970	2,970	2,970	2,970	2,970	---
New headquarters building	49,500	---	---	---	---	-49,500
Payments to air carriers (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	59,400	---	60,000	60,000	60,000	+600
Total, Office of the Secretary	170,737	96,314	150,197	160,314	158,786	-11,951
Federal Aviation Administration						
Operations	8,374,217	---	8,716,606	8,761,783	8,750,000	+375,783
Air traffic organization	(6,739,761)	---	(6,958,413)	(6,964,813)	(6,969,663)	(+229,902)
Aviation Safety	(1,003,410)	---	(1,076,103)	(1,092,103)	(1,082,653)	(+79,243)
Commercial Space Transportation	(11,696)	---	(12,549)	(12,837)	(12,549)	(+853)
Financial Services	(76,289)	---	(100,593)	(103,849)	(102,221)	(+25,932)
Human Resource Management	(85,738)	---	(89,101)	(91,214)	(91,214)	(+5,476)
Region and Center Operations	(275,797)	---	(286,848)	(290,872)	(290,872)	(+15,075)
Staff Offices	(145,524)	---	(162,349)	(166,542)	(166,543)	(+21,019)
Information Services	(36,002)	---	(38,650)	(39,552)	(39,552)	(+3,550)
Subtotal	(8,374,217)	---	(8,716,606)	(8,761,783)	(8,750,000)	(+375,783)
Safety and Operations	---	1,879,453	---	---	---	---
Air Traffic Organization	---	9,307,896	---	---	---	---
Facilities & equipment (Airport & Airway Trust Fund)	2,516,920	---	2,515,000	2,516,920	2,527,284	+10,364
Research, engineering, and development (Airport and Airway Trust Fund)	130,234	140,000	140,000	148,800	147,000	+16,766

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Grants-in-aid for airports (Airport and Airway Trust Fund)(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(4,399,000)	(4,300,000)	(4,399,000)	(4,399,000)	(4,399,000)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(3,514,500)	(2,750,000)	(3,600,000)	(3,514,500)	(3,514,500)	---
Small community air service development program	(10,000)	---	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---
Administration	---	(80,676)	(80,676)	(80,676)	(80,676)	(+80,676)
Airport Cooperative Research Program	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	(10,000)	---
Airport Technology Research	(17,870)	(18,712)	(18,712)	(18,712)	(18,712)	(+842)
2007 F&E Pop-up contract authority	596,000	---	---	---	---	-596,000
Rescission of contract authority (BY F&E Pop-up)	-596,000	---	---	---	---	+596,000
Rescission of contract authority (BY AIP)	---	---	-185,500	-185,500	-185,500	-185,500
Rescission of contract authority (prior yr Pop-up)	-25,000	---	---	---	---	+25,000
Subtotal	(3,489,500)	(2,750,000)	(3,414,500)	(3,329,000)	(3,329,000)	(-160,500)
War risk insurance program extension	-29,000	---	-164,000	-164,000	-120,000	-91,000
Total, Federal Aviation Administration	10,967,371	11,327,349	11,022,106	11,078,003	11,118,784	+151,413
Appropriations	(11,588,371)	(11,327,349)	(11,207,606)	(11,263,503)	(11,304,284)	(-284,087)
Rescissions of contract authority	(-621,000)	---	(-185,500)	(-185,500)	(-185,500)	(+435,500)
(Limitations on obligations)	(3,514,500)	(2,750,000)	(3,600,000)	(3,514,500)	(3,514,500)	---
Total budgetary resources	(14,481,871)	(14,077,349)	(14,622,106)	(14,592,503)	(14,633,284)	(+151,413)
Federal Highway Administration						
Limitation on administrative expenses	(360,992)	(384,556)	(384,556)	(377,556)	(377,556)	(+16,564)
Federal-aid highways (Highway Trust Fund):						
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(36,032,344)	(38,000,000)	(40,955,051)	(40,955,051)	(41,955,051)	(+5,922,707)
(Limitation on obligations)	(39,086,465)	(39,585,075)	(40,216,051)	(40,216,051)	(40,216,051)	(+1,129,586)
(Limitation on obligations) - bridges	---	---	---	(1,000,000)	(1,000,000)	(+1,000,000)
(Exempt contract authority)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	---

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
(Transfer to NHTSA)	(-121,232)	---	---	---	---	(+121,232)
Congestion reduction initiative (leg. proposal)	---	(175,000)	---	---	---	---
Pay raise (Sec. 111 of P.L.110-5)	2,794	---	---	---	---	-2,794
Appalachian development highway system	19,800	---	---	20,000	16,000	-3,800
Delta Regional Authority	---	---	---	20,000	14,300	+14,300
I-35W bridge repair and reconstruction (emergency appropriations)	---	---	---	195,000	195,000	+195,000
Emergency relief programs (Highway Trust Fund)						
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28)	871,022	---	---	---	---	-871,022
Rescission of contract authority (HTF)(P.L.110-28)	-871,022	---	---	---	---	+871,022
Rescission of contract authority (Highway Trust Fund)	-3,471,582	-1,317,000	-3,000,000	-2,890,000	-3,000,000	+471,582
Rescission of ISTEA contract authority(HTF)(Sec. 122)	---	-52,000	-1,292	---	-1,292	-1,292
Rescission of TEA-21 contract authority(HTF)(Sec. 123)	---	---	-6,139	---	-5,987	-5,987
TIFIA (rescission of contract authority)(Sec. 124)	---	---	-162,253	-187,146	-186,322	-186,322
Administration (rescission of contract authority)(Sec. 125)	---	---	-43,359	-43,359	-43,359	-43,359
Research (rescission of contract authority)(Sec. 126)	---	---	-172,243	---	-172,243	-172,243
Highway related safety grants (rescission)(Sec. 127)	---	---	-11	---	-11	-11
Miscellaneous appropriations and miscellaneous highway trust funds (rescission)(Sec. 128)	---	-409,469	-4,754	---	-4,754	-4,754
'08 rescission of revenue-aligned budget authority	---	-630,976	---	---	---	---
Total, Federal Highway Administration	-3,448,988	-2,409,445	-3,390,051	-2,885,505	-3,188,668	+260,320
Appropriations	(22,594)	---	---	(40,000)	(30,300)	(+7,706)
Rescissions	---	(-409,469)	(-4,765)	---	(-4,765)	(-4,765)
Rescissions of contract authority	(-4,342,604)	(-1,999,976)	(-3,385,286)	(-3,120,505)	(-3,409,203)	(+933,401)
(Limitations on obligations)	(39,086,465)	(39,585,075)	(40,216,051)	(41,216,051)	(41,216,051)	(+2,129,586)
(Exempt contract authority)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	---
(Transfer out)	(-121,232)	---	---	---	---	(+121,232)
Total budgetary resources	(36,255,245)	(37,914,630)	(37,565,000)	(39,069,546)	(38,766,383)	(+2,511,138)

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration						
Motor carrier safety operations and programs (Highway Trust Fund)(Liquidation of contract authorization)..	(223,000)	(228,000)	(228,000)	(231,470)	(229,654)	(+6,654)
(Limitation on obligations).....	(223,000)	(228,000)	(228,000)	(231,470)	(229,654)	(+6,654)
Motor carrier safety grants (Highway Trust Fund) (Liquidation of contract authorization).....	(294,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(+6,000)
(Limitation on obligations).....	(294,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(300,000)	(+6,000)
National motor carrier safety program (HTF) (rescission of contract authority).....	---	---	-5,213	-5,213	-5,213	-5,213
Motor carrier safety (HTF) (rescission of contract authority).....	---	---	-32,188	-32,188	-32,188	-32,188
Motor carrier safety grants (HTF) (rescission of contract authority).....	---	---	-11,260	-11,260	-11,260	-11,260
Motor carrier safety operations and programs (HTF) (rescission of contract authority).....	---	---	-3,470	---	-1,816	-1,816
Total, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Admin.....	---	---	-52,131	-48,661	-50,477	-50,477
Rescissions of contract authority.....	---	---	-52,131	-48,661	-50,477	-50,477
(Limitations on obligations).....	(517,000)	(528,000)	(528,000)	(531,470)	(529,654)	(+12,654)
Total budgetary resources.....	(517,000)	(528,000)	(475,869)	(482,809)	(479,177)	(-37,823)
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration						
Operations and research (general fund).....	---	---	125,000	124,406	126,606	+126,606

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Operations and research (Highway Trust Fund)						
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(107,750)	(229,750)	(107,750)	(107,750)	(107,750)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(107,750)	(229,750)	(107,750)	(107,750)	(107,750)	---
(Transfer from FHWA)	(121,232)	---	---	---	---	(-121,232)
Subtotal, Operations and research	228,982	229,750	232,750	232,156	234,356	+5,374
National Driver Register (Highway Trust Fund)						
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	---
(Limitation on obligations)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	(4,000)	---
Highway traffic safety grants (Highway Trust Fund)						
(Liquidation of contract authorization)	(587,750)	(599,250)	(599,250)	(599,250)	(599,250)	(+11,500)
(Limitation on obligations):						
Highway safety programs (23 USC 402)	(220,000)	(225,000)	(225,000)	(225,000)	(225,000)	(+5,000)
Occupant protection incentive grants(23 USC 405)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	(25,000)	---
Safety belt performance grants (23 USC 406)	(124,500)	(124,500)	(124,500)	(124,500)	(124,500)	---
Alcohol-impaired driving countermeasures grants (23 USC 410)	(125,000)	(131,000)	(131,000)	(131,000)	(131,000)	(+6,000)
State traffic safety information system improvement grants (23 USC 408)	(34,500)	(34,500)	(34,500)	(34,500)	(34,500)	---
High visibility enforcement	(29,000)	(29,000)	(29,000)	(29,000)	(29,000)	---
Child safety and booster seat grants	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	---
Motorcyclist safety	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	(6,000)	---
Grant administration	(17,750)	(18,250)	(18,250)	(18,250)	(18,250)	(+500)
Operations and research (rescission of contract authority)(sec. 141)	---	---	-12,197	-12,197	-12,197	-12,197
National driver register (rescission of contract authority)(sec. 142)	---	---	-120	-120	-120	-120

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Highway traffic safety grants (rescission of contract authority)(sec. 143)	---	---	-10,529	-10,529	-10,529	-10,529
Subtotal	(587,750)	(599,250)	(576,404)	(576,404)	(576,404)	(-11,346)
Total, National Highway Traffic Safety Admin.	---	---	102,154	101,560	103,760	+103,760
Appropriations	---	---	(125,000)	(124,406)	(126,606)	(+126,606)
Rescissions of contract authority	---	---	(-22,846)	(-22,846)	(-22,846)	(-22,846)
(Limitations on obligations)	(699,500)	(833,000)	(711,000)	(711,000)	(711,000)	(+11,500)
(by transfer)	(121,232)	---	---	---	---	(-121,232)
Total budgetary resources	(820,732)	(833,000)	(813,154)	(812,560)	(814,760)	(-5,972)
Federal Railroad Administration						
Safety and operations	150,271	148,472	148,472	151,186	150,193	-78
Railroad research and development	34,524	32,250	33,250	36,250	36,030	+1,506
Pennsylvania Station Redevelopment (rescission)	---	-9,000	---	---	---	---
Capital assistance to States - Intercity Passenger Rail Service	---	---	---	100,000	75,000	+75,000
Rail line relocation and improvement program	---	---	35,000	---	20,250	+20,250
National Railroad Passenger Corporation						
Operating grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation	490,050	---	475,000	485,000	475,000	-15,050
Capital grants to the National Railroad Passenger Corporation	772,200	500,000	925,000	885,000	900,000	+127,800

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Efficiency incentive grants to National Railroad Passenger Corporation	31,300	300,000	---	---	---	-31,300
Intercity Passenger Rail Grant Program (leg proposal)	---	100,000	50,000	---	---	---
Total, National Railroad Passenger Corporation	1,293,550	900,000	1,450,000	1,370,000	1,375,000	+81,450
Total, Federal Railroad Administration	1,478,345	1,071,722	1,666,722	1,657,436	1,656,473	+178,128
Appropriations	(1,478,345)	(1,080,722)	(1,666,722)	(1,657,436)	(1,656,473)	(+178,128)
Rescissions	---	(-9,000)	---	---	---	---
Federal Transit Administration						
Administrative expenses, general fund	85,000	89,300	92,500	88,795	89,300	+4,300
Office of the Administrator	(1,063)	---	---	(910)	---	(-1,063)
Office of Chief Counsel	(4,273)	---	---	(4,545)	---	(-4,273)
Office of Civil Rights	(3,272)	---	---	(3,235)	---	(-3,272)
Office of Communications and Congressional Affairs	(1,394)	---	---	(1,480)	---	(-1,394)
Office of Budget and Policy	(9,259)	---	---	(10,858)	---	(-9,259)
Office of Planning	(4,718)	---	---	(4,458)	---	(-4,718)
Office of Program Management	(8,403)	---	---	(8,741)	---	(-8,403)
Office of Demonstration and Innovation	(4,876)	---	---	(4,944)	---	(-4,876)
Office of Administration	(7,654)	---	---	(6,354)	---	(-7,654)
Central Account	(17,668)	---	---	(20,719)	---	(-17,668)
Regional offices	(22,420)	---	---	(22,551)	---	(-22,420)
Subtotal	(85,000)	(89,300)	(92,500)	(88,795)	(89,300)	(+4,300)

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Formula and Bus Grants (Highway Trust Fund, Mass Transit Account)(limitation on obligations)	(7,262,775)	(7,871,895)	(7,872,893)	(7,872,893)	(7,872,893)	(+610,118)
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28)	35,000	---	---	---	---	-35,000
Rescission of contract authority (HTF)	---	---	-28,661	-28,661	-28,661	-28,661
Clean fuel buses (Sec. 165)	---	---	26,000	---	---	---
Subtotal	(7,297,775)	(7,871,895)	(7,870,232)	(7,844,232)	(7,844,232)	(+546,457)
Research and University Research Centers	61,000	61,000	65,500	65,500	65,500	+4,500
Trust fund share of expenses(Mass Transit Account,HTF) (liquidation of contract authorization)	(4,660,000)	(6,855,000)	(6,855,000)	(6,855,000)	(6,855,000)	(+2,195,000)
Capital investment grants	1,566,000	1,399,818	1,700,000	1,566,000	1,650,000	+84,000
Rescission	---	---	-17,760	---	---	---
Total, Federal Transit Administration	1,747,000	1,550,118	1,837,579	1,691,634	1,776,139	+29,139
Appropriations	1,712,000	1,550,118	1,884,000	1,720,295	1,804,800	+92,800
Rescissions	---	---	-17,760	---	---	---
Rescissions of contract authority	---	---	-28,661	-28,661	-28,661	-28,661
Emergency appropriations	35,000	---	---	---	---	-35,000
(Limitations on obligations)	(7,262,775)	(7,871,895)	(7,872,893)	(7,872,893)	(7,872,893)	(+610,118)
Total budgetary resources	(9,009,775)	(9,422,013)	(9,710,472)	(9,564,527)	(9,649,032)	(+639,257)
Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation						
Operations and maintenance (Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund)	16,223	17,392	17,392	17,392	17,392	+1,169

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Maritime Administration						
Maritime security program	154,440	154,440	156,000	156,000	156,000	+1,560
Operations and training	111,522	115,276	118,646	122,891	122,032	+10,510
Ship disposal	20,790	20,000	17,000	18,000	17,000	-3,790
Assistance to small shipyards	---	---	---	20,000	10,000	+10,000
Maritime Guaranteed Loan (Title XI) Program Account:						
Administrative expenses	4,085	---	3,408	3,408	3,408	-677
Fund admin expenses with takedowns (leg proposal)	---	(3,408)	---	---	---	---
Guarantee loans subsidy	---	---	---	10,000	5,000	+5,000
National defense tank vessel program (rescission)	-74,400	---	---	---	---	+74,400
Alteration of bridges	---	5,650	---	---	---	---
Ship construction (rescission)	-2,000	---	-3,526	-4,615	-6,673	-4,673
Total, Maritime Administration	214,437	295,366	291,528	325,684	306,767	+92,330
Appropriations	(290,837)	(295,366)	(295,054)	(330,299)	(313,440)	(+22,603)
Rescissions	(-76,400)	---	(-3,526)	(-4,615)	(-6,673)	(+69,727)
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration						
Hazardous materials safety	26,723	27,003	28,899	27,003	28,000	+1,277
Administrative expenses	18,031	17,491	17,491	17,491	17,491	-540
Pipeline Safety Fund	---	639	639	639	639	+639
Subtotal	(18,031)	(18,130)	(18,130)	(18,130)	(18,130)	(+99)

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Pipeline safety:						
Pipeline Safety Fund	60,065	55,770	60,065	63,594	61,018	+953
Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund	14,850	18,810	18,810	18,810	18,810	+3,960
Subtotal	(74,915)	(74,580)	(78,875)	(82,404)	(79,828)	(+4,913)
Emergency preparedness grants:						
Emergency preparedness fund	198	188	188	188	188	-10
Limitation on emergency preparedness fund	(14,157)	(28,318)	(28,318)	(28,318)	(28,318)	(+14,161)
Total, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration	134,024	148,219	154,410	156,043	154,464	+20,440
Research and Innovative Technology Administration						
Research and development	7,736	12,000	12,000	12,000	12,000	+4,264
Office of Inspector General						
Salaries and expenses	64,043	66,400	66,400	66,400	66,400	+2,357
Surface Transportation Board						
Salaries and expenses	26,313	23,085	26,495	25,000	26,325	+12
Offsetting collections	-1,250	-1,250	-1,250	-1,250	-1,250	---
Total, Surface Transportation Board	25,063	21,835	25,245	23,750	25,075	+12

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Total, title I, Department of Transportation....	11,361,834	12,168,952	11,875,233	12,327,732	12,128,577	+766,743
Appropriations.....	(15,545,816)	(14,609,397)	(15,597,708)	(15,565,520)	(15,663,702)	(+117,886)
Rescissions.....	(-126,400)	(-440,469)	(-48,051)	(-26,615)	(-33,438)	(+92,962)
Rescission of contract authority.....	(-4,963,604)	(-1,999,976)	(-3,674,424)	(-3,406,173)	(-3,696,687)	(+1,266,917)
Emergency appropriations.....	(906,022)	---	---	(195,000)	(195,000)	(-711,022)
(Limitations on obligations).....	(51,080,240)	(51,571,378)	(52,927,944)	(53,845,914)	(53,844,098)	(+2,763,858)
(Exempt contract authority).....	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	---
Total budgetary resources.....	(63,181,074)	(64,479,330)	(65,542,177)	(66,912,646)	(66,711,675)	(+3,530,601)
Transportation discretionary total.....	11,361,834	12,168,952	11,875,233	12,327,732	12,128,577	+766,743
TITLE II - DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT						
Management and Administration						
Salaries and expenses						
Executive direction.....	---	---	---	---	24,980	+24,980
Administration, operations, and management.....	---	---	---	---	503,630	+503,630
Personnel compensation and benefits:						
Public and Indian Housing.....	---	---	---	---	173,310	+173,310
Community Planning and Development.....	---	---	---	---	90,310	+90,310
Housing.....	---	---	---	---	334,450	+334,450
Office of the Government National Mortgage Association.....	---	---	---	---	8,250	+8,250

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Policy Development and Research	---	---	---	---	16,950	+16,950
Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity	---	---	---	---	63,140	+63,140
Office of Heathy Homes and Lead Hazard Control	---	---	---	---	6,980	+6,980
Total, Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	---	1,222,000	+1,222,000
Office of the Secretary						
Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	3,930	---	---
Executive Operations						
Salaries and expenses:						
Office of Hearings and Appeals	---	---	---	1,490	---	---
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization	---	---	---	510	---	---
Office of Chief Financial Officer	---	---	---	43,750	---	---
Office of General Counsel	---	---	---	86,820	---	---
Office of Chief Procurement Officer	---	---	---	13,500	---	---
Center for Faith-based Initiatives	---	---	---	1,860	---	---
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations	---	---	---	2,670	---	---
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs	---	---	---	2,630	---	---
Office of Departmental Equal Employment Opportunity	---	---	---	3,440	---	---
Total, Executive Operations	---	---	---	156,670	---	---

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Administrative Activities						
Salaries and expenses:						
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration	---	---	---	1,480	---	---
Administration salaries and expenses	---	---	---	251,630	---	---
Office of Departmental Operations and Coordination	---	---	---	12,520	---	---
Office of Field Policy and Management	---	---	---	47,730	---	---
Total, Administrative Activities	---	---	---	313,360	---	---
Public and Indian Housing						
Salaries and expenses:						
Assistant Secretary for Public and Indian Housing	---	---	---	1,620	---	---
Housing salaries and expenses	---	---	---	188,340	---	---
Total, Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	189,960	---	---
Tenant-based Rental Assistance:						
Renewals	14,436,200	14,437,506	14,744,506	14,929,200	14,694,506	+258,306
Tenant protection vouchers	149,300	150,000	150,000	150,000	200,000	+50,700
Family self-sufficiency coordinators	47,500	48,000	48,000	50,000	49,000	+1,500
Administrative fees	1,288,100	1,351,000	1,351,000	1,351,000	1,351,000	+62,900
Incremental family unification vouchers	---	---	30,000	30,000	30,000	+30,000
Veterans affairs supportive housing	---	---	---	75,000	75,000	+75,000
Working capital fund	5,900	6,494	6,494	6,494	6,494	+594
Nonelderly disabled incremental vouchers	---	---	---	---	30,000	+30,000
Subtotal	(15,927,000)	(15,993,000)	(16,330,000)	(16,591,694)	(16,436,000)	(+509,000)

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Advance appropriations	4,193,000	4,200,000	4,193,000	4,200,000	4,200,000	+7,000
Less appropriations from prior year advances	-4,200,000	-4,193,000	-4,193,000	-4,193,000	-4,193,000	+7,000
Total, Tenant-based rental assistance	15,920,000	16,000,000	16,330,000	16,598,694	16,443,000	+523,000
Project-based rental assistance:						
Renewals	5,829,303	5,522,810	6,239,122	5,522,810	6,139,122	+309,819
Contract administrators	145,728	286,230	238,728	286,230	238,728	+93,000
Working capital fund	1,386	3,960	1,960	3,960	3,960	+2,574
Total, Project-based rental assistance	5,976,417	5,813,000	6,479,810	5,813,000	6,381,810	+405,393
Public Housing Capital Fund	2,438,964	2,024,000	2,438,964	2,500,000	2,438,964	---
Public Housing Operating Fund	3,864,000	4,000,000	4,200,000	4,200,000	4,200,000	+336,000
Revitalization of severely distressed public housing	99,000	---	120,000	100,000	120,000	+21,000
Rescission	---	-99,000	---	---	---	---
Native American housing block grants	623,700	626,965	626,965	630,000	630,000	+6,300
Indian housing loan guarantee fund program account	6,000	7,450	7,450	7,450	7,450	+1,450
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(251,000)	(367,000)	(367,000)	(367,000)	(367,000)	(+116,000)
Native Hawaiian housing block grant	8,727	5,940	8,727	9,000	9,000	+273
Native Hawaiian loan guarantee fund program account	891	1,044	1,044	1,044	1,044	+153
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(35,714)	(41,504)	(41,504)	(41,504)	(41,504)	(+5,790)
Total, Public and Indian Housing	28,937,699	28,379,399	30,212,960	30,049,148	30,231,268	+1,293,569

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Community Planning and Development						
Salaries and expenses:						
Assistant Secretary for Community and Planning Development	---	---	---	1,520	---	---
Community Planning and Development salaries and expenses	---	---	---	93,770	---	---
Total, Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	95,290	---	---
Housing opportunities for persons with AIDS	286,110	300,100	300,100	300,100	300,100	+13,990
Rural housing and economic development	16,830	---	16,830	17,000	17,000	+170
Community development fund	3,771,900	3,036,570	4,180,000	4,060,000	4,000,000	+228,100
Section 108 loan guarantees:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(137,500)	---	(137,500)	(275,000)	(205,000)	(+67,500)
Credit subsidy	2,970	---	2,970	6,000	4,500	+1,530
Administrative expenses	743	---	743	---	---	-743
Brownfields redevelopment	9,900	---	9,900	10,000	10,000	+100
HOME investment partnerships program	1,757,250	1,966,640	1,764,010	1,970,000	1,767,000	+9,750
Homeless assistance grants	1,441,600	1,585,990	1,560,990	1,585,990	1,585,990	+144,390
Self-help homeownership opportunity program	49,390	69,700	59,700	70,000	60,000	+10,610
Total, Community Planning and Development	7,336,693	6,959,000	7,895,243	8,114,380	7,744,590	+407,897
Housing Programs						
Salaries and expenses:						
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Housing, Federal Housing Commissioner	---	---	---	3,420	---	---

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Housing salaries and expenses	---	---	---	351,560	---	---
Total, Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	354,980	---	---
Housing for the elderly	734,580	575,000	734,580	735,000	735,000	+420
Housing for persons with disabilities	236,610	125,000	236,610	237,000	237,000	+390
Housing counseling assistance	---	50,000	---	---	---	---
Manufactured housing fees trust fund	13,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	16,000	+3,000
Offsetting collections	-13,000	-13,000	-13,000	-13,000	-13,000	---
Offsetting collections (legislative proposal)	---	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000	-3,000
Rental housing assistance	26,136	27,600	27,600	27,600	27,600	+1,464
Rent supplement (rescission)	---	-27,600	-27,600	-27,600	-27,600	-27,600
Total, Housing Programs	997,326	750,000	971,190	1,326,980	972,000	-25,326
Federal Housing Administration						
FHA - Mutual mortgage insurance program account:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(185,000,000)	(185,000,000)	(185,000,000)	(185,000,000)	(185,000,000)	---
(Limitation on direct loans)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	---
Administrative expenses	351,450	351,450	351,450	---	---	-351,450
Offsetting receipts	-176,000	---	---	---	---	+176,000
Administrative contract expenses	61,974	77,400	77,400	77,400	77,400	+15,426

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
FHA - General and special risk program account:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(45,000,000)	(35,000,000)	(45,000,000)	(45,000,000)	(45,000,000)	---
(Limitation on direct loans)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	(50,000)	---
Administrative expenses	229,086	229,086	229,086	---	---	-229,086
Offsetting receipts	-476,000	-230,000	-230,000	-230,000	-230,000	+246,000
Credit subsidy	8,712	8,600	8,712	8,600	8,600	-112
Right of first refusal	---	---	---	5,000	5,000	+5,000
Non-overhead administrative expenses	71,181	78,111	78,111	78,111	78,111	+6,930
Administrative fee increase	---	-20,000	-20,000	-20,000	-20,000	-20,000
Move single-family programs to MMI (leg.proposal)	---	22,000	---	---	---	---
Total, Federal Housing Administration	70,403	516,647	494,759	-80,889	-80,889	-151,292
Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA)						
Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	9,530	---	---
Guarantees of mortgage-backed securities loan guarantee program account:						
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(200,000,000)	(100,000,000)	(200,000,000)	(200,000,000)	(200,000,000)	---
Administrative expenses	10,700	11,000	10,700	---	---	-10,700
Consolidate admin expenses (Sec 312)(leg.proposal)	---	(43,000)	---	---	---	---
Offsetting receipts	-181,000	-163,000	-163,000	-163,000	-163,000	+18,000
Move single-family prgms from GSRI (leg.proposal)	---	-22,000	---	---	---	---
Total, Gov't National Mortgage Association	-170,300	-174,000	-152,300	-153,470	-163,000	+7,300

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Policy Development and Research						
Salaries and expenses:						
Assistant Secretary for Policy Development and Research	---	---	---	1,570	---	---
Policy Development and Research salaries and expenses	---	---	---	19,310	---	---
Total, Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	20,880	---	---
Research and technology	50,087	65,040	58,087	61,440	61,440	+11,353
Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity						
Salaries and expenses:						
Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity	---	---	---	1,490	---	---
Fair and Equal Opportunity salaries and expenses	---	---	---	69,390	---	---
Total, Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	70,880	---	---
Fair housing activities	45,540	45,000	45,540	52,380	50,000	+4,460
Office of Lead Hazard Control						
Salaries and expenses	---	---	---	6,140	---	---
Lead hazard reduction	150,480	116,000	130,000	151,000	145,000	-5,480
Total, Office of Lead Hazard Control	150,480	116,000	130,000	157,140	145,000	-5,480

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Management and Administration						
Salaries and expenses	581,108	654,093	642,730	---	---	-581,108
GSE regulator/HUD oversight (leg proposal)	---	-4,000	---	---	---	---
Transfer from:						
Limitation on FHA corporate funds	(562,400)	(556,776)	(556,776)	---	---	(-562,400)
GNMA	(10,700)	(10,700)	(10,700)	---	---	(-10,700)
Community Development Loan Guarantees Program	(750)	---	(743)	---	---	(-750)
Native American Housing Block Grants	(150)	(149)	(149)	---	---	(-150)
Indian Housing Loan Guarantee Fund Program	(250)	(247)	(247)	---	---	(-250)
Native Hawaiian Housing Loan Guarantees	(35)	(35)	(35)	---	---	(-35)
Subtotal	(1,155,393)	(1,218,000)	(1,211,380)	---	---	(-1,155,393)
Working capital fund	195,356	220,000	125,000	172,600	155,000	-40,356
Office of Inspector General	81,853	88,240	83,240	112,000	112,000	+30,147
(By transfer, limitation on FHA corporate funds)	(23,760)	(23,760)	(23,760)	---	---	(-23,760)
Emergency appropriations (P.L. 110-28)	7,000	---	---	---	---	-7,000
Subtotal	(112,613)	(112,000)	(107,000)	(112,000)	(112,000)	(-613)
Office of Federal Housing Enterprise Oversight	66,150	66,000	66,000	66,000	66,000	-150
Offsetting receipts	-66,150	-66,000	-66,000	-66,000	-66,000	+150
Total, Management and Administration	865,317	958,333	850,970	284,600	267,000	-598,317

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
Rescissions:						
Housing certificate fund	-1,650,000	-1,300,000	-1,300,000	-1,100,000	-1,250,000	+400,000
Community Development Fund	---	-356,400	---	---	---	---
Subtotal	-1,650,000	-1,656,400	-1,300,000	-1,100,000	-1,250,000	+400,000
FHA Proposals:						
Remove HECM cap	-420,000	-333,000	-512,000	-512,000	-512,000	-92,000
Increase multifamily loan limit	---	-14,000	-28,000	-28,000	-28,000	-28,000
GNMA six basis point premium	---	-15,000	---	---	---	---
Total, title II, Department of Housing and Urban Development	36,213,245	35,597,019	38,666,449	38,737,429	38,659,409	+2,446,164
Appropriations	(38,775,395)	(37,868,019)	(40,489,049)	(40,353,029)	(40,425,009)	(+1,649,614)
Rescissions	(-1,650,000)	(-1,783,000)	(-1,327,600)	(-1,127,600)	(-1,277,600)	(+372,400)
Advance appropriations	(4,193,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,193,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(+7,000)
Emergency appropriations	(7,000)	---	---	---	---	(-7,000)
Offsetting receipts	(-833,000)	(-413,000)	(-413,000)	(-413,000)	(-413,000)	(+420,000)
Offsetting collections	(-79,150)	(-82,000)	(-82,000)	(-82,000)	(-82,000)	(-2,850)
(Limitation on direct loans)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	(100,000)	---
(Limitation on guaranteed loans)	(430,424,214)	(320,408,504)	(430,546,004)	(430,683,504)	(430,613,504)	(+189,290)
(Limitation on corporate funds)	(598,045)	(591,667)	(592,410)	---	---	(-598,045)
TITLE III - OTHER INDEPENDENT AGENCIES						
Architectural and Transportation Barriers Compliance Board	5,915	6,150	6,150	6,150	6,150	+235
Federal Maritime Commission	20,428	22,322	22,072	22,322	22,072	+1,644

DEPARTMENTS OF TRANSPORTATION, AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES
(Amounts in thousands)

	FY 2007 Enacted	FY 2008 Request	House	Senate	Conference	Conference vs. Enacted
National Transportation Safety Board:						
Salaries and expenses	79,338	83,000	85,000	84,500	84,499	+5,161
Rescission of unobligated balances	-1,000	---	---	---	---	+1,000
Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation	116,820	119,800	119,800	119,800	319,800	+202,980
United States Interagency Council on Homelessness	1,788	2,320	2,000	2,300	2,150	+362
Total, title III, Other Independent Agencies	223,289	233,592	235,022	235,072	434,671	+211,382
Grand total (net)	47,798,368	47,999,563	50,776,704	51,300,233	51,222,657	+3,424,289
Appropriations	(54,545,500)	(52,711,008)	(56,321,779)	(56,153,621)	(56,523,382)	(+1,977,882)
Rescissions	(-1,727,400)	(-2,201,469)	(-1,353,651)	(-1,132,215)	(-1,289,038)	(+438,362)
Rescissions of contract authority	(-4,963,604)	(-1,999,976)	(-3,674,424)	(-3,406,173)	(-3,696,687)	(+1,266,917)
Advance appropriations	(4,193,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,193,000)	(4,200,000)	(4,200,000)	(+7,000)
Emergency appropriations	(913,022)	---	---	(195,000)	(195,000)	(-718,022)
Negative subsidy receipts	(-833,000)	(-413,000)	(-413,000)	(-413,000)	(-413,000)	(+420,000)
Offsetting collections	(-79,150)	(-82,000)	(-82,000)	(-82,000)	(-82,000)	(-2,850)
(Limitation on obligations)	(51,080,240)	(51,571,378)	(52,927,944)	(53,845,914)	(53,844,098)	(+2,763,858)
(Exempt contract authority)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	(739,000)	---
(By transfer)	(121,232)	---	---	---	---	(-121,232)
(Transfer out)	(-121,232)	---	---	---	---	(+121,232)
Total budgetary resources	(99,617,608)	(100,309,941)	(104,443,648)	(105,885,147)	(105,805,755)	(+6,188,147)

CONFERENCE TOTAL—WITH COMPARISONS

The total new budget (obligational) authority for the fiscal year 2008 recommended by the Committee of Conference, with comparisons to the fiscal year 2007 amount, the 2008 budget estimates, and the House and Senate bills for 2008 follow:

(In thousands of dollars)

New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2007	$47,798,368
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2008	47,999,563
House bill, fiscal year 2008	50,776,704
Senate bill, fiscal year 2008	51,300,233
Conference agreement, fiscal year 2008	51,222,657
Conference agreement compared with:	
New budget (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2007	+3,424,289
Budget estimates of new (obligational) authority, fiscal year 2008	+3,223,094
House bill, fiscal year 2008	+445,953
Senate bill, fiscal year 2008	−77,576

JOHN W. OLVER,
ED PASTOR,
CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ,
MARCY KAPTUR,
DAVID E. PRICE,
ROBERT CRAMER, Jr.,
LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD,
MARION BERRY,
DAVE OBEY,
JOE KNOLLENBERG,
FRANK R. WOLF,
ROBERT B. ADERHOLT,
JAMES T. WALSH,
VIRGIL GOODE, Jr.,
JERRY LEWIS,
Managers on the Part of the House.

PATTY MURRAY,
ROBERT C. BYRD,
BARBARA A. MIKULSKI,
HERB KOHL,
RICHARD DURBIN,
BYRON L. DORGAN,
PATRICK LEAHY,
TOM HARKIN,
DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
TIM JOHNSON,
FRANK R. LAUTENBERG,
DANIEL K. INOUYE,
CHRISTOPHER S. BOND,
RICHARD C. SHELBY,
ARLEN SPECTER,
R.F. BENNETT,
KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON,
SAM BROWNBACK,
TED STEVENS,
PETE V. DOMENICI,
LAMAR ALEXANDER,
WAYNE ALLARD,
THAD COCHRAN,
Managers on the Part of the Senate.

JOHN SIDNEY ''SID'' FLOWERS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3470) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 744 West Oglethorpe Highway in Hinesville, Georgia, as the ''John Sidney 'Sid' Flowers Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3470

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. JOHN SIDNEY "SID" FLOWERS POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 744 West Oglethorpe Highway in Hinesville, Georgia, shall be known and designated as the ''John Sidney ''Sid'' Flowers Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''John Sidney ''Sid'' Flowers Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleagues in the consideration of H.R. 3470, which names the postal facility in Hinesville, Georgia, after John Sidney ''Sid'' Flowers. H.R. 3470 was introduced by Representative JACK KINGSTON on September 4, 2007, and was reported from the Oversight Committee on October 23 by a voice vote. This measure has the support of the entire Georgia congressional delegation.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. John Sidney Flowers was born December 22, 1931, in Liberty County, Georgia. He served in the United States Army for 2 years before attending Mercer University and Mercer Law School in Macon, Georgia. He was indeed an outstanding citizen, and I want to commend Representative KINGSTON for moving to recognize his contributions by naming this postal facility in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. KINGSTON), the author of the bill.

Mr. KINGSTON. I thank the gentleman from California and I thank the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) for his help in the committee and Members of Congress for their support of this.

Sid Flowers, John Sidney Flowers, was a good friend of mine. He was a friend of many people, as he had served in office for so many years in the State of Georgia. His wife, Nan, is a friend; his daughters Kay and Darcy have been friends over the years. It is just one of the great families that does so much for a community and makes a community what it is.

Sidney was actually the Solicitor General for Liberty County for over 32 years. This is the home of Fort Stewart, in Hinesville, Georgia, a military town where there is lots of turnover. You need people who kind of know the history of the community, and that was Sid Flowers. He did so much for so many.

There are many times when people said they would be eating with Sid Flowers, eating lunch, and a group of soldiers would come in who maybe were new in town, maybe not. There are thousands of soldiers stationed at Fort Stewart, and Sidney would quietly walk over to the cashier, pick up the tab for the soldiers, pay for their lunch, and then ask the cashier not to tell them who paid for it.

□ 1745

That is the kind of guy he was.

Sydney was actually elected as a Republican, and many people know 35 years ago in the State of Georgia, there was almost a nonexistent Republican Party. And to be elected as a Republican, you had to be a pretty good guy, probably somebody who could get elected in either party, and somebody who was liked and had support from both parties.

Yet in all cases, Sid Flowers was respected by everybody. Former Democrat State representative, a Democrat mayor and also a Republican at one time, Buddy DeLoach, has a letter about Sidney Flowers that I will submit for the RECORD, as well as one from Sampie Smith who was a great educator in Liberty County who has recently retired, made a run for mayor himself. But great folks in a great town.

Sidney is what Sampie Smith actually described as one of those Reader's Digest types, somebody who is memorable and inspirational to a community. I will submit a number of things for the RECORD on Sidney Flowers so we can move on to some other issues, but I just want to thank this community for recognizing somebody of his caliber because I had the privilege of knowing him. But I can say this unequivocally, everybody in the Chamber would have liked him because he was someone you could count on and deal with, one of those great community leaders back home that we all have in our districts. I want to submit these letters and a couple of other comments about Sidney, and thank the committee.

The First District of Georgia lost a great man when John Sidney "Sid" Flowers died August 21, 2006. It was his work as a lawyer and as the Solicitor General for Liberty County's State Court that allowed him to serve his hometown professionally, but it was his kind, often anonymous service to the people and the soldiers of Liberty County that endeared him to so many in the military town of Hinesville, Georgia.

Sid Flowers was a Liberty County native who served in the U.S. Army before heading to law school at Mercer. Although he was a top student at Mercer Law and could have headed to Atlanta for the "big money," he returned to Liberty County to work in his hometown. He served his community as solicitor general for nearly four decades, but he was best known for his pro bono legal advice. He gave of his legal knowledge and expertise to the First Presbyterian Church and the church's school at no charge.

Many of Sid's friends mention that it was not uncommon to go to a restaurant with him, and Sid would pick up the tab for any soldiers who happened to be eating in the restaurant at the time. He did this anonymously, as he never wanted his gracious actions to be attributed.

Sid Flowers has been described as "one of those classic Reader's Digest types that folks wrote about being so memorable" and "an inspiration for others to become involved in community service." The military town of Hinesville, Georgia, lost one of its best when Sid Flowers died last year. The true spirit of this man was exemplified by his unpublished deeds, but I think its time we honor him publicly by naming the United States Post Office on Oglethorpe Highway in Hinesville, Georgia after John Sidney Flowers.

HINESVILLE, GA,
May 16, 2007.

To: Congressman JACK KINGSTON.

DEAR JACK: I write to urge that the U.S. Post Office Building in Hinesville be named for John Sidney Flowers. Sidney was a lifelong resident of Hinesville and served this community in many ways.

As the long time Solicitor of the state court, Sidney displayed a unique ability to do justice in all cases he handled. His calm, common sense approach to this difficult job enabled him to make a tremendous contribution to the criminal justice system.

Sidney's support for community activities and organizations has been an inspiration for others to become involved in community service. He always gave freely of his time and money.

He was considered by many to be an "old time" lawyer. He was known and trusted by everyone. Many families went to him to settle or avoid disputes. He was a master at restoring calm reason when tempers flared. He is the one we went to when we had problems, and he always took time to help us find solutions.

I believe the naming of the Post Office is fitting and proper way to honor the memory of a man that did so much for this community.

Sincerely,

BUDDY DELOACH.

HINESVILLE, GA,
March 15, 2007.

Hon. JACK KINGSTON,
Rayburn HOB,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE KINGSTON: I am writing about an unnamed federal public building in Hinesville, Georgia and a man that could and should be honored by that building being named for him.

The United States Post Office on Oglethorpe Highway in Hinesville has been open for several years now but remains without a name. A person who richly deserves to be honored, although he never would have thought so, is J. Sidney Flowers.

I met Sidney and his gracious wife Nan when I was sent by the United States Army to Fort Stewart and eventually started teaching at the local public high school, Bradwell Institute, with Mrs. Flowers. Nan's husband was one of those classic Reader's Digest types that folks wrote about being so memorable.

Sidney was a product of Liberty County and dedicated himself to the community. He paid homage of his lineage by serving on the Board of Directors for the Taylors' Creek Cemetery Association for many years, Taylors' Creek was the largest of the little towns that were obliterated with the creation of Camp Stewart in 1940. Sidney was a graduate of Bradwell Institute, a school that traces its heritage here in Hinesville back to 1871. Sidney did very well in law school at Mercer in Macon and could have gone to "the big city" and made "big money" but chose to return to his roots, become a family man, and public servant. For almost four decades he served as the Solicitor General of Liberty County's State Court. He and Nan reared two wonderful and beautiful daughters here, Kay and Darcey. And Sidney was so much more than an elected official.

A veteran of the United States Army, Sidney proudly wore his American Legionnaire's hat and Old Glory in his lapel. He was a Shriner. He was so well respected as an elder of the First Presbyterian Church that he is one of only six to be identified as an Elder Emeritus. He gave his legal knowledge and expertise pro bono to his church and that church's Christian school.

Sidney was charitable to a fault and few but those that were recipients knew about his largess and whenever possible his gifts were anonymous. More than once I have seen him pay the bill of a soldier at local restaurants all the while telling the G.I.'s waitress that his beneficence was not be attributed. His tall height and long gait that had served him so well when he was a young student in Macon when he officiated high school basketball tournaments, made him easily identifiable as he made his way into and out of this very building that I have written about above. It was not unusual for people to go over to him to enjoy his wry sense of humor or to seek his wise counsel. Hinesville and Liberty County lost a great man last year when J. Sidney Flowers passed away and now it is fitting and proper to pay tribute to this giant of a man.

I would urge that you do what you can to have the local post office named for J. Sidney Flowers.

Sincerely yours,

SAMPIE W. SMITH.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3470.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to urge the passing of this bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 744 West Oglethorpe Highway in Hinesville, Georgia, as the "John Sidney 'Sid' Flowers Post Office Building".

A native of Liberty County, Sid Flowers served in the U.S. Army before attending law school at Mercer. Despite distinguishing himself as a top scholar at Mercer, he opted not to pursue high profile law firms in Atlanta. Instead he returned to his hometown where he served the county as Solicitor General for nearly four decades. But his public service did not end there. Mr. Flowers was best known for his pro bono legal work, contributing his advice to the First Presbyterian Church and the church's school at no charge.

Mr. Flowers not only gave back to the community professionally, but also through his generous, often anonymous, contributions. His munificence took many forms, whether it was through community service or anonymously picking up the tab for soldiers dining at local restaurants.

When Mr. Flowers passed on August 21, 2006, Liberty County lost the consummate public servant. A kind and humble man, his passionate and selfless commitment to his community and country undoubtedly deserves tribute.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this bill to publicly honor this man, not only for his public service, but for the intangible generosity of his spirit.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3470.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

BEATRICE E. WATSON POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3569) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16731 Santa Ana Avenue in Fontana, California, as the "Beatrice E. Watson Post Office Building".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3569

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. BEATRICE E. WATSON POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16731 Santa Ana Avenue in Fontana, California, shall be known and designated as the "Beatrice E. Watson Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Beatrice E. Watson Post Office Building".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to yield such time as he may consume to the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA).

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the chairman who is working on this for yielding me this time.

I rise tonight to honor Beatrice ''Bea'' Watson, a woman who dedicated her life to her community and to democracy. I want to thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle from California for supporting this legislation on a bipartisan basis. Bea Watson died on August 5 at the age of 83. My bill, H.R. 3569, would designate the Santa Ana Avenue post office in Fontana, California, to be named in her honor.

My friend, Bea Watson, was a distinguished member of the Fontana community. Bea strove to make a positive difference in her hometown, a positive role model, and was an inspiration to all she came in contact with, and she led by example.

In over 45 years of life in Fontana, she served as an elected city councilmember, clerk, historical society officer, women's club president, chamber of commerce member, and organized many events such as parades and festivals in Fontana.

Bea was also recognized for her outstanding achievement and loved by all her community for her contributions to the Fontana community. Through her life, she received over 22 prestigious community awards, including the Fontana PTA Council Award, the Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Volunteer Award, the Community Spirit Award, and the California Legislature Woman of the Year Award.

In fact, Bea was so loved by the community that she was given the title of ''Mrs. Fontana'' or ''Busy Bea'' in the City of Fontana. Her efforts have touched the lives of her neighbors and her impact on the community will create a lasting legacy for generations to come.

As a volunteer, as a public servant and as a friend of her community, Bea proved herself to be an exemplary American. She was an excellent example of the meaning of volunteerism, and the quality of life in Fontana is better because she cared and gave so much of herself knowing that it would be a better place for others.

Although now gone, she will continue to serve as an inspiration to us all. It is with great honor that I ask Members of Congress to designate the post office in California's 43rd Congressional District as the Beatrice Watson Post Office. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Again, I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, the 53 Members from California who signed on.

[From The Press-Enterprise, Aug. 14, 2007]

EX-FONTANA COUNCILWOMAN BEA WATSON DIES

(By Mary Bender)

Former City Clerk and Councilwoman Bea Watson, a tireless community volunteer who organized the city's Christmas and Fontana Days parades, died Sunday and will be remembered in a funeral service Monday.

She was 83.

Mrs. Watson was elected to two terms as Fontana city clerk, completing her eight years in office in December. She also served one term as a city councilwoman, from 1992 to 1996, losing her re-election bid to Manuel Mancha by 68 votes.

''Bea was a citizen who truly cared for this community,'' said Linda Nunn, Fontana's deputy city clerk. ''She will truly be missed.''

Mrs. Watson, who had been ill for three months, died of congestive heart failure at Legacy Rehabilitation Center in San Bernardino, according to Monica Bentley, her granddaughter.

She is survived by her husband, Larry Watson, a production specialist for KFON Channel 3, the city's government access station that airs meetings of the Fontana City Council and Planning Commission.

Other survivors include her daughter, Patricia Bentley, of Fontana, her brother, Fay Allen, of San Bernardino, her sister, Marguerite Botsford, of Fontana, Monica Bentley and another granddaughter, and a great-grandson.

Mrs. Watson's successor, City Clerk Tonia Lewis, said she would recruit friends and colleagues to help out with civic events. ''It's hard to fill her shoes because she was so active in everything,'' Lewis said. ''She didn't take no for an answer.''

Mrs. Watson didn't let her ailments slow her down. ''Toward the end, she was so sick and so bent over,'' Lewis said.

''She had a hard time getting around. She shuffled and it never stopped her,'' Lewis said. ''She just kept going, like the Energizer Bunny.''

One of Mrs. Watson's passions was the Fontana Historical Society, which was established in 1974 but in recent years needed an infusion of volunteers to replace its aging roster.

''She got me involved with the Historical Society because the society was failing for lack of membership. She hated to see things fail, so she would gather together people she knew who could handle those things,'' Lewis said. ''We had no choice.''

Mrs. Watson was active in several other local organizations and events, including the Fontana Woman's Club, the Fontana Exchange Club; American Legion Auxiliary, Post 772; and the Fontana Chamber of Commerce.

She served on committees to commemorate Fontana's 50th and 75th anniversary celebrations, and organized the city's annual Community Prayer Breakfast since 1990. She also was an active volunteer for the Fontana Days Festival, the annual summer celebration of the city's 1913 founding by A.B. Miller, and organized the city's annual Festival of Winter.

''The Christmas parade was her baby. She felt like she was doing it for the kids in Fontana,'' Lewis said.

Born July 1, 1924, in Ashtabula, Ohio, Mrs. Watson came West in 1944, living in San Bernardino before moving to Fontana. She attended San Bernardino Valley College and was a retired telephone company administrator with Pacific Bell.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I join with my fellow colleague from California in support of H.R. 3569, a bill to name the post office on Santa Ana Avenue in Fontana after Beatrice ''Bea'' E. Watson.

She was truly a pillar of the community and well-recognized in Fontana. As my colleague said, the California delegation uniquely requires 53 cosponsors in order to bring a bill. That means that a very diverse State, the most diverse in the Nation, has to come together on these post office namings. This is an example when we did.

Bea dedicated her life to the community and in every sense was in fact a true Californian, although in fact, like myself, she was born in Ohio and came to California at age 20. She originally moved to San Bernardino where she attended the San Bernardino Community College. She then worked for the telephone company as an administrator for Pacific Bell.

Only years later did she arrive in Fontana. Nevertheless, her dedication allowed her to become truly a pillar of the community, a city councilwoman, and to serve in various capacities for the rest of her life, through both Fontana's 50th and 75th anniversaries.

It is not lightly that we consider naming post offices after people not in the postal community, and I join with my colleague today and the California delegation unanimously urging passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I concur with my colleagues from California and urge passage of this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3569.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MARINE CORPS CORPORAL STEVEN P. GILL POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3974) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 797 Sam Bass Road in Round Rock, Texas, as the ''Marine Corps Corporal Steven P. Gill Post Office Building''.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3974

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MARINE CORPS CORPORAL STEVEN P. GILL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 797 Sam Bass Road in Round Rock, Texas, shall be known and designated as the ''Marine Corps Corporal Steven P. Gill Post Office Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Marine Corps Corporal Steven P. Gill Post Office Building''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman

from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, once again we have a member of the Armed Services who gave the true devotion of service and we seek to honor him by naming this post office in his honor.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to yield such time as he may consume to the author of this bill, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CARTER).

Mr. CARTER. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I thank the committee for all they have done on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this resolution honoring the memory of United States Marine Corps Corporal Steven Patrick Gill of Round Rock, Texas.

In January of 2002, Steven Gill placed his college education on hold to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. The events of September 11 moved Steven to take up arms to defend his country. On July 21, 2005, he paid the ultimate sacrifice while deployed in Iraq doing that duty of defending his country.

Steven Gill was born on November 3, 1980, to Bill and Rose Gill of Houston, Texas. After moving to Round Rock, my hometown, in 1993, Steven attended Westwood High School. He was an active member of King of Kings Lutheran Church, and took part in numerous mission trips to help those in need.

After high school, Steven enrolled at Concordia Lutheran College in Austin, Texas, where he studied towards his goal of becoming a youth minister in the Lutheran Church. As it did for so many Americans, the tragic events of September 11 changed the course of Steven's life.

Upon completion of basic training, Steven received follow-up training to become an infantry marine rifleman at the School of Infantry, Camp Pendleton, California. He also attended Amphibious Reconnaissance School at Naval Amphibious Base, Norfolk, Virginia. On July 21, 2005, Steven was serving as a reconnaissance man with Echo Company, Third Reconnaissance Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 8, Second Marine Division in Zaidon, Iraq, when he was killed in action.

Steven served one tour in Iraq and was awarded a Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, Selected Marine Corps Reserve, National Defense Service Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, two GWOT Service Medals, and an Armed Forces Reserve Medal.

Steven Gill gave his life so we can enjoy the freedoms that we have today in this great Nation. It is my honor as his Congressman and a resident of Round Rock, Texas, to honor the sacrifice of Steven Gill for his country here today and to honor his family who gave us their son. As Congress returns to work after honoring our Nation's war heroes, I am proud to offer this small tribute to one of those heroes from Texas.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3974.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of this bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 797 Sam Bass Road in Round Rock, Texas, as the "Marine Corps Corporal Steven P. Gill Post Office Building" in honor of the late Marine Corporal Steven P. Gill, a 24 year old Marine Corps reservist killed near Zaidon, Iraq by an IED on July 21, 2005.

A native of Round Rock, Corporal Gill was not only a model soldier, but also a model citizen.

After graduating from Westwood High School in 1999, he enrolled in Concordia University. Corporal Gill planned to enter the seminary, but his work with children and church youth groups inspired him to pursue a life as a youth minister.

Then, on September 11, 2001, his life, like so many other American's, changed dramatically. In the words of his father, Bill Gill, "When he saw those towers crashing, he had to do something."

Convinced by his father to finish the semester, Corporal Gill enlisted in the Marines in January, 2002, later assigned to the 4th Marine Division, 4th Reconnaissance Battalion, based in San Antonio, the same unit his father served in years ago.

Corporal Gill is a shining example of an individual who continually and selflessly served those around him, both through his work for his community and his country. His spirit lives on through the work of his mother, Rose Gill, who, despite losing her job in wake of his death, continues to promote the Marines and the sacrifice of her son.

Three months after his death she ran in the Marine Corps Marathon and has run in his honor every year since, raising money for wounded soldiers.

"He knew the sacrifice he might be called to make, and he accepted that," his father said. I urge you to honor that sacrifice and the amazing life of this genuine American hero.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3974.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMENDING ED BLOCK COURAGE AWARD FOUNDATION AND DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2007 AS NATIONAL COURAGE MONTH

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 45) commending the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work in aiding children and families affected by child abuse, and designating November 2007 as National Courage Month.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate concurrent resolution.

The text of the Senate concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 45

Whereas the Ed Block Courage Award was established by Sam Lamantia in 1978 in honor of Ed Block, the head athletic trainer of the Baltimore Colts and a respected humanitarian;

Whereas each year in Baltimore, Maryland, the Foundation honors recipients from the National Football League who have been chosen by their teammates as exemplifying sportsmanship and courage;

Whereas the Ed Block Courage Award has become one of the most esteemed honors bestowed upon players in the NFL;

Whereas the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation has grown from a Baltimore-based local charity to the Courage House National Support Network for Kids operated in partnership with 17 NFL teams in their respective cities; and

Whereas Courage Houses are facilities that provide support and care for abused children and their families in these 17 locations across the country: Baltimore, Maryland, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Chicago, Illinois, Miami, Florida, Detroit, Michigan, Dallas, Texas, Westchester County, New York, Oakland, California, Seattle, Washington, Charlotte, North Carolina, Cleveland, Ohio, Atlanta, Georgia, St. Louis, Missouri, Indianapolis, Indiana, Buffalo, New York, San Francisco, California, and Minneapolis, Minnesota: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring), That it is the sense of Congress that—

(1) National Courage Month provides an opportunity to educate the people of the United States about the positive role that professional athletes can play as inspirations for America's youth; and

(2) the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation should be recognized for its outstanding contributions toward helping those affected by child abuse.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I urge passage of this resolution commending professional football players for their work against child abuse.

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of S. Con. Res. 45, a bill that commends the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work in aiding children and families affected by child abuse.

S. Con. Res. 45 was introduced by Senator BENJAMIN L. CARDIN, on September 17, 2007.

S. Con. Res. 45 was reported from the Oversight Committee on November 8, 2007, by voice vote. Mr. Speaker, the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation is a Baltimore, Maryland based local charity that formulated the Courage House National Support Network for Kids. The Courage House represents a partnership effort between the Foundation, National Football League Charities, the Professional Football Athletic Trainers Society, the National Football League Players Association, National Football League Films, the Pro Football Hall of Fame and National Football League Alumni. This partnership promotes the prevention of child abuse by raising awareness of the epidemic and assisting agencies who provide for the care and treatment of abused children.

The Ed Block Courage Award Foundation honors recipients from the National Football League who have been chosen by their teammates as exemplifying sportsmanship and courage. Currently, the Ed Block Courage Awards event is heralded as one of the most prestigious in the National Football League.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague Senator CARDIN for seeking to commend the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation and urge the swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of S. Con. Res. 45 because there is in fact nothing, nothing more despicable than those who prey upon children. Whether that abuse is physical, psychological or sexual, this crime destroys lives, harms families, and all too often is perpetrated with a cruelty that is unreported and unseen.

I support the work of this foundation and its recognition that the National Football League players can off the field make a real contribution to making America a better, safer place.

□ 1800

Whether it is John Elway or Joe Montana or any of the other past recipients of this award, they have in fact worked long and hard, not for millions of dollars or thousands of dollars, but for the good of the young people who are our future in this country. Therefore, I too join my colleague and urge the House to unanimously support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of S. Con. Res. 45, which commends the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work to prevent child abuse.

Mr. Speaker, there is nothing sadder in this country than the specter of children being abused by adults. Whether it's physical, psychological or sexual abuse, these crimes destroy lives, harm families and, all too often, perpetuate cruelty and crime for generations.

The award, named for the longtime head athletic trainer of the Baltimore Colts, recognizes the NFL player whose off-the-field efforts have done the most in that year to raise awareness of this often hidden crime. Past winners include Dan Marino, Tedy Bruschi, Joe Klecko, John Elway, Joe Montana and Ronnie Lott.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Baltimore for crabcakes and Billie Holliday and Camden Yards and Cal Ripken. And today, we thank Charm City for this.

The award was the vision of Sam Lamantia Jr., a Baltimore hair stylist.

The courage award concept was initiated by Ernie Accorsi, a longtime NFL executive who served as general manager in Baltimore in the early 1980s. Larry Harris, then assistant sports editor of the Baltimore Evening Sun, had the idea to name the award for Block, a forward-thinking, innovative trainer who had a lifelong passion for preventing and addressing child abuse.

The NFL's athletic trainers worked to take the award to a national level.

Today, it represents a cooperative effort of the foundation, the NFL, the NFL Players Association, the NFL Alumni Association, NFL films, the Professional Football Athletic Trainers Society and the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Pete Rozelle, the league's late commissioner, was among its biggest supporters.

The foundation has helped open Courage Houses, sanctuaries for abused children, in 14 NFL cities. Its annual awards ceremony attracts speakers from the highest levels of the sport.

It's been a great partnership, Mr. Speaker, between pro football and the Ed Block Foundation, and it is worthy of our commendation.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CAPUANO). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 45.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the Senate concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORLD DIABETES DAY

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution (H. Con. Res. 211) supporting the goals and ideals of World Diabetes Day.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 211

Whereas the World Health Organization and the International Diabetes Federation established World Diabetes Day in 1991 with the aim of coordinating diabetes advocacy worldwide;

Whereas World Diabetes Day is celebrated annually on November 14;

Whereas on December 20, 2006, the General Assembly of the United Nations passed a landmark resolution recognizing diabetes as a chronic, debilitating, and costly disease;

Whereas the resolution designates World Diabetes Day as a United Nations Day to be observed every year starting in 2007 in order to raise global awareness of diabetes;

Whereas the theme of the 2007 United Nations World Diabetes Day campaign focuses on raising awareness of diabetes in children and adolescents, who face unique challenges when diagnosed with diabetes;

Whereas the United Nations campaign aims, among other objectives, to firmly establish the message that no child should die of diabetes;

Whereas the global diabetes epidemic has devastating effects on families, societies, and national economies;

Whereas diabetes is the fourth leading cause of death by disease in the world, and is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States;

Whereas diabetes is a leading cause of blindness, kidney failure, amputation, heart attack, and stroke;

Whereas in almost every country the incidence of diabetes is increasing, growing from an estimated 30,000,000 people worldwide in 1985 to an estimated 245,000,000 people in 2007, and to 380,000,000 by 2025, as reported by the International Diabetes Federation;

Whereas diabetes is one of the most common chronic childhood diseases;

Whereas diabetes can strike children at any age, and when diagnosed in young people the risk of developing life-threatening complications at an early age increases and life expectancy is shortened by, on average, 10 to 20 years;

Whereas new figures from the International Diabetes Federation's Diabetes Atlas suggest that more than 70,000 children develop type 1 diabetes each year and 440,000 children worldwide under the age of 14 now live with type 1 diabetes;

Whereas recent data indicate that one out of every three children born in the United States will develop diabetes during their lifetime, including one out of every two children from ethnic minority groups;

Whereas in low- and middle-income countries, many children with diabetes die because they are diagnosed late or misdiagnosed or because insulin is unaffordable, unavailable, or in short supply;

Whereas the incidence of type 2 diabetes, which was previously rare in children, is rising at alarming rates, with more than 200 children a day developing this form of diabetes;

Whereas obesity is a major contributor to type 2 diabetes;

Whereas according to the International Obesity Task Force of the International Association for the Study of Obesity, 155,000,000 school-age children worldwide are overweight, representing at least 1 out of every 10 school-age children;

Whereas at least 30,000,000 of those overweight children are classified as obese, accounting for at least 2 percent of the world's children between the ages of 5 and 17 years of age;

Whereas research has shown conclusively that type 2 diabetes can be prevented or significantly delayed through healthy weight maintenance and regular physical activity;

Whereas adopting a lifestyle high in physical activity and adopting a low-sugar, low-fat diet can successfully prevent the onset of obesity and diabetes among school-age children;

Whereas diabetes is costly, with the world estimated to spend at least $232,000,000,000 in 2007 and over $302,500,000,000 by 2025 to treat and prevent diabetes and its complications;

Whereas world treatment costs for diabetes are growing more quickly than the world population;

Whereas diabetes threatens to subvert global economic advancement by both straining government budgets worldwide (with the cost of diabetes-related disability payments, pensions, social and medical service costs, and lost revenue) and burdening private health insurers and employers with spiraling health care costs;

Whereas by 2025 the largest increases in diabetes prevalence will take place in developing countries, whose economies are less able to support increased expenditures to provide for those with the disease and engage in effective prevention efforts; and

Whereas the economic impact of diabetes threatens to undermine the achievement of the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals for developing countries: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress supports the goals and ideals of World Diabetes Day.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) and the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. It is my pleasure to yield such time as he might consume to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PAYNE).

(Mr. PAYNE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to offer House Concurrent Resolution 211, pronouncing that Congress supports the goals and ideals of World Diabetes Day.

Let me thank Representative MANZULLO, who was a prime cosponsor of this legislation, and other Members, for cosponsoring this bipartisan resolution.

This global health awareness campaign established in 1991 by the World Health Organization and International Diabetes Federation is celebrated annually on November 14. This marks the birthday of Dr. Frederick Grant Banting, a Canadian medical scientist, Nobel laureate, and co-discoverer of insulin. And now, it is an official United Nations recognized day.

World Diabetes Day aims to coordinate diabetes advocacy worldwide. In almost every country of the world, the incidence of diabetes is on the rise. Diabetes is the fourth leading cause of global death by disease. In the United States, it is the sixth leading cause of death including accidents, but of deaths by disease it climbs to number five.

The economic burden on both developed and developing countries due to a dramatic increase in the prevalence of diabetes was analyzed in a new report from the Economist Intelligence Unit. Diabetes currently affects 246 million people worldwide and is expected to affect 380 million people by 2025. In 2007, the five countries with the largest number of people with diabetes are India, China, the United States, Russia, and Germany. Worse, each year 3.8 million deaths are attributed to diabetes. An even greater number die from complications, renal failure, vascular loss. Soberly, every 10 seconds, two people develop diabetes and a person dies from diabetes-related causes.

On December 20, 2006, the General Assembly of the United Nations passed landmark Resolution 61–225, recognizing diabetes as a chronic, debilitating, and costly disease. This is the first year, therefore, that the World Diabetes Day has risen to such prominence, and it is fitting that here in the United States Congress we support it this day.

Mr. Speaker, World Diabetes Day has annually focused on a particular aspect or complication of diabetes, the heart, the eyes, the kidneys, and feet. I am especially pleased that this year the World Diabetes Day's theme focuses on raising awareness of diabetes in children and adolescents who face unique challenges when diagnosed with diabetes. The campaign aimed to firmly establish the message that no child should die from diabetes.

As a senior member of the Committee on Education and Labor and Foreign Affairs, as a delegate to the United Nations since 2003 and 2005, I see this year's theme as a perfect synergy of a global health and childhood issue, with importance to the United Nations.

So as we speak here, November 1 in Bermuda, 246 people dressed in U.N. blue t-shirts to represent the 246 million people in the world with diabetes. They stood up. Tomorrow in Lagos, Nigeria, there will be a walk starting at Maryland and ending at Lagos State University, where there will be young people asking folks to have their blood sugar level checked. In Australia, from November 11 to November 20, there are children-centered activities from a Switch-Off Turn On to Play Pledge that will once again highlight this.

And so, as I conclude, while commemorating World Diabetes Day, of course I can look no further than my own congressional district of New Jersey to find shining examples of the dedication to diabetes in the area of education in St. Barnabas Hospital and Newark Beth Israel are all leaders, and we hope that everyone will join in this.

I urge my colleagues to vote for passage of House Concurrent Resolution 211, supporting the goals and ideals of World Diabetes Day.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in this bipartisan effort to bring greater awareness to World Diabetes Day.

As my colleague said, 225,000 people per year die in the United States alone from diabetes. But I believe that, as we recognize this day, we have to recognize that diabetes doesn't just kill; diabetes debilitates. It causes blindness. It takes away all or part of limbs. It slows people down in their day-to-day ability to enjoy life. One of the great inventors of our time invented the insulin pump, which allowed people to not have to periodically stop to take medicine, but it didn't change the debilitating effect that artificially-given insulin causes.

We do not have a cure for diabetes today. We need to continue working toward that, as many of our pharmaceutical companies are. So bringing awareness to this is just a first step in making sure that the United States, Europe, and the other developed nations work hard to find real cures for this dreadful disease.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge passage of H. Con. Res. 211, which supports the goals and ideals of World Diabetes Day.

Mr. Speaker, diabetes is among the most lethal diseases known to man. It kills about 225,000 people per year in the United States alone—fifth among disease-related deaths and roughly equal to the population of New Orleans or Madison, WI.

And it's generally believed to be significantly under-reported on death certificates, especially among the old—who may endure multiple chronic conditions, many caused by diabetes.

Because, as anyone who has diabetes knows all too well, when you have diabetes, you don't just have diabetes. The disease leads to increased risk of a number of seriously, sometimes life-threatening complications.

These include—but certainly aren't limited to—heart disease and stroke, blindness, high blood pressure, kidney disease, nervous-system disease, dental disease, even pregnancy complications.

Strokes and heart disease are two to four times more likely for those with diabetes than those without, and diabetes is the leading cause of new blindness cases in the United States.

Most of these associated health problems can be avoided with good diabetes control, but many people don't realize they have diabetes until it has caused one of these other diseases. Indeed, of the 21 million people in the United States who have diabetes, nearly a third don't yet know it. Those who do spend about one in every 10 dollars we spend on health care in this country.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud efforts such as World Diabetes Day that call attention to the problems this disease causes and the need for further research and outreach.

We need to do what we can to solve this mystery and slow this killer—both to alleviate the pain, suffering and expense of our fellow citizens afflicted by the disease and for our own economic benefit.

Experts say diabetes costs the U.S. economy $132 billion per year. That's what we spend on telecom in a year. It's the total Gross Domestic Product of Singapore and matches, roughly, what the country spends on all research and development in a year.

Mr. Speaker, I know people who suffer from diabetes. So does everyone in this House. Approving a resolution does not do much to alleviate that suffering. But today, it is what we have the opportunity to do. Let us do it.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I join with my colleagues in supporting the promotion of awareness about diabetes and all of its complications and commend Mr. PAYNE for his introduction of this resolution.

As a member of the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H. Con. Res. 211, a bill that supports the goals and ideals of World Diabetes Day.

H. Con. Res. 211, which has 54 cosponsors, was introduced by Rep. DONALD PAYNE on September 17, 2007.

H. Con. Res. 211 was reported from the Oversight Committee on November 8, 2007, by voice vote.

Mr. Speaker, diabetes is a chronic disease that occurs when the pancreas does not produce enough insulin, or when the body cannot effectively use the insulin it produces. Hyperglycemia, which is known as raised blood sugar, over time can lead to serious damage to many parts of the body, especially the nerves and blood vessels.

In 1991, the World Health Organization and the International Diabetes Federation established World Diabetes Day. World Diabetes Day is celebrated on November 14th. This day was designated to promote the awareness that every person with diabetes or the risk of acquiring diabetes should receive the best possible education, prevention and care available.

Currently, more than 240 million people in the world are living with diabetes. Some analysts believed this number will grow to 340 million within 20 years.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague Representative PAYNE for seeking to support the goals and ideals of World Diabetes Day and urge the swift passage of this resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 211.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING SAN JOSE STATE UNIVERSITY FOR ITS 150 YEARS OF COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC HIGHER EDUCATION

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 365) honoring San Jose State University for its 150 years of commitment to public higher education, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 365

Whereas 2007 commemorates the sesquicentennial year that San José State University was first established in 1857 as Minns Evening Normal School to train teachers for the growing population of California;

Whereas the success of the Minns Evening Normal School in San Francisco led to an Act enacted by the California Legislature on May 2, 1862, providing for the establishment of the first California State Normal School in 1862 and thus beginning a new era for education in the State of California: the first State-wide program of free instruction in preparing teachers and prospective teachers;

Whereas from these beginnings as the oldest public, four-year institution of higher education in California, San José State University has matured into a comprehensive university, offering bachelor's and master's degrees in 134 programs;

Whereas San José State University is the flagship school of the California State University system, which uses the 1857 founding date as part of its own heritage as noted on its official seal;

Whereas California State University, the largest public system of higher learning in the United States, is recognized for its long-term commitment to affordable, accessible, and high-quality education;

Whereas San José State University is the region's largest university and the third largest public-sector employer with 30,000 students and 4,000 employees;

Whereas San José State University-related spending in the San Francisco Bay Area is an estimated $479 million, generating a total impact of $829 million on the region's economy, sustaining 11,000 jobs, and generating $48 million annually in tax revenue;

Whereas San José State University has contributed to the rich economic life and culture of the State of California by providing nearly 7,000 graduates into the workforce each year;

Whereas San José State University's most prized tradition is a commitment to enriching the lives of its students by transmitting knowledge and providing them with the skills to apply what they have learned into the service of our society;

Whereas San José State University ranks tenth in the Nation's top public universities in the total number of minority graduates—African Americans, Latinos, Asian Americans, and Pacific Islanders, with bachelor's degrees across all disciplines;

Whereas San José State University has conferred bachelor's degrees in business management and the health professions to more Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders than any other college or university in the Nation;

Whereas San José State University is among the top 35 colleges and universities in terms of the number of bachelor's and master's degrees conferred to Latino students and is therefore a recognized leader in graduating minority students;

Whereas San José State University's faculty contribute to the quality of life in the Nation by their active engagement in scholarship, research, technological innovation, community service, and the arts; and

Whereas San José State University is an active partner with educational institutions, industries, and communities to enhance the quality of education, research, development, and community service for the State of California: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives honors San José State University for its 150 years of commitment to public higher education.

Amend the title so as to read: ''Resolution honoring San José State University for its 150 years of commitment to public higher education.''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to H. Res. 365 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in recognition of the 150th anniversary of San Jose State University. San Jose State University was established in 1857 as Minns Evening Normal School, for the sole purpose of training teachers, as California's population grew. As California's population has grown, San Jose State has grown into the largest university in the region with an enrollment of more than 30,000 students. The school has also expanded its programs to offer 134 bachelor's or master's degrees.

San Jose State is an extremely diverse school, with an enrollment of 23 percent of its students being Asian, 15 percent of its students being Hispanic, and 5 percent of its students being African American. This diversity has also led San Jose State to rank 10th in the Nation in total number of graduating minorities.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad to see another outstanding educational institution continuing to serve all those who wish to advance their education. I would like to thank and congratulate my colleague, Mr. HONDA, for bringing this resolution to the attention of the House of Representatives. I urge my colleagues to resoundingly pass this resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of House Resolution 365, honoring San Jose State University for its 150 years of commitment to public higher education. I would like to thank my good friend, Mr. HONDA, for introducing the resolution, and certainly my friend from New York for managing the bill on the floor tonight and recognizing the important role San Jose State University plays in educating the citizens of California and many other States and nations.

San Jose State University was founded as a California State Normal School by the California legislature on May 4, 1857, and is the oldest public university in California. The California State Normal School was itself derived from the Minns Evening Normal School, which was also known as the San Francisco Normal School. Led by Principal George W. Minns, the San Francisco Normal School trained elementary teachers as part of that city's high

school system from 1857 to their professional development and personal growth.

Silicon Valley firms are constantly seeking San Jose State University students for internships, summer work programs, and research and development. For a century and a half, San Jose State University faculty and staff has prepared its students for roles as leaders and highly productive professionals and citizens in society.

There is no better way of understanding San Jose State University's economic impact than simply visiting any Silicon Valley workplace, whether it is a tech company, government office, a hospital, or classroom, many of the people you will meet have ties to San Jose State University. In fact, San Jose State University has sent nearly 300,000 graduates into the workforce since it was founded in 1857, and I am honored to stand here today in support of this resolution and would say to my fellow colleagues: I would like you to support and congratulate San Jose State University's Don W. Kassing and all of the faculty and staff as well as San Jose State University students and alumni. I wish them continued success, and I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I join in the recognition of San Jose State on its 150th anniversary. I am proud that San Jose State is located in the 16th Congressional District which I represent in San Jose, California, as has been mentioned. It is the Silicon Valley university. More than 300,000 graduates of San Jose State have gone into Silicon Valley, and it is the largest source of engineering talent, of computer science and business graduates, for Silicon Valley.

San Jose State is ranked eighth among the top ten colleges and universities offering bachelor's and master's degrees in the western region, with its 134 programs. It is also known for its innovative partnerships, including a first-ever, I think in the country, partnership with the City of San Jose to have a joint university-city public library, a joint venture with the National Hispanic University for joint degrees, and most recently a joint venture with a historically black college in Mississippi for joint issuance of Ph.D.'s in engineering.

I am proud to represent San Jose State. We had to decide who would introduce this resolution. And although the university is in the 16th District, the author, my friend, Congressman MIKE HONDA, is an alumni of the university, so we deferred to him to take the lead on this introduction. I want to thank him for doing so. This is an important event for those of us in Silicon Valley, and especially the 16th District.

□ 1815

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA).

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 365, recognizing the 150th anniversary of my alma mater, San Jose State University in California.

I'd like to thank Representatives LOFGREN, ESHOO, FARR, Chairman MILLER, and Ranking Member MCKEON of the Education and Labor Committee, and additional cosponsors of H.R. 365, for the support of this legislation.

For a century and a half, San Jose State has provided affordable access to quality education. Founded in 1857, it is the oldest public institution of higher education on the west coast. From its beginnings as a normal school to train teachers for the developing frontier, the campus has matured into a comprehensive university, offering bachelor's and master's degrees in 134 programs, including 69 bachelor's degrees with 81 concentrations, and 65 master's degrees with 29 concentrations.

In the western region, San Jose State is ranked among the top 10 colleges and universities offering bachelors and masters degrees. San Jose State is part of the California State University System, the Nation's largest public university system.

Noteworthy in this sesquicentennial year of celebration is the fact San Jose State is the largest public 4-year university in Silicon Valley with over 32,000 students and 4,000 faculty and staff members. The university awards more than 4,200 bachelors degrees and 2,400 masters degrees each academic year. Since its founding, the university has sent nearly 300,000 graduates into the workforce. These graduates continue to make significant contributions to the region's rich economy and culture.

The history of San Jose State is very unique. The university traces its origins to Minns Evening Normal School, established in San Francisco in 1857 by George W. Minns and other dedicated educational leaders to address the shortage of qualified teachers for the new State of California. In 1862, the school became California State Normal School by action of the State legislature. Although initial enrollments were low, demand for teacher training shot up when California instituted free public education for every child, paid for with property taxes.

The years of growth and expansion at the new location in San Jose State downtown, the first alumni association was formed in 1873. The determination of California leaders to support teacher training was evident when a fire destroyed the normal school building in 1880. In 1921, the control of the school passed from its board of trustees to the State Department of Education.

As the 20th century came to a close, San Jose State University has developed into a thriving comprehensive university known for ''powering Silicon Valley.''

Mr. Speaker, I just want to close by recognizing the current president, Don W. Kassing, for all the work he is doing to make San Jose State University one of the great, great higher education institutions in the United States, melding itself with the National Hispanic University and also providing students and intellectual power to NASA Ames and the other Silicon Valley enterprises in Silicon Valley.

San José State ranks among the nation's top universities for its academics and ethnic diversity. The university has ranked 10th in the nation for the total number of minority graduates (African Americans, Asian Americans, Native Americans and Hispanics with bachelor's degrees) across all disciplines. San José State University has conferred bachelor's degrees in business management and the health professions to more Asian Americans than any other college or university in the nation.

Noteworthy also is the fact that San José State is Silicon Valley's largest university and fourth largest public-sector employer. Its 154-acre campus is in downtown San José, the nation's 10th largest city and home to many leading technology companies, including Adobe, Cisco Systems, and E-Bay.

The history of San José State is very unique. The university traces its origins to Minns' Evening Normal School, established in San Francisco in 1857 by George W. Minns and other dedicated educational leaders, to address the shortage of qualified teachers for the new state of California. In 1862, the school became the California State Normal School by action of the state legislature. Although initial enrollments were low, demand for teacher training shot up when California instituted free public education for every child, paid for with property taxes.

An earthquake in 1868 and the challenges of San Francisco's rapid growth spurred school leaders to consider a more stable location for the new school. Several cities vied for the honor; the nod went to the town of San José, then a thriving community of 9,089. State Superintendent O.P. Fitzgerald characterized San José as meeting every requirement: "The climate is unsurpassed, the place is large enough to furnish all needed facilities . . . the people are intelligent, hospitable and moral." In 1870, the trustees selected a tract of land near local transit called Washington Square from among several sites offered by the city. School leaders moved the college and its 150 students to this 27-acre campus in 1871.

Years of growth and expansion at the new location followed; the school added more students, faculty, coursework and facilities. The first alumni association was formed in 1873. The determination of California leaders to support teacher training was evident when a fire destroyed the normal school building in 1880. The legislature promptly provided $150,000 to rebuild. By 1887, the San José State Normal School had an enrollment of 800, highest in the nation except for New York City and Philadelphia.

In 1921, control of the school passed from its board of trustees to the State Department of Education and it became known as San José State Teachers College. Under the leadership of Thomas W. MacQuarrie, who was

named president in 1927, there was significant growth and expansion of the curriculum, including the first program for college-trained police officers in the nation.

In 1932, the San José State College Corporation was formed, the forerunner of today's San José State University Research Foundation, which for the past 75 years has partnered with the University to manage externally funded research and education-related activities that are so integral to the University's mission. The campus gained university status and became part of the California State University system in the 1970s. In 1990, student enrollment topped 30,000 and by 1993, the campus reached cultural pluralism, with no ethnic majority.

As the 20th century came to a close, San José State University had developed into a thriving comprehensive university known for ''powering Silicon Valley'' with the high numbers of graduates who went to work there. Fruitful partnerships with area firms also made possible new programs and laboratories, as well as ALL internships, summer research and scholarships. A unique partnership with the city of San José resulted in the construction and opening of the nation's first joint city-university library.

In 2006, President Don W. Kassing accepted the largest single private donation to the university in its history, a $10 million gift from alumni Sally and Donald Lucas to create a new graduate school of business. One year later, during this sesquicentennial year, $15 million was given by alumnus Charles W. Davidson for the SJSU's College of Engineering, which ties for the largest single private donation in California State University history. Building upon its tradition as a teacher's college, the university also received a donation of $10 million from alumna Connie L. Lurie for the College of Education.

Having receiving both my Undergraduate and Graduate degrees from San José State University I personally attest to the University's academic rigor and integrity. San José State University continues to be a driving force in educating our future leaders and in developing collaborative partnerships with educational institutions, industries, and communities to enhance the quality of education, research, development, and community service for the State of California.

I also want to recognize the current president, Don W. Kassing, for all he is doing to make San José State University one of the great, great higher education institutions in the United States, and we all look forward to the next 150 years.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. We have no additional speakers.

Mr. KUHL of New York. I have no additional speakers on this side. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 365, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

The title was amended so as to read: ''Resolution honoring San Jose State University for its 150 years of commitment to public higher education.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY ACT OF 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 62) to honor the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 62

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Native American Heritage Day Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) Native Americans are the descendants of the aboriginal, indigenous, native people who were the original inhabitants of and who governed the lands that now constitute the United States;

(2) Native Americans have volunteered to serve in the United States Armed Forces and have served with valor in all of the Nation's military actions from the Revolutionary War through the present day, and in most of those actions, more Native Americans per capita served in the Armed Forces than any other group of Americans;

(3) Native American tribal governments developed the fundamental principles of freedom of speech and separation of governmental powers that were a model for those that form the foundation of the United States Constitution;

(4) the Founding Fathers based the provisions of the Constitution on the unique system of democracy of the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy, which divided powers among the branches of government and provided for a system of checks and balances;

(5) Native Americans have made distinct and significant contributions to the United States and the rest of the world in many fields, including agriculture, medicine, music, language, and art, and Native Americans have distinguished themselves as inventors, entrepreneurs, spiritual leaders, and scholars;

(6) Native Americans should be recognized for their contributions to the United States as local and national leaders, artists, athletes, and scholars;

(7) nationwide recognition of the contributions that Native Americans have made to the fabric of American society will afford an opportunity for all Americans to demonstrate their respect and admiration of Native Americans for their important contributions to the political, cultural, and economic life of the United States;

(8) nationwide recognition of the contributions that Native Americans have made to the Nation will encourage self-esteem, pride, and self-awareness in Native Americans of all ages;

(9) designation of the Friday following Thanksgiving of each year as Native American Heritage Day will underscore the government-to-government relationship between the United States and Native American governments;

(10) designation of Native American Heritage Day will encourage public elementary and secondary schools in the United States to enhance understanding of Native Americans by providing curricula and classroom instruction focusing on the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the Nation; and

(11) the Friday immediately succeeding Thanksgiving Day of each year would be an appropriate day to designate as Native American Heritage Day.

SEC. 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF A NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY.

(a) DEVELOPMENT OF MODEL EDUCATIONAL CURRICULA.—Educational institutions are encouraged to develop model educational curricula, in consultation with Native American governmental leaders, for purposes of recognizing a Native American Heritage Day, emphasizing the contributions of Native Americans to the United States and the world, including—

(1) the historical and constitutional status of Native American tribal governments as well as the present day status of Native Americans;

(2) the cultures, traditions, and languages of Native Americans; and

(3) the rich Native American cultural legacy that all Americans enjoy today.

(b) CELEBRATION OF NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY.—Congress encourages the people of the United States, as well as Federal, State, and local governments and interested groups and organizations to observe a Native American Heritage Day with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to H.J. Res. 62 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to Mr. BACA of California.

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. BISHOP for allowing me to bring up this legislation.

I rise today in support of establishing a tribute to Native Americans for their many contributions to the United States.

My bill, H.J. Res. 62, encourages all Americans to recognize the Friday after Thanksgiving as Native American Heritage Day.

I want to thank Chairman GEORGE MILLER, Ranking Member DON YOUNG, Representatives DALE KILDEE and RUBÉN HINOJOSA for their continued support for this bill.

Since my time in the California legislature, I've been a strong advocate to help preserve the legacy of Native Americans. It's important that we recognize their contributions to all aspects of our society, from our government to our language to history.

My bill encourages public elementary and secondary schools to enhance student understanding of Native Americans. We need more classroom instruction to focus on the history, culture and achievements and traditions of Native Americans.

Native Americans and their ancestors have played a critical role in the establishment of the freest country in the world. They have fought with valor and have died in every American war dating back to the Revolutionary War to the current wars. We in Congress must encourage greater awareness of the significant roles they have played in our national history.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I'm honored that Native Americans will be honored on this day.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Joint Resolution 62, to honor the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States and for other purposes.

The strength of our Nation comes from its people; and as the early inhabitants of this great land, the native peoples of North America played a unique role in shaping our Nation's history and culture.

Native Americans are the descendants of the indigenous native people who were the original inhabitants and governors of the lands that now constitute the United States of America. It was their tribal governments that developed the fundamental principles of freedom of speech and separation of powers. They're a model for those that formed the foundation of the United States Constitution.

The Founding Fathers based the provision of the Constitution on the unique system of democracy of the six nations of the Iroquois Confederacy. The Iroquois divided powers amongst the branches of government and provided for a system of checks and balances.

Native Americans have made a distinct and significant contribution to the United States and to the rest of the world in many fields, including agriculture, medicine, music, language, art, among other things. And Native Americans have distinguished themselves, as my friend Mr. BACA has noted, as inventors, as entrepreneurs, as spiritual leaders and scholars, among a few.

Their unique spiritual, artistic and literary contributions, together with their vibrant customs and celebrations, enliven and enrich our land today. As we move into the 21st century, Native Americans will play a vital role in maintaining our Nation's strength and prosperity.

Almost half of America's Native American tribal leaders have served in the United States Armed Forces, following in the footsteps of their forebears, who distinguished themselves during the world wars and the conflicts in Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf.

Native Americans should be recognized for the contributions they have made to the fabric of our American society. This recognition will afford an opportunity for all Americans to demonstrate their respect and admiration of Native Americans for their important contributions to the political, the cultural, and the economic life of the United States.

The designation of Native American Heritage Day will encourage public elementary and secondary schools in the United States to enhance Americans by providing curricula and classroom instruction focusing on the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the Nation, and the designation of the Friday following Thanksgiving of each year as Native American Heritage Day will underscore the government-to-government relationship between the United States of America and Native American governments.

On this day we should call on all Americans to learn more about the history and the heritage of the native peoples of this great land. Such actions reaffirm our appreciation and most certainly our respect for their traditions and their way of life, and can help to preserve an important part of our culture for generations yet to come.

Mr. Speaker, I join my friend and colleague, Representative BACA, in supporting the resolution and ask my colleagues to do the same.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, may I inquire of my colleague from New York if he has any additional speakers.

Mr. KUHL of New York. We have no further speakers. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. I also yield back the balance of our time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 62.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the joint resolution was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COLLEGE COST REDUCTION AND ACCESS ACT TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS OF 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4153) to make certain technical corrections and transition amendments to the College Cost Reduction and Access Act, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4153

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''College Cost Reduction and Access Act Technical Amendments of 2007''.

SEC. 2. FEDERAL PELL GRANTS.

(a) CORRECTION OF DESIGNATION.—

(1) CCRAA AMENDMENT.—Section 101(a)(2) of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110–84) is amended by striking ''paragraphs (4) through (9) as paragraphs (3) through (8)'' and inserting ''paragraphs (4) through (8) as paragraphs (3) through (7)''.

(2) REDESIGNATION.—Paragraph (9) of section 401(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070a(b)(9)), as added by section 102(b) of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110–84), is redesignated as paragraph (8).

(b) REVISION OF AVAILABILITY RULE.—Paragraph (8) of section 401(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (as redesignated by subsection (a)(2) of this section) is amended by striking subparagraph (F) and inserting the following:

''(F) USE OF FISCAL YEAR FUNDS FOR AWARD YEARS.—The amounts made available by subparagraph (A) for any fiscal year shall remain available for the fiscal year succeeding the fiscal year for which such amounts are made available.''.

SEC. 3. DEFINITION OF UNTAXED INCOME AND BENEFITS.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 480(b) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

''(2) The term 'untaxed income and benefits' shall not include—

''(A) the amount of additional child tax credit claimed for Federal income tax purposes;

''(B) welfare benefits, including assistance under a State program funded under part A of title IV of the Social Security Act and aid to dependent children;

''(C) the amount of earned income credit claimed for Federal income tax purposes;

''(D) the amount of credit for Federal tax on special fuels claimed for Federal income tax purposes;

''(E) the amount of foreign income excluded for purposes of Federal income taxes; or

''(F) untaxed social security benefits.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendment made by this section shall take effect on July 1, 2009.

SEC. 4. DEFINITION OF INDEPENDENT STUDENT.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 480(d)(1) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1087vv(d)(1)) is amended by striking subparagraph (B) and inserting the following:

''(B) is an orphan, in foster care, or a ward of the court, or was an orphan, in foster care, or a ward of the court at any time when the individual was 13 years of age or older;''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendment made by this section shall take effect on July 1, 2009.

SEC. 5. INCOME-BASED REPAYMENT FOR MARRIED BORROWERS FILING SEPARATELY.

Section 493C of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1098e) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(d) SPECIAL RULE FOR MARRIED BORROWERS FILING SEPARATELY.—In the case of a married borrower who files a separate Federal income tax return, the Secretary shall calculate the amount of the borrower's income-based repayment under this section solely on the basis of the borrower's student loan debt and adjusted gross income.''.

SEC. 6. DEFERRAL OF LOAN REPAYMENT FOLLOWING ACTIVE DUTY.

Section 493D(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1098f(a)) is amended by

inserting ''or full-time National Guard duty'' after ''is called or ordered to active duty''.

SEC. 7. TEACH GRANTS.

Subpart 9 of part A of title IV of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1070g et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 420L(1)(B), by striking ''sound'' and inserting ''responsible'';

(2) in section 420M—

(A) by striking ''academic year'' each place it appears in subsections (a)(1) and (c)(1) and inserting ''year''; and

(B) in subsection (c)(2)—

(i) by striking ''other student assistance'' and inserting ''other assistance the student may receive''; and

(ii) by striking the second sentence.

SEC. 8. REDESIGNATION AND RELOCATION.

The Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001 et seq.) is further amended—

(1) by redesignating part J of title IV (as added by section 802 of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (Public Law 110–84)) as part G of title III of the Higher Education Act of 1965, and moving such part from the end of title IV to the end of title III of such Act; and

(2) by redesignating section 499A (as added by such section 802) as section 399A.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to H.R. 4153 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

H.R. 4153, the College Cost Reduction and Access Act Technical Amendments, makes a number of technical changes to the College Cost Reduction and Access Act in order to ensure that the Department of Education and other relevant stakeholders reflect congressional intent when implementing the law.

Mr. Speaker, during this Congress we have made significant commitments to our Nation's students and families by putting resources in the hands of those who need them most. The College Cost Reduction and Access Act, as passed and signed by the President, does more to help Americans pay for college than any effort since the GI Bill, at no new cost to taxpayers.

Specifically, the legislation provided a landmark investment of $20 billion in additional funding for Pell Grants, reductions in the interest rate on student loans, and the creation of programs to help students manage debt, as well as encourage individuals to pursue public service. Providing this critical funding is a large part of our efforts to increase access and affordability to higher education.

Our work on reforming and strengthening higher education is not finished for this Congress. I look forward to working with Chairman MILLER and the rest of the Education and Labor Committee on the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, which we are set to mark up in committee tomorrow.

The technical amendments contained in this bill include: ensuring that the mandatory Pell funding is available for the full award year, which is the current fiscal year and the following fiscal year, to match the availability of discretionary Pell funding.

It clarifies the definition of untaxed income and benefits to ensure that it does not include those items in the calculations that were removed from the list under the College Cost Reduction Act.

It clarifies that students who were in foster care anytime after age 13 are independent for purposes of calculating eligibility for Federal student aid.

It clarifies that married borrowers' income-based repayment payments shall be determined solely on the individual borrower's loan information and the individual's income without considering spouse's income or any loan debt they may have if the married borrower files taxes separately.

It ensures that members of the National Guard who are serving full-time are considered active duty for purposes of student loan deferment benefits.

It conforms language in the TEACH grant program to ensure appropriate implementation.

And it moves the funds provided to HBCUs and MSIs to title III of the Higher Education Act.

Mr. Speaker, swift passage of H.R. 4153 will ensure that students and families will fully benefit from the program's funding and intent provided in the College Cost Reduction and Access Act.

I urge my colleagues to support this provision.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as the former chairman of the Higher Education Subcommittee, and now the ranking member, I rise in support of H.R. 4153, a bill which provides for technical changes to the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007.

I was honored to be with President Bush on September 27, 2007, at the White House when he signed this important legislation into law. Joining me at that time was Chairman GEORGE MILLER of the Education Committee, and the budget chairman, JOHN SPRATT. It was a special time to be there as the only Republican in Congress at that time seeing this historic legislation signed into law. It has been referred to by my colleagues as the most important piece of higher education legislation since the GI Bill in 1944.

That legislation dramatically increased Pell Grant funding and cut student loan interest rates in half. For example, Pell Grant funding went from $4,310 up to $5,400 over a period of years. And the student loan interest rate for undergraduates was cut from 6.8 percent to 3.4 percent.

Well, what are we doing here today? As a follow-up to that important legislation, today we are making some necessary technical clarifications and corrections to ensure that the act is implemented just as Congress intended. For example, this piece of technical legislation will clarify that members of the Armed Forces reserves are eligible for student loan deferments when they return home after serving abroad.

This legislation will ensure that students whose loan applications were submitted prior to the law's effective date are not unnecessarily subjected to higher rates or deprived of important student loan benefits.

This package of technical corrections will improve our financial aid programs by clarifying the intent of the recently enacted College Cost Reduction and Access Act. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join us today in supporting this important measure and voting ''yes'' on H.R. 4153.

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4153, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1830

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAM RAYBURN LIBRARY AND MUSEUM

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 709) recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum on October 9, 2007, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 709

Whereas Samuel Taliaferro Rayburn, affectionately known as ''Mr. Sam'', held the position of Speaker of the House of Representatives for a record seventeen and a half years; and

Whereas the legendary former Speaker of the House served twenty-four consecutive terms as United States Representative of the Fourth District of Texas, until his death in 1961: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives recognizes and honors the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum on October 9, 2007, as

well as completion of phase one of the museum restoration program, and also recognizes the many supporters and contributors whose efforts have helped maintain and improve the Library and Museum.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to H. Res. 709 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 709, a resolution to recognize and honor the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum on October 9, 2007.

Sam Rayburn is a legend to many of us in this House, having served as Speaker of the House for a record 17½ years. Born Samuel Taliaferro Rayburn, he served the people of Texas as an elected official for 55 consecutive years. Sam Rayburn spent 48 years here as a Member of Congress from the Fourth District of Texas and also served in the Texas House of Representatives. He was perhaps destined to become the Speaker of the House because he certainly had the experience for it. Prior to coming here, he was also the Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives and he served as Speaker of this House on three different occasions: from 1940 to 1947, from 1948 to 1953, and then again from 1955 until his death in 1961.

During Speaker Rayburn's time of service to this great Nation, he presided over the enactment of the Marshall Plan, expansion of Social Security, and passage of the first pieces of major civil rights legislation since Reconstruction.

Throughout the House campus, we have an array of memorials to the Speaker. The largest House office building which houses Members and committee offices is the Rayburn House Office Building built in 1965. His likeness stands in the entrance to that building, and there is also the Rayburn Room, which has hosted many negotiations and meetings across from the House floor.

Texas has also honored its native son with the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum, located in Speaker Rayburn's hometown of Bonham, Texas. It recently had its 50th anniversary and is celebrating the completion of phase one of the museum's restoration program. This restoration program will help protect the valuable collections stored at the library.

This anniversary year has been a busy one for the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum. In January, it hosted the annual celebration of Speaker Rayburn's birthday and has featured three new exhibits. The Sam Rayburn Foundation also honors high school seniors from the Speaker's home of Bonham and Fannin County.

Speaker Rayburn, despite his busy congressional schedule, was actively involved in every step of his library's planning, construction, and dedication. The library and museum was his way of paying tribute to the people of Fannin County. This resolution also honors the supporters and contributors who have helped make this library such a success.

I am pleased to join my colleagues in supporting this resolution, and I urge its passage.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 709, recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum on October 9, 2007, and for such other purposes.

Congressman Samuel Rayburn was born on January 6, 1882, in a rural area of Roane County, Tennessee. His interest in government coincided with his family's move to Texas, and it has been suggested that his curiosity intensified through the ''great golden age of Texas politics.''

As he worked his family's cotton fields, Congressman Rayburn imagined himself making numerous political speeches and engaging in debates with current political leaders. Later in his life, Congressman Rayburn recalled that it was during one of these flights of imagination that he decided he would pursue a career in law and politics.

By 1937, Congressman Rayburn was elected majority leader of the 75th Congress, and in 1940 he was selected to replace the deceased William Bankhead as Speaker of the House, a position he held for a record number 17½ years.

During the 80th and 83rd Congresses, the two periods of Republican majorities in the House of Representatives, he served as minority leader. During his time in Congress, Congressman Rayburn served with eight different Presidents and helped to pass several pieces of key legislation. He served as Speaker of the House throughout World War II and was instrumental in garnering support to fund the Manhattan Project.

Known by most as ''Mr. Democrat,'' Mr. Rayburn was permanent chairman of the National Democratic Convention in 1948, 1952, and 1956, and was named honorary chairman in 1960. Throughout his political career, the congressman was known for his ability to balance his strong Democratic partisanship with his unwavering sense of dedication to meeting the needs of the American people through working in bipartisan ways with Republicans.

Despite the status he was able to achieve in Washington as Speaker, he was still known as ''informal'' and a ''down home kind of guy'' who returned to his home in Bonham as soon as Congress adjourned for the session. When home, Congressman Rayburn would meet with his constituents concerning their needs, maintaining that his obligation was to the people and it wasn't finished.

Congressman Rayburn accomplished much during his lifetime by the fulfillment of his dream to become a politician. And he is a source of pride for those all over northeast Texas.

Sam Rayburn passed away in Bonham, Texas, on November 16, 1961, and was buried at the Willow Wild Cemetery, a few blocks from the Rayburn Library and Museum. His remains laid in state for 24 hours in the library he had established in October 1957 as a tribute to the people of his cherished Fannin County, Texas. Thousands of mourners from schoolchildren to national officials filed silently past his bronze coffin in tribute to his service and dedication. The Texas Department of Public Safety estimated that 15,000 people filled the streets on the day of Rayburn's funeral. President John Kennedy, former Presidents Dwight Eisenhower and Harry Truman and future President Lyndon Johnson attended the funeral services. The entire Texas congressional delegation and 105 Members of Congress attended the services, many of whom came to the library.

Today, the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum exhibits photographs and original letters, political artifacts, and personal memorabilia relating to important events of the life and times of Congressman Rayburn. In addition to a research library, the museum centerpiece is a replica of the formal office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

I thank the gentleman who sits behind me for whom I will yield in just a moment, Mr. HALL, for introducing this resolution and I ask my colleagues' support.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL).

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I, of course, rise in support of H. Res. 709, recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum.

Samuel ''Sam'' Taliaferro Rayburn was born in Roane County, Tennessee, on January 6, 1882, the eighth of 11 children, and moved west with his family to a 40-acre cotton farm in Fannin County in Texas near the little community of Flag Springs, Texas, in 1887. Many Tennesseeans like Sam Rayburn and Sam Houston were great leaders and builders of the State of Texas.

From those humble beginnings, ''Mr. Sam,'' as he became known, rose to become one of Texas' and the United States' greatest statesmen. He held elected office for 55 consecutive years beginning in 1906 with his election to

the Texas House. He was elected 24 times to the U.S. House of Representatives, representing Texas's Fourth District, and spent 17 of those years as Speaker of the House, a position that put him third in line for the United States Presidency. At the time of his death in 1961, Rayburn's 48 consecutive years in the U.S. House set a congressional record for continuous service.

Sam Rayburn was selected to replace the deceased William Bankhead as Speaker of the House, a position he held for a record number 17½ years. He also served as minority leader during the 80th and 83rd Congresses, the two periods of Republican majority in the House of Representatives. Rayburn served with eight different Presidents and helped to pass several pieces of key legislation throughout his career:

One was the Selective Service Act in 1941. He cast the deciding vote to pass that act; the Civil Rights Act of 1957 and 1960; establishment of NASA; the National Defense Education Act of 1958; the Hospital Survey and Construction Act of 1958.

The Office of Speaker lacked great formal powers when he first took office, but Rayburn quickly expanded the power and influence of the office. Rayburn relied heavily on his personal prestige, persuasive skills, and personal friendships built up over decades in the House. His leadership style usually resulted in congenial relations between not only the northern and southern wings of the Democratic Party but also between Rayburn and the Republican leadership of the House. Rayburn's actions during his long tenure as Speaker increased the power of the House of Representatives in its relations with the Senate and with the executive branch.

Following his election as Speaker, Rayburn wanted to build a library to house his books, his personal papers, and memoirs. He also wanted the facility to be a reservoir center of political history available to the people of Fannin County in his congressional district. With the advice of Secretary of the Treasury John Snyder, Rayburn requested that Judge H.A. Cunningham, a good friend of Rayburn's and a great man from Bonham, Texas, arrange to have a charitable trust established for the purposes of receiving and managing funds donated to assist in building the library. The Speaker also contacted Buster Cole, a young lawyer from Bonham, to assist in the process of setting up the trust. An earlier $10,000 award from Collier's magazine served as a financial base for the foundation.

Sam Rayburn, representatives of the Sam Rayburn Foundation, and hundreds of admirers gathered to break ground for the library in December 1955. The library construction was completed in July 1957, and the Sam Rayburn Library officially opened to the public October 9, 1957, in a ceremony that garnered national attention and media coverage. Businesses were closed for the day, and downtown Bonham was decorated with banners and bunting.

□ 1845

Many distinguished political leaders attended the dedication, including President Harry S. Truman and his wife, Bess Truman; Secretary of Treasury Robert Anderson; Congressman Hale Boggs of Louisiana; Congressman Richard Bolling of Missouri; Governor of Arizona, Ernest McFarland; former Governor and current Congressman Earle C. Clements of Kentucky; and the majority of the congressional delegations from Texas and Oklahoma, among them Lyndon B. Johnson, Jim Wright, Carl Albert and Tom Steed. There were approximately 11 television and radio stations on hand to report all the activities.

In honor of the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the library and in recognition of the completion of phase one of the Museum Restoration Program, the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum hosted an open house and reception on Tuesday, October 9. An exhibit featuring historic images of the dedication as well as items pertaining to the recent renovation project were on display. The open house and reception honored Speaker Rayburn and recognized the many supporters and contributors who helped fund the recent renovation project.

The renovation included a new look, an improved drainage system for the building, a more efficient heating and cooling system, upgraded accessibility to the museum, and a thorough cleaning and resealing of the building exterior. These improvements will not only preserve the historic structure but also provide added protection for the valuable collections and artifacts housed in the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum.

I am pleased to offer this resolution today honoring the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum, and I urge my colleagues' support in recognition of this great facility that chronicles an important era in the history of our Nation.

I am also proud to represent Mr. Rayburn's Fourth District of Texas. My mother attended Mayo College at Commerce, Texas, with Mr. Rayburn. He was a great friend, my friend, and my family's friend. He truly was one of a kind. And this resolution will go into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, adding more light to this man's great history.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 709.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 3315, by the yeas and nays;
H.R. 1593, by the yeas and nays;
H.R. 3403, by the yeas and nays;
H.R. 3461, by the yeas and nays.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes. Postponed votes on other motions to suspend the rules will be taken later in the week.

PROVIDING THAT THE GREAT HALL OF THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER SHALL BE KNOWN AS EMANCIPATION HALL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3315, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3315.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 398, nays 6, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 1082]

YEAS—398

Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest

Gillibrand
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Hill
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Richardson
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sanchez, Loretta
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—6

Broun (GA)
Campbell (CA)
King (IA)
Marchant
Mica
Westmoreland

NOT VOTING—28

Abercrombie
Bishop (GA)
Bishop (UT)
Carson
Cubin
Davis (AL)
Davis, Tom
Doolittle
Doyle
Emerson
Higgins
Hinchey
Jefferson
Johnson (IL)
LaHood
McKeon
Moran (VA)
Oberstar
Paul
Pryce (OH)
Saxton
Smith (WA)
Solis
Taylor
Waters
Wexler
Wolf
Woolsey

□ 1909

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SECOND CHANCE ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1593, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1593, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 347, nays 62, not voting 23, as follows:

[Roll No. 1083]

YEAS—347

Ackerman
Aderholt
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blumenauer
Blunt
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, Lincoln
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Edwards
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Frank (MA)
Frelinghuysen
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gonzalez
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hare
Harman
Hastings (FL)
Hayes
Heller
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (NY)
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (GA)
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lowey
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Michaud
Miller (NC)
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Nunes
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (NC)
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Richardson
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sutton
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wasserman Schultz
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Whitfield
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth

NAYS—62

Akin
Barrett (SC)
Blackburn
Boehner
Broun (GA)
Carter
Conaway
Culberson
Davis, David
Deal (GA)
Duncan
Ehlers
Flake
Fossella
Foxx
Franks (AZ)
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gingrey
Gohmert
Goode
Goodlatte
Hall (TX)
Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hensarling
Hunter
Johnson, Sam
King (IA)
Kingston
Kline (MN)
Lamborn
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Manzullo
Marchant
McHenry
McKeon
Mica
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller, Gary
Neugebauer
Poe
Price (GA)
Putnam
Regula
Rohrabacher
Royce
Ryan (WI)
Shadegg
Sullivan
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Wamp
Weller
Westmoreland
Wicker
Wilson (SC)
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NOT VOTING—23

Abercrombie
Bishop (GA)
Carson
Cubin
Davis (AL)
Davis, Tom
Doolittle
Doyle
Hinchey
Jefferson
Johnson (IL)
LaHood
Moran (VA)
Oberstar
Paul
Pryce (OH)
Sanchez, Loretta
Saxton
Smith (WA)
Taylor
Waters
Wexler
Wolf

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote

□ 1916

Mr. FOSSELLA changed his vote from ''yea'' to ''nay.''

Mr. KIRK changed his vote from ''nay'' to ''yea.''

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

911 MODERNIZATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3403, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MARKEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3403, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 406, nays 1, not voting 25, as follows:

[Roll No. 1084]

YEAS—406

Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Culberson
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson
Filner
Flake
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Johnson, Sam
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Kind
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Marshall
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHenry
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Nadler
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Poe
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Richardson
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Smith (TX)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—1

Broun (GA)

NOT VOTING—25

Abercrombie
Bishop (GA)
Carson
Cubin
Davis (AL)
Davis, Tom
Doolittle
Doyle
Hinchey
Jefferson
Johnson (IL)
LaHood
Lowey
Moran (VA)
Oberstar
Paul
Pryce (OH)
Rush
Sanchez, Loretta
Saxton
Smith (WA)
Taylor
Waters
Wexler
Wolf

□ 1923

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

The title was amended so as to read: ''A bill to promote and enhance public safety by facilitating the rapid deployment of IP-enabled 911 and E–911 services, encourage the Nation's transition to a national IP-enabled emergency network, and improve 911 and E–911 access to those with disabilities.''.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SAFEGUARDING AMERICA'S FAMILIES BY ENHANCING AND REORGANIZING NEW AND EFFICIENT TECHNOLOGIES ACT OF 2007

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3461, as amended, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BUTTERFIELD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3461, as amended.

This will be a 5-minute vote.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 398, nays 6, not voting 28, as follows:

[Roll No. 1085]

YEAS—398

Ackerman
Aderholt
Akin
Alexander
Allen
Altmire
Andrews
Arcuri
Baca
Bachmann
Bachus
Baird
Baker
Baldwin
Barrett (SC)
Barrow
Bartlett (MD)
Barton (TX)
Bean
Becerra
Berkley
Berman
Berry
Biggert
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Bishop (NY)
Bishop (UT)
Blackburn
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehner
Bonner
Bono
Boozman
Boren
Boswell
Boucher
Boustany
Boyd (FL)
Boyda (KS)
Brady (PA)
Brady (TX)
Braley (IA)
Brown (SC)
Brown, Corrine
Brown-Waite, Ginny
Buchanan
Burgess
Burton (IN)
Butterfield
Buyer
Calvert
Camp (MI)
Campbell (CA)
Cannon
Cantor
Capito
Capps
Capuano
Cardoza
Carnahan
Carney
Carter
Castle
Castor
Chabot
Chandler
Clarke
Clay
Cleaver
Clyburn
Coble
Cohen
Cole (OK)
Conaway
Conyers
Cooper
Costa
Costello
Courtney
Cramer
Crenshaw
Crowley
Cuellar
Cummings
Davis (CA)
Davis (IL)
Davis (KY)
Davis, David
Davis, Lincoln
Deal (GA)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dent
Diaz-Balart, L.
Diaz-Balart, M.
Dicks
Dingell
Doggett
Donnelly
Drake
Dreier
Duncan
Edwards
Ehlers
Ellison
Ellsworth
Emanuel
Emerson
Engel
English (PA)
Eshoo
Etheridge
Everett
Fallin
Farr
Fattah
Feeney
Ferguson

Filner
Forbes
Fortenberry
Fossella
Foxx
Frank (MA)
Franks (AZ)
Frelinghuysen
Gallegly
Garrett (NJ)
Gerlach
Giffords
Gilchrest
Gillibrand
Gingrey
Gohmert
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Gordon
Granger
Graves
Green, Al
Green, Gene
Grijalva
Gutierrez
Hall (NY)
Hall (TX)
Hare
Harman
Hastert
Hastings (FL)
Hastings (WA)
Hayes
Heller
Hensarling
Herger
Herseth Sandlin
Higgins
Hill
Hinojosa
Hirono
Hobson
Hodes
Hoekstra
Holden
Holt
Honda
Hooley
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hunter
Inglis (SC)
Inslee
Israel
Issa
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee (TX)
Jindal
Johnson (GA)
Johnson, E. B.
Jones (NC)
Jones (OH)
Jordan
Kagen
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Keller
Kennedy
Kildee
Kilpatrick
King (IA)
King (NY)
Kingston
Kirk
Klein (FL)
Kline (MN)
Knollenberg
Kucinich
Kuhl (NY)
Lamborn
Lampson
Langevin
Lantos
Larsen (WA)
Larson (CT)
Latham
LaTourette
Lee
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (GA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
LoBiondo
Loebsack
Lofgren, Zoe
Lucas
Lungren, Daniel E.
Lynch
Mack
Mahoney (FL)
Maloney (NY)
Manzullo
Marchant
Markey
Matheson
Matsui
McCarthy (CA)
McCarthy (NY)
McCaul (TX)
McCollum (MN)
McCotter
McCrery
McDermott
McGovern
McHugh
McIntyre
McKeon
McMorris Rodgers
McNerney
McNulty
Meek (FL)
Meeks (NY)
Melancon
Mica
Michaud
Miller (FL)
Miller (MI)
Miller (NC)
Miller, Gary
Miller, George
Mitchell
Mollohan
Moore (KS)
Moore (WI)
Moran (KS)
Murphy (CT)
Murphy, Patrick
Murphy, Tim
Murtha
Musgrave
Myrick
Napolitano
Neal (MA)
Neugebauer
Nunes
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Pallone
Pascrell
Pastor
Payne
Pearce
Pence
Perlmutter
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pitts
Platts
Pomeroy
Porter
Price (GA)
Price (NC)
Putnam
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Rangel
Regula
Rehberg
Reichert
Renzi
Reyes
Reynolds
Richardson
Rodriguez
Rogers (AL)
Rogers (KY)
Rogers (MI)
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Roskam
Ross
Rothman
Roybal-Allard
Royce
Ruppersberger
Rush
Ryan (OH)
Ryan (WI)
Salazar
Sali
Sánchez, Linda T.
Sarbanes
Schakowsky
Schiff
Schmidt
Schwartz
Scott (GA)
Scott (VA)
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Sestak
Shadegg
Shays
Shea-Porter
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuler
Shuster
Simpson
Sires
Skelton
Slaughter
Smith (NE)
Smith (NJ)
Snyder
Solis
Souder
Space
Spratt
Stark
Stearns
Stupak
Sullivan
Sutton
Tancredo
Tanner
Tauscher
Terry
Thompson (CA)
Thompson (MS)
Thornberry
Tiahrt
Tiberi
Tierney
Towns
Tsongas
Turner
Udall (CO)
Udall (NM)
Upton
Van Hollen
Velázquez
Visclosky
Walberg
Walden (OR)
Walsh (NY)
Walz (MN)
Wamp
Wasserman Schultz
Watson
Watt
Waxman
Weiner
Welch (VT)
Weldon (FL)
Weller
Westmoreland
Whitfield
Wicker
Wilson (NM)
Wilson (OH)
Wilson (SC)
Woolsey
Wu
Wynn
Yarmuth
Young (AK)
Young (FL)

NAYS—6

Broun (GA)
Culberson
Flake
Johnson, Sam
McHenry
Poe

NOT VOTING—28

Abercrombie
Bishop (GA)
Carson
Cubin
Davis (AL)
Davis, Tom
Doolittle
Doyle
Hinchey
Jefferson
Johnson (IL)
Kind
LaHood
Lowey
Marshall
Moran (VA)
Nadler
Oberstar
Paul
Pryce (OH)
Sanchez, Loretta
Saxton
Smith (TX)
Smith (WA)
Taylor
Waters
Wexler
Wolf

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised 2 minutes remain in this vote.

□ 1930

So (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 8, 2007.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker of the House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM SPEAKER: This letter is to inform you that I have sent a letter to Louisiana Governor Kathleen Babineaux Blanco informing her that I am resigning my position as the United States Representative for the 1st Congressional District of Louisiana, effective January 14, 2008.

In October, I was elected by the citizens of Louisiana to be their next Governor. I am truly honored that the citizens of Louisiana have given me the opportunity to help lead our state forward, and I remain humbled by their support.

It has been a great privilege to serve the residents of Louisiana in the House of Representatives for the past three years. I have served during some of the most trying times in Louisiana's history, and have worked to help build a better future for our state.

I also want to thank you, Madam Speaker, all of my colleagues in the House, and in particular Louisiana's Congressional delegation, as I have enjoyed working with them during my time in Congress. I am looking forward to continuing to work with you and my colleagues, as well as those serving our state in Baton Rouge, in order to build a better Louisiana.

Thank you and God bless,

BOBBY JINDAL,
Member of Congress.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, November 8, 2007.

Hon. KATHLEEN BABINEAUX BLANCO,
Governor of Louisiana, Baton Rouge, LA.

DEAR GOVERNOR BLANCO: In October, I was elected by the citizens of Louisiana to be their next Governor. I am hereby resigning my position as the United States Representative for the 1st Congressional District of Louisiana, effective January 14, 2008.

It has been a great privilege to serve the residents of Louisiana in the House of Representatives for the past three years. I have served during some of the most trying times in our state's history, and have worked to help build a better future for our state. I am truly honored that the citizens of Louisiana have given me the opportunity to help lead our state forward, and I remain humbled by their support.

I also want to thank you and your administration, as well as my colleagues in Louisiana's Congressional delegation, as I have enjoyed working with you and them during my time in Congress. I am looking forward to continuing this important work in order to build a better Louisiana.

Thank you and God bless,

BOBBY JINDAL,
Member of Congress.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR, HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008—VETO MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 110–76)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following veto message from the President of the United States:

To the House of Representatives:

I am returning herewith without my approval H.R. 3043, the ''Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008.''

This bill spends too much. It exceeds the reasonable and responsible levels for discretionary spending that I proposed to balance the budget by 2012. The Congress is on a path to spend $205 billion more over the next 5 years than I requested. This puts a balanced budget in jeopardy and risks future tax increases. This year, the Congress plans to overspend my budget by $22 billion, of which $10 billion is for increases in this bill. Health care, education, job training, and other goals can be achieved without this excessive spending if the Congress sets priorities.

This bill continues to fund programs that are duplicative or ineffective. The Congress continues to fund 56 programs totaling more than $3.2 billion that I proposed to terminate because they are duplicative, narrowly focused, or not producing results.

This bill does not sufficiently fund programs that are delivering positive outcomes. For example, Reading First, a critical initiative that is demonstrating results, receives a 61 percent cut, even though low-income students enrolled in Reading First schools posted a more than 10-point improvement in reading proficiency from 2004 to 2006.

This bill has too many earmarks. I set out clear goals for the Congress to reform the earmarking process. The Congress chose not to put earmarks in bill text, instead including nearly all in report language, and they did not reach the goal of cutting the cost and number of earmarks by at least half. This bill contains more than 2,200 earmarks totaling nearly $1 billion. Congressional earmarks divert Federal

taxpayer funds to localities without the benefit of a merit-based process, resulting in fewer resources for national priorities or unnecessary spending above the requested level.

I urge the Congress to send me a fiscally responsible bill that sets priorities. Americans sent us to Washington to achieve results and be good stewards of their hard-earned tax dollars. Because the legislation violates that commitment, I must veto this bill.

GEORGE W. BUSH.

THE WHITE HOUSE, *November 13, 2007*.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The objections of the President will be spread at large upon the Journal, and the veto message and the bill will be printed as a House document.

Mr. OBEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that further consideration of the veto message and the bill, H.R. 3043, be postponed until November 15, 2007.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, further consideration of the veto message and the bill will be postponed until Thursday, November 15, 2007.

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on the remaining motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or on which the vote is objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

Any record vote on the postponed question will be taken later in the week.

HBCU CAPITAL FINANCING IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2007

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 4154) to increase the insurance limitations on Federal insurance for bonds issued by the designated bonding authority for Historically Black Colleges and Universities capital financing.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 4154

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. LIMITATIONS ON FEDERAL INSURANCE FOR BONDS ISSUED BY THE DESIGNATED BONDING AUTHORITY.

Section 344(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1066c(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''$375,000,000'' and inserting ''$1,100,000,000'';

(2) by striking ''$250,000,000'' and inserting ''$733,333,333''; and

(3) by striking ''$125,000,000'' and inserting ''$366,666,666''.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. KELLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to H.R. 4154 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. CLYBURN), the majority whip of the House, who has worked and moved all might here to get this legislation to the floor.

Mr. CLYBURN. I want to thank Chairman MILLER for yielding the time to me, and I want to thank Speaker PELOSI, Majority Leader HOYER, Chairman MILLER, Messrs. MCKEON and KELLER, Leader BOEHNER, Minority Whip BLUNT and all the other committee members on both sides of the aisle for bringing the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Capital Financing Improvement Act to the floor, and I rise in strong support of this legislation.

As a proud graduate of an HBCU, South Carolina State University, I understand the important role that HBCUs play in the development of our country. It is essential that this congressional body do all that we can to support these institutions and the students they serve.

Our Nation's historically black colleges and universities have produced some of America's brightest stars and most principled leaders, many of whom serve in this body.

I requested the introduction of this bill because many of the builders and buildings and facilities at some of these fine colleges and universities are deteriorating as we speak. This bill goes a long way toward making it possible for many of these schools to refurbish their infrastructure and to better serve the needs of their faculties and student bodies.

This legislation provides increased lending authority for bonds issued to support capital financing projects at HBCUs. Funds authorized through this bill will be used for the repair, renovation and the construction of facilities used for instruction, research and housing.

Mr. Speaker, institutions of higher learning are only as good as what they produce, and, in my opinion, no other set of institutions has a more impressive alumni role than our Nation's HBCUs. I encourage my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4154, a bill to increase the limit placed on the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Capital Financing Program. This worthy program provides Federal insurance for bonds issued to support capital financing projects at HBCUs. Generally, the funds are used for repair and renovation.

This program includes important safeguards to protect taxpayers while making funds available to HBCUs. Under current law, the total outstanding principal and interest payments on loans made under this program cannot exceed $375 million. During fiscal year 2006, the Department of Education made 24 loans from this program. Since the last Congress, at least four institutions have submitted applications to the Department of Education to obtain funds from this program. Another seven schools have expressed an interest in the program, according to the Department. Without expanding this cap, none of these schools would have access to these critical funds.

Historically black colleges and universities are integral to the fabric of our Nation's higher education system. HBCUs serve many low-income and first-generation college students that would not otherwise have the opportunity to attend college. Students attending these institutions should have access to safe, up-to-date facilities.

With so many institutions in need of assistance, this bill will increase the overall limit on this program from $375 million to $1.1 billion. With this new cap, the Department of Education will be able to make over $400 million in loans to deserving public and private institutions. Through the HBCU Capital Financing Program, we can help these institutions to help themselves.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and vote ''yes'' on H.R. 4154.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT), a member of the committee.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, historically black colleges and universities play a pivotal role in America's higher education system and continue to educate many black American students as well as students of other races every year.

Today, we have over 100 historically black colleges and universities in the Nation, 5 percent of our colleges and universities; yet these institutions award almost 30 percent of all college degrees obtained by African Americans. In some areas of science, math and engineering, these colleges account for almost half or more of such degrees awarded to African Americans. HBCUs are also responsible for a large number of graduate and professional degrees earned by African Americans.

This bill will provide the necessary capital that will ensure that HBCUs have all of the options available to them in order to maintain their excellent standard of education.

This bill is supported by the Department of Education and three historically black college and university advocacy groups; the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, or NAFEO; Thurgood Marshall College Fund; and the United Negro College Fund.

□ 1945

I would like to thank the majority whip, Mr. CLYBURN, and particularly thank the chairman of the Education and Labor Committee, Mr. MILLER, as well as their staffs who worked so hard to address this issue in a timely manner. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COOPER).

Mr. COOPER. I thank the gentleman from California, my friend from Virginia, and the gentleman from South Carolina for the prompt consideration of this vitally important measure.

I have the privilege of representing not only Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, but also Meharry Medical College, as well as Tennessee State University and American Baptist College. But Fisk and Meharry are two private institutions that are in urgent need of funds such as these.

People should be more aware of the historic role these institutions have played in American history. At one point Meharry Medical College alone had supplied literally half of the African American physicians practicing medicine in the United States of America. This country would be completely different without the legacy and the bright, bright future of Meharry Medical College.

Equally prominent is Fisk University, what some people have called the Harvard of the historically black colleges and universities world. Currently led by Hazel O'Leary, many have heard of the Fisk Jubilee Singers, a group that is literally famous worldwide. But they should also know about the science, the liberal arts, and the incredible education that is going on at Fisk University every day.

These are vitally important institutions, and I am thankful that even the administration has seen that we need to increase this loan fund. We need to offer help to these vitally important institutions so they can continue their historic mission of educating not only African American youth, but people of all colors and persuasions to live up to their full God-given potential.

Fisk and Meharry are two vital institutions in my district. But as the gentleman noted, there are hundreds of other institutions spread nationwide. These are very important institutions to support, and I am grateful that the House leadership, with Republican cooperation, has brought this bill forward. We must pass this important legislation.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CUMMINGS).

Mr. CUMMINGS. I want to thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, as a graduate of Howard University and first-generation graduate of college, to see my daughter graduate from Howard University, too, and then to sit on the board of Morgan State University, this bill is very, very important.

I have had an opportunity to visit a lot of historically black colleges and universities. I have often said if they did not exist, we would have to invent them because they have touched so many people. But so often when we go to campuses, we see buildings that are in very bad shape. Sometimes it almost brings tears to your eyes to think that students will come from far away and so often when they get there, so often they are disappointed. But the fact is that they still learn.

But it is nice to know that extending this bonding authority will be helpful to them in getting these buildings built and renovated. It is so very, very important. So I want to congratulate Mr. MILLER and the committee, and certainly Mr. CLYBURN.

I have often said that our children are the living messages we send to a future we will never see. I think if we are going to send a powerful message, our children must be educated and they must be educated in the best facilities. They must be educated with the best faculties. So as one who also represents Morgan State and Coppin, as well as Sojourner-Douglass in my district, I think this bill is so very, very important; and I think it says a lot about this body that we would even be doing this.

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. SCOTT and Mr. COOPER who have worked diligently to get this legislation to the floor. And I want to thank Mr. KELLER and Mr. MCKEON on the Republican side, and our House leadership and the Republican leadership for facilitating this.

The Historically Black Colleges and Universities Capital Financing Program was established by Congress in 1992 to help these schools fund capital projects to construct, rehabilitate, or renovate existing and new campus facilities.

Under current law, the HBCU Capital Financing Program has a legislative cap or limit to the total amount of bonds that the Secretary of Education may guarantee to provide loans to these schools to undertake their capital projects.

In dealing with the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the Secretary exceeded, with congressional approval, the original cap that Congress imposed on the amount of bonds the Secretary could guarantee. Given the cap on such bonds was reached during the tragic events caused by Hurricane Katrina, the program is now unable to provide any loans to other schools.

The bill we are considering under suspension today will simply increase the lending authority of the Secretary and establish a new cap to ensure other HBCUs in the pipeline for consideration of such loans will receive those loans. This is a short-term solution to the capital needs of these schools, and we will continue to address the reauthorization in the Higher Education Act the Education and Labor Committee is currently considering.

So I want to thank all of those who participated in this legislation.

I also want to take a moment, as we are talking about historically black colleges, to remember a pioneer that we lost this last weekend, former Congressman Gus Hawkins, who is a former Chair of the Education and Labor Committee and a member of the California delegation.

He was a wonderful politician who had a great vision for this country on behalf of its students and workers. He fought every day of his public life to make their lives better in this country. He was a trailblazer in so many aspects, including advancing legislation that barred employment discrimination and increasing the minimum wage and access to colleges.

I had the honor of serving on the committee while Gus was the Chair and can attest to his passion and dedication to the issues that affect America's students and workers.

As a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus and the first African American to represent California in the Congress, he led the way for many legislators who are here today.

Gus was also the author of legislation which established the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which continues to combat employment discrimination. Throughout his career, Gus Hawkins authored more than 300 pieces of State and Federal legislation, a feat that few can claim.

After retiring, he served as director of the Hawkins Family Memorial Foundation for Education, Research and Development, where Gus continued helping many young people find a path to college.

His voice is going to be missed, and I know my thoughts and thoughts of all of our colleagues are with the Hawkins family today.

I also want to say that Gus Hawkins was a wonderful friend of my mother and father when Gus and my father served together in the California legislature where they fought many of these same fights on the State level. They were a remarkable group of people who blazed these trails for justice, economic and social justice, in this country. Gus Hawkins set the bar and the standard very high for all of us, and I think it is fitting that we are also addressing the needs of the historically black colleges here on the day we

choose to remember him and the delegation will have an hour of remembrance and testimony to Gus and his great accomplishments tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KELLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote ''yes'' on H.R. 4154. This is going to help many worthy historically black colleges to rebuild and renovate after the tragedy of Hurricane Katrina, and it is worthy of support of colleagues on both sides of the aisle. I urge them to vote ''yes'' on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. GEORGE MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 4154.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

HONORING ADRIANNE KARANUSIC

(Mr. KLEIN of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. I rise today to honor Adrianne Karanusic, a registered nurse at Broward General Medical Center, for receiving the Florida Hospital Association's 2007 Hospital Hero of the Year Award.

A nurse of 18 years, Adrianne showed amazing compassion and dedication to a Croatian patient who spoke no English and fell critically ill from cancer while working on a cruise ship. Adrianne, who speaks Croatian, made herself available as an interpreter and would even call the patient's family in Croatia from her personal cell phone to keep them up to date.

But Adrianne's support and overwhelming compassion for her patient did not end there. Concerned with his mounting bills, she contacted Croatian churches in New York and California, ultimately raising over $10,000 for his medical expenses. She even took a week off to accompany them back so she could explain his clinical ailments.

Adrianne's incredible kindness and dedication is the epitome of a ''Hospital Hero,'' and I am proud to honor her today on the floor of the United States Congress.

CORPORAL STEVEN SHULZ, TEXAS MARINE

(Mr. POE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE. Mr. Speaker, Steven Shulz joined the United States Marine Corps after 9/11 and wanted, as he said, ''to strengthen the United States military.''

He did two tours of duty in Iraq, and in 2005 he was wounded by an IED in Fallujah. He had traumatic brain injury and was given up for dead.

Mr. Speaker, last rites were actually given for him. But Corporal Shulz refused to die, even though he has permanent brain injury, a weak left side, and is blind in one eye. No one ever expected Steven to even walk; but he continues to go through rehab, and his recovery is remarkable due to awesome medical personnel.

At a ceremony at the Baylor College of Medicine on Veterans Day, Corporal Shulz was presented with keys to a new home, especially designed and built for him, thanks to Houston area Rotary Clubs and benefactors in the Houston area.

It was a thrill for me and other Members of Congress to be present to see this young American hero. I was so impressed by his positive attitude and his love for America. He told me he would go back to Iraq and do it all over again if necessary.

Amazing men, these young guns of the United States Marine Corps.

And that's just the way it is.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, 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 Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

□ 2000

SECOND CHANCE ACT

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

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the House on the passage of H.R. 1593, the Second Chance Act. I congratulate my colleague from Illinois, Mr. Danny Davis, who has worked so long and so hard on this legislation.

I am also proud to be a cosponsor of this legislation because so many of our citizens who have been led off course deserve a second chance.

While the Nation's crime rates have fallen over the last decade, there has been an unprecedented explosion in prison and jail populations, of which 650,000 men and women are released from State and Federal prisons each year, and an even larger number of people are being released from our local jails.

These individuals are arriving on the doorsteps of my neighborhood in Baltimore and in neighborhoods across this great country. Unfortunately, we are failing to integrate far too many of these returning neighbors into the economic and social life of our communities. And, as a result, they are returning to crime and, before long, returning to prison.

Nearly two-thirds of released prisoners are expected to be rearrested for felony or serious misdemeanor within 3 years of release. Such high recidivism rates translate into thousands of new crimes each year, at least half of which can be averted through improved prisoner reentry efforts.

For me, these statistics are not nameless and faceless people. They are very real. I live in the inner city of Baltimore, where approximately 700 to 800 former prisoners are reentering our neighborhoods from prison every month.

A lot of good work is being done in the City of Baltimore to move these individuals on the path to productive citizenship; however, we can do much more and we can do better.

The Second Chance Act will do just that by addressing critical breakdowns in the services provided. The legislation will strengthen overall efforts to reduce recidivism, increase public safety, and help States and cities to better address the growing population of ex-offenders returning to our communities.

The bill focuses on development and support of programs that provide alternatives to incarceration, expand the availability of substance abuse treatment, strengthen families, and expand comprehensive reentry services.

We must end the vicious cycle of recidivism for the benefit of our communities and, indeed, our country. This is an issue that touches many of the problems that our society faces every day. Take, for example, the scourge of illicit drugs; 70 to 80 percent of offenders reentering the community have histories of substance abuse. And if the treatment they need is not sought or available upon release, relapse is likely.

Prison reentry programs are on the front lines of our national war on drugs, and they are desperately needed in communities like Baltimore City where this war has become increasingly violent. Ex-offenders need help to make a smooth transition into civilian life. Once they make that transition, they have the potential to serve as critical resources to our communities, acting as mentors to our young people and working to unravel the same criminal network to which they once belonged.

Reentry programs produce successful outcomes for our communities and our citizens, but they are also cost effective. Taxpayer dollars that could go to providing education, health care, or other vitally important services are instead going to support the costly criminal justice system. According to

the Bureau of Justice statistics, expenditures on corrections alone increased from $9 billion in 1992 to $44 billion in 1997. Those numbers have continued to rise over the past decade. We stand to save billions of taxpayer dollars by reducing recidivism rates by steering our ex-offenders away from a life of crime and into a productive society.

Every human being deserves a second chance to turn his or her life around. That is why I am so glad that we have passed H.R. 1593, the Second Chance Act. And again, I thank Congressman DANNY DAVIS for his leadership in introducing and spearheading this legislation. I applaud all of my colleagues who voted in favor of it, and I urge the Senate to move swiftly.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

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

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

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

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

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

(Ms. WATERS addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

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

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

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

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

MR. AUGUSTUS HAWKINS

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

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, we mourn the passing of a great Congressman whose public service was emulated by leaders present and past. Gus Hawkins has left us with a sterling legacy that was built on the politics of inclusion.

While in office, he authored over 100 laws in the area of adult education, apprenticeship training, slum clearance, low-cost housing, workmen's compensation for domestics, disability insurance, pensions for senior citizens, and child care centers. He was also responsible for the Fair Employment Practice Act of 1959, the Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962, and the Fair Housing Act of 1963. More importantly, he authored the Elementary and Secondary School Act of 1965, which was an extensive statute funding primary and secondary education.

As a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus, he chaired various committees and continued in his effort to enhance educational opportunities for children. He was instrumental in forming the National Council on Educating Black Children.

Augustus Hawkins' philosophy of service and leadership to the State of California and the Nation is perhaps best said in his own words, and I quote, ''The leadership belongs not to the loudest, not to those who beat the drums or blow the trumpets, but to those who day in and day out in all seasons work for the practical realization of a better world, those who have the stamina to persist and to remain dedicated. To those belong the leadership.''

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

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

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

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

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

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to address one of the darkest events of the 20th century, an event that we must not let be forgotten.

During the First World War and in the final days of the Ottoman Empire, one of the worst atrocities in human history occurred. Even among the chaos and violence of World War I, this atrocity stood out, horrifying foreign witnesses, and prompting Theodore Roosevelt to call it, ''the greatest crime of the war.'' This crime against humanity was the Armenian genocide.

Although large-scale violence against Armenians had previously occurred, the events from 1915 to 1918 were truly unprecedented. During this period, approximately 1.5 million Armenians were systematically killed by the Ottoman Government, while the surviving Armenians were left without homes, jobs, possessions, and, most importantly, their loved ones.

Yet, despite overwhelming evidence that the Ottoman Government actively sought to destroy the Armenian population, this genocide, the first of the 20th century, has been overlooked by the United States. This is simply wrong. Because, to end genocide, we must stand up to it whenever and wherever it occurs. If we do not, we only embolden those who would commit genocide elsewhere.

In 1939, while explaining his plan to destroy the Polish population, Adolph Hitler stated, ''Who, after all, today speaks of the annihilation of the Armenians?'' And many of my Polish brothers and sisters died.

Mr. Speaker, today we have the opportunity to speak of the annihilation of the Armenians. We can finally characterize the systematic murder of 1.5 million Ottoman Armenians as genocide, and rightfully condemn those atrocious killings that occurred 90 years ago. The prevention of future genocides may depend on it.

AMERICA'S ENERGY PROBLEM

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CONAWAY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, we have an hour's worth of comments today about an issue that there is little debate, and that is that we have got an energy problem in this country. How do we continue to power the factories and the plants and the office buildings, hospitals, our homes, our cars? How do we continue to use energy? Where do we get that energy from? And at what cost?

There is not a lot of debate these days that we are in fact too dependent on imported foreign oil and natural gas, and that is a national security issue that I suspect the folks at the Pentagon chew on every single day. It is an issue for factory owners and businessmen and women all over this country as they look at ways to reduce

their energy usage, as they look at ways to reduce their costs, their input costs on the product that they are trying to manufacture and sell to others. That is an issue to every family in this country as they decide how to pay for gasoline for their automobiles and home heating oil and natural gas to heat their homes or electricity to heat their homes. Energy should have a central front in our debate, in our actions, particularly in this body.

Mr. Speaker, there is a story about a fellow who went to visit a neighbor. And when he got there, the neighbor was on the front porch. So they are sitting there visiting about things, and the neighbor's dog is in the front yard, and the dog is just howling to beat the band. He is making all kinds of racket. He is just howling. So finally the visitor says to the owner of the house, he says, ''What is the matter with your dog?'' And the owner looks out there and says, ''Well, he is sitting on a cactus.'' And the visitor says, ''Why doesn't he get up and get off the cactus?'' And the neighbor says, ''Well, I guess he would just rather howl.''

Well, we are doing a lot of howling in this country today about energy. And rather than get up and get off the cactus and do some things about it, we continue to just howl and gripe about the price and the cost and solutions, and are unwilling to focus and study on this issue that is of terrific importance to every household, every business, every governmental entity, because they buy fuel as well, they buy electricity, they buy power.

Let me give you a couple statistics. The crude oil December contract, the good news, it fell for the fourth time in 5 days to close at $91.17 a barrel; but the bad news is, it closed above $80 a barrel for the 40th time in 44 days, 22 consecutive days above 85, and the 14th time ever above $90 a barrel. This will ultimately translate into much higher gasoline prices.

Let's talk about home heating oil, which is of grave concern to my colleagues in the northeast. The home heating oil for contract December did fall for the fifth time in 15 days, down 8 cents, to close at $2.50 a gallon. However, home heating oil has closed above $2 a gallon for the 53rd consecutive day. Home heating oil prices are above a year ago prices for the 57th consecutive day, up almost 81 cents. This does not bode well for this year's coming winter. We can all hope and pray for a mild winter, but that doesn't make for very good public policy. We ought to be doing some things today. We should have been doing things yesterday, and tomorrow is open to us to do some things. I don't hold out a lot of hope for tomorrow, but maybe a few days from now the colleagues and I on both sides of the aisle can come to some rational conclusions about how do we power plants? How do we heat homes and hospitals? How do we drive our cars, and on what fuels? What costs are we going to live with as we transition from carbon-based fuels to some other based fuels? That has to be a part of the equation. We cannot simply just immediately wean ourselves off of crude oil and natural gas, because the replacement for that product is not in hand, nor is it in hand for the foreseeable future.

Later on this evening we will talk about some reports that have recently been issued by some groups who should get some respect from us that the makeup of the energy usage in America 25 years from now, carbon-based products of crude oil, natural gas, and coal, will make up about the same percentage of that total demand that it does today.

□ 2015

These projections are done by reputable people and ones that we should look at in terms of relying on those as we begin to craft public policy.

So with that, Mr. Speaker, I'd like to yield to my good colleague from Illinois, JOHN SHIMKUS, a member of the Energy and Commerce Committee, for some comments that he may have.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I thank my colleague, and it's great to be here tonight. We did a press conference last week addressing some of these concerns, and it's good to follow up with a Special Order tonight.

At the press conference, we really highlighted the issue of when our friends on the Democratic side took over the majority, crude oil prices were at $58.31 per barrel of crude oil. And when we did the press conference of last week, the crude oil price was at $96.65, the price of a barrel of crude oil.

Our issue was that when you have no energy plan, you have, when you can't plan, you have, this is the default energy policy of this country. The price escalations, as my friend from Texas, the difference about the price escalations now is that many times when we saw the run-up of these, the costs for a barrel of crude oil in the past, it was based upon some national emergency, Katrina, pipeline disruptions, maybe a refinery fire. What's different about the price escalations today is that it's all demand related. So if you, as many of us have, have taken Economics 101 in college, maybe in an MBA program, the simple law of supply and demand. If you have high prices, and we'd say we have high crude oil prices and we're quoted today at $91 a barrel, you would think that that would then encourage people to go into the business to explore new means of recovery of crude oil so that they would bring more supply into the market so that you would lower the prices.

But the policies here in Washington not only prohibit that, but they discourage any investment, because when people bring capital to the market, they assume risk. And when you assume risk, you assume the opportunity of losing it all. And most people in the investor community and the business community, all they want to do is if they're going to assume risk, they want to try to get a return on that investment.

So last week we had close to $100 a barrel of crude oil, in California $5 a gallon of gas. Now, this is before we even talk about a global warming debate and a 50 cent per-gallon tax.

And as I said last week, so what you now have is we have European prices for liquid fuel, but we don't have European distances. I always remind my friends, those that want to, well, why shouldn't we have as high gas prices as they have in Europe? Well, that's because you can put all of Europe on the eastern seaboard. We don't have the distances that our European friends do where they can drive across their country in 2½ hours. I can't drive across my district in 2½ hours from one point to another from the far west to the far east. So that's a problem that we have in this debate.

So what we would like to see, we've already moved some energy bills on the floor. They're mostly efficiency oriented, the light bulb and the light car tires. But what we need to do is we need to focus on bringing on more supply, and that should be an energy policy.

When you have no energy policy, the energy policy of this country is $96 a barrel crude oil. That's the default energy policy of this country if you do not bring on significant amounts of increased supply.

So what kinds of supplies? All my friends here on the Republican side, one thing we have in common, although we will talk about different types of supply, is that we're all supply people. We all know that you if want to lower costs, you've got to bring more supply on board. And so that's kind of the commonality of the focus, because when you have more supply, you have lower cost. When you have lower cost, that's lower out-of-pocket cost to the individual consumer.

And the consumers are going to start complaining when they're at $3 a gallon of gas, $3.50, especially around Christmastime because they're going to be spending that extra money at the pump versus going to the store. Then you have an oversupply of toys at the store. We all know about the focus on, you know, the Christmas shopping period. High energy costs will diminish and dampen the ability of our consumers to have a good Christmas shopping season. So that affects the manufacturers of all the things that we would like to buy for our loved ones at Christmas.

So how do we address the supply concerns? And again, all of us are going to be involved with that. One thing that I've always pushed for and always encouraged us to take, look after, is an alternative fuel standard.

When the President was here for the State of the Union address he said he would sign an alternative fuel standard. An alternative fuel standard would talk about things like corn-based ethanol. It also would address stuff like

soy diesel, soybeans crushed and mixed with petroleum diesel, which is obviously the soybean portion, or the beef tallow or the reformulated cooking oil or all things that are renewable.

And then, obviously, we have coal. And now in Illinois alone and in parts all over this country, we have a 250-year supply of coal in the Illinois coal basin.

Now, coal can be used for a lot of things. Coal can be used to generate electricity. When we have this energy debate, we focus, sometimes we all lump it together, and sometimes I like to split it apart: part of it would be electricity generation; the other would be liquid fuel.

It would surprise people if they knew that 50 percent of the electricity generated in this country comes from coal. In fact, the lights in this building and the lights at the Pentagon and all the electricity that we use here in the Capitol complex we can point to not only our own power plant, which uses coal, but one right across the river that also provides electricity.

Now in this country, we're pretty much independent on electricity generation. Fifty percent coal, 20 percent hydro, 20 percent nuclear, 10 percent the other one. The concern we have is the liquid fuel debate where we are highly dependent on imported crude oil. And hence, because demand goes up, we have $96.65 a barrel crude oil.

A no energy plan is a plan to fail and a plan to increase crude oil prices. So while we're trying to work with our friends across the aisle and the leadership of this House, I mean, there's a lot of my friends who I call fossil fuel Democrats who understand the importance of fossil fuels in this country and understand the importance of making sure that we bring more supply in the fossil fuel arena to this debate. They have been tampered down by the leadership.

But we hope in this Special Order, we hope from the press conference of last week, and we hope from the anger and angst that the driving public's going to see by escalating prices, that we'll start at least start making the point of you can't always say no if you want to have an energy policy. You can't always close up supply. You've got to make sure that where you know you have available resources, you then take the opportunity to go in those arenas. Like we want to exploit the Illinois coal basin for electricity generation and for liquid fuel. We do not want to shut off areas by which we can bring in more natural gas reserves or other type of fossil fuel research.

So for my colleague from Texas, for planning to execute this Special Order, I appreciate the time that he has allotted me and want to let him know that I'm going to continue to be on the watch trying to drive home to the American public the importance and the need for a sound energy policy that, yes, talks about some efficiency issues, but as important, in fact, I think more important, talks about really bringing more supply to the debate so that we can at least maybe hold prices steady.

I'd like to see us move to start lowering prices so that the consumers of this country have more spending power, the manufacturers in this country will have that as a net plus in their competitive advantage, which is low-cost power. And I feel that the inability of the Democrat leadership of this House to move effectively on the supply end will cause great distrust, dissatisfaction, and danger for the energy security position of this country.

Mr. CONAWAY. I thank my colleague for his comments tonight. They are spot on. It really is about the supply of energy and where we're going to get it, what form it's going to take, how we should transition from where we are today to where we want to get to and what that will cost.

Much of the debate to date has ignored the cost to the consumers, the cost to businesses. And should we do that, we do so at our own peril because if we artificially or arbitrarily raise costs to American manufacturers, American producers, and ultimately American families and homes, that makes us less competitive around the world as we try to compete. We've got 5 percent of the world's population, and so 95 percent of the world is our market. And if we're going to make things in America that we can sell to somebody else, we need every single competitive advantage that we can have.

Clearly, we've been coming out of a period where energy was relatively cheap. We've enjoyed very cheap gasoline prices almost as if a right of being an American. That right and those low prices has come as the result of some incredibly efficient and risk-taking people who've been willing to risk fortunes and make a lot of money and lose a lot of money trying to provide crude oil for our refineries that have allowed us to drive on cheap gasoline when the rest of the world isn't.

Before I turn to my colleague from Pennsylvania, my colleague did make some rather benign comments about the legislation, energy legislation that's already come across the floor. And I'd like to call his attention to a study that's just been released by API, which was prepared by the Charles River Associates International. This study looks at the legislation that's pending or has passed so far. It looks at the oil savings provisions, the increased CAFE standards, the increased taxes on the industry, the renewable portfolio standards, expanded renewable fuel standards.

All of the bills that are passed or talked about passed were reviewed by this group. And there's some pretty startling impacts that this legislation will have. Every vote has a consequence, and to the extent that we do things to reduce supply and to harm our own country, here's what some of the impacts could be.

This study, and I hope my colleagues across the aisle will get the study and study it, try to poke some holes in it, try to show where it's wrong. But to the extent that this is a reasonable analysis of what those bills do, I hope that they also take that into consideration as they continue to formulate the energy bill that we may see this week which has no Republican input. I don't know that it's got a lot of Democrat input in it. It seems to be a leadership, Speaker/ leader of Senate kind of a bill.

But these bills so far will cost, 5 million jobs will be lost by the year 2030. The average American household's purchasing power could drop by $1,700 by 2030. Aggregate business investments in the United States could drop by as much as $220 billion by 2030. Our national GDP could decline by more than $1 trillion by 2030, relative to the baseline. And cost of petroleum products could more than double by 2030, just on the bills that have been threatened and some that have already passed so far in this House.

So the energy bills that have passed this House and have been introduced on this floor have a consequence, and these consequences appear very dire.

What I don't see is what the benefits are from the bills that have passed. It is clearly not a supply-based concept that's being worked on from the other side.

So now it's my great pleasure to turn to JOHN PETERSON, a Member from Pennsylvania who's on the Interior Committee. And JOHN has studied this issue quite at length, and is one of our go-to guys when it comes to particularly natural gas. So, JOHN, let's hear what you have to say.

□ 2030

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. I thank the gentleman from Texas and my friend from Illinois. It's a pleasure to work with both of you. And I just wish the majority of Congress had a deeper interest in energy.

I guess I find it confounding that this is a chart I have been using all year and it doesn't work anymore. This was the rise. This is annualized by year. It doesn't have the spikes that happened in those years, but this is the annualized figure. And I just find it confounding that last week we were bouncing all over 98, almost 100 one day, and not a word spoken in here about energy. It wasn't a priority. It was not even a discussion on this floor, except for a few of us, in 5-minute speeches or hour speeches, like tonight, talking about it. But the committee is not meeting. The conference committee is not meeting. And I guess the question is how difficult does it have to get. Because here we are approaching the winter season. People have to heat their homes. And 58 percent of them use gas, I think 30 percent use electricity, and 9 percent use home heating oil, and then there are a few other mixtures in there. But nobody seems to be concerned.

I was a retailer for many years, supermarket operator, and I remember back in the 1970s and 1980s when we had the energy spikes that were really severe back then. And as a person in the food industry, you would think people would always have money for food. 1979 and 1980 were very difficult years in my business because people didn't have money to spend.

What we forget about is 50 percent or maybe 60 percent of Americans spend every dollar they make every week. They don't have any money in the drawer. They don't have any extra cash in the bank. They spend. And when energy prices spike like this, and especially in rural America where I come from, transportation costs are high in big rural areas. People have to travel to work, travel to church, travel to school, travel for everything. And then when you pay your transportation bill and then your home heating bill, in rural America, again, bigger old farmhouses, not a lot of new housing, not as energy efficient as the new modern housing, so they have high home heating bills. And when they spend an inordinate amount for home heating and for transportation, then they have less money. And my friend from Illinois was talking about it. I had tough springs. Usually in my business, I was lucky to break even through March. You had to make your profits the rest of the year. But in those years it was into May before I cracked into a profit because people didn't have money to buy basic fundamentals, food. I was in the food business. And that's what is going to happen in America this year. It could challenge the holiday season because it came this early.

I didn't expect $95 oil, and I'm going to tell you why. Everybody has told me that if we had a major storm in the gulf, and we have been very fortunate in America, we haven't had a major storm in the gulf in 2 years. The first time ever that we've gone that length of time. Everybody has told me this summer, when it was 75 or 80 and I asked what a major storm in the gulf would bring us, $100 oil. A couple weeks ago, I asked a gentleman what would a storm in the gulf bring us. He said $120 oil. Could we handle $120 oil? I'm not sure. I don't think we could handle $95 oil for a long period of time and keep the economy moving, because a great amount of our economy is you and I shopping, buying goods and services, and when we have so much money being consumed by energy, it has to come out of our budgets. And those who don't have any extra cash, credit cards will only give them so much, and then they are going to start cutting their spending.

I think the thing that's interesting is the prediction for America. We have finally gotten this on a chart that anybody could figure out. Usually you see charts and you have lines going up and down. This is energy usage in America up to now. This line in the middle to my left is the projection by the Energy Department of what energy we are going to consume in this country. It doesn't change much.

Now, I wish this nonhydro renewable line up here was just exploding, this red. That's what we are pinning our future on. Now, I'm for it. We are subsidizing. The people are saying we are holding it back. We're not holding it back. This is the projection of the Department of Energy of what renewables are going to grow. That's wind and solar. That's the mix.

Look at hydro. Because we are not building dams and because dams are still being removed, hydro decreases. Now, there is a little bit of growth in nuclear here, very little, if we build the 35 plants that are under permit process tonight. We need to build those new 35 nuclear plants just to keep electric generation at this percentage that it is. I think it's 8 percent, if my memory is correct.

Coal, now I happen to disagree with the Energy Department. They have coal growing. With the CO_2 debate, coal is going to diminish. And I think their projections were made before CO_2 and carbon became the issue, because I see coal plants being refused by States all over the country. There are permits being denied. And they don't show gas growing, and I disagree with the Department of Energy on this estimate, and they may be a little bit wrong on renewables. But if you double this line, that's a lot wrong. It still isn't very much, is it? Now, I look for gas, because every country that started dealing with carbon as a pollutant and started charging carbon taxes or penalties, natural gas is the big winner because it has a third of the carbon of the other fossil fuels and has no NO_X or no SO_X, nitric oxides or sulfur oxides; so I predict that it will come up here and coal will decrease. That's my opinion because, as my friend from Illinois has talked about, we ought to be building. I'm going to give the White House credit. They are pushing six cellulosic ethanol plants. I think that's good. That's pretty new technology. That's using woody waste or biomass of any kind to make ethanol, and I think that's good. But I think we ought to be building 10 coal to liquid plants and some coal to gas plants.

Then we look down here at oil. Oil is going to be a major part of America. Now, we have heard lots of speeches on this floor that we are going to replace oil. I wish that were true. I wish that was possible. But what we have decided in America is we are not going to produce oil. We're going to restrict it. The government owns a lot of the oil in America. They have control of all offshore, and 80 percent of that has been locked up by three Presidents, and all the Congresses in the last 26 years have voted to literally not produce energy. In Brazil, who is energy independent and everybody says it's ethanol, well, ethanol is a piece of it. It's a nice piece of it. But they've opened up their Outer Continental Shelf, and I think they just found one of the biggest finds ever off South America just in the last week, and Brazil is producing offshore like we ought to be producing.

But oil is what scares me. Number one, we are not producing it, so we are part of causing the shortage in the world. Number two, we are gaining dependency on foreign, unstable governments, 2 percent a year. And I think if we pass the energy bill that I hear rumored about, it will probably be 3 percent a year. And I hear people say we are going to be energy dependent. Well, there is no way in our lifetime, probably my lifetime anyway, and some of you may be younger, that we can be energy independent. We can be less dependent. I would like us to be energy independent, but we can only be less dependent. But this one just keeps marching on.

And why is it $95? Well, we have countries like China who are producing energy all over the world. They are locking up oil and gas reserves in every part of the world. Every part of the world. They're going to be producing less than 50 miles off of Florida with Cuba, as are five or six other countries. In our waters, actually, they are going to be producing oil that we should be producing. But we have locked up those 200 miles offshore and cannot produce there.

So my biggest fear, and I will just ask the question, what if one unstable administering country topples? What does that do to the price of oil? What if we have a storm like Katrina? What does that do to the price of oil? What if terrorists struck a couple of refineries, some pipelines, some loading stations in foreign countries where we get a lot of our energy? What happens to the price of oil? Will China stop anytime soon purchasing and outbidding us? I predict in the near future you are going to see China announcing a major oil coup with a major supplier that has been part of our supply system. That's what they are doing. They are out there locking it up.

It's interesting in the summertime we get 20 percent of our gasoline from Europe. This spring we had $3.09 gasoline in my market, which we have $3.09 now, at $63 oil. We now have 90-some-dollar oil, and we still only have $3.09 gasoline because gasoline has not yet caught up with the oil price, plus at the end of the summer there was a surplus of gasoline. This spring when the driving season started, Europe was short of gas themselves, so they couldn't supply us with the gasoline they normally did. So there was a shortage in the market, and, of course, that runs the marketplace up. So $3.09 gasoline was abnormal, just as abnormal as $3.09 gasoline is in America today with $95 oil. We are probably looking at $3.49, $3.50 gasoline would sort of be the price if it was being used out of today's oil and with not a surplus of supply.

Here is a chart that tells what we use: 40 percent petroleum, 23 percent

natural gas. Now, this figure has grown a lot because 13 years ago we took away the prohibition of using natural gas to make electricity, and we went from 8 or 9 percent of our electricity made with natural gas. We only allowed it to be used for peak power in the morning and evening when we have to turn them on and off. And a gas generator is cheaper to build, doesn't take very long in comparison to other generators. But now we produce 23 percent, and that number is growing every day, and it will really grow. Coal, 23 percent; nuclear, 8 percent; hydroelectric, 2.7; biomass, 2.4; geothermal, .36; wind, .12; solar, .06.

Now, here is where our future lies, and the only one that is really growing is biomass. How is that growing? Well, we are using it to heat factories. Wood waste has now become a commodity. I'm from Pennsylvania, the hardwood capital of the world. We are now drying most of our wood with wood waste instead of using fuel oil or natural gas because it's cheaper. A million Americans will heat their homes this year with wood pellets. A lot of people don't know about a pellet stove, but a pellet stove is a new, modern, beautiful stove that you can heat your home and it's wood waste. That is a new consumer in the market. And also power plants that are burning coal will top them with wood waste so they can just slide under the air standards where the coal they are burning might just have a little too much emission in it. So they'll use 20, 30 percent wood waste, and they will be able to meet the EPA air quality standards. So woody biomass is the growing one. And now when we go into cellulosic ethanol, we are going to use wood waste again to make ethanol, cellulosic ethanol.

But let's say we really put our effort behind, and we are, solar. So let's say we double solar. Now, it is hard to double something in 10 years. But let's say we double it in 5 years. So we would be at .12. And if we double it again in another 5 years, we would be at .24, if my math is still good. And we take wind and we do the same. We could do that for a number of years, a couple decades. We'd still be struggling to get a percent of our energy from wind and solar.

□ 2045

And yet people seem to think, and I don't know why, but they seem to think it's ready to take over, it's ready to be helpful. But it's not ready to replace that big wide band I had on oil, it's not ready to replace that big wide band on coal. Nothing is. And hydroelectric is decreasing because we're taking dams out and it's becoming a smaller percentage. And nuclear will decrease to 7 percent if we don't open the new plants because, as electric use goes up, if nuclear doesn't go up with it, it will become a smaller figure.

So when you look at this chart, now I'm going to switch gears on you for just a minute, what do we hear? Here's what we hear is coming now: this is, I believe, the ''no energy bill.'' It locks up 9 trillion cubic feet in the Roan Plateau. The Roan Plateau is a huge, clean natural gas field in Colorado that was set aside as a naval oil shale reserve in 1912 because of its rich energy resources. This means that 9 trillion cubic feet of natural gas, more than all the natural gas in the OCS bill that was passed in Congress last year, that little piece in the gulf, will be put off limits. It has already been through NEPA, it's all ready to lease, it's ready to produce. Legislation that's coming before us is going to take it away. What makes sense about clean green natural gas?

Next, it locks up 18 percent of the Federal onshore production, America's natural gas. And that's because of policy changes and further NEPA studies, and making it more difficult to permit is going to slow down the production of both oil and gas production in America.

I was responsible for a small amendment, but a good amendment, in the energy bill in 2005. It took away redundant NEPA studies because NEPA studies take a year. I talked to people who had leased land and in 7 years have not drilled yet because they were still doing NEPA studies because they had to do one for every piece of the process, not a NEPA study, and then produce it with a NEPA study to delay. Locks up 2 trillion barrels of oil shale from the West oil shale.

Now, everybody talked about the tar sands as oil that we couldn't get. Canada has been persistent. They're now producing 1.5 million barrels a day. Much of that is coming into our States to be refined. In fact, they're trying to enlarge refineries in the northern tier, having a lot of problems. Lots of resistance about enlarging those refineries, but that's necessary to produce. But the tar sands are one of the fields that's growing in Canada that's available, and they tell me that shale oil has even greater reserves.

It's going to lock up 10 billion barrels in Alaska, the national petroleum reserve, breaches legitimate legal contracts that are out there that companies have signed to produce oil by trying to make them null and void with legislation.

And then the one that really is bad, $15 billion tax increase. I have two oil refineries in my district, one in Warren, Pennsylvania, American Refineries, and in Bradford, Pennsylvania the original Kendall refinery. They're going to pay, if this bill passes, a higher tax than any other business in Pennsylvania or in America. Does that make sense, that we're going to tax people who produce energy with a greater tax than those who produce steel or food or other products for a profit? I don't think it does. I know what it's about; it's about the hatred of oil companies. Well, Big Oil does not produce.

The other fact I want to share with you, 90 percent of the oil in the world today is not owned by an oil company. The 14th largest oil company in America today is Exxon. The other 13 are countries like Mexico, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Nigeria, Russia, all our good friends. Dictatorships, unstable governments, unfriendly governments, and they own about 90 percent of the oil.

And now what's worrisome, from what I'm told, is they're using this huge cash revenue for social purposes, and they're not putting the money back. So it could happen in the very near future that those countries could not produce enough oil to supply America. And that's why we have $95 oil, because we're not doing coal-to-liquid; we're not doing all the other things we ought to be doing. We're hoping that renewables can replace oil. I wish they could.

I think America, I think this Congress, I think this administration needs to take a very serious look at the economic viability of this country if we continue, if all we have coming at us is a bill that has, it shouldn't be no energy, it's less energy and more taxes.

I thank the gentleman for allowing me to share.

Mr. CONAWAY. I thank my colleague from Pennsylvania for sharing those facts with us. And pesky though they may be and inconvenient though they may be, they're nevertheless facts; and I appreciate you sharing those with us.

I again would like to turn to my colleague from Illinois for other comments that he might have.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I want to ask my friend from Pennsylvania a couple of aspects on the chart. The first one, when we talked about the tax, under this current Congress, how many times have the Democrats gone to that same pot of money for PAYGO issues of other bills that have come to this floor?

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. I can think of five or six.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I know there is at least three times, and I'm being told four, using this same pot of money to justify the PAYGO, the new spending that they brought on.

The other thing that we really need to have here and talk to the American public about is that the Energy Information Service, what we don't have depicted is, what is going to be the future demand? And the future demand is going to double. So with your great chart of all the portfolio there, it's kind of confusing because the public might think, well, as we look at that, that everything is going to stay pretty much the same. But the reality is demand is going to go up exponentially. And if you have the same amount of supply and the demand goes up, then you see $100 a barrel crude oil, $120 barrel crude oil. And that's why, as we have come here to talk about supply, we want to bring more supply to the table. And we know we have friends on the other side of the aisle that believe the same thing.

I'm working with RICK BOUCHER. And you mentioned coal-to-liquid. Just imagine this, we have 250 years' worth of coal in the only coal basin. So you have the coal underneath the ground, you build a coal mine, right on top of it you build a coal-to-liquid refinery somewhere in the Midwest or somewhere in Pennsylvania where there is a coal field, and then you connect it to pipelines that we have today. Then you limit the risk. The risk we have now is, if we're not going to build new refineries, we're going to build refineries and expand existing refineries, and we have so many down on the gulf coast, we have them in Louisiana, we have them in Corpus Christi, we have them in Houston, we have them in all these areas where they are really at risk, and we dodged a bullet this year, of major storms that take these refineries offline, depending upon the severity of the storm. So for national security sake, to have a diversified energy portfolio, JOHN, you said it numerous times, diversification. When you have an investment portfolio, you want diversity for security.

We've got to have a diversified energy portfolio. And for our friends on the other side to say no to coal, no to oil, no to nuclear, yes to solar, yes to wind, and it's such a small portion of what can really affect the cost, it's really sending a terrible signal to our constituents that the salvation is in renewables when we all agree we want a diversified portfolio. We want to bring them on. But if you do it at the risk of the other major sources of supply, you do great harm to this country.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. CONAWAY. Yes.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. I disagreed with the IAs. I look for gas to get bigger and coal to get smaller because of the CO_2 issues.

Now, let's say they're wrong here, because I'm sure lots of people will disagree with them. Let's say they're 100 percent wrong. Right now, when you see hydro and nonhydro, you see hydro decreasing as much or more than nonhydro increases, so there is really no growth in renewables. Let's say they're 100 percent wrong. So instead of having 5 percent, we're 10 percent. It wouldn't even take up the growth need of America. So let's say they're wrong, and we're going to be twice that effective at renewables. I hope they're wrong, but it won't take care of the growth. We will still need this oil, we will still need this gas, we will still need this coal.

Mr. CONAWAY. Will the gentleman help us understand, as we talk about these supplies, a variety of energy resources, we assume, for the lack of this conversation, that it's all equal and that it all costs the same amount of money to produce, and that's the fallacy. One of the problems with a renewable portfolio standard of 15 percent, now, that our chart does not depict just electricity, but if we had a chart that did just electricity, the big players are going to be the same.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. I don't have a big chart, but I have a little chart.

Mr. CONAWAY. And it's very close to the same. And if we demand or mandate 15 percent total electricity produced from renewables, what does that do to the cost of that electricity to the consumer?

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. It's going to be much higher.

Mr. CONAWAY. And, in effect, that is a tax on families in this country. Now, we all want to get to a, I would refer to it as an energy security, not only American energy security, but we ought to be talking about global energy security in this context. Right now we're focused just on the U.S. And so as we look at this energy security, not understanding that a global portfolio standard increased to an unworkable 15 percent is a heavy tax on consumers, it's a tax on businesses, it's a tax on anybody who turns on a light, anybody who gets in a car, anybody who uses electricity, that's a tax that they're not currently paying; and those increased taxes go to a narrow margin of the energy supply. And our real goal should be energy security at a cost that we can afford.

And I yield back.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. That's the electric map, and it shows, it's the same as this. But it does prove my point, that coal goes down and gas goes up; it gets bigger. But up here at the top, you have the same thing. There is almost no change because the growth in volume needed more than absorbs all these new renewables.

Mr. CONAWAY. Texas Utilities announced that they were going to build, I think the number was 12, 300-megawatt coal fire plants in Texas. And the reason for that was that over in that time frame of construction, the demand in Texas was expected to increase, electricity demand was expected to increase to the point that our grid, ERCOT, which is separate from the rest of the United States, the differential between demand and supply would narrow to a margin that is unacceptable from a safety standpoint. And these 12 plants were going to help keep that margin at the 9 or 10 or 12 percent excess capacity to allow for spurts in daily demand or to allow for continued growth in demand without getting to a point where you turned the light on and it didn't work, the experience in California where they had brown-outs because supply outstripped demand.

You mentioned earlier about the opponents to coal fire plants. They went to work, Texas Utilities, to demand that they not build those plants. And as a result of that, and a takeover by a private entity, eight or nine of those plants have now been scrapped and they're only going to build three. Now, what got lost in that conversation was, where is the extra electricity production going to come from in order to keep ERCOT at a margin of safety for the differential between supply and demand that it has had over these years and should have in the going-forward future.

So as we look at how we produce electricity, and all of us who have always turned lights on with the assumption that they would come on, left unchecked and left to our own devices, the growth in demand will get us to a point in the not-too-distant future where we will turn light switches on and nothing happens because the electricity is just not there to be used.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I mean, you bring up a good point. And I would like to focus on that for a minute. Because now you're going from 12 coal fire plants or electricity generation plants to three. And one of the reasons why the building trade and many in organized labor are in support of a new supply provision, because look at what you've done, look at all the jobs to build these plants, and then look at all the good-paying jobs to operate these plants.

I don't know what Texas plans are, but I can see them very well, governments south of the great State of Texas citing a power plant and selling power across the border into Texas. And then who gets the jobs? It's like the same, my friend from Pennsylvania, we talk about natural gas all the time; if we're not willing to have a liquefied natural gas port built inside this country, where are they going to go?

□ 2100

Where are they going to go? To the Bahamas. Or they are going to go to other places where when they build the port facility, they build the liquefied natural gas, and then they pipe it in to this country. Who loses the jobs? We lose the jobs. So that is one of the frustrating things of this debate.

There are two main issues. We always talk about energy security because we address it in the national security component of how do we keep our Nation safe, how do we stop from being extorted by foreign rogue countries, and how do we keep our economy from falling in disruption should there be a strike in the sea lanes.

But there is also another security debate that we have talked about, and that is financial security, financial security for this country, and what really strikes individual families is financial security for the families. When you have these types of price escalations, when you don't bring new major supply to the economy and you put all your promises on a small portion of renewables that won't even meet the future demand increase, then what you are doing is, you are going back to $96 a barrel of crude oil. And that is the no energy plan that we are talking about. And all we are saying to our friends, and again, I have many of them. I work with them on the committee all the time. My fossil fuel Democrats, now is the time to make sure that fossil fuel

is a huge, is a part of this debate. And my friend from Pennsylvania is right. We are not saying it has to be the whole thing. We are all comers here. I have got my corn here. I have got my soybeans. I have my coal. I have got marginal oil wells in southern Illinois, marginal oil that we can use and recover, and we are still recovering oil from southern Illinois. Bring on the wind, bring on the solar, but we want to bring everything in. The more supply we have, the lower the cost, the Nation will be better off

Mr. CONAWAY. Before we get away from the coal comments, I want to make sure that, I know my colleagues agree with this, as we look at coal usage, it ought to be clean-burning coal. None of us argue in support of continued CO_2 emissions from coal-fired electricity plants. There is in the works right now a future gen project which is going to be about a billion eight research project. There are four sites that are in the hopper still competing for that one final selection: two in Illinois, two in Texas, one in my district.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. None in Pennsylvania.

Mr. CONAWAY. That will do the research to be able to learn how to burn all forms of coal from the lignite that we have in Texas to the hard coals in Pennsylvania and Illinois, learn how to burn that coal to generate electricity but yet capture the CO_2, and then take that CO_2 and either sell it back to the oil and gas business to sweep oil reservoirs to enhance the oil recovery, or in many places we will have to learn how to put it underground, deeply buried, permanently buried in the ground so it is not in our atmosphere. That is essential that we get that done, and the sooner the better, because all of us believe coal is a long-time solution to electricity production, but it ought to be clean-burning coal, zero-emission coal-fired plant. That is important not only for the coal plants that we ought to be building in the United States, but India and China are also part of this consortium that is going to develop this technology. China is bringing on a 500-megawatt power plant every 2 weeks or so. India is in a similar mode. They are going to burn coal however they need to in order to generate electricity because electricity and an increased electricity supply drives growth and economies. The availability of the electricity helps drive the growth in these economies. China and India are going to continue to burn coal and spew CO_2 into the atmosphere no matter what we do. So it is in all of our best interests to learn how to burn coal cleanly and take advantage of that 250-year supply that my colleague from Illinois was talking about.

Mr. SHIMKUS. I know that the public, sometimes they don't understand that carbon dioxide is a commodity that is bought and sold, that people want, and we want it in the soda business to give the fizz in your Coke or your Pepsi, or as my friend from Texas knows, advanced oil recovery. You shove that CO_2 back in the ground, it helps recover that margin of oil that has been harder to recover in the past.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. One thing I want to mention, what has happened to these high energy prices? Dow Chemical paid $8 billion for natural gas in 2002, $22 billion in 2006, and they are now building plants all over the world because we can't afford America's energy. That is the message we need to realize. Many companies are doing that, and we need to prevent that.

Mr. CONAWAY. I want to thank both my colleagues tonight for coming in and sharing this hour and hopefully shedding a little bit of light on an issue that is of interest to every single American. We all use electricity in some form or fashion. It is all important to us.

In the couple of minutes we have left, I want to bring both my colleagues' attention to a study that came out this summer called ''Facing the Hard Truths About Energy.'' This is a study that was done by the National Petroleum Council. It involves some 350 contributors. It was not a new study in the sense that it went out and did the research, but it gathered the research from these 350 participants that cover a very broad spectrum. It included of course energy producers. It included environmentalists. It included everybody who might have something intelligent to say about the issues and problems that we face. It was transparent. Everybody got to see what was going on. There weren't any hidden agendas. There weren't any preconceived ideas.

I want to quickly run through the things that this study shows that we must do in the United States. Some I agree with wholeheartedly, and others I am still questioning and understanding the impact. But this study, which I hope over the next several months we are able to show to the American people and have them look at it and understand the issue as you and I do, but this study would say that we need to moderate the growing demand for energy by increasing efficiency of transportation, residential, commercial and other industrial uses. That is one we can all agree with. Expand and diversify production from clean coal, nuclear, biomass, other renewables and unconventional oil and gas; moderate the decline of conventional domestic oil and gas production, which means lifting those restrictions and going after domestic crude oil and increased access for development of new resources; integrated energy policy into trade, economic, environmental, security, foreign policies; strengthen global energy trade and investment; and broaden dialogue with both producing and consuming nations to improve global energy security. Not just energy security of the United States, but global energy security, because a world that has global energy security will be much more peaceful than a world that is fighting for the energy.

Enhanced science and engineering capabilities and create long-term opportunities for research and development in all phases of the energy supply and demand system. And finally develop the legal and regulatory framework to enable carbon capture and sequestration. In addition, as policymakers consider options to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, provide an effective global framework for carbon management, including establishment of a transparent, predictable economywide cost for carbon dioxide emissions.

A couple of their findings unrelated directly to their recommendations were that the majority of the U.S. energy sector workforce, including skilled scientists and engineers, is eligible to retire within the next decade. The workforce must be replenished and trained. These are millions of jobs across a broad spectrum, from roughnecks all the way to the smartest scientists, that we have got in this country.

So I want to thank both my colleagues for coming to us tonight. We have 1 minute to close. JOHN, anything? JOHN, anything?

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Well, I guess I think the thing we need is we need an energy policy. We need to get serious about energy. Energy, in my view, is the number one challenge of America. I've said this in many speeches; I think it equals terrorism and the security of America. But if energy prices continue to skyrocket and we cannot compete in the global economy and the average American can't get a workingman's job, we are going to be a country in trouble. We are going to be a country that is not first rate. We are not going to be the leader of the world.

Energy availability and affordability should be the number one issue in the Congress. It is unlocking the OCS. It is unlocking the Midwest. It is wiser use of energy. It is using less for transportation, more efficiency. In fact, conserving in the next 5 years is probably all we can do, because everything we have talked about takes 5 to 10 years to produce fruit to bring it to market. So I think America's, I think that the real terror threat of this country is available, affordable energy.

Mr. CONAWAY. I want to thank both my colleagues for joining me tonight. As we opened the conversation tonight, I think it is time we quit howling and begin to do something that is important to all Americans.

With that I yield back.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3074, TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (during the Special Order of Mr. CONAWAY),

from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–447) on the resolution (H. Res. 817) providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3074) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

REPORT ON RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4156, ORDERLY AND RESPONSIBLE IRAQ REDEPLOYMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (during the Special Order of Mr. CONAWAY), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 110–448) on the resolution (H. Res. 818) providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4156) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

THE NAMING OF EMANCIPATION HALL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. JACKSON) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, let me first begin by expressing my support of a suspension bill that was offered to this body by Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. MILLER and the ranking minority member on education to help provide emergency funding for Historically Black Colleges and Universities that are seeking some bridge loans for construction projects.

I think that my remarks today in the 60 minutes that I have been allotted under the Speaker's announced policy are very consistent with the historical concept and circumstances for which that bill will be passed into law and hopefully signed by the President of the United States.

Today, Mr. Speaker, we have come to this temple of democracy on this momentous occasion to write a new chapter in the unfolding story of human freedom. Today this body passed H.R. 3315, a bill to name the Visitor Center great hall Emancipation Hall, offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. WAMP), and the gentleman from Illinois, myself, Mr. JACKSON.

The event of emancipation marks one of the most, if not the most significant event in American history, and so too, at least from my perspective, was the passage of this bill. Unfortunately under the rule, it did not afford Members of Congress the opportunity to have a broader discussion about the significance and the importance of this bill. But I do want to take this time to remind the Nation of the importance of this period and to reflect upon it during this Thanksgiving season.

Emancipation was more than an act; it was a process. Emancipation was not a date but a period. Emancipation was not an event but the fulfillment of providence that the Arc of history may be long, but it bends towards justice and human freedom. When the American Civil War erupted, both North and South defended their cause as morally just, legally right and constitutionally sound. Northerners and southerners saw themselves as true Americans following in the tradition of the footsteps of the Founding Fathers. North and South used the Constitution as the source of their moral and their legal authority for conducting a war against the other. Both sides saw themselves as standing in the tradition of the American Revolution. Each side contended that it was fighting for freedom and liberty, though certain facts contradicted the beliefs of both. The South said it was fighting to preserve freedom while protecting the institution of slavery. The North said it was fighting for liberty while not initially fighting to grant liberty to the slaves.

President Abraham Lincoln, our 16th President's address to the Sanitary Fair in Baltimore on April 18, 1864, summed up the quandary. He said, and I quote, ''We all declare for liberty; but in using the same word we do not all mean the same thing. With some the word 'liberty' may mean for each man to do as he pleases with himself and the product of his labor, while with others, the same word may mean for some men to do as they please with other men and the product of other men's labor. Here are two not only different but incompatible things, called by the same name, 'liberty.' And it follows that each of these things is, by their respective parties,'' President Lincoln goes on to say, ''called by two different and incompatible names, 'liberty' and 'tyranny.' ''

He then went on to say, ''The shepherd drives the wolf from the sheep's throat, for which the sheep thanks the shepherd as a liberator, while the wolf denounces him for the same act as the destroyer of liberty, especially as the sheep was a black one. Plainly the sheep and the wolf are not agreed upon the definition of the word 'liberty'; and precisely the same difference prevails today among us human creatures, even in the North, and all profess to love liberty.''

Today, women, lesbians, gays, bisexual and transgendered Americans, African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans and students see in the word ''liberty'' one thing. Today for the Titans of Industry, it still means quite another. For the dispossessed, it means for each person to do with himself as they please. For the Titans it means for them to do as they please with other men and the product of their labor anywhere in the world.

As Lincoln said, ''And it follows that each of the things is, by the respective parties, called by two different and incompatible names, 'liberty' and 'tyranny.' ''

That is why efforts to name the great hall Liberty Hall will settle for some but still not settle for others the fundamental question of human freedom in the American historical context. For millions of Americans to pass through Emancipation Hall and not Liberty Hall is an important acknowledgment about the process for attaining human freedom in our context as Americans.

Lincoln understood for his time and ours that we must not be confused about the language and the process of human freedom.

□ 2115

Much has been said about Lincoln and his ambivalence about emancipation. I believe when placed in the greater context, clarity emerges in Lincoln's calculation of emancipation. In 1862, Lincoln's announced support of colonization, along with his lack of public support for emancipation, was generating sometimes vicious attacks from militant abolitionists, including a ''Prayer for 20 Millions'' editorial urging emancipation that appeared in Horace Greeley's New York Tribune. On August 22, a month after the private announcement to his Cabinet on July 22 that he intended to issue an Emancipation Proclamation, Lincoln replied to Greeley's editorial with a masterfully written open letter. Here's what our 16th President had to say:

''If there be those who would not save the Union, unless they could at the same time save slavery, I do not agree with them. If there be those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time destroy slavery, I do not agree with them. My paramount objective in this struggle is to save the Union, and it is either to save or to destroy slavery. If I could save the Union without freeing a single slave, I would do it, and if I could save it by freeing all of the slaves, I would do it; and if I could save it by freeing some and leaving others alone, I would also do that. What I do about slavery, and colored race, I do because I believe it helps to save the Union; and what I forebear, I forebear because I do not believe it would help to save the Union. I shall do less whenever I shall believe what I am doing hurts the cause, and I shall do more whenever I shall believe doing more will help the cause.''

Lincoln was reiterating his central thesis, that the purpose of the war was preservation of the Union, but in light of the intransigence of the border States, he was publicly hinting that he might have to do something more, including emancipation to save the Union. In this open letter, Lincoln was saying ''if,'' but he had already concluded in his mind ''that'' the only way to save the Union was to free the slaves.

After the emancipation proposal became public, President Lincoln sometimes was ridiculed in public political oratory and newspaper editorials about his Emancipation Proclamation, which would free the slaves only where the President had no power to do so, those States in rebellion, but he preserved the institution of slavery everywhere he did have the power, those border States that chose to stay in the Union.

But Lincoln's enemies either misunderstood the President, lacked the understanding of the Constitution, or ignored his politics. On saving the Union, Lincoln had additional flexibility under the Constitution. Politically, he could sometimes get away with violating it by engaging in arbitrary arrests and suspending the writ of habeas corpus. On the question of ending slavery, however, Lincoln saw no such flexibility. His understanding of the Constitution committed him to acting within both it and the law, for neither had yet been changed. Under the Constitution, slavery was still legal in the United States.

On the first question, Lincoln and all Republicans of that era agreed that a 13th amendment outlawing slavery must be added to the Constitution. The Senate quickly passed such an amendment; but the House, which had gained 34 Democrats in the 1862 mid-term elections, was opposed. Lincoln understood, if others didn't, that issuing the Emancipation Proclamation would convert a struggling Union Army, trying to hold a Nation together, into an army of liberation to free the slaves. The newly freed slaves could help win the struggle by fighting along the Union forces and soldiers.

Of course, the liberation of the slaves would only happen, and only happen if the North won the war. Militant abolitionists still thought the proclamation weak; Southerners thought it an outrage, but most antislavery advocates, both black and white, understood its revolutionary implications. It was the one act that changed the entire character of the war. It gave the war a moral purpose, human freedom, to bolster the political goal of saving the Union, and a purpose with such deep emotional power condemned the Confederacy to sure defeat.

The question now was, having transformed the conflict into a war of liberation, would the Northern soldiers still fight? Some said no. ''An Ohio Democrat amended the party's slogan to proclaim, 'the Constitution as it is, the Union as it was, the N-I-G-G-E-R-S where they are.'" But most said yes. ''A Democratic private in the Army of the Potomac whose previous letters railed against abolitionists and blacks now expressed support for putting away any institution if by doing so it will put down the rebellion, for I hold that nothing should stand in the way of the Union, the N-I-G-G-E-R-S, nor anything else.''

With the July 4, 1863, victory at Gettysburg and Vicksburg, Northern hopes rose and Southern spirits sank. The burial at Gettysburg nearly 144 years ago this month was originally planned for October 23, but rescheduled to November 19 because the principal orator, Edward Everett of Massachusetts, could not be ready before then. Lincoln, by comparison was casually invited to attend and make a few remarks. ''No insult was intended. Federal responsibility or participation was not assumed then in State activities. Lincoln took no offense. Though specifically invited to deliver only 'a few appropriate remarks' to open the cemetery, he meant to use this opportunity. The partly mythical victory at Gettysburg was important to his administration's war propaganda.''

There are mythical accounts that Lincoln wrote his Gettysburg Address on the back of an envelope. Even though the 272-word speech probably took less than 3 minutes to deliver, interrupted with applause five times by 20,000 in attendance, such cavalier preparation would have been totally uncharacteristic of President Lincoln, who took such opportunities seriously and chose his words very carefully.

Lincoln intended to use this occasion and this speech to lift the Nation's eyes above the death and the carnage of Gettysburg ''to a level of abstraction that purges it of grosser matter.'' Lincoln did for the whole Civil War what he accomplished for the single battlefield.'' He transformed its meaning and, in doing so, transformed what it meant to be an American.

Lincoln mentioned neither slavery nor Gettysburg in the Gettysburg address. He drained his speech of all of the particulars in order to lift up an ideal. Lincoln intended to create something good and new out of this tragic and bloody episode. Both North and South strove to interpret Gettysburg to further their own war interests. Lincoln was after an even bigger victory, winning the ideological as well as the military war, and I believe he succeeded. The Civil War today is, to most Americans, what Lincoln wanted it to mean. Words had to complete the work of the guns.

What is it that President Lincoln had to say on that occasion? He said: ''Four score and seven years ago,'' and this is a 3½ minute speech. In fact, Martin Luther King delivered the ''I have a dream speech'' in about 13½ minutes. So my thinking is anytime someone speaks, they should speak between 3½ minutes and 13 minutes. If they give a speech longer than that, well, they are really giving history a fit. Also, if you can't say it between Gettysburg and ''I have a dream,'' it probably shouldn't be said at all.

So let's see what Lincoln had to say at Gettysburg, 3½ minutes: ''Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent,'' November 19, 1863, right around the time we are trying to break for Thanksgiving, 144th anniversary, and let's reflect, 144 years ago. ''Four score and seven years ago our fathers brought forth on this continent a new Nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal. Now we are engaged in a great Civil War testing whether that Nation, or any Nation so conceived and so dedicated can long endure. We are met on a great battlefield of that war. We have come to dedicate a portion of that field as a final resting place for those here who gave their lives that the Nation might live. It is altogether fitting and proper that we should do this.'' I love this part: ''But, in a larger sense, we cannot dedicate, we cannot consecrate, we cannot hallow this ground. The brave men, living and dead, who struggled here have consecrated it, far above our power to add or detract. The world will little note, nor long remember, what we say here but it can never forget what they did here.'' That is his message to the future, that we should not forget what happened there.

''It is for us the living, rather, to be here dedicated to the unfinished work which they who fought here have thus so far nobly advanced.

''It is rather for us to be here dedicated to the great task remaining before us . . . that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain . . . that this Nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom and that government of the people, by the people, for the people shall not perish from the earth.''

When we wave the flag and celebrate on July 4, Independence Day, we are not so much celebrating our Americanness in terms of our independence from England. We are celebrating the meaning of the flag and America as Lincoln interpreted them in his Gettysburg Address, because July 4, 1776, only white males could vote, and then they had to be landowners.

On July 4, 1863, with the Northern victory at Gettysburg and the Northern victory at Vicksburg, Abraham Lincoln saw an opportunity to reinterpret what July 4 would mean for the future. So when we barbecue on July 4, and when we celebrate our Independence Day, when we look at Hillary Clinton running for President; Barack Obama; Mitt Romney, a Mormon running for President, none of this was possible on July 4, 1776. An African American running for President on July 4, 1776, was a different America. A woman running for President on July 4, 1776, was a different America. Barack Obama running for President, Mitt Romney, a Mormon running for President on July 4, 1776, a different America.

Abraham Lincoln says this July 4, 1863, is going to yield a new birth of freedom for all Americans and we will never look at July 4 again because July 4 will never be the July 4 that it used to be because we are en route to being a different America.

At Gettysburg, Lincoln reinterpreted the Constitution. Looking past slavery

in the Constitution, he appealed to the Declaration of Independence and its claim that all men are created equal. Conservative political heirs to this outrage still attack Lincoln for subverting the Constitution at Gettysburg.

Let's see what Garry Wills had to say about this. He said that Lincoln is here not only to sweeten the air at Gettysburg but to clear the infected atmosphere of American history itself, tainted with official sins and inherited guilt. He would cleanse the Constitution, not as William Lloyd Garrison had, by burning an instrument that countenanced slavery. He altered the document from within, by an appeal from its letter to the spirit, subtly changing the recalcitrant stuff that legal compromise, bringing it to its own indictment. By implicitly doing this, he performed one of the most daring acts of open-air sleight-of-hand ever witnessed by the unsuspecting. Everyone in that vast throng of 20,000 people who heard Abraham Lincoln on that day had their intellectual pocket picked. The crowd departed with a new thing in its ideological luggage, that new Constitution Lincoln has substituted for the one they brought there with them. They walked off from those curving graves on that hillside at Gettysburg, under a changed sky, and into a different America. Lincoln has revolutionized the revolution, giving people a new past to live with what would change their future and our future indefinitely.

Lincoln's Gettysburg Address was transforming the United States of America from a plural to a singular noun, from the United States ''are'' into the United States ''is'' a free government.

□ 2130

According to Gary Wills, Lincoln, by his words and his actions, converted the Union from a mystical hope into a constitutional reality.

Looking out over the extraordinary events of 1863, on October 3, 1863, realizing that the North had made substantial progress in Gettysburg and substantial progress in Vicksburg, and Robert E. Lee, the Democrats, troops were on the retreat throughout the South, and he saw an opportunity to make an extraordinary period for which all of us are grateful even to this day.

On October 3, 1863, Abraham Lincoln issued the following, Mr. Speaker, proclamation:

''By the President of the United States.

''A proclamation.

''The year that is drawing towards its close,'' and I quote, ''has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God. In the midst of a civil war of unequaled magnitude and severity, which has sometimes seemed to foreign states to invite and promote their aggression, peace has been preserved with all nations, order has been maintained, the laws have been respected and obeyed, and harmony has prevailed everywhere except the theater of military conflict; while that theater has been greatly contracted by the advancing armies and navies of the Union. Needful diversions of wealth and strength from the fields of peaceful industry to the national defense have not arrested the plow, the shuttle or the ship. The ax has enlarged the boarders of our settlements, and the mines, as well of iron and coal as of the precious metals have yielded,'' this is in spite of a civil war, they have ''yielded even more abundantly than heretofore. Population has steadily increased, notwithstanding the waste that has been made in the camps, the siege and the battlefield; and the country, rejoicing in the consciousness of augmented strength and vigor, is permitted to expect continuance of years with large increase of freedom. No human counsel hath devised nor hath any mortal hand worked out these great things. They are the gracious gifts of the Most High God, who, while dealing with us in anger for our sins has nevertheless remembered mercy. It has seemed to me fit and proper that they should be solemnly, reverently and gratefully acknowledged as with one heart and with one voice by the whole American people. I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverance and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to His tender care all those who have become,'' because of the Civil War, ''widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the intervention of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of our Nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.

''In testimony whereof, I have heretofore set my hand and caused the Seal of the United States of America to be affixed.

''Done at the City of Washington, this Third day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the Independence of the United States the Eighty-eighth.

''By the President: Abraham Lincoln.''

Thanksgiving has nothing to do with the Pilgrims and the Native Americans. Thanksgiving is looking out over a national disaster, a war over Federalism between the big government in Washington and the States and the fact that the slaves had been freed and the Northern armies were in pursuit through Vicksburg and Gettysburg, and Abraham Lincoln said the Nation is going to be preserved. And we deserve to give the person who is responsible for its preservation the greatest thanks, God, and therefore every third Thursday in November is set aside as a national day of thanks to remember the path that we took to save the Union. That is what Abraham Lincoln was after.

I haven't quite figured out yet why national memory has bypassed this event and decided to somehow ascribe it to events that have absolutely nothing to do with Abraham Lincoln's proclamation. The very first Thanksgiving was about the Civil War and about emancipation.

The same can be said for the story of our Capitol. From the moment a visitor enters this building, the unfolding process of emancipation, the players in the drama, the actors, the people, the heroes. The ''sheroes'' have been hidden. They have been denied a fair and accurate account of these unfolding events.

When you enter the Capitol Rotunda, we look up at the ceiling and we see the story of America, from Columbus all the way around the Rotunda to the Wright Brothers, from Columbus to the Wright Brothers, and not a single African American in the Rotunda's mural of the story of America. From Columbus to the Wright Brothers.

In Statuary Hall, the Old House Chamber, emancipation is ignored in Statuary Hall, where there today are status of the honored dead of the Confederacy. President Jefferson Davis is there, the greatest traitor in American history. Confederate Vice President Alexander Hamilton Stephens has his statue there. Confederate General Robert E. Lee is there, in uniform. Confederate Commander Joseph Wheeler is there, in uniform.

In that room, Old Statuary Hall, is where States were admitted to the Union, one free and one slave, to keep the balance between the North and the South, so that the House of Representatives and the Senate would never have more Members than any regional faction of the country.

Yet for the millions of visitors, Mr. Speaker, who come through our Statuary Hall, we never tell them that story. We would rather talk to the floor and show them that the Chamber has acoustic capabilities that allow us to talk to the floor and watch our voices bounce off the ceiling and arrive somehow on the other side of the room.

In the Old Senate Chamber, Charles Sumner got beaten half to death by Preston Brooks, and a book still sits on Charles Sumner's desk, the central story in the Old Senate Chamber.

The Old Senate Chamber doubled as the Supreme Court Chamber while the Supreme Court was under construction. It was in the Old Senate Chamber that Plessy v. Ferguson was decided, the Old Supreme Court Chamber. Of all of the decisions made in that room, it is known for two decisions under Justice Taney's leadership: Dred Scott and the Amistad Africans.

So whether it is the Rotunda, from Columbus to the Wright Brothers; whether it is Old Statuary Hall where people visit our Capitol and are taught about the acoustics of the building and not about how States were admitted to the Union to keep the balance between North and South or why all the Confederate generals have their statues in Statuary Hall; whether it is the Old Senate Chamber, Charles Sumner getting beaten, caned half to death by Preston Brooks and the Plessy v. Ferguson decision; or whether it is the Old Supreme Court Chamber, where Dred Scott and the Amistad Africans, Joseph Cinque and the others, were told they could go back home, only parts of the story are told, when they are told.

Mr. Speaker, it is the emancipation process, process, process, not an event, not a date, not a time, it is the emancipation process that led to the 13th, the 14th, and the 15th Amendments to the Constitution.

And as descendants of slaves, we believe that as Americans are better educated on this history, that that process, that American process, that process that we cannot change, it is part of our history, as more Americans are educated about that process, that it will lead to our 28th Amendment, our 29th Amendment, our 30th Amendment: health care for all, education of equal high quality for all, a cleaner environment for all, fixing our Nation's voting system for all, providing equality for all people, especially women. It is our Nation's historical process, and only that process that can provide emancipation for all. Not liberty. Emancipation.

Mr. Speaker, interpreting Lincoln's work and his life is extremely important. Recently there have been questions raised as to whether Lincoln should be credited with freeing the slaves. The argument goes, given some of Lincoln's history, his racial attitudes and statements, his moderate views on the subject, his noninterference with slavery where it already existed, his one proposed solution of colonization, his gradualist approach to ending the institution, his hesitancy with respect to issuing the emancipation and using colored troops in the war, his late conversion to voting rights for blacks and more, why should he be given credit for freeing the slaves?

Some have even argued that it was the various actions taken by the slaves themselves, including the power given to the Union causes as a result of the moral calls for overturning slavery, plus the actual military role of working and fighting in Union campaigns that actually freed them. By forcing the emancipation issue on to the agenda, first of military officers, then of Congress, and finally of Lincoln, it was their actions that led to freedom.

Clearly, just as Congress and Lyndon Johnson would not have been able to sign the civil rights legislation of the 1960s apart from a modern civil rights and human rights movement, so too the military commanders, the Congress and Lincoln, would not have been able to achieve what they did without agitation and movement from the slaves and their allies. On the other hand, the slaves would not have become freed men, apart from what these leaders did.

Because historical interpretation has played up the role of white male leaders, while playing down the role of mass movement and leaders of color and women, our understanding of history has been skewed.

Some of the current putdown of traditional historical interpretation is legitimate rejection and reaction to this past limited and distorted understanding and interpretation of our history. The search now, it seems to me, should be for more balanced interpretation, which includes striving to put many forces and multiple players into proper balance and perspective. That, I think, is what is at issue with regard to the question that did Lincoln free the slaves.

Mr. Speaker, but for Abraham Lincoln and the answers for which he so nobly fought and advanced, we today would be without the capacity of building a more perfect Union for all Americans. The naming of Emancipation Hall is an extraordinary event on behalf of all Americans. We begin the process now of broadening the education of all Americans to make the Union more perfect for all.

I would close, Mr. Speaker, by just saying this: I shall never forget the movie ''Roots.'' There was a great scene in the movie ''Roots'' when Kunta Kinte was being told by a slave master that his name was Toby. And he kept saying no, my name is Kunta Kinte. And he said, no, your name is Toby. He said Kunta Kinte. Toby.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Kinte made an extraordinary contribution to saving this Union, to preserving it, and his descendants are making a contribution and making it more perfect. Congratulations to all Members of Congress today who voted to name the great hall Emancipation.

□ 2145

HONORING OUR FALLEN HEROES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. DONNELLY) is recognized for 27 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor all those men and women whose service and sacrifice preserve and protect the foundation of liberty that has made this Nation great. They come from all walks of life, and yet they are unified by their willingness to risk their very lives in service to America. They are America's veterans.

It is often said that we owe a great debt to our veterans, which is true; but that debt can never be fully repaid. What is the value of our freedom and how can the sacrifice of a person's life be measured out and counted? It is altogether fitting and proper that we thank veterans and that we honor them with their own holiday. But such honor and gratitude toward our veterans should be a permanent part of our everyday lives.

Mr. Speaker, I cannot speak of every veteran in every war to whom great thanks and honor are owed, but I can speak of those nearest to me and to my home of Indiana.

Since the commencement of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, 23 soldiers, marines, and airmen from Indiana's Second Congressional District have fallen in service to their country. The names of the first 15 will remain with us forever: Specialist Brian Clemens; Private Robert McKinley; Sergeant Craig Boling; Staff Sergeant Mark Lawton; Specialist Michael Wiesemann; Sergeant David M. Heath; Lance Corporal James Swain; Staff Sergeant Marvin Lee Trost, III; Sergeant Paul M. Heltzel; Specialist Jeffrey Corban; Sergeant Rickey E. Jones; Corporal Aaron L. Seal; Private Nathan J. Frigo; Sergeant Kraig Foyteck; Sergeant Major Jeff A. McLochlin.

Each of these patriots is missed. Their families and hometowns will never forget them, and our country will be forever in their debt.

While 15 young men and women have died in the service of their country from 2003 through 2006, I have had the tragic duty of comforting the families of eight more fine young men in just this past year.

In memory of those eight heroic individuals and in honor of their sacrifice, I would like to share with this body and with the American people just a little bit about each of these great Hoosiers.

On February 18, Private Kelly Youngblood was killed by a sniper's bullet in Ramadi, Iraq. Although he lived in Mesa, Arizona, at the time, I believe Kelly's early years growing up in Westville, Indiana, and his grandparents continued residence there, made him a son of our beloved State.

After graduating from high school, Kelly set his sights on military service. His lifelong dream was to serve his country in the military; and shortly after his 18th birthday, Kelly achieved that dream by enlisting in the Army. Following basic training, Kelly was sent to Iraq as a member of the 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. He is survived by his mother

Kristen and sister Melaney, and his grandparents, my good friends, Charlie and Jean Herrold of Westville, Indiana, and many, many friends all around the country.

Kelly was known as a loving and kind young man with an excellent sense of humor. His grandmother told the local paper: ''That young man was so much fun. He made a joke out of everything.'' His grandparents will always remember his last Christmas when he worshipped at the Westville United Methodist Church with them. As a soldier about to enter combat, we can be assured that Kelly prayed for peace in Iraq, for his fellow soldiers, and for his country. His loss will long, long be felt among the many people who loved him.

Less than 2 months later on April 8, Army Private David Neil Simmons of Kokomo was killed when his convoy was ambushed and his Bradley Fighting Vehicle was hit by an improvised explosive device. This loss hit home because Neil was the kind of young man that everybody in Kokomo loved. With his big smile and his enthusiasm, he made life enjoyable for everyone around him. As one who deeply loved his family and knew what it meant to be a great friend, he made life better for everyone.

He was a grateful man, returning to his high school often to visit friends and to thank teachers and other mentors for their impact on his life. During one of those visits just a couple of weeks before he was set to deploy to Iraq, he ran into Ms. Lovelace, a secretary at Northwestern High School where David went to school. When Janet gave David Neil a hug and thanked him for his service, he became teary-eyed.

Upon hearing about his son's death, Neil's dad David said, ''Freedom is very expensive. You don't know how expensive until something like this happens. My heart goes out to all the families that have to go through this.''

In the midst of so much sorrow, Neil's dad David remembered all of the other families and that is truly remarkable and it serves as an example to all of us who might become self-absorbed in times of trouble.

I was privileged to speak many times with Neil's mom, Teri Tenbrook. Her courage and resolve during so tragic a time impressed me considerably. She is a wonderful mom and a wonderful example for all of us.

Only 4 days after the loss of Neil, Corporal Jason Beadles of La Porte died on behalf of his country while fortifying a base in Baghdad. Jason loved Johnny Cash, and he loved country music. He loved taking his nieces and nephews swimming. He loved fooling around with them and playing games with his brothers and cousins in the backyard. Like many Hoosiers, he loved motorcycles and he hoped to eventually turn this passion into a career. In many, many ways Jason always was, as his parents said, a big child at heart.

But Jason also loved his country. Moved by the events of 9/11 and inspired by his dad and grandfather who had served before him, his brothers and uncles, Jason joined the Army. This lovable big guy became an honorable young man. He became one of America's soldiers. And as one of his friends in the Army said, one of the finest things you could say about Jason, he smiled, laughed and said, ''Jason was just Beadles.'' What a wonderful young guy.

Hoosiers lost another honorable young man when Air Force Technical Sergeant Ryan Balmer, native son of Mishawaka, was killed on June 5 in Kirkuk, Iraq, when his Humvee, leading a three-vehicle convoy, was hit by an improvised explosive device.

Ryan was stationed at Hill Air Force Base in Utah where he lived with his wife, Danielle, and their two children, Anthony and Gabby. His family, including his mom, Patricia, was anticipating his scheduled arrival home five days later when they were informed of his death.

Danielle had made posters, buttons and banners to welcome Ryan home. He was this close to his last day in Iraq. They had planned to line the road to the house with American flags. She had made a shirt for Gabby that read, ''My daddy is finally home.'' Sadly, Danielle saw the Air Force uniformed officers come to her house first. They included Ryan's saddened commanding officer. She learned that her beloved husband was not coming home. According to Danielle, ''Ryan died doing what he loved,'' serving the country he was so devoted to.

Shortly after graduation from Mishawaka High School, Ryan joined the Air Force where he became part of the Office of Special Investigations. His mission was to help identify, investigate and neutralize criminal terrorists and espionage threats. It is one of the most dangerous assignments in the United States Air Force. At the time of his death, he was serving as a liaison between the Iraqi police and the U.S. military officials in Kirkuk. His commander, General Dana Simmons, called him a warrior who made the ultimate sacrifice in his brave performance of duty.

In honor of Ryan, American Legion Post 161 in Mishawaka just this past Sunday rededicated itself on Veterans Day as Ryan A. Balmer Post 161. I was privileged to attend this wonderful tribute to such a fine young man with Danielle and Pat and the rest of the Balmer family.

On June 18 of this year, the wonderful city of Elkhart lost one of their native sons when Specialist David Wilkey, Jr., died of wounds suffered while he patrolled the streets of Baghdad. David grew up in the wilderness of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. He loved the outdoors, and as his step-mom, Margaret, put it, ''His passion was nature. If he had to pick where he was going to live, he would have picked a cabin in the middle of the woods with a pond nearby.'' The pond was for fishing, for David loved to both hunt and to fish.

As much as he loved the woods, though, he loved his family even more. From his niece whose eyes got big whenever he arrived, to his aunt who misses his smile and wink most of all, family was at the heart of David's life.

According to his wife, Melinda, he wanted a big family and he was a wonderful family man. He married Melinda in December 2005. His dream of a big family took root. That love showed immediately. It showed in the way that he treated his stepson Christian as his own. It showed in the birth of his son Blayke, and it shows today in the brand new baby girl Melinda had on October 7. Some months after his death, little Alexea was born.

David was a truly remarkable man, a remarkable American. In his love of nature and family, he displayed this every day. And he also displayed it in his sense of duty.

David was laid off from work just as he married Melinda, and he wanted to make sure his family was taken care of. He wanted a secure future, so David chose service in the Army. Where so many are content to let others provide for them, that was unacceptable to David. His determination, his courage, his sense of duty to his family, those are the qualities, the simple and small touches of everyday nobility that make this country great and made David such a fine, outstanding young man.

Just a few months later Army Corporal Shawn Hensel of Logansport died on August 14 from wounds sustained during an enemy attack in Baghdad. Shortly after learning about his death, Shawn's dad, David, spoke of the love for Shawn among his family, ''Shawn had two sisters that really loved him.''

Observing the crowd at a memorial service for Shawn just one week later, Shawn's sister Autumn noted, ''It's nice to know that one person could be loved so much.'' He was loved by his family and by his community.

Shawn had been married to his wife, Laci just 8 months before his death. Laci noted of Shawn, ''The love he had for his country and his family was unbelievable.'' This observation was reinforced by Pastor Strite, the preacher at the Church of Christ in Logansport, ''He was privileged to wear his uniform, and he wore it wherever he could.''

□ 2200

This love of country, this pride of service played on another quality of Shawn. His friend, Chuck Porter, remarked, ''Shawn just had a way to get into your heart.'' His life and service now leaves him in all our hearts.

I was there on the day of Shawn's funeral for one of the most remarkable sites you could ever see in this country. As he was being escorted to the cemetery, we drove through the City of Logansport, and from one end to the

other, five deep on either side of the road, people standing there with one hand over their hearts, the other hand holding an American flag, and tears being shed at every corner. It was a remarkable tribute from a remarkable city to a remarkable young man.

Sergeant Nicholas Patterson of Rochester was killed on September 10 in an accident while his team was returning from a raid in western Baghdad. Like many people in the Army, Nick was a spectacular athlete. A 2001 graduate of Rochester High School, he led his basketball team in scoring his senior year, and in Indiana that is quite an accomplishment. He played second base for the baseball team, proudly wearing number 10 in both sports. His former teacher, Rob Malchow, said, ''Nick had such an outgoing personality. He had so much energy, you couldn't help but get to know him.'' When he joined the Army, shortly after graduation from high school, he set his sights on becoming a paratrooper. He was thrilled to become a member of the storied 82nd Airborne Division, and treasured the camaraderie of his men and his brothers. His widow, Jayme, said Nick was ''very, very proud to be part of the unit he was in.'' Nick described it as a high-speed team. Fellow soldier Sergeant Blake Bagbay noted, ''Nick could always be counted on to pick you up and make you smile. His concern for his fellow soldiers and his friends will be missed by all.''

Nick and Jayme shared their loved with their 4-year-old son, Reilly, and he valued the daily contact with his family by phone, e-mail, and even Web cam from Iraq. He made sure to e-mail Jayme every day, and the last thing he said in every e-mail he sent to her were the three words, ''I love you.''

He was close to his dad, Jim, whom he affectionately called Pops. Father and son shared a love of the Chicago Cubs, a difficult passion under any circumstances, the Indianapolis Colts, IU basketball, and fishing in Nyona Lake.

Everyone in Nick's family continues to mourn his loss; his mom and stepdad Jane and Scott Holmes, his stepmom Virginia Patterson, sister Tai Johnson, and stepbrother Kyle McLochlin, as well as the entire close-knit community of Rochester.

Mr. Speaker, our most recent loss in Indiana's Second Congressional District occurred less than 2 weeks ago when Army Captain Tim McGovern of Idaville, Indiana was killed October 31 while serving in Mosul, Iraq. Tim was leading his troops in a mission clearing the roads of IEDs when his group came under fire and his truck was hit by a roadside bomb.

After moving to Idaville as a teen, Tim graduated from Twin Lakes High in 1997, where he excelled in honors classes and was a star in both football and track. Even at that point, it was clear what Tim was going to do with his life, as his former football coach commented: This young man was made for the Army. ''It didn't surprise me at all when he joined the Armed Forces and also when he became an officer. That was just the kind of guy he was, born to lead.''

It probably didn't surprise anyone, for a career in the Army was in Tim's blood. Just a year before he graduated from high school, his dad, Bill, retired from the Army having achieved the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Tim started on that path immediately following high school when he joined ROTC while attending Purdue University. Less than 2 years after his graduation from Purdue in 2001, Tim set off to serve the first of his two tours of duty in Iraq. He was on his very first tour when the war in Iraq started, and when he came home he did not hesitate to do another, according to his Uncle Mike.

Although Tim was in the process of buying a home in El Paso, Texas, his heart remained with his family in Idaville and with the Chicago Bears. During his second duty in Iraq, Tim was given a 2-week pass to return home to the United States. He made sure to return home for the Super Bowl, and Tim's parents will never forget the very last moments they spent at home with their beloved son. ''Tim was a Bears fan from the word go,'' his mom Jonell said. ''In Indiana, he was one of the very few rooting for the Bears. He and his grandfather together. That is going to stay in our minds forever.''

But if his heart was with his family, his passion and purpose was with the Army. As captain of a 90-member company, Tim showed exemplary dedication to his duties and to the safety and well-being of his men. His mom noted, ''Tim said the thing he was most proud of was that he had never sent anybody home injured, and that nobody had been killed from his group. To him, that meant he was doing his job and taking care of his men.'' Safety did not mean staying away from where the action was in his area.

He assumed command of Company E from Captain Tim Hudson, who observed, ''We both chose to go to El Paso and Fort Bliss, and we both came here for the same reason; and that was to come out here and command soldiers, keep an eye out for them and protect them and bring them home safely.''

Having commanded Company E for 20 months, Captain Hudson could only praise Tim's work upon assuming command in June. ''I put my heart and soul into this company,'' Hudson said, ''and after Tim took over, Echo Company only got better.''

What was Tim's secret to being such an excellent commander? He may well have shared it with First Lieutenant Michael Holbrook. ''He told me there was no greater honor than leading American soldiers. I am going to remember that until the day I hang up my uniform.''

The button Shawn Hensel's mother, Beth, wore after his death said, ''Our hero, 1987 to 2007.'' Our hero. This is most certainly what Shawn was and is now. This is what all of these men are to all of us in this country.

We are used to speaking of young men as having lives full of promise and possibility, but all of these young men put their promise and possibility on the line in service to their country. For that, we honor them as heroes.

But we are also left with their absence. Nicholas Patterson's dad, Jim, expressed the paradox well. ''I am so proud. He is my hero. But it hurts so much.'' This is the truth for those families, for all of those that love these young men and so many more in our country. By their sacrifice, these men and the women who share duty with them are all heroes. But that does not erase the pain of all of us who mourn their loss.

When President Dwight D. Eisenhower called upon all the citizens of the United States to observe the first Veterans Day in 1954, he gave the following instruction, ''On that day let us solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom, and let us reconsecrate ourselves to the task of promoting an enduring peace so that their efforts shall not have been in vain.''

Mr. Speaker, today I have done my duty to remember those who have fought so valiantly this past year, and those from northern Indiana who made the ultimate sacrifice for our great Nation. Having honored America's veterans, having honored those who gave their lives, may we all remember our duty as national leaders to promote a peace both enduring and just.

At this time, I would like to conclude by saying how grateful we are to have had them with us during their brief lives, and we will never forget them. God bless America.

AMERICA'S ENERGY CRISIS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PERLMUTTER). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 18, 2007, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. PETERSON) is recognized for 60 minutes.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise once again on this House floor to talk about an issue that I think is the most important issue that this Congress should be dealing with and that this administration should be dealing with.

Six short years ago, we had $2 natural gas and $16 oil. Most of our lifetime we have had gas that was less than $2 per thousand and oil that was around $8, $9, or $10 a barrel. That is how America grew, cheap, affordable energy. Now, we have lots of other sources of energy, coal, hydro, wind, solar, renewables of all kinds, but the majority of our transportation fuel has always been oil. Four weeks ago, I rose to speak on this House floor. Oil was $82, and most of us were panicked. Can our economy handle $82 oil?

Just a few months ago, I met with an Assistant Secretary of State whose role is to deal with energy. He shared

with me that he and many of his colleagues felt that $70 to $75 oil would really put us in recession because the economy could not absorb those costs. It didn't. Then, we were at $82. Two weeks ago, we were at $90.92. Last week we were at $94.53. And, at one point it was 98-something. Today it is $91.92. Can America's economy continue to afford $90 to $100 oil? I think there are many who are very concerned.

I know that the poorest among us, the average American who spends every dollar they earn every week, and sometimes with the use of a credit card maybe a couple dollars they didn't earn that week hoping to catch up later. And with the winter heating season coming on, you would think this body and someone would be debating energy. Four weeks ago, there was no energy debate on this floor; three weeks ago, there was no energy debate on this floor; last week, there was no energy debate on this floor. And there is a little rumble that there could be an energy debate on this floor, but most people don't think so.

Record high heating oil prices; winter is coming. Record high diesel prices for our truckers who move our goods across this country; winter is coming. Gas prices are on the rise. We have a mortgage crisis, everybody is talking about it. Is the mortgage crisis equal on the impact on America that high energy prices will have? No. Is it important? Yes. No discussion about energy for America.

We passed a House bill some time ago. They passed a Senate bill some time ago. No conference committee has met. We have heard rumblings that a few staffs have met, but no sense of urgency.

I cannot understand for one minute why energy isn't the number one issue facing this Congress, available, affordable energy to maintain our economic base, people to heat their homes, people to drive to work, and to have a few dollars left for food.

□ 2215

Now, we've done a few things. The Speaker sometime a few months back made a declaration that we would stop heating a portion of the complex here with coal and we would use natural gas. And that was because of the concern of the carbon, the CO_2, the carbon footprint.

Now, we didn't do anything to put double pane glass in any of the windows in the Capitol or all the surrounding office buildings. They're all single pane. I'm not saying it was right or wrong to switch to natural gas. It costs the taxpayers another $3 to $4 million. But it didn't do anything to conserve energy. We could have put double pane glass on all the buildings in the complex and saved millions of dollars in energy for America.

Oh, we also mandated with recent legislation that all bulbs in the Capitol complex will be the new fluorescent bulb that screws in. I have some of those at home. My wife doesn't like them. I don't like them in a place where I read a lot. They're not quite as clear, bright, and some of them buzz, vibrate a little.

But the unfortunate part is we mandated them here; those are all made in China. No American jobs. And I have the largest incandescent light bulb plant left in my district in St. Mary's, Pennsylvania.

What are others doing about energy? Well, the one that's leading the world in the fight for energy is China. They're building a coal electric plant every 5 days. They're building a nuclear plant every month. They're building the largest hydro-dams in the world as we speak. They're buying up rights to oil and gas and other forms of energy all over the world. In fact, they've just developed a pact with Cuba. Less than 50 miles off the Florida coast, with Norway and Canada and a number of other partners, they're going to be producing oil and gas right off our coast, while we prohibit offshore drilling.

China and India, the two new giants that are our competition, are increasing their energy use between 15 and 20 percent annually, and they're out securing it. In fact, that's the real reason for the price run-up.

I have a chart here that shows, that I've been using for the last 6 to 8 months and no longer does it work. It doesn't go high enough; 90's up in here. So I'm going to take it down because really it's no longer applicable.

Now, here's what's happened in just a year. In 11 months we've gone from $58.31 to a high of $96.65 on the day this was used in a press conference last week. It actually hit 90-some later that day. But no energy around here about doing something about energy. I find it unbelievable.

What does America want Congress to do? They want available, affordable energy to heat their homes, to run their vehicles, and to power the places they work. Companies who make steel use a lot of energy. Companies who make aluminum use a lot of energy. Petrochemicals, polymers and plastics, 45 to 55 percent of the cost of all of them is energy. Fertilizer that we grow our corn and our wheat and our crops with, 70 percent of the cost is natural gas, energy.

And while we have these skyrocketing prices that have Americans afraid because this $90 oil is not $3.09 gasoline, which is the price at the pump where I buy, it will soon be $3.39, $3.49, $3.59. In some parts of the country it already is.

This spring we had $3.09 gasoline with $63 oil. How did that happen?

Well, oil companies don't set the price. We like to blame them, but they don't set the price. Wall Street sets the price. And there was a shortage of gasoline because Americans don't realize it, but we don't produce enough gasoline in America for Americans.

Twenty percent of our gasoline now comes from Europe. Europe has an excess of gasoline because they switched to diesel in their cars. Many of their cars and trucks are diesel so they have an excess capacity of gasoline, so they ship it over here in ships.

This spring they used more than usual, for some reason, and they didn't have enough to supply us, so we had a gasoline shortage in Europe and America, and the prices were extremely high. And so with $63 oil we had $3.09 gasoline. So you don't have to be a very good mathematician to know that $92, $95, $96 oil doesn't equate to $3.09 again. It'll be much higher. It's just a matter of a few days and weeks until that little extra gasoline that's in the marketplace from the summer gets utilized.

Well, what is Congress doing?

Let's take a look at not what should we be doing, but what are we doing. And we're not even meeting on this for some reason. Maybe that's good. Many of us stood on this House floor a few months back and debated this energy bill and tried to get amendments into this bill, but it was pretty well locked up. There were very few chances for amendment in the energy debate in Congress. But here's what it does. It locks up 9 trillion cubic feet of American natural gas. That's the Roan Plateau, a huge clean natural gas fill in Colorado that was set aside as the oil shale reserves in 1912, because of its rich energy resources.

And this legislation means that 9 trillion cubic feet of natural gas will not be available to us. It's already went through the NEPA. That's the environmental assessments. It's passed all those. It's ready for lease.

This provision was not in the original bill, but it was stuck in at the last minute, in the dark of the night. Suddenly when the bill came to the floor, not from committee, but somewhere down the line, in Rules or somewhere else, they slipped this in and removed the best potential onshore gas for America from being able to be produced.

The next part here is, I was responsible in the 2005 energy act for taking away redundant NEPA studies. NEPA studies are an important part of our environmental assessment for everything we do. It's about a year-long process. But abuse of the NEPA studies was to the point of where people would lease oil and gas in America and 5, 6, 7 years later we're still not able to produce it because of NEPA study after NEPA study. They do a NEPA study for the project, then they do a NEPA study for the roads, then they do a NEPA study for the well layout, and then a NEPA study for every well. And this process is a year-long process, a paperwork process that wasn't about the environment. It's about stopping the production of energy successfully. So we took away the redundant waste, and they want to put them back.

The next one's probably the worst. There's huge reserves in the West called western oil shale. It's even

greater than in Canada's tar sands. This oil shale has up to 2 trillion barrels. Now, we need to figure out how to produce it environmentally in a sound fashion. There are companies preparing to do that. But this legislation would say no to shale oil.

When we have $100 oil and we're dependent on foreign unstable countries for 66 percent of our oil, increasing 2 percent a year, and if this bill passes here, it'll be 3 percent a year or 4, why would we lock up the shale oil in the West? It makes no sense to me.

National reserve in Alaska. Locking up another 10 billion barrels of oil. Making sense? No, it doesn't make sense. Alaska's a huge place. The Alaskans want to produce energy. We know how to produce energy cleanly today. But this bill that's been proposed in both the House and the Senate will remove.

It also breaches contracts, which I think will lose in the courts.

But the one down here that really makes no sense, and it's talking about taxing Big Oil. Big Oil produces a small percentage of our energy; 60, 70, 80 percent of our energy is produced by little companies. I have two refineries in my district, United Refinery in Warren, American Refiners in Bradford. This bill will force them to pay higher taxes than any other business in America. That will increase the price of energy, and when you make American production of energy more costly than offshore production of energy, you're going to get more foreign dependent. Does that make sense? I don't think so.

Now, we were talking earlier tonight about how many times they've spent that in the appropriations process. I thought it was four or five. Someone said three or four. But many, many bills have been funded with this tax.

Now, the next one does nothing for coal to liquids or coal to gas. Everybody knows I'm the big proponent of offshore, and I'm going to talk about it a little later. But there's huge potential in America of using coal in the traditional way, but also using coal to make liquids, jet fuel, gasoline, fuel oil, and coal to make gas. And some of the new processes, they want to make gas out of coal and then burn the cast to make electricity in a clean way. But to make that work, we've got to fund some of those and get them online, get the bugs out, help industry make this a productive way to use coal in a cleaner way for the environment. But there's great resistance in this Congress to do anything with coal because we're now in the carbon debate.

Now, I guess, the carbon argument is still out there. Many Americans believe CO_2 is a poisonous gas and it's causing global warming and it's a crisis. I think the crisis is available, affordable energy. And as we go coal to liquid or coal to gas, we can do it in a manner that deals with developing the process to make coal to liquids and coal to gas affordable and in a way that we capture the carbon and then use it in another form. That should all be part of the original projects. But, no, we're finding coal plants not permitted all over this country. They're closing the door on coal. And we are the Saudi Arabia of coal. In my view, they're really trying to eliminate coal as one of our energies. And as I'll show you later, that won't work.

And then at the bottom down here, there's a mandate that's part of this legislation in the House version. And it sounds good. And I wish it was doable. And later on some charts I'll show you why it's not, that electricity, 15 percent of electricity being produced by renewables, but not allowed to count hydro. And as I show my charts later, I'll come back to that.

But it doesn't appear in the next 30 years there's any way to do that yet. Twenty States have passed laws and Congress is wanting to pass one that will severely limit what can be counted, but forcing States to produce companies in the whole country to produce 15 percent of electricity from renewables, and if they don't accomplish that then they're going to be fined. And who's the fine going to be paid for? By the electric users. We're going to pay as we pay for more expensive electricity. But it'll still be generated the same old way.

Now, if it was doable, I would say let's take the carrot-stick approach. Let's put some inducements, some incentives for producing electricity with renewables.

Here's our current use of energy. And of course, petroleum, 40 percent; natural gas, 23 percent; coal, 23 percent. Now, natural gas has had the fastest growth because about 12 years ago we took away the prohibition of using natural gas to make electricity. We didn't used to allow them to do that, only in the morning and the evening when you have that extra surge, when we're cooking and washing and doing the home duties and the factories are running too. We need more electricity than we do any other time of the day, so we had gas peaking plants because you can turn them off and you can turn them on.

Seven or 8 percent of our electricity was natural gas. Now in a short period of time we're up to 23 percent, and that's why we have the highest natural gas prices in the world, which are driving major industries out of this country, and I'll talk about that a little more later.

Nuclear, 8 percent. We need all 35 plants that have asked for a permit to expand or build a new nuclear plant to be permitted and built in the next 20 years or this 8 percent figure will continue to shrink, because as electric use goes up, everything on here has to go up or that percentage will go down. We know hydro's going to go down because we sure aren't going to build another dam. In fact, they keep taking dams out. Biomass is the only one that's really shown some growth.

□ 2230

Biomass is woody waste, any kind of fiber, and what's really growing there is that wood waste used to be a throwaway item. Sawdust was something you just got rid of. Now it burns in factories to heat the factories. I come from a heavily wooded area, the best hardwood forest in America. We dry most of our wood now in the dry kilns with wood waste. And a million Americans are heating their homes with pellet stoves made out of dry sawdust. And they are trying to now the expand of the use of them into biomass stoves where any kind of waste material that can burn cleanly could be made into a pellet and can be burned like corn stoves. There are a lot of corn stoves now, but with the surge of ethanol, corn has become quite expensive and is no longer as viable a fuel as it was but it is still being used in biomass stoves and in corn stoves.

Geothermal, not really much growth. A good, efficient way to heat a home. It's costly in the beginning. I know people who have used geothermal, and when they build a new home, they go with geothermal because they are familiar with it. And it is a less costly way to heat your home, especially in milder climates, than traditional fuels.

Then we come to the hope of the future: wind and solar. Unfortunately for many, people think that the renewables here can trickle. They bring petroleum down, coal down, nuclear down. I wish that were true. But I will show you now the chart of what the Energy Department says about the future, and that's this chart in a different way because this chart is about history; this chart is about history and the future. The left half of this chart is history. There is a line here in the middle. This is use in the past; this is use in the future, projected.

Now, I don't totally agree with the Energy Department. I think natural gas will grow and I think coal will decrease for the reasons I just mentioned. The carbon issue is going to decrease coal until we find clean ways to use coal, and we are working on those. But there is great resistance for coal. I don't agree with it. And there is a lot of reluctance in nuclear. I don't agree with that either because we need it too. But I look for natural gas to grow and oil probably to just chug along. Now, $95, $100, $120 oil may decrease oil, but I don't know what we are going to replace it with because we are not doing coal to liquids, which could replace oil. We are not going to run our cars with nuclear. We are not going to run them with hydro. We could run a lot of them with natural gas.

Natural gas, in my view, is the fuel, the clean, green fuel, that's underestimated in this country. And we cannot ever be in control of our oil needs. We don't have enough. But natural gas we have lots of. And we will talk now about how we have locked it up.

First, I want to talk about what natural gas prices have done to manufacturing, manufacturing employment. As

gas prices have risen, manufacturing has decreased. Natural gas is the fuel that we use to run this country. And for the last number of years, we have had the highest natural gas prices in the world.

Here is how fast they have risen. And now we are back up between $7 and $8. During the winter, we will be back to $8 and $9. Now, that's from the well head; that's not the price people pay. So these figures are costs from out of the ground. But America's natural gas prices, historically we were down here under $2, and we were very competitive in the world. But in these years since this rise, we have not been competitive. And in China and India natural gas prices are half of ours. And South America, a buck something; Russia, less than a dollar. Our competition in the global marketplace have much cheaper natural gas prices. And that's a problem for America. Here's the reason why:

Now, there is also a chart I have. I don't have it with me, with some big circles in here, and these are areas where there are lots of gas and oil. But they are locked up. Why? We are the only country in the world that has chosen to lock up our gas and oil. The only country in the world, offshore and onshore. Even with $95 oil and $8 and $9 gas, we're locking it up.

Twenty-seven years ago, Congress, in its wisdom, prohibited the production of energy offshore in these areas. Canada produces, Great Britain produces, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Australia, New Zealand, all environmentally sensitive countries, they produce offshore. We talk about Brazil being energy independent because of ethanol. Ethanol was just a piece of it. They also went out offshore and produced oil and gas and became energy independent, and they don't have to buy this expensive energy from anybody. They have their own.

America could be self-sufficient on natural gas. We could fuel a third of our auto fleet, all short-haul vehicles, all short-haul trucks, all construction vehicles if it was affordable, more affordable than oil and gasoline. It is cleaner burning, no SO_2, no NO_X, a third of the CO_2, if that's giving you gray hair. But for some reason, here's what natural gas is used for. People just have no idea. And ladies, natural gas is the derivative of the skin softeners we all love. I have dry skin. I use skin softeners on my hands every day. I inherited that from my father. All of these products, natural gas is not only used to make them; it's an ingredient: polymers, plastics, tires, carpet. Look at these products. Insulation in our houses. Huge amounts of natural gas. Feedstocks, ethane, propane, butane to make steam, to make power. All of these are feedstocks. And if we go to our hydrogen society, which we are all hopeful in hydrogen, how do we make hydrogen? The only way we have portable to make it is from natural gas.

Natural gas should be the bridge to America's renewable future. Natural gas is the clean fuel. And for us to lock our supply of natural gas in this country up makes no public policy sense. Natural gas has never washed up on a shore. We had an oil spill in San Francisco. It wasn't an oil well; it was a ship. There are ships everywhere that could spill oil. Every moving ship in the waterways, on a lake, a river, a dam, or the ocean spill oil from their engines every day. But we won't drill for it and we won't drill for clean natural gas that doesn't have oil, that isn't oil. I think we should be producing both. But natural gas is the vital part of our future.

We have a bill that we now have 170-some sponsors for but have not been able to get it considered yet. Now, our bill is a bill that gives a lot of States rights. Our bill will say the first 25 miles, and I don't theoretically agree with it, but I have agreed with it to try to get it passed, the first 25 miles is closed, period. You only can see 11 or 12, so nobody is ever going to see a gas well. The next 25 miles it is up to the States. They choose whether they want to produce energy. Their legislature decides. If they want out under the moratorium, they can choose to be out. The second 50 mile is automatically open, but, again, States have a right to pass a bill and have it signed by their Governor to keep it locked up. So Congress could open it, but they can close it back up with just a State-passed legislation. Then the second 100 miles, the OCS, Outer Continental Shelf, is from 3 miles, which is now controlled by the States, to 200 miles. I'm giving the States total control of the first 25 and saying you can't drill. The second 25, you can drill if you have the wisdom to. And the second 50, you can drill unless you have the foolish attitude that you don't want to produce natural gas.

This bill would bring in billions to producing States because of the royalties, $100 billion for the Treasury. Now, we have set-aside funds. We talk about renewable energy. This bill, the NEED Act, would put $32 billion in the coffers for energy research, clean, green energy research; $32 billion for carbon capture and sequestration research to teach us how to burn coal and other fuels and capture the carbon. This isn't talk. This is real money that would put $32 billion to research that.

And we have some spoils of the past that we need to clean up. They have been trying for a long time to get $20 billion to clean up Chesapeake Bay. This bill would provide it. There is $20 billion for Great Lakes restoration because when we first started this country, we used the Great Lakes as a depository for our waste of all kinds. Wrong. We don't do that anymore. This would give them the money they have been looking for for the Great Lakes group to clean up. And $12 billion for Everglades restoration. I saw a complaint the other day that this year's bill didn't give the Everglades as much as usual. This would give them mandatory spending right out of the energy bill. Also, $12 billion for the Colorado basin restoration, $12 billion for the San Francisco Bay cleanup, and $10 billion for LIHEAP and weatherization. You haven't heard any energy debates on this floor, but I'm going to tell you in a few weeks when people start paying high energy bills to heat their homes, you're going to hear a lot of LIHEAP debates on this bill where people are going to say $2 billion isn't enough, $3 billion isn't enough, $4 billion isn't enough. We need more money because people can't heat their homes. They can't heat their homes because Congress has locked up energy and caused energy prices to be unaffordable not only for homeowners but for the businesses that provide the jobs for the people. If America doesn't get a handle on energy prices, we won't have working people's jobs in this country. We won't have a petrochemical industry. We won't have a polymers and plastics industry. We won't do anything like making steel or aluminum or bending it or shaping it. It will all be done offshore where energy is much cheaper and labor is much cheaper and environmental standards don't exist. America cannot be the strong country that we grew up in if we don't have available, affordable energy.

I plead with this Congress, energy needs to be the number one issue facing this country. Affordable, available energy so we can run this country, so people can live their lives in a normal fashion and have jobs and we can compete.

I think America faces a challenge that it has never faced before. We have always been the big dog. We have always been the giant. We have always been able to handle competition. But we have people today that are building economic bases and they are building the energy support systems to run them. America is going to starve itself of affordable energy by choice because we locked up onshore, offshore major supplies of energy and we didn't allow the adequate trial on coal to liquids and coal to gas and we've had great resistance to nuclear and the undue hope that renewables are the answer.

□ 2245

I wish they were, but let's go back to that chart.

The first half is history. The second half is projection. I don't totally agree with it. Let's say renewable estimates are wrong. Let's say they're 100 percent wrong, and they're going to be twice as much. They still won't hardly be 10 or 11 percent of the energy needed for this country. And our energy growth is going up percentages every year. If we doubled this for renewables, if we tripled it, we would be lucky to keep up with the energy growth. We would still need all of this. And we have people in this Congress thinking we don't need oil; they won't support gas, they won't support coal, they won't support nuclear because we want this.

Yes, we want this, but how do we get this? How do we get that? When wind

and solar are just fractions, and geothermal are just fractions. They're good, they're good sources, they're clean, they're green, they're pure.

You know, we have a lot of groups in this country, I can just think of a few, Greenpeace, Sierra Club, and the PIRGs and the League of Conservation Voters and the Environmental Defense Fund, and more. These organizations are opposed to all of these. They grade legislators badly if you support the use of them and the production of them. They would all rate me badly because I know we need this to run this country. If we could run it on these, I would be for it, but we can't. We need to try to grow these, we need to try to get into a hydrogen society, we need to try to do every kind of renewable there is; but at the same time, we must produce oil, natural gas, coal and nuclear to run this country because that's what has run it, and it's what will run it for the next 30 years, according to the Energy Department.

Let's say they're wrong. I think they're off on natural gas. I think the use of gas is going to explode because of the carbon debate, because the carbon debate is going to cause us to shut down coal, not permit new coal plants, not allow us to do coal-to-liquid or coal-to-gas, which would be a clean way to use coal; but they're not even going to let us experiment.

The administration is pushing cellulosic ethanol. That's good and fine, but I keep arguing with them, we need to be experimenting with clean coal technologies and liquids and gas from coals because we have it. Other countries have done it. We just need to know how to do it in a cost-effective way and then try to, if carbon is the big issue, secure the carbon. And if we passed the NEED Act, we would have the money to do it.

Energy availability and affordability will depend on whether America is a competitive Nation. If this Congress doesn't wake up out of its slumber, if it doesn't wake up and realize that affordable and available energy, and I understand why they're asleep. All of our lifetime there has been lots of energy, and it's been cheap, cheap, cheap. It's not cheap anymore, it's expensive and going to get more expensive.

Available, affordable energy will slowly shut this country's economic base down. And the working people of America that don't have white collar jobs, that go to work and make things, as we try to get back into the growth of nuclear, the new plants that are being designed, the bases of them, the big, huge cast bases will be shipped here in a ship from Japan because we no longer have a casting plant big enough to make them.

Much of the high-tech parts of our nuclear plants will be built in Germany because we haven't built them in a long time and we've lost our capacity. I say down the road, how do we defend our country? How do we build the jets and the planes, the tanks and the equipment, the sophisticated equipment? We're going to be buying the parts from foreign countries, who may not even be our friends, built by foreign people who aren't even in this country and Americans will not have the jobs.

Energy is one of the biggest job creators. When you produce energy, a lot of people make a living. When you buy it from Saudi Arabia, when you buy it from foreign countries, when you buy it from the Mideast, the only Americans who get a job are those who sell it, a retail job. I was a retailer, and I'm not saying that in any way to cast aspersions; but right now here in Washington, DC you can buy gasoline made in Russia. Not only produce the oil in Russia, but the gasoline was made in Russia, came here in a ship. Not many Americans get a job from that. But when you buy gasoline made from an American refiner and produced from American oil, a lot of people have made a living.

I hope the next time I rise on this floor there will have been some action from this body, there will have been some voice from the White House. I haven't heard much from the Secretary of Energy about the energy crisis. Every time I talk to any of the people in the Cabinet that advise the President, I talk to them about my views and they listen intently, but not much action; and no action from this Congress, zero action.

Available, affordable energy has the ability to shut the economic base of this country and take us down and make us a second-rate Nation. And the number of poor people in America will continue to grow. Working-men jobs for the people who work with their hands, who have made this country, they're the heart and soul of this country. I was the son of a seventh grade-educated steelworker. He was a darn good dad. He taught me to be honest, work hard, always do my best, and never quit and give up. And those principles he taught me I have lived with all my life. And I thank him today and my mother for teaching me to be honest and upright. But they were working people. Neither of them had graduated from high school. They worked with their hands. They were ambitious.

There are lots of Americans that need jobs to work with their hands, to make things, build things. And this country will no longer be a country that makes things and builds things and creates things. We're just becoming consumers as we export our jobs. And energy, available, affordable energy has exported more jobs from America than any other issue. I will debate that with anybody. And it will continue to export the good jobs we have.

Dow Chemical, the biggest employer and manufacturer of chemicals in the world, used to pay $8 billion a year for natural gas in 2002. In 2006, they paid $22 billion, and they came to Congress and begged. I had them at hearings, and they begged us. The President of Dow Chemical begged this Congress to take action on opening up energy supply for this country so he didn't have to go across the ponds in other countries to build his plants so he could compete. They make products for the whole world, and they can go to countries where energy is a third, a fourth, a fifth of what it costs here and labor is cheaper. And that's why they're going. They don't want to go. He said, I don't want to go. I'm loyal to America. And many companies are loyal. I talk to company CEOs that say they spend millions every year trying to cut energy use, but the energy costs just go up faster than their energy use.

Americans need to conserve. We all need to use less. We need to learn how to use less. We need to figure out how to quit wasting energy, and more fuel-efficient cars, more efficient homes. But folks, we need to have a Congress and an administration that puts energy at the front door of our future and says that we're going to do whatever it takes to compete in this global economy. We're going to provide energy for Americans. We're going to open up our reserves. We're going to produce the oil we need, the gas we need. And we're going to use coal the clean way.

And, yes, we're going to expand nuclear. And, yes, we're going to even maybe build some dams and do some hydro. And, yes, we're going to do everything we can to promote renewables, all of those. And we're going to try to get into hydrogen. It will be decades, but hydrogen society, where we can make hydrogen. If we learn to make it out of water, we've got it made. But then we still have to learn how to transport it safely and how to utilize it, how to sell it, how to process it and distribute it. It takes years and decades to do that. In the meantime, we've got to continue with what we have, and it's nuclear, coal, natural gas and oil, and renewables.

We need to make energy one of the top issues in this Congress, not tomorrow, not the next day, but now. Not next year or two years from now; it may be too late. When we open up a new oil field, if we open up the Outer Continental Shelf, it's 10 years before you have any real production out there. If we start coal-to-liquid, coal-to-gas, it will be a decade before we would have real production. We need to be starting it now. We need to be figuring out how to speed up the process of nuclear to run this country. America needs a Congress committed to available, affordable energy.

And I'm going to conclude, you know who owns the oil in the world? You know who the biggest oil companies are? It's not Exxon. Exxon is the 14th largest oil company in the world. They're pretty big. But 13, unstable, nondemocratic governments are bigger oil companies. And they've kicked out Big Oil in the recent years, taken over their investments, captured their monies. And they're running the oil production in most parts of the world. Ninety

percent of the oil is owned by unstable governments. And any one of them that tips over, along with a Katrina-type storm in the gulf, can give us unaffordable energy overnight. We're vulnerable to a storm; we're vulnerable to unstable nondemocratic governments that don't even like us.

How can America go to sleep? How can this Congress go to sleep at night knowing that we are vulnerable to those we don't even trust with our energy future?

This Congress must have an energy policy soon, and it can't be the one I talked about first that takes energy off the table. It has to be one that puts energy on the table, yes, does conservation, does all of the things to conserve and use wiser, but produces the energy this country needs to compete.

We're in a global climate, we're in a global economy today, and America must figure out soon that everything we do in Congress must enable our companies to compete in the world; and affordable energy is one of the first things we ought to be doing.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. ABERCROMBIE (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and until noon on November 14.

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

Mr. DOYLE (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today and the balance of the week on account of a death in the family.

Mr. WOLF (at the request of Mr. BOEHNER) for today on account of a medical appointment.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. CUMMINGS) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WOOLSEY, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATERS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEFAZIO, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. KAPTUR, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. WATSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LIPINSKI, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. POE) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. FLAKE, for 5 minutes, November 14.

Mr. HOEKSTRA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana, for 5 minutes, today and November 14, 15, and 16.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 10 o'clock and 57 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, November 14, 2007, at 10 a.m.

EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Speaker-authorized official travel during the second and third quarters of 2007, pursuant to Public Law 95–384 are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, DELEGATION TO UNITED KINGDOM, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN OCT. 19 AND OCT. 22, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Lois Capps	10/19	10/22	United Kingdom		2,439.00		(3)				2,439.00
Hon. Hilda Solis	10/19	10/22	United Kingdom		2,439.00		(3)				2,439.00
Hon. Gwen Moore	10/19	10/22	United Kingdom		2,439.00		(3)				2,439.00
Hon. Louise Slaughter	10/19	10/22	United Kingdom		2,439.00		(3)				2,439.00
Amy Fisher	10/19	10/22	United Kingdom		2,439.00		(3)				2,439.00
Melissa Shannon	10/19	10/22	United Kingdom		2,439.00		(3)				2,439.00
Hon. Donna Christensen	10/19	10/21	United Kingdom		1,854.00		4,182.28				6,036.28
Committee total					16,488.00		4,182.28				20,670.28

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

LOIS CAPPS, Chairman, Oct. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Janice Helwig		7/1	United States				148.00				148.00
	7/2	9/30	Austria		13,748.00						13,748.00
Hon. Benjamin L. Cardin		7/4	United States				(3)				
	7/5	7/9	Ukraine		1,575.00						1,575.00
Ronald McNamara		7/9	Ukraine								
	7/9	7/14	Austria		1,636.00						1,636.00
Mischa Thompson		7/9	Ukraine								
	7/9	7/14	Austria		1,284.00						1,284.32
Janice Helwig		7/15	Austria				960.00				960.00
	7/15	7/19	Bosnia & Herzegovnia		796.00						796.00
Shelly Han		8/12	United States				10,832.97				10,832.97
	8/13	8/15	Turkmenistan		399.00						399.00
	8/15	8/21	Kazakhstan		536.00						536.00
Kyle Parker		8/12	United States				10,938.24				10,938.24
	8/13	8/15	Turkmenistan		432.00						432.00
	8/15	8/20	Kazakhstan		425.00						425.00
Winsome Packer		9/8	United States				6,267.43				6,267.43
	9/9	9/15	Austria		1,937.44						1,937.44
Erika Schlager		9/22	United States				6,754.54				6,754.54
	9/23	10/6	Poland		3,616.30						3,616.30
Janice Helwig		9/23	United States				1,199.80				1,199.80
	9/23	10/5	Poland		3,507.30						3,507.30
Mischa Thompson		9/23	United States				7,763.93				7,763.93
	9/24	9/30	Poland		1,573.95						1,573.95
Orest Deychakiwsky		9/26	United States				7,254.59				7,254.59
	9/27	10/1	Ukraine		895.00						895.00
	10/1	10/4	Poland		808.17						808.17

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Ronald McNamara		9/27	United States				7,632.19				7,632.19
	9/28	10/1	Ukraine		885.00				114.00		999.00
	10/1	10/6	Poland		1,346.95						1,346.95
Hon. Alcee L. Hastings		9/28	United States				7,213.49				7,213.49
	9/29	10/1	Slovenia		686.00						686.00
	10/1	10/2	Italy		843.00						843.00
Fred Turner		9/28	United States				7,213.49				7,213.49
	9/29	10/1	Slovenia		686.00						686.00
	10/1	10/3	Italy		1,224.00						1,224.00
Committee total					38,840.43		74,178.67		114.00		113,133.10

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

ALCEE L. HASTINGS, Chairman, Oct. 31, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Steve Israel	7/2	7/6	Israel		1,233.00						1,233.00
Misc. Embassy Costs									5,105.60		5,105.60
Commercial Air							8,361.74				8,361.74
Steve Marchese	7/15	7/19	Colombia		1,170.00						1,170.00
Commercial Air							2,497.20				2,497.20
Christine Kojac	7/15	7/19	Colombia		1,512.00						1,512.00
Commercial Air							1,934.70				1,934.70
Elizabeth Dawson	7/15	7/19	Colombia		1,512.00						1,512.00
Commercial Air							1,934.70				1,934.70
Hon. Ben Chandler	7/19	7/22	Serbia		685.50						685.50
	7/22	7/23	Croatia		228.50						228.50
Hon. Ed Pastor	8/19	8/21	Iceland		1,128.00						1,128.00
	8/21	8/23	Ukraine		692.00						692.00
	8/23	8/26	Netherlands		1,251.00						1,251.00
Hon. David Hobson	8/19	8/21	Iceland		1,128.00						1,128.00
	8/21	8/23	Ukraine		692.00						692.00
	8/23	8/26	Netherlands		1,251.00						1,251.00
Hon. Marion Berry	8/19	8/21	Iceland		1,128.00						1,128.00
	8/21	8/23	Ukraine		692.00						692.00
	8/23	8/26	Netherlands		1,251.00						1,251.00
Hon. Steve Israel	8/19	8/21	Iceland		1,128.00						1,128.00
	8/21	8/23	Ukraine		692.00						692.00
	8/23	8/26	Netherlands		1,251.00						1,251.00
Hon. Tim Ryan	8/19	8/21	Iceland		1,128.00						1,128.00
	8/21	8/23	Ukraine		692.00						692.00
	8/23	8/26	Netherlands		1,251.00						1,251.00
Part Commercial Air							3,242.70				3,242.70
Dixon Butler	8/19	8/21	Iceland		1,128.00						1,128.00
	8/21	8/23	Ukraine		692.00						692.00
	8/23	8/26	Netherlands		1,251.00						1,251.00
Taunja Berquam	8/19	8/21	Iceland		1,128.00						1,128.00
	8/21	8/23	Ukraine		692.00						692.00
	8/23	8/26	Netherlands		1,251.00						1,251.00
Kevin Cook	8/19	8/21	Iceland		1,128.00						1,128.00
	8/21	8/23	Ukraine		692.00						692.00
	8/23	8/26	Netherlands		1,251.00						1,251.00
Hon. Kay Granger	8/19	8/21	Iceland		1,128.00						1,128.00
	8/21	8/23	Ukraine		692.00						692.00
	8/23	8/26	Netherlands		1,251.00						1,251.00
Hon. Nita Lowey	8/12	8/14	Morocco		722.74						722.74
	8/14	8/16	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/16	8/16	Liberia								
	8/16	8/18	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/18	8/21	Uganda		1,029.00						1,029.00
	8/21	8/22	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/22	8/23	Spain		482.14						482.14
Misc. Embassy Costs										2,293.35	2,293.35
Hon. Jesse Jackson, Jr.	8/12	8/14	Morocco		722.74						722.74
	8/14	8/16	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/16	8/16	Liberia								
	8/16	8/18	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/18	8/21	Uganda		1,029.00						1,029.00
	8/21	8/22	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/22	8/23	Spain		465.64						465.64
Misc. Embassy Costs										2,293.35	2,293.35
Hon. Barbara Lee	8/12	8/14	Morocco		722.74						722.74
	8/14	8/16	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/16	8/16	Liberia								
	8/16	8/18	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/18	8/21	Uganda		1,029.00						1,029.00
	8/21	8/22	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/22	8/23	Spain		465.64						465.64
Misc. Embassy Costs										2,293.35	2,293.35
Hon. Maurice Hinchey	8/12	8/14	Morocco		722.74						722.74
	8/14	8/16	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/16	8/16	Liberia								
	8/16	8/18	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/18	8/21	Uganda		1,029.00						1,029.00
	8/21	8/22	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/22	8/23	Spain		482.14						428.14
Misc. Embassy Costs									2,293.35		2,293.35
Craig Higgins	8/12	8/14	Morocco		722.74						722.74
	8/14	8/16	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/16	8/16	Liberia								
	8/16	8/18	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/18	8/21	Uganda		1,029.00						1,029.00
	8/21	8/22	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/22	8/23	Spain		465.64						465.64

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Misc. Embassy Costs									2,293.35		2,293.35
Michelle Sumilas	8/12	8/14	Morocco		722.74						722.74
	8/14	8/16	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/16	8/16	Liberia								
	8/16	8/18	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/18	8/21	Uganda		1,029.00						1,029.00
	8/21	8/22	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/22	8/23	Spain		465.64						465.64
Misc. Embassy Costs									2,293.35		2,293.35
Rob Blair	8/14	8/16	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/16	8/16	Liberia								
	8/16	8/18	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/18	8/21	Uganda		1,029.00						1,029.00
	8/21	8/22	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/22	8/23	Spain		465.64						465.64
Misc. Embassy Costs									2,293.35		2,293.35
Hon. David Obey	8/7	8/10	France		1,367.00						1,367.00
Hon. John Murtha	8/7	8/10	France		1,367.00						1,367.00
Hon. David Hobson	8/7	8/10	France		1,367.00						1,367.00
Rob Nabors	8/7	8/10	France		1,367.00						1,367.00
David Morrison	8/7	8/10	France		1,367.00						1,367.00
Carol Murphy	8/7	8/10	France		1,367.00						1,367.00
Hon. Dennis Rehberg	8/7	8/10	France		1,367.00						1,367.00
John Blazey	8/6	8/8	Kazakhstan		714.00						714.00
	8/8	8/10	Azerbaijan		732.00						732.00
	8/10	8/11	Georgia		350.00						350.00
	8/11	8/14	Russia		1,638.00						1,638.00
Commercial Air/Misc. Travel							12,687.20				12,687.20
Kris Mallard	8/6	8/8	Kazakhstan		714.00						714.00
	8/8	8/10	Azerbaijan		732.00						732.00
	8/10	8/11	Georgia		350.00						350.00
	8/11	8/14	Russia		1638.00						1,638.00
	8/14	8/16	United Kingdom		1,632.00						1,632.00
Commercial Air/Misc. Travel							12,687.20				12,687.20
Joshua Hartman	8/6	8/8	Kazakhstan		714.00						714.00
	8/8	8/10	Azerbaijan		732.00						732.00
	8/10	8/11	Georgia		350.00						350.00
	8/11	8/13	Russia		1,638.00						1,638.00
	8/14	8/16	United Kingdom		1,632.00						1,632.00
Commercial Air/Misc. Travel							12,687.20				12,687.20
Linda Pagelson	8/19	8/22	Japan		995.00						995.00
	8/22	8/31	China		2,389.00						2,389.00
Commercial Air							11,551.13				11,551.13
Jennifer Miller	8/18	8/22	Germany		1,020.00						1,020.00
	8/22	8/24	Italy		1,192.00						1,192.00
Commercial Air							7,515.63				7,515.63
Dena Baron	8/18	8/22	Germany		1,020.00						1,020.00
Commercial Air							6,323.82				6,323.82
Hon. Roger Wicker	8/25	8/26	United Kingdom		46.00						46.00
Commercial Rail							415.00				415.00
Hon. James Moran	8/24	8/25	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	8/25	8/26	Baghdad								
	8/26	8/27	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
Commercial Air							9,379.21				9,379.21
Terry Tyborowski	9/8	9/14	Japan		2,368.55						2,368.55
Commercial Air							11,118.95				11,118.95
Kevin Cook	9/8	9/14	Japan		2,368.55						2,368.55
Commercial Air							11,118.95				11,118.95
Rob Blair	9/8	9/14	Japan		2,368.55						2,368.55
Commercial Air							11,118.95				11,118.95
Hon. James T. Walsh	9/7	9/8	Kuwait		310.00						310.00
	9/8	9/9	Iraq		310.00						310.00
	9/9	9/9	Kuwait		310.00						310.00
Commercial Air							9,013.12				9,013.12
Committee total					96,612.57		133,587.40		21,159.05		251,359.02

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

DAVID R. OBEY, Chairman, Oct. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Visit to Ireland, Iraq, Kuwait, Pakistan, Germany, June 30–July 7, 2007:											
Hon. Susan Davis	6/30	7/1	Ireland		116.00						116.00
	7/1	7/3	Germany		98.00						98.00
	7/3	7/5	Pakistan		578.00						578.00
	7/5	7/6	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	7/6	7/6	Iraq								
Hon. Kirsten Gillibrand	7/1	7/2	Ireland		116.00						116.00
	7/2	7/3	Germany		98.50						98.50
	7/3	7/5	Pakistan		578.00						578.00
	7/5	7/6	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	7/6	7/6	Iraq								
Hon. Geoff Davis	7/1	7/2	Ireland		116.00						116.00
	7/2	7/3	Germany		105.50						105.50
	7/3	7/5	Pakistan		578.00						578.00
	7/5	7/6	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	7/6	7/6	Iraq								
Hon. Bill Shuster	7/1	7/2	Ireland		116.00						116.00
	7/2	7/3	Germany		98.00						98.00
	7/3	7/5	Pakistan		578.00						578.00
	7/5	7/6	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	7/6	7/6	Iraq								
Debra Wada	7/1	7/2	Ireland		116.00						116.00
	7/2	7/3	Germany		98.00						98.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	7/3	7/5	Pakistan		578.00						578.00
	7/5	7/6	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	7/6	7/6	Iraq								
Stephanie Sanok	7/1	7/2	Ireland		116.00						116.00
	7/2	7/3	Germany		98.00						98.00
	7/3	7/5	Pakistan		578.00						578.00
	7/5	7/6	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	7/6	7/6	Iraq								
Delegation Expenses	7/5	7/6	Kuwait				397.28		3,747.84		4,145.12
Visit to Cuba, July 2–3, 2007:											
Paul Oostburg	7/2	7/3	Cuba								
Roger Zakheim	7/2	7/3	Cuba								
Visit to Pakistan, Afghanistan, July 19–25, 2007:											
Hon. Jim Marshall	7/21	7/25	Afghanistan								
Commercial Transportation							4,569.94				4,569.94
Visit to El Salvador, Panama, Peru, Chile, Paraguay, Argentina, July 25–31, 2007:											
David Kildee	7/25	7/26	El Salvador		181.00						181.00
	7/26	7/27	Panama		304.00						304.00
	7/27	7/28	Peru		130.00						130.00
Commercial Transportation							4,289.70				4,289.70
Jeanette James	7/25	7/26	El Salvador		181.00						181.00
	7/26	7/27	Panama		304.00						304.00
	7/27	7/28	Peru		130.00						130.00
	7/28	7/30	Paraguay		358.50						358.50
	7/30	7/31	Argentina		270.00						270.00
Commercial Transportation							4,813.20				4,813.20
Alexander Kugajevsky	7/27	7/27	Panama								
	7/27	7/28	Peru		130.00						130.00
	7/28	7/30	Paraguay		496.00						496.00
	7/30	7/31	Argentina		270.00						270.00
Commercial Transportation							5,087.20				5,087.20
Jenness Simler	7/25	7/26	El Salvador		100.00						100.00
	7/26	7/27	Panama		220.00						220.00
	7/27	7/28	Peru		50.00						50.00
	7/28	7/30	Paraguay		416.00						416.00
	7/30	7/31	Argentina		180.00						180.00
Commercial Transportation							4,813.20				4,813.20
Visit to Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Germany, with CODEL Schakowsky, August 4–11, 2007:											
Hon. Jeff Miller	8/6	8/7	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	8/7	8/10	Pakistan		678.00						678.00
	8/8	8/9	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	8/10	8/11	Germany		340.00						340.00
Hon. Phil Gingrey	8/6	8/7	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	8/7	8/10	Pakistan		678.00						678.00
	8/8	8/9	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	8/10	8/11	Germany		340.00						340.00
Hon. Thelma Drake	8/6	8/7	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	8/7	8/10	Pakistan		678.00						678.00
	8/8	8/9	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	8/10	8/11	Germany		340.00						340.00
John Wason	8/6	8/7	Kuwait		155.00						155.00
	8/7	8/10	Pakistan		678.00						678.00
	8/8	8/9	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	8/10	8/11	Germany		340						340.00
Delegation Expenses	8/8	8/9	Afghanistan						2,852.50		2,852.00
Visit to Pakistan with STAFFDEL Farkus, August 4–13, 2007:											
William H. Natter, III	8/10	8/13	Pakistan		1,017.00						1,017.00
Commercial Transportation							8,717.73				8,717.73
Visit to Germany, Italy, Spain, August 11–23, 2007:											
Debra Wada	8/12	8/15	Germany		938.00						938.00
	8/15	8/21	Italy		1,301.00						1,301.00
	8/21	8/23	Spain		510.00						510.00
Commercial Transportation							8,831.30				8,831.30
David Kildee	8/12	8/15	Germany		938.00						938.00
	8/15	8/21	Italy		1,301.00						1,301.00
	8/21	8/23	Spain		510.00						510.00
Commercial Transportation							8,831.30				8,831.30
Jeanette James	8/12	8/15	Germany		938.00						938.00
	8/15	8/21	Italy		1,301.00						1,301.00
	8/21	8/23	Spain		510.00						510.00
Commercial Transportation							8,831.30				8,831.30
Visit to Switzerland, Morocco, Liberia, Ghana, Uganda, Spain with CODEL Lowy, August 12–23, 2007:											
Hon. Susan Davis	8/12	8/14	Morocco		722.74						722.74
	8/14	8/18	Ghana		1,076.00						1,076.00
	8/16	8/16	Liberia								
	8/18	8/21	Uganda		1,029.00						1,029.00
	8/21	8/22	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/22	8/23	Spain		482.14						482.14
Visit to Chad, Germany, Mall, August 15–23, 2007:											
William H. Natter, III	8/16	8/17	Germany		308.00						308.00
	8/17	8/19	Mali		200.00						200.00
	8/20	8/22	Chad		646.00						646.00
Commercial Transportation							16,642.60				16,642.60
Stephanie Sanok	8/16	8/17	Germany		308.00						308.00
	8/17	8/21	Mali		409.00						409.00
Commercial Transportation							16,896.00				16,896.00
Mark Lewis	8/16	8/17	Germany		308.00						308.00
	8/17	8/19	Mali		200.00						200.00
	8/20	8/22	Chad		546.00						546.00
Commercial Transportation							14,840.60				14,840.60
Alexander Kugajevsky	8/16	8/17	Germany		308.00						308.00
	8/17	8/19	Mali		200.00						200.00
	8/20	8/22	Chad		546.00						546.00
Commercial Transportation							15,327.60				15,327.60
Visit to Tunisia, Italy, Turkey, Croatia, with CODEL Costello, August 17–27, 2007:											
Hon. Solomon Ortiz	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		212.00						212.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	8/20	8/22	Turkey		301.00						301.00
	8/22	8/24	Croatia		516.00						516.00
	8/24	8/24	Italy		324.00						324.00
	8/24	8/27	Germany		359.00						359.00
Visit to Iraq, Kuwait, Germany, August 24–29, 2007:											
Hon. Ellen Tauscher	8/24	8/25	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	8/25	8/26	Iraq								
	8/26	8/27	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
Commercial Transportation							9,399.43				9,399.43
Michael Casey	8/24	8/25	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	8/25	8/26	Iraq								
	8/26	8/27	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
Commercial Transportation							10,877.21				10,877.21
Stephanie Sanok	8/24	8/25	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	8/25	8/26	Iraq								
	8/26	8/27	Kuwait		105.00						105.00
	8/27	8/28	Germany								
Commercial Transportation							10,096.90				10,096.90
Visit to Iraq, Kuwait, August 27–31, 2007:											
Hon. Kendrick Meek	8/27	8/29	Kuwait		210.00						210.00
	8/28	8/28	Iraq								
Commercial Transportation							9,029.05				9,029.05
Douglas Bush	8/27	8/29	Kuwait		210.00						210.00
	8/28	8/28	Iraq								
Commercial Transportation							9,029.05				9,029.05
Alexander Kugajevsky	8/27	8/29	Kuwait		210.00						210.00
	8/28	8/28	Iraq								
Commercial Transportation							9,029.05				9,029.05
Visit to China, Japan, August 21–31, 2007:											
Hon. Ike Skelton	8/24	8/28	China		727.00						727.00
Erin C. Conaton	8/24	8/28	China		727.00						727.00
Kari Bingen Tytler	8/24	8/28	China		727.00						727.00
Visit to Brussels, Poland, the Czech Republic, the Netherlands, August 28–September 4, 2007:											
Hon. Trent Franks	8/29	8/30	The Czech Republic		206.00						206.00
	8/30	9/1	Poland		218.00						218.00
	9/1	9/2	Belgium		376.00						376.00
	9/2	9/3	The Netherlands								
	9/3	9/4	Belgium		376.00						376.00
Commercial Transportation							6,865.41				6,865.41
Kari Bingen Tytler	8/29	8/30	The Czech Republic		206.00						206.00
	8/30	9/1	Poland		218.00						218.00
	9/1	9/2	Belgium		376.00						376.00
	9/2	9/3	The Netherlands								
	9/3	9/4	Belgium		376.00						376.00
Commercial Transportation							1,575.94				1,575.94
Visit to Iraq, Kuwait, September 6, 2007:											
Hon. Brad Ellsworth	9/7	9/10	Kuwait		210.00						210.00
	9/8	9/9	Iraq								
Commercial Transportation							9,374.12				9,374.12
John Kruse	9/7	9/10	Kuwait		210.00						210.00
	9/8	9/9	Iraq								
Commercial Transportation							9,374.12				9,374.12
Lynn Williams	9/7	9/10	Kuwait		210.00						210.00
	9/8	9/9	Iraq								
Commercial Transportation							9,374.12				9,374.12
Visit to Brussels, Poland, the Czech Republic, September 11–15, 2007:											
Hon. Ellen Tauscher	9/12	9/13	Belgium		160.00						160.00
	9/13	9/14	Poland		109.00						109.00
	9/14	9/15	The Czech Republic		103.00						103.00
Hon. Jim Cooper	9/12	9/13	Belgium		160.00						160.00
	9/13	9/14	Poland		109.00						109.00
	9/14	9/15	The Czech Republic		103.00						103.00
Hon. Michael Turner	9/12	9/13	Belgium		160.00						160.00
	9/13	9/14	Poland		109.00						109.00
	9/14	9/15	The Czech Republic		103.00						103.00
Robert W. DeGrasse	9/12	9/13	Belgium		160.00						160.00
	9/13	9/14	Poland		109.00						109.00
	9/14	9/15	The Czech Republic		103.00						103.00
Frank Rose	9/12	9/13	Belgium		160.00						160.00
	9/13	9/14	Poland		109.00						109.00
	9/14	9/15	The Czech Republic		103.00						103.00
Kari Bingen Tytler	9/12	9/13	Belgium		160.00						160.00
	9/13	9/14	Poland		109.00						109.00
	9/14	9/15	The Czech Republic		103.00						103.00
Visit to Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan, Germany, September 19–25, 2007:											
Hon. Neil Abercrombie	9/21	9/21	Kuwait								
	9/21	9/22	Iraq								
	9/22	9/23	Afghanistan		25.00						25.00
	9/23	9/24	Germany		298.00						298.00
Hon. Madeleine Z. Bordallo	9/21	9/21	Kuwait								
	9/21	9/22	Iraq								
	9/22	9/23	Afghanistan		25.00						25.00
	9/23	9/24	Germany		298.00						298.00
Hon. Rick Larsen	9/21	9/21	Kuwait								
	9/21	9/22	Iraq								
	9/22	9/23	Afghanistan		25.00						25.00
	9/23	9/24	Germany		298.00						298.00
Hon. Joe Wilson	9/21	9/21	Kuwait								
	9/21	9/22	Iraq								
	9/22	9/23	Afghanistan		25.00						25.00
	9/23	9/24	Germany		298.00						298.00
Hon. K. Michael Conaway	9/21	9/21	Kuwait								
	9/21	9/22	Iraq								
	9/22	9/23	Afghanistan		25.00						25.00
	9/20	9/21	Germany		53.94						53.94
Hon. John Kline	9/21	9/21	Kuwait								
	9/21	9/22	Iraq								
	9/22	9/23	Afghanistan		25.00						25.00
	9/23	9/24	Germany		298.00						298.00
Douglas Roach	9/21	9/21	Kuwait								

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	9/21	9/22	Iraq								
	9/22	9/23	Afghanistan		25.00						25.00
	9/23	9/24	Germany		298.00						298.00
Aileen Alexander	9/21	9/21	Kuwait								
	9/21	9/22	Iraq								
	9/22	9/23	Afghanistan		25.00						25.00
	9/23	9/24	Germany		298.00						298.00
Committee total					43,680.32		216,913.95		6,600.34		267,194.61

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

IKE SKELTON, Chairman, Oct. 29, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Candace Abbey	8/4	8/12	Israel		3,384.00						3,384.00
	8/12	8/14	Hungary		568.00						568.00
	8/4	8/14					[4] 6,237.28				6,237.28
	8/19	8/20	Singapore		272.00						272.00
	8/20	8/23	Malaysia		402.00						402.00
	8/23	8/27	Indonesia		863.00						863.00
	8/19	8/27					[4] 7,725.41				7,725.41
Hon. Neil Ackerman	8/23	8/31	Israel		3,384.00		7,754.70				11,138.70
David Adams	7/1	7/3	India		1,953.62						1,953.62
	7/4	7/8	Pakistan		1,112.00		166.17				1,278.17
	7/1	7/8					[4] 10,111.32				10,111.32
Melissa Adamson	8/19	8/22	Kazakhstan		1,057.00						1,057.00
	8/22	8/25	Turkmenistan		324.00						324.00
	8/25	8/29	Russian Federation		2,345.00						2,345.00
	8/29	9/1	Georgia		900.00						900.00
	8/19	9/1					[4] 12,974.98				12,974.98
Aaron Adkins	8/20	8/23	Zambia		279.00						279.00
	8/23	8/26	South Africa		778.00						778.00
	8/26	8/29	Nambia		469.00						469.00
	8/20	8/29					[4] 12,533.23				12,533.23
Manpreet Anand	8/19	8/22	Kazakhstan		1,057.00						1,057.00
	8/22	8/25	Turkmenistan		324.00						324.00
	8/25	8/29	Russian Federation		2,345.00						2,345.00
	8/29	9/1	Georgia		900.00						900.00
	8/19	9/1					[4] 11,750.98				11,750.98
Doug Anderson	8/15	8/18	Kenya		804.00						804.00
	8/18	8/22	Italy		2,043.05						2,043.05
	8/15	8/22					[4] 10,345.40				10,345.40
Michael Beard	8/5	8/12	Israel		2,961.00						2,961.00
	8/12	8/20	Hungary		2,272.00						2,272.00
	8/5	8/20					[4] 7,280.00				7,280.00
Genell Brown	8/27	8/29	Sudan		274.00						274.00
	8/29	8/30	Jordan		289.00						289.00
	8/30	8/31	Algeria		149.00						149.00
	8/31	9/1	Ethiopia		300.00						300.00
	9/1	9/3	U.A.E.		342.00						342.00
	8/27	9/3					[4] 13,250.00				13,250.00
Richard Butcher	8/26	8/31	South Korea		1,955.00		4,943.73				6,898.73
Hon. Russ Carnahan	7/20	7/22	Serbia		780.00		(3)				780.00
	7/22	7/22	BiH		41.00		(3)				41.00
	7/22	7/23	Croatia		134.00		(3)				134.00
Hon. Steve Chabot	8/27	8/29	Sudan		224.00						224.00
	8/29	8/30	Tunisia		124.00						124.00
	8/30	8/31	Algeria		149.00						149.00
	8/31	9/1	Ethiopia		250.00						250.00
	8/27	9/1					[4] 17,555.46				17,555.46
Natalie Coburn	8/13	8/15	Colombia		650.00		2,070.70				2,720.70
Theodore Dagne	8/14	8/16	Rwanda		600.00						600.00
	8/16	8/17	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/17	8/19	Uganda		830.00						830.00
	8/19	8/21	Nigeria		767.00						767.00
	8/21	8/22	Benin		223.00						223.00
	8/22	8/24	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/14	8/24					[4] 11,623.96				11,623.96
Erin Diamond	8/7	8/12	Brazil		735.00		9,412.93				10,147.93
Howard Diamond	7/1	7/3	India		1,953.62						1,953.62
	7/4	7/8	Pakistan		1,112.00		166.17				1,278.17
	7/1	7/8					[4] 10,111.32				10,111.32
	8/23	8/31	Israel		3,384.00		5,876.01				9,260.01
Phaedra Dugan	8/13	8/15	Columbia		650.00		1,930.70				2,580.70
Hon. Eni F. H. Faleomavaega	6/30	7/3	Thailand		804.00				[5] 414.13		1,218.13
	7/3	7/6	Indonesia		849.00						849.00
	6/30	7/6					[4] 8,324.86				8,324.86
	8/11	8/14	Taiwan		1,014.00		8,749.24				9,763.24
	8/27	9/2	Kazakhstan		2,556.00		11,826.33				14,382.33
David Fite	8/5	8/8	China		867.00		6,916.60				7,783.60
	8/13	8/15	Austria		638.00		5,202.80				5,840.80
Hon. Jeff Flake	8/24	8/28	China		727.00		(3)				727.00
Heather Flynn	8/14	8/16	Rwanda		566.00						566.00
	8/16	8/17	Kenya		288.00						288.00
	8/17	8/19	Uganda		686.00						686.00
	8/14	8/19					[4] 11,103.03				11,103.03
Yevgeny Gurevich	7/4	7/8	Turkey		1,104.00		5,624.71				6,728.71
	8/22	8/25	Turkmenistan		304.00						304.00
	8/25	8/29	Russian Federation		2,339.00						2,399.00
	8/29	9/1	Georgia		870.00						870.00
	8/22	9/1					[4] 12,439.87				12,439.87
Dennis Halpin	8/19	8/20	Singapore		600.00						600.00
	8/20	8/23	Malaysia		400.00						400.00
	8/23	8/27	Indonesia		958.00						958.00
	8/19	8/27					[4] 10,099.30				10,099.30

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Rubén Hinojosa	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		524.00		(3)				524.00
	8/20	8/22	Turkey		702.00		(3)				702.00
	8/22	8/24	Croatia		734.00		(3)				734.00
	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,227.00		Air				1,227.00
Hon. Bob Inglis	8/9	8/11	U.A.E.		322.00						322.00
	8/11	8/12	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	8/12	8/13	U.A.E.		161.00						161.00
	8/9	8/13					[4] 8,049.45				8,049.45
Hon. Sheila Jackson-Lee	8/27	8/29	Sudan		274.00						274.00
	8/29	8/30	Tunisia		149.00						149.00
	8/30	8/31	Algeria		149.00						149.00
	8/31	9/1	Ethiopia		300.00						300.00
	9/1	9/3	U.A.E.		342.00						342.00
	8/27	9/3					[4] 13,041.00				13,041.00
Eric Jacobstein	8/7	8/10	Brazil		735.00		9,819.93				10,554.93
Eric Johnson	7/1	7/4	France		1,806.00		7,092.01				8,898.01
Jonathan Katz	7/1	7/4	France		1,806.00		7,092.01				8,898.01
David Killion	8/5	8/7	China		690.00						690.00
	8/8	8/11	India		1,838.51						1,838.51
	8/11	8/16	United Kingdom		2,590.00						2,590.00
	8/5	8/16	Round Trip Airfare				9,712.27				9,712.27
Young Kim	8/26	8/31	South Korea		1,955.00		5,653.73				7,608.73
Robert King	8/5	8/9	Israel		1,692.00		6,145.34				7,837.34
Hon. Tom Lantos	8/5	8/12	Israel		2,961.00						2,961.00
	8/12	8/20	Hungary		1,048.00						1,048.00
	8/5	8/20					[4] 7,280.00				7,280.00
Vili Lei	6/30	7/3	Thailand		804.00						804.00
	7/3	7/6	Indonesia		849.00						849.00
	6/30	7/6					[4] 8,205.44				8,205.44
	8/18	8/22	Greece		2,116.00						2,116.00
	8/22	8/27	Italy		1,625.00						1,625.00
	8/27	9/2	Kazakhstan		2,172.00						2,172.00
	8/18	9/2					[4] 18,281.26				18,281.26
Alan Makovsky	7/1	7/8	Turkey		1,990.00		7,666.80				9,656.80
	8/5	8/15	Israel		4,105.00						4,105.00
	8/15	8/18	Lebanon		231.00						231.00
	8/5	8/18	Round Trip Airfare				7,617.26				7,617.26
Pearl-Alice Marsh	8/20	8/23	Zambia		279.00						279.00
	8/23	8/26	South Africa		778.00						778.00
	8/26	8/29	Namibia		469.00						469.00
	8/20	8/29					[4] 12,533.23				12,533.23
Greg McCarthy	7/1	7/3	India		1,953.62						1,953.62
	7/4	7/8	Pakistan		1,112.00		166.17				1,278.17
	7/1	7/8					[4] 10,131.32				10,131.32
	8/12	8/15	Israel		1,269.00						1,269.00
	8/15	8/18	Lebanon		231.00						231.00
	8/12	8/18					[4] 7,606.06				7,606.06
James McCormick	8/5	8/8	China		867.00		6,916.60				7,783.60
Hon. Gregory W. Meeks	6/29	7/1	Colombia		564.00		2,739.29				3,303.29
Hon. Brad Miller	8/12	8/14	Morocco		722.74		(3)				722.74
	8/14	8/17	Ghana		1,076.00		(3)				1,076.00
	8/18	8/20	Uganda		1,029.00		(3)				1,029.00
	8/20	8/21	Kenya		318.00		(3)				318.00
	8/22	8/23	Spain		483.12		(3)				483.12
Mark Milosch	7/4	7/6	Russian Federation		1,062.00						1,062.00
	7/6	7/10	Bosnia		968.00						968.00
	7/4	7/10					[4] 7,091.91				7,091.91
Jonathan Cobb Mixter	4/1	4/4	Thailand		654.00				[5] 450.54		1,104.54
	4/4	4/7	Vietnam		632.00						632.00
	4/1	4/7					[4] 10,976.44				10,976.44
	8/19	8/20	Singapore		630.00						630.00
	8/20	8/23	Malaysia		473.00				[5] 300.33		773.33
	8/23	8/25	Indonesia		566.00						566.00
	8/26	8/31	South Korea		1,955.00						1,955.00
	8/19	8/31					[4] 10,594.51				10,594.51
Hon. Donald M. Payne	8/14	8/16	Rwanda		600.00						600.00
	8/16	8/17	Kenya		318.00						318.00
	8/17	8/19	Uganda		830.00						830.00
	8/19	8/21	Nigeria		767.00						767.00
	8/21	8/22	Benin		223.00						223.00
	8/22	8/24	Ghana		538.00						538.00
	8/14	8/24					[4] 10,581.03				10,581.03
Don Phan	7/1	7/4	Thailand		654.00						654.00
	7/4	7/7	Vietnam		632.00						632.00
	7/1	7/7					[4] 10,996.44				10,996.44
Peter Quilter	8/16	8/21	Argentina		772.00						772.00
	8/21	8/27	Guatemala		724.00						724.00
	8/16	8/27					[4] 7,418.20				7,418.20
Beverly Razon	7/1	7/4	France		1,806.00		7,092.01				8,898.01
David Richmond	6/30	7/3	Thailand		804.00						804.00
	7/3	7/6	Indonesia		849.00						849.00
	6/30	7/6					[4] 8,304.86				8,304.86
	8/18	8/22	Greece		2,116.00						2,116.00
	8/22	8/27	Italy		1,625.00						1,625.00
	8/27	9/2	Kazakhstan		2,172.00						2,172.00
	8/18	9/2					[4] 18,286.26				18,286.26
Sheri Rickert	8/21	8/23	Zambia		279.00						279.00
	8/23	8/26	South Africa		778.00						778.00
	8/21	8/26	Round Trip Airfare				[4] 12,164.83				12,164.83
Robin Roizman	8/20	8/23	Zambia		247.00						247.00
	8/23	8/26	South Africa		730.00						730.00
	8/20	8/26	Round Trip Airfare				[4] 10,997.23				10,997.23
Hon. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen	8/13	8/14	Qatar		387.40						387.40
	8/14	8/15	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	8/15	8/16	Qatar		387.40						387.40
	8/13	8/16	Round Trip Airfare				[4] 9,016.61				9,016.61
Hon. Edward R. Royce	8/26	8/31	South Korea		1,955.00		5,151.73				7,106.73
Thomas Sheehy	8/26	8/31	South Korea		1,955.00		4,927.73				6,882.73
Daniel Silverberg	8/27	8/31	Philippines		673.00		7,006.70				7,679.70
Hon. Albio Sires	8/27	8/29	Czech Republic		740.00						740.00
	8/29	8/30	Hungary		284.00						284.00
	8/30	9/1	Poland		710.00						710.00
	8/27	9/1	Round Trip Airfare				7,905.08				7,905.08
Amanda Sloat	8/19	8/22	Kazakhstan		1,057.00						1,057.00
	8/22	8/25	Turkmenistan		324.00						324.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	8/25	8/29	Russian Federation		2,345.00						2,345.00
	8/29	9/1	Georgia		900.00						900.00
	8/19	9/1					[4] 13,121.98				13,121.98
Hon. Christopher H. Smith	7/4	7/6	Russian Federation		1,062.00						1,062.00
	7/6	7/8	Ukraine		310.00						310.00
	7/8	7/10	Bosnia		484.00						484.00
	7/4	7/10					[4] 8,744.71				8,744.71
Cliff Stammerman	8/13	8/15	Colombia		650.00		1,675.70				2,325.70
Marin Stein	8/26	8/31	South Korea		1,955.00		4,845.73				6,800.73
Jason Steinbaum	8/7	8/10	Brazil		735.00		9,819.93				10,554.93
Hon. Diane Watson	8/26	8/31	South Korea		1,955.00		5,151.73				7,106.73
Lynne Weil	8/19	8/20	Singapore		630.00						630.00
	8/20	8/23	Malaysia		398.00						398.00
	8/23	8/27	Indonesia		893.00						893.00
	8/19	8/27					[4] 9,893.30				9,893.30
Hon. Robert Wexler	7/1	7/3	France		1,006.00		7,961.05		[5] 668.37		9,635.42
	8/6	8/10	China		1,144.00		6,916.60				8,060.60
Lisa Williams	6/30	7/3	Thailand		804.00						804.00
	7/3	7/6	Indonesia		849.00						849.00
	6/30	7/6					[4] 8,205.44				8,205.44
	8/18	8/22	Italy		2,116.00						2,116.00
	8/22	8/27	Greece		1,625.00						1,625.00
	8/27	9/2	Kazakhstan		2,172.00						2,172.00
	8/18	9/2					[4] 18,266.26				18,266.26
Peter Yeo	8/20	8/23	Zambia		279.00						279.00
	8/23	8/25	South Africa		518.00						518.00
	8/20	8/25					[4] 11,401.30				11,401.30
Guido Zucconi	8/5	8/7	China		690.00						690.00
	8/8	8/11	India		1,838.51						1,858.51
	8/11	8/16	United Kingdom		2,590.00						2,590.00
	8/5	8/16					[4] 9,712.27				9,712.27
Matthew Zweig	8/13	8/14	Qatar		387.40						387.40
	8/14	8/15	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	8/15	8/16	Qatar		387.40						387.40
	8/13	8/16					[4] 8,219.61				8,219.61
Committee total					172,012.39		672,303.54		1,833.37		846,149.30

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign curency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.
[4] Roundtrip airfare.
[5] Indicates delegation costs.

TOM LANTOS, Chairman.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Chris Cannon	8/26	9/03	Kazakhstan		2,556.00		11,226.87				13,782.87
Bobby Vassar	8/04	8/11	England, Switzerland		2,291.77		9,151.55				11,443.32
Greg Barnes	8/04	8/11	England, Switzerland		2,291.77		9,151.55				11,443.32
Teressa Vest	8/04	8/11	England, Switzerland		2,291.77		9,151.55				11,443.32
Sean McLaughlin	8/04	8/11	England, Switzerland		2,291.77		9,151.55				11,443.32
Allison Beach	8/04	8/11	England, Switzerland		2,291.77		9,151.55				11,443.32

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
R.N. Palarino	8/6	8/7	Lebanon		127.00		8,943.45				9.070.45
	8/7	8/9	Turkey		702.00						702.00
	8/9	8/10	Israel								
	8/10	8/11	Jordan		289.00						289.00
	8/11	8/12	Bagdad				(3)				
	8/12	8/13	Jordan		289.00						289.00
	8/13	8/14	Egypt		266.00						266.00
Stephen Lynch	9/11	9/12	Pakistan		549.79		(3)		847.58		1,397.37
	9/12	9/13	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	9/13	9/14	Bahrain		162.00						162.00
	9/14	9/15	Chad		320.00						320.00
	9/15	9/16	Spain		141.00						141.00
Brian Higgins	9/11	9/12	Pakistan		549.79		(3)				549.79
	9/12	9/13	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	9/13	9/14	Bahrain		162.00						162.00
	9/14	9/15	Chad		320.00						320.00
	9/15	9/16	Spain		141.00						141.00
Dave Turk	9/11	9/12	Pakistan		549.79		(3)				549.79
	9/12	9/13	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	9/13	9/14	Bahrain		162.00						162.00
	9/14	9/15	Chad		320.00						320.00
	9/15	9/16	Spain		141.00						141.00
John Cuaderes	9/11	9/12	Pakistan		549.79		(3)				549.79
	9/12	9/13	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	9/13	9/14	Bahrain		162.00						162.00
	9/14	9/15	Chad		320.00						320.00
	9/15	9/16	Spain		141.00						141.00
Andrew Wright	9/11	9/12	Pakistan		549.79		(3)				549.79
	9/12	9/13	Afghanistan		75.00						75.00
	9/13	9/14	Bahrain		162.00						162.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	9/14	9/15	Chad		320.00						320.00
	9/15	9/16	Spain		141.00						141.00
Naomi Seiler	7/20	7/27	Australia		394.69		9,517.57		690.00		10,602.26
Jesseca Boyer	7/20	7/27	Australia		380.00		9,517.57		785.00		10,682.57
Margaret Daum	8/6	8/7	Lebanon		127.00		6,715.10				6,842.10
	8/7	8/9	Turkey		702.00						702.00
Christopher Shays	8/6	8/7	Lebanon		127.00		5,865.93				5,992.93
	8/7	8/9	Turkey		702.00						702.00
	8/9	8/10	Israel								
	8/10	8/11	Jordan		289.00						289.00
	8/11	8/12	Iraq				(3)				
	8/12	8/13	Jordan		238.05						238.05
Todd Russell Platts	9/11	9/12	Pakistan		465.79						465.79
	9/12	9/13	Afghanistan		7.00						7.00
	9/13	9/14	Bahrain								
	9/14	9/15	Chad		53.00						53.00
	9/15	9/16	Spain		70.00						70.00
Jeffery Baran	9/17	9/19	Canada		540.00		435.54				975.54
Gregory Dotson	9/17	9/18	Canada		281.94		435.54				717.48
Committee total											56,042.70

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

HENRY A. WAXMAN, Chairman, Oct. 29, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Brian Baird	8/6	8/10	Israel		757.00				1,432.33		2,189.33
	8/10	8/11	Jordan		289.00						289.00
	8/13	8/14	Egypt		266.00						266.00
	8/12	8/13	Jordan		289.00						289.00
Commercial Transportation							7,054.90				7,054.90
	8/11	8/12	Iraq				(3)				
Committee total					1,601.00		7,054.90		1,432.33		10,088.23

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

BART GORDON, Chairman, Oct. 29, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ONSTANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT,HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]

HOUSE COMMITTEES
Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☒

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. current is used enter amount expended.

STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES, Chairman, October 25, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Jerry Costello	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. John Duncan	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Tim Holden	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Leonard Boswell	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Michael Capuano	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Henry Brown	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Jimmy Miller	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
John Cullather	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Christa Fornarotta	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Jana Denning	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Amy Steinmann	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Jerry Costello	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. John Duncan	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Tim Holden	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Leonard Boswell	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Michael Capuano	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Henry Brown	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Jimmy Miller	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
John Cullather	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Christa Fornarotta	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Jana Denning	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Amy Steinmann	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Jerry Costello	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. John Duncan	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Tim Holden	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Leonard Boswell	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Michael Capuano	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Henry Brown	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Jimmy Miller	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
John Cullather	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Christa Fornarotta	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Jana Denning	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Amy Steinmann	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Jerry Costello	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. John Duncan	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Tim Holden	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Leonard Boswell	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Michael Capuano	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Henry Brown	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Jimmy Miller	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
John Cullather	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Christa Fornarotta	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Jana Denning	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Amy Steinmann	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Corrine Brown	8/13	8/15	Spain		454.00		6,649.52				7,103.52
Hon. Grace F. Napolitano	8/13	8/15	Spain		454.00		6,838.52				7,292.52
Nick Martinelli	8/13	8/15	Spain		454.00		6,838.52				7,292.52
John Drake	8/13	8/15	Spain		454.00		6,838.52				7,292.52
Hon. Corrine Brown	8/15	8/17	England		568.00						568.00
Hon. Grace F. Napolitano	8/15	8/17	England		568.00						568.00
Nick Martinelli	8/15	8/17	England		568.00						568.00
John Drake	8/15	8/17	England		568.00						568.00
Hon. Corrine Brown	8/17	8/22	France		523.00						523.00
Nick Martinelli	8/17	8/22	France		523.00						523.00
John Drake	8/17	8/22	France		523.00						523.00
Hon. Wayne T. Gilchrest	10/6	10/6	Qatar		458.00		(3)				458.00
	10/7	10/7	Jordan		279.00		(3)				279.00
	10/8	10/8	Germany		223.00		(3)				223.00
Hon. Jason Altmire	8/27	8/28	Kuwait		210.00		(3)				210.00
Committee total					59,831.00		27,165.00				86,996.08

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

JAMES L. OBERSTAR, Oct. 29, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Jerry Costello	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. John Duncan	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Tim Holden	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Leonard Boswell	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Michael Capuano	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Henry Brown	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Jimmy Miller	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
John Cullather	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Christa Fornarotta	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Jana Denning	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Amy Steinmann	8/18	8/20	Tunisia		482.00		(3)				482.00
Hon. Jerry Costello	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. John Duncan	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Tim Holden	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Leonard Boswell	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Michael Capuano	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Henry Brown	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Jimmy Miller	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
John Cullather	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Christa Fornarotta	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Jana Denning	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Amy Steinmann	8/20	8/22	Turkey		1,242.00		(3)				1,242.00
Hon. Jerry Costello	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. John Duncan	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Tim Holden	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Leonard Boswell	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Michael Capuano	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Henry Brown	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Jimmy Miller	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
John Cullather	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Christa Fornarotta	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Jana Denning	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Amy Steinmann	8/22	8/24	Croatia		1,064.00		(3)				1,064.00
Hon. Jerry Costello	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. John Duncan	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Tim Holden	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Eddie Bernice Johnson	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Leonard Boswell	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Michael Capuano	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Hon. Henry Brown	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Jimmy Miller	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
John Cullather	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Christa Fornarotta	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Jana Denning	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00
Amy Steinmann	8/24	8/27	Germany		1,629.00		(3)				1,629.00

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Corrine Brown	8/13	8/15	Spain		454.00		6,649.53				7,103.52
Hon. Grace F. Napolitano	8/13	8/15	Spain		454.00		6,838.52				7,292.52
Nick Martinelli	8/13	8/15	Spain		454.00		6,838.52				7,292.52
Hon. John Drake	8/13	8/15	Spain		454.00		6,838.52				7,292.52
Hon. Corrine Brown	8/15	8/17	England		568.00						568.00
Hon. Grace F. Napolitana	8/15	8/17	England		568.00						568.00
Nick Martinelli	8/15	8/17	England		568.00						568.00
John Drake	8/15	8/17	England		568.00						568.00
Hon. Corrine Brown	8/17	8/22	France		523.00						523.00
Nick Martinelli	8/17	8/22	France		523.00						523.00
John Drake	8/17	8/22	France		523.00						523.00
Hon. Wayne T. Gilchrest	10/6	10/6	Qatar		458.00		(3)				458.00
	10/7	10/7	Jordan		279.00		(3)				279.00
	10/7	10/7	Jordan		279.00		(3)				279.00
	10/8	10/8	Germany		223.00		(3)				223.00
Hon. Jason Altmire	8/27	8/28	Kuwait		210.00		9,029.05				9,239.05
Commitee total					59,831.00		36,194.13				96,025.13

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

JAMES L. OBERSTAR, Chairman, Oct. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, COMMITTEE ON THE VETERANS' AFFAIRS, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. Bob Filner	8/23	8/25	Pakistan		289.00						289.00
Hon. John Boozman	8/23	8/25	Pakistan		289.00						289.00
Tony Buckles	8/23	8/25	Pakistan		289.00						289.00
Hon. Bob Filner	8/20	8/26	Germany		290.00						290.00
Hon. John Boozman	8/20	8/26	Germany		290.00						290.00
Tony Buckles	8/20	8/26	Germany		290.00						290.00
Committee total					1,737.00						1,737.00

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent, if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

BOB FILNER, Chairman, Oct. 30, 2007.

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
Hon. John F. Tierney	7/2	7/4	Azerbaijan		732.00						
	7/4	7/6	Turkey		889.00						
Commercial transportation							8,514.19				12,537.19
Larauence Hanauers	7/2	7/4	Azerbaijan		732.00						
	7/4	7/6	Turkey		889.00						
Commercial transportation							8,491.98				10,112.98
Iram Ali	7/2	7/4	Azerbaijan		732.00						
	7/4	7/6	Turkey		889.00						
Commercial transportation							9,283.19				10,904.19
Jody Houck	7/2	7/4	Azerbaijan		732.00						
	7/4	7/6	Turkey		889.00						
Commercial transportation							5,422.79				7,043.79
Hon. Silvestre Reyes	7/6	7/8	Panama		608.00						
	7/8	7/9	Colombia		1,974.90		(3)				
							(3)				2,582.90
Michael Delaney	7/6	7/8	Panama		608.00						
	7/8	7/9	Colombia		1,974.90						
							(3)				2,582.90
George Pappas, Professional Staff Membe	7/6	7/8	Panama		608.00						
	7/8	7/9	Colombia		1,974.90						
							(3)				2,582.90
Donald Campbell	7/31	8/10	United Kingdom		2,380.00						
Commercial transportation							7,106.75				9,486.75
Frank Garcia	7/31	8/10	United Kingdom		2,380.00						
Commercial transportation							7,106.75				9,486.75
Hon. Janice D. Schakowsky	8/2	8/3	Germany		340.00						
	8/6	8/6	Middle East		155.00						
	8/7	8/9	Middle East		678.00						
	8/8	8/9	Middle East		75.00						
	8/10	8/11	Middle East		46.00						
							(3)				1,294.00
Linda Cohen	8/2	8/3	Germany		340.00						
	8/6	8/6	Middle East		155.00						
	8/7	8/9	Middle East		678.00						
	8/8	8/9	Middle East		75.00						
	8/10	8/11	Middle East		32.00						
							(3)				1,280.00
Hon. Silvestre Reyes	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		216.00						
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,450.00
Hon. A. Dutch Ruppersberger	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		230.00						

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JULY 1 AND SEPT. 30, 2007—Continued

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem [1]		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency [2]
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,464.00
Hon. Heather Wilson	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		216.00						
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
Michael Delaney	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00		(3)				1,450.00
	8/25	8/26	Asia		230.00						
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,464.00
Mieke Eoyang	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		230.00						
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,464.00
Robert Minehart	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		230.00						
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,464.00
Jeremy Bash	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		230.00						
	8/27	8/30	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,464.00
Stacey Dixon	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		230.00						
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,464.00
Courtney Littig	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		230.00						
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,464.00
Jody Houck	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		230.00						
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,464.00
Jamal Ware	8/23	8/25	Asia		268.00						
	8/25	8/26	Asia		230.00						
	8/27	8/29	Asia		804.00						
	8/30	8/30	Asia		162.00						
							(3)				1,464.00
Larry Hanauer	8/21	8/22	Asia		1,482.00						
	8/23	8/26	Asia		804.00						
	8/26	8/27	Asia		424.00						
	8/28	8/30	Asia		680.00						
Commercial transportation							12,358.13				15,748.13
George Pappas	8/21	8/22	Asia		988.00						
	8/23	8/26	Asia		804.00						
	8/26	8/27	Asia		424.00						
	8/28	8/30	Asia		680.00						
Commercial transportation							12,796.39				15,692.39
Hon. Robert E. Cramer	8/18	8/19	Africa		468.00						
	8/17	8/24	Europe		1,382.00						
	8/24	8/29	Europe		1,064.00						
	8/24	8/29	Europe		1,195.00						
Commercial transportation	8/29	8/30	Middle East		578.00		5,075.78				9,762.00
Committee totals											27,173.66

[1] Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.
[2] If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.
[3] Military air transportation.

SILVESTRE REYES, Chairman, Oct. 30, 2007.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4091. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Oxytetracycline; Pesticide Tolerance [EPA-HQ-OPP-2006-0524; FRL-8153-7] received November 2, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4092. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting a report on U.S. military personnel and U.S. individual civilians retained as contractors involved in supporting Plan Colombia, pursuant to Public Law 106-246, section 3204 (f); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4093. A letter from the Regulations Coordinator, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's ''Major'' final rule — Child Care and Development Fund Error Rate Reporting (RIN: 0970-AC29) received October 5, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and Labor.

4094. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Air Quality Implementation Plans; Louisiana; Approval of 8-Hour Ozone Section 110(a) (1) Maintenance Plans for the Parishes of Beauregard, Grant, and St. Mary [EPA-R06-OAR-2006-0271; FRL-8491-4] received November 2, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4095. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Imperial County and Monterey Bay Unified Air Pollution Control Districts [EPA-R09-OAR-2007-1003; FRL-8492-3] received November 2, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4096. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Kern County Air Pollution Control District [EPA-R09-OAR-2005-CA-0013, FRL-8489-7] received November 2, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4097. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Standards of Performance for Equipment Leaks of VOC in the Synthetic Organic Chemicals Manufacturing Industry; Standards of Performance for Equipment Leaks of VOC in Petroleum Refineries [EPA-HQ-OAR-2006-0699; FRL-8492-4] (RIN: 2060-AN71) received November 2, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4098. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental

Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Update of Continuous Instrumental Test Methods: Technical Amendments [EPA-HQ-OAR-2002-0071; FRL-8490-9] (RIN: 2060-A009) received November 2, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4099. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan; San Francisco Bay Area [EPA-R09-OAR-2007-0657; FRL-8479-4] received October 10, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4100. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; Ohio Particulate Matter [EPA-OAR-R05-2005-OH-0005; FRL-8464-6] received October 10, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4101. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Implementation Plans of Illinois: Clean Air Interstate Rule [EPA-R05-OAR-2007-0376; FRL-8477-4] received October 10, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4102. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants: Plywood and Composite Wood Products [EPA-HQ-OAR-2003-0048; FRL-8482-2] (RIN: 2060-AO68) received October 10, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4103. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Implementation Plans; Ohio; Clean Air Interstate Rule [EPA-R05-OAR-2007-0390; [FRL-8481-2]] received October 10, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4104. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Approval of Implementation Plans; Wisconsin; Clean Air Interstate Rule [EPA-R05-OAR-2007-0405; FRL-8477-6] received October 10, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4105. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Limited Approval of Implementation Plans of Indiana: Clean Air Interstate Rule [EPA-R05-OAR-2007-0140; FRL-8481-4] received October 10, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4106. A letter from the Principal Deputy Associate Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's report entitled, ''OECA's Interim Significant Noncomplicance Policy of CWA Violations Associated with CSOs, SSos, CAFO, and Storm Water Point Sources''; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4107. A letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Department of Defense, transmitting an Interim Feasibility Report and Integrated Evironmental Assessment for the Lower Colorado River Basin, Phase 1, Texas; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4108. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's report entitled, ''Alaskan Way Viaduct: Emergency Relief Eligibility,'' pursuant to Public Law 109-59, section 1924; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4109. A letter from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's report entitled, ''Newtown Creek/Greenpoint Oil Spill Study,'' as required by Section 410 of the Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation Action of 2006; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4110. A letter from the Acting Regulations Officer of Social Security, Social Security Administration, transmitting the Administration's ''Major'' final rule — Revised Medical Criteria for Evaluating Digestive Disorders [Docket No. SSA 2006-0094] (RIN: 0960-AF28) received November 13, 2007, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Ways and Means.

4111. A letter from the Secretaries, Department of Energy, Department of the Interior, transmitting a joint report on the cost of implementation of the Rocky Flats National Wildlife Refuge Act of 2001 during fiscal year 2006, in compliance with the requirements of Subtitle F, section 3182 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2002 (Pub. L. 107-107); jointly to the Committees on Natural Resources and Energy and Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. DINGELL: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3403. A bill to promote and enhance public safety by facilitating the rapid deployment of IP-enabled 911 and E–911 services, encouraging the nation's transition to a national IP-enabled emergency network and improve 911 and E–911 access to those with disabilities; with amendments (Rept. 110–442). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. DINGELL: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 3919. A bill to provide for a comprehensive nationwide inventory of existing broadband service, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 110–443). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. DINGELL: Committee on Energy and Commerce. H.R. 1534. A bill to prohibit the sale, distribution, or transfer of mercury, to prohibit the export of mercury, and for other purposes; with amendments (Rept. 110–444). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. CONYERS: Committee on the Judiciary. H.R. 3013. A bill to provide appropriate protection to attorney-client privileged communications and attorney work product (Rept. 110–445). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union.

Mr. OLVER: Committee of Conference. Conference report on H.R. 3074. A bill making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–446). Ordered to be printed.

Mr. ARCURI: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 817. Resolution providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3074) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008; and for other purposes (Rept. 110–447). Referred to the House Calendar.

Mr. MCGOVERN: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 818. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4156) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes (Rept. 110–448). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California:

H.R. 4153. A bill to make certain technical corrections and transition amendments to the College Cost Reduction and Access Act; to the Committee on Education and Labor. considered and passed.

By Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California (for himself, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. PAYNE, Ms. KILPATRICK, Ms. LEE, Mr. CLEAVER, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. BARROW, Mr. COOPER, and Mr. COHEN):

H.R. 4154. A bill to increase the insurance limitations on Federal insurance for bonds issued by the designated bonding authority for Historically Black Colleges and Universities capital financing; to the Committee on Education and Labor. considered and passed.

By Mr. SHULER (for himself and Mr. ETHERIDGE):

H.R. 4155. A bill to adjust the boundaries of Pisgah National Forest in McDowell County, North Carolina; to the Committee on Agriculture.

By Mr. OBEY (for himself and Mr. MURTHA):

H.R. 4156. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations, and in addition to the Committee on the Budget, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BROUN of Georgia (for himself, Mr. AKIN, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. FORTUÑO, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mr. GINGREY, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOODE, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. HERGER, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. MANZULLO, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PENCE, Mr. PITTS, Mr. SALI, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. WALBERG, Mr. WELDON of Florida, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. ROSKAM, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. CARTER, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. FORBES, and Mr. RENZI):

H.R. 4157. A bill to provide that human life shall be deemed to begin with fertilization; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. COHEN (for himself, Ms. NORTON, and Mr. GRAVES):

H.R. 4158. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to clarify and codify the authority of the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency to administer the National Urban Search and Rescue Response System for Federal response to all hazards; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania:

H.R. 4159. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to restructure and replace the income tax system of the United States to meet national priorities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. FOSSELLA (for himself, Mr. BOEHNER, Mr. KING of New York, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. WALSH of New York, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. ISSA, Mr. TANCREDO, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. PITTS, Mr. TERRY, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. MICA, Mr. KELLER, Mr. CAMP of Michigan, Mr. REYNOLDS, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. SHUSTER, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. KINGSTON, Mr. MCHENRY, Mr. DAVID DAVIS of Tennessee, Mr. POE, Mr. HENSARLING, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. GOODE, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. BUYER, and Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina):

H.R. 4160. A bill to withhold certain highway funds if a State does not comply with certain requirements in issuing a driver's license or identification card, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. AL GREEN of Texas (for himself, Ms. WATERS, Mr. MICHAUD, and Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania):

H.R. 4161. A bill to authorize the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, in coordination with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, to carry out a pilot program to prevent at-risk veterans and veteran families from falling into homelessness, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Financial Services, and in addition to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. LEWIS of California:

H.R. 4162. A bill to provide for an exchange of lands with San Bernardino County, California, to enhance management of lands within the San Bernardino National Forest, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mrs. LOWEY:

H.R. 4163. A bill to provide an enhanced penalty for threatening to kill, injure, or intimidate an individual, or to cause property damage, by means of fire or an explosive on school property; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mrs. MALONEY of New York (for herself, Ms. CLARKE, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. ELLISON, and Ms. HIRONO):

H.R. 4164. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow a deduction for expenses paid for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment and to increase, and make refundable, the credit for such expenses; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. SCOTT of Virginia (for himself, Mr. FORBES, Mr. ORTIZ, Mrs. DRAKE, and Mr. KELLER):

H.R. 4165. A bill to provide grants to encourage and enhance the study of modeling and simulation at institutions of higher education; to the Committee on Education and Labor.

By Mr. SKELTON (for himself, Mr. CLAY, Mr. AKIN, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. CLEAVER, Mr. GRAVES, Mr. BLUNT, Mrs. EMERSON, and Mr. HULSHOF):

H.R. 4166. A bill to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 East Copeland Drive in Lebanon, Missouri, as the ''Steve W. Allee Carrier Annex''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. STEARNS:

H.R. 4167. A bill to amend the Communications Act of 1934 to reduce restrictions on media ownership, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. STUPAK:

H.R. 4168. A bill to authorize the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians of the State of Michigan to convey land and interests in land owned by the Tribe, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. TIAHRT (for himself, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. FILNER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CARTER, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. COHEN, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. CALVERT, and Mrs. MYRICK):

H.R. 4169. A bill to authorize the placement in Arlington National Cemetery of an American Braille tactile flag in Arlington National Cemetery honoring blind members of the Armed Forces, veterans, and other Americans; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina:

H.R. 4170. A bill to revise the boundaries of the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System with respect to Daufuskie Island, South Carolina; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. WILSON of South Carolina (for himself, Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Mr. HAYES, Mr. TURNER, Mr. EVERETT, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. AKIN, Mr. MCHUGH, Mr. PASCRELL, Mrs. MYRICK, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, Mr. SNYDER, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. WAMP, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. KINGSTON, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mrs. CAPITO, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. WELLER, and Mr. GILCHREST):

H.R. 4171. A bill to name the national cemetery to be constructed in Columbia, South Carolina as the Floyd Spence National Cemetery at Fort Jackson, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. BACA (for himself, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. WU, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. COSTA, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. SALAZAR, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. HONDA, Mr. KLINE of Minnesota, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Mr. KIND, Mr. SIRES, Ms. BERKLEY, Ms. SUTTON, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. HINCHEY, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. FILNER, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BOREN, Ms. NORTON, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. COHEN, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. PEARCE, Mr. REYES, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, Mr. COURTNEY, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. SHULER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. FARR, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. SARBANES, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. WATSON, Ms. LEE, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. OBERSTAR, Mr. SERRANO, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. POMEROY, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. HARE, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. KUCINICH, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, and Mr. ISSA):

H.J. Res. 62. A joint resolution to honor the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Education and Labor. considered and passed.

By Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania:

H.J. Res. 63. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States authorizing the President to disapprove or reduce items of appropriation; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Ms. FALLIN (for herself, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. BOREN, Mr. LUCAS, and Mr. SULLIVAN):

H. Con. Res. 254. Concurrent resolution recognizing and celebrating the centennial of Oklahoma statehood; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Mr. FERGUSON (for himself, Mr. CROWLEY, and Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN):

H. Con. Res. 255. Concurrent resolution expressing the sense of Congress regarding the United States commitment to preservation of religious and cultural sites and condemning instances where sites are desecrated; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Mr. HASTINGS of Florida (for himself, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. LINDER, Mr. KIRK, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. GONZALEZ, and Mr. WEXLER):

H. Con. Res. 256. Concurrent resolution honoring Theodor Criveanu for being named by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority, as Righteous Among the Nations for his heroic efforts to save Romanian Jews during the Holocaust; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN (for herself, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. PENCE, Mr. WEXLER, and Mr. GALLEGLY):

H. Con. Res. 257. Concurrent resolution expressing concern regarding arms transfers to Iran and Syria by the Russian Federation and entities in the Russian Federation and urging the President of the United States to implement sanctions against such entities found to be in violation of United States law prohibiting arms transfers to Iran and Syria; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. DELAURO (for herself, Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. HARE, Mr. HOLT, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. EMANUEL, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. CARDOZA,

Ms. ESHOO, Ms. SUTTON, Mr. COURTNEY, Mrs. MALONEY of New York, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Ms. RICHARDSON, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. CAPUANO, Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas, Ms. TSONGAS, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. DICKS, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. KAGEN, Mr. MOORE of Kansas, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. FATTAH, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SPACE, Mr. PETERSON of Minnesota, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. HALL of New York, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mrs. LOWEY, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. CROWLEY, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. WYNN, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Ms. LEE, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Ms. SCHWARTZ, Ms. KILPATRICK, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. OLVER, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. LOEBSACK, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. COHEN, Ms. WATSON, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. HINCHEY, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. HINOJOSA, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Ms. VELÁZQUEZ, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. FILNER, Mr. STARK, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. WU, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. DEFAZIO, Mr. MCNERNEY, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. DAVIS of Alabama, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. NADLER, Ms. SLAUGHTER, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. FARR, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. LAMPSON, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. BACA, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. CHANDLER, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. KIND, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. MEEKS of New York, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. REYES, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Ms. WATERS, Mr. WEXLER, and Ms. WOOLSEY):

H. Res. 819. A resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the House has lost confidence in the performance of Consumer Product Safety Commission Chairwoman Nancy Nord, and urging the President to request her resignation; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Mr. KIND:

H. Res. 820. A resolution recognizing and celebrating the commitment of the Student Conservation Association to the United States national parks and public lands; to the Committee on Natural Resources.

By Mr. MCCOTTER (for himself, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. STEARNS, and Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida):

H. Res. 821. A resolution condemnming Communist China's discrimination, harassment, imprisonment, torture, and execution of its prisoners of conscience; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

By Ms. RICHARDSON (for herself, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. WATSON, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. WATERS, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. DREIER, Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. CAMPBELL of California, Ms. MATSUI, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. MCKEON, and Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California):

H. Res. 822. A resolution recognizing the 100th anniversary year of the founding of the Port of Los Angeles; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

MEMORIALS

Under clause 3 of rule XII, memorials were presented and referred as follows:

214. The SPEAKER presented a memorial of the Senate of the State of Michigan, relative to Senate Resolution No. 96 memorializing the Congress of the United States to extend the H2B returning worker exemption permanently; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions as follows:

H.R. 17: Mr. ALLEN, Mr. GORDON, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. PLATTS.

H.R. 178: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 462: Mr. MCNULTY.

H.R. 543: Mr. CASTLE.

H.R. 627: Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 821: Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 840: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 901: Mr. CLEAVER and Mr. FILNER.

H.R. 938: Mr. MCCOTTER.

H.R. 962: Ms. DELAURO.

H.R. 1032: Mr. BARROW.

H.R. 1074: Mr. LAMPSON and Mr. UDALL of Colorado.

H.R. 1110: Mr. ACKERMAN, Ms. DEGETTE, and Mr. MICA.

H.R. 1169: Mr. HONDA and Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 1225: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut and Mr. LEWIS of Georgia.

H.R. 1237: Mr. MATHESON and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi.

H.R. 1256: Mr. PALLONE.

H.R. 1283: Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PENCE, and Mr. SAXTON.

H.R. 1343: Ms. MATSUI.

H.R. 1420: Mr. SESTAK.

H.R. 1459: Mr. SKELTON.

H.R. 1537: Ms. BERKLEY.

H.R. 1553: Mr. SPRATT.

H.R. 1590: Mr. LIPINSKI.

H.R. 1647: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas and Ms. HARMAN.

H.R. 1683: Mr. DEAL of Georgia.

H.R. 1691: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, ZOE LOFGREN of California, and Mr. SESTAK.

H.R. 1711: Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 1738: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 1845: Mr. HALL of Texas and Mr. CARTER.

H.R. 1884: Mr. INSLEE, Mr. ENGEL, Mr. TANCREDO, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.

H.R. 1921: Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.

H.R. 1927: Mr. ANDREWS.

H.R. 2040: Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida.

H.R. 2067: Mr. CANNON.

H.R. 2070: Mr. YOUNG of Alaska and Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 2160: Mr. KUHL of New York.

H.R. 2164: Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 2266: Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut and Mr. RYAN of Ohio.

H.R. 2275: Mr. MCCOTTER.

H.R. 2287: Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, and Mr. HONDA.

H.R. 2329: Mr. UDALL of New Mexico.

H.R. 2385: Mr. PASCRELL.

H.R. 2405: Mr. SIRES.

H.R. 2526: Mr. DUNCAN.

H.R. 2634: Mr. ANDREWS and Mr. BOUCHER.

H.R. 2651: Mr. BERMAN.

H.R. 2668: Mr. HINOJOSA and Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 2762: Mr. LYNCH, Ms. BEAN, Mr. STARK, Mr. HOLDEN, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. DONNELLY, Mr. OLVER, Ms. WATERS, and Mr. TOWNS.

H.R. 2846: Mr. HONDA, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. VAN HOLLEN.

H.R. 2894: Mr. ACKERMAN, Mr. ADERHOLT, Mr. AKIN, Mr. ALEXANDER, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. ALTMIRE, Mr. ANDREWS, Mr. BAKER, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. BARROW, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. BERKLEY, Mr. BERMAN, Mr. BISHOP of Georgia, Mr. BISHOP of New York, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mr. BONNER, Mr. BOREN, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BOUSTANY, Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. BURGESS, Mr. BUYER, Mr. CANTOR, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. CARNAHAN, Mr. CHABOT, Ms. CLARKE, Mr. CLYBURN, Mr. COLE of Oklahoma, Mr. CULBERSON, Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. DENT, Mr. DICKS, Mr. DINGELL, Mrs. DRAKE, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. EDWARDS, Mr. ELLISON, Mr. ELLSWORTH, Mr. EMANUEL, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. EVERETT, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, MR. GERLACH, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. GOODE, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. HALL of New York, Mr. HALL of Texas, Mr. HARE, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. HAYES, Mr. HELLER, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. HILL, Mr. HODES, Mr. HOEKSTRA, Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois, Mr. JORDAN, Mr. KILDEE, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. KUHL of New York, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. LARSEN of Washington, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. LEE, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, Mr. LINDER, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LOBIONDO, Mr. LOEBSACK, Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California, Mr. LUCAS, Mr. MAHONEY of Florida, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. MATHESON, Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, Mr. MCCRERY, Mr. MELANCON, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MOLLOHAN, Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut, Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania, Mr. MURTHA, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mrs. MYRICK, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. NEUGEBAUER, Mr. OBEY, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. PERLMUTTER, Mr. PLATTS, Mr. PORTER, Mr. PRICE of Georgia, Mr. PUTNAM, Mr. RADANOVICH, Mr. RAHALL, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. REGULA, Mr. REHBERG, Mr. RENZI, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, Mr. ROSS, Mr. ROTHMAN, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. RUSH, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. SALAZAR, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. SHAYS, Mr. SCHIFF, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. SHERMAN, Mr. SHULER, Mr. SIMPSON, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. SMITH of New Jersey, Mr. SNYDER, Mr. SPRATT, Mr. TANNER, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. TIERNEY, Mr. UDALL of Colorado, Mr. UDALL of New Mexico, Mr. UPTON, Mr. VISCLOSKY, Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ, Mr. WATT, Mr. WEINER, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. WELLER, Mr. WICKER, Mr. YOUNG of Florida, and Mr. YOUNG of Alaska.

H.R. 2932: Ms. DEGETTE.

H.R. 2943: Mr. MCNERNEY, Mrs. JONES of Ohio, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, Mr. COSTELLO, and Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut.

H.R. 2946: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. MORAN of Kansas, and Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania.

H.R. 3036: Mr. WYNN.
H.R. 3051: Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 3058: Mr. BOYD of Florida, Mr. BOSWELL, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. MCKEON, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. HILL.
H.R. 3080: Mr. SOUDER.
H.R. 3085: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3114: Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. RANGEL, and Mr. CLEAVER.
H.R. 3115: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3191: Mr. HODES and Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York.
H.R. 3289: Mr. VAN HOLLEN.
H.R. 3298: Mr. SARBANES.
H.R. 3329: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. PATRICK MURPHY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. BOUCHER.
H.R. 3337: Ms. DEGETTE and Mr. JACKSON of Illinois.
H.R. 3339: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3378: Mrs. NAPOLITANO.
H.R. 3442: Mr. FEENEY, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky, and Mr. GOODLATTE.
H.R. 3461: Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas and Mr. SHULER.
H.R. 3464: Mr. WOLF, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3471: Mr. KAGEN, Mr. STUPAK, and Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3484: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3485: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H.R. 3498: Mr. WILSON of Ohio.
H.R. 3512: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 3533: Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Mr. SNYDER, and Mr. SKELTON.
H.R. 3554: Mr. SALI.
H.R. 3561: Mr. AL GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 3622: Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. COHEN, Mr. TERRY, Mr. CAMP of Michigan, and Mr. RUPPERSBERGER.
H.R. 3631: Mr. PICKERING and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 3645: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 3646: Mr. MCCOTTER, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, and Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas.
H.R. 3654: Mr. BLUNT and Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina.
H.R. 3659: Mr. TANCREDO.
H.R. 3674: Mr. CROWLEY.
H.R. 3700: Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California and Mr. FILNER.
H.R. 3738: Mr. HALL of Texas.
H.R. 3750: Mr. FILNER and Mr. MCINTYRE.
H.R. 3769: Ms. HOOLEY, Mr. COHEN, and Mr. MCNERNEY.
H.R. 3783: Ms. SCHAKOWSKY.
H.R. 3793: Mr. CONYERS, Mr. CARNAHAN, Ms. FALLIN, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. THOMPSON of California, Mr. LAMPSON, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. FARR, Mr. ETHERIDGE, Ms. DELAURO, Mr. PALLONE, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. KANJORSKI, Mr. SNYDER, Mr.MURTHA, Ms. WATSON, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Ms. MATSUI, and Mr. KILDEE.
H.R. 3797: Mr. WALSH of New York.
H.R. 3844: Mr. SESTAK.
H.R. 3846: Mr. HINCHEY.
H.R. 3865: Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. FERGUSON, Mr. SPACE, Mr. PAUL, Mr. CARNEY, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. LYNCH.
H.R. 3890: Mr. LANGEVIN.
H.R. 3908: Mr. MCCAUL of Texas.
H.R. 3918: Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.
H.R. 3934: Mr. HULSHOF, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. AKIN, and Mr. WALDEN of Oregon.
H.R. 3955: Mr. ETHERIDGE, Mr. HARE, and Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H.R. 3990: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California and Mr. WEXLER.
H.R. 3995: Mr. PAUL and Mr. LARSON of Connecticut.
H.R. 4030: Mr. BUTTERFIELD and Ms. DELAURO.
H.R. 4040: Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN, and Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ.
H.R. 4053: Mr. SHULER.
H.R. 4054: Mr. MATHESON, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. DOGGETT, Ms. WOOLSEY, Mr. DICKS, Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, and Mr. PRICE of North Carolina.
H.R. 4061: Mr. RAMSTAD, Ms. BERKLEY, and Mr. MCCOTTER.
H.R. 4087: Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts.
H.R. 4088: Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Mr. MANZULLO, Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, and Mr. AKIN.
H.R. 4091: Ms. BEAN.
H.R. 4102: Mr. KUCINICH, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BLUMENAUER, and Ms. WOOLSEY.
H.R. 4104: Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California.
H.R. 4114: Mr. HODES and Mr. SERRANO.
H.R. 4118: Mr. WOLF, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, and Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia.
H.R. 4130: Mr. WAMP.
H.R. 4134: Mr. KIND, Mr. LANGEVIN, and Mr. POMEROY.
H.R. 4149: Mr. EMANUEL.
H.J. Res. 53: Mr. BISHOP of New York.
H.J. Res. 54: Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida, Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. PAUL, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. LAMPSON, and Mr. MURTHA.
H. Con. Res. 108: Mr. ELLISON, Mr. PAYNE, Mr. CLAY, and Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia.
H. Con. Res. 211: Ms. WATERS, Mr. MITCHELL, and Mr. BECERRA.
H. Con. Res. 214: Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, and Ms. KILPATRICK.
H. Con. Res. 229: Mr. INSLEE, Mr. WAXMAN, Ms. BORDALLO, and Mr. DELAHUNT.
H. Con. Res. 237: Mr. ALLEN and Mr. HINCHEY.
H. Con. Res. 239: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania, Mr. RAMSTAD, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. TURNER, and Mr. FORBES.
H. Con. Res. 246: Mr. GINGREY, Mr. MEEK of Florida, Mr. WALZ of Minnesota, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. EDWARDS, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. LYNCH, Mr. SHULER, Mr. BRALEY of Iowa, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. WELCH of Vermont, Mr. REYES, Mr. LAMBORN, Mrs. MCMORRIS RODGERS, Mr. TOWNS, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, Mr. TURNER, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. CALVERT, Ms. FALLIN, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. MCCOTTER, Mr. SMITH of Washington, and Mr. ROHRABACHER.
H. Res. 111: Mr. WATT.
H. Res. 335: Mr. DOGGETT.
H. Res. 493: Mr. MCCARTHY of California, Mr. YOUNG of Alaska, and Ms. HARMAN.
H. Res. 543: Mr. SARBANES.
H. Res. 556: Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 628: Mr. WOLF and Mr. MCCOTTER.
H. Res. 695: Ms. DEGETTE and Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania.
H. Res. 700: Mr. WELLER and Mr. SIRES.
H. Res. 713: Mr. ROTHMAN, Mr. CROWLEY, and Mr. KLEIN of Florida.
H. Res. 753: Mr. SPRATT, Mr. TAYLOR, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. SNYDER, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. HOLT, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. GALLEGLY, Mr. ISRAEL, Mr. RYAN of Ohio, Ms. KAPTUR, and Mr. ROTHMAN.
H. Res. 760: Mrs. DAVIS of California.
H. Res. 791: Mr. MCGOVERN.
H. Res. 803: Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. DELAHUNT, Mr. LAMPSON, and Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA.
H. Res. 805: Mr. FORBES.
H. Res. 808: Mr. HOYER.
H. Res. 811: Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. SCOTT of Georgia, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, Mr. SHULER, Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, and Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas.
H. Res. 815: Mr. SMITH of Washington, Mr. WILSON of South Carolina, Mr. TOWNS, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. ROSS, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, Mr. FARR, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. WICKER.

CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, OR LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

Under clause 9 of rule XXI, lists or statements on congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits were submitted as follows:

OFFERED BY MR. DAVID R. OBEY

H.R 4156, making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of rule XXI.

OFFERED BY MR. JOHN M. SPRATT, JR.

The emergency designations H.R. 4156, the Orderly and Responsible Iraq Redeployment Appropriations Act, 2008, that warranted a referral to the Committee on the Budget do not contain congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(d), 9(e), or 9(f) of Rule XXI.

PETITIONS, ETC.

Under clause 3 of rule XII, petitions and papers were laid on the clerk's desk and referred as follows:

184. The SPEAKER presented a petition of Mr. Robert L. Bowser, Mayor of the City of East Orange, New Jersey, relative to concerning pending Energy legislation to improve the fuel efficiency of the new motor vehicle fleet; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

185. Also, a petition of the Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners, Florida, relative to Resolution No. R-1006-07 urging the Legislature of the State of Florida to designate West Flagler Street from 13 Avenue to 14 Avenue as Father Emilio Vallina Avenue; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

United States of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 110th CONGRESS, FIRST SESSION

Vol. 153 WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2007 No. 175

Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable JON TESTER, a Senator from the State of Montana.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, Dr. Barry C. Black, offered the following prayer:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, our gracious King, You are the one clear power of love in the midst of lesser powers. Thank You for giving us the confidence to know that You hear and answer prayer.

Use the Members of this body as ambassadors of reconciliation. Help them to create laws that will bring wholeness to a fragmented Nation and world so that You might be glorified. Teach them, Lord, how to discover Your love in each other and to see Your beautiful image in all of creation. Lord, settle them down into a contemplative stillness so that they will find joy in righteousness, justice, and charity. May they speak wise words from a reservoir of wisdom that will transform discord into symphonies of peace.

We pray in Your sacred Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Honorable JON TESTER led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

The assistant legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 13, 2007.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable JON TESTER, a Senator from the State of Montana, to perform the duties of the Chair.

ROBERT C. BYRD,
President pro tempore.

Mr. TESTER thereupon assumed the chair as Acting President pro tempore.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR—H.R. 3495 AND H.R. 3685

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand there are two bills at the desk due for a second reading.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the bills by title for the second time.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 3495) to establish a National Commission on Children and Disasters, and for other purposes.

A bill (H.R. 3685) to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

Mr. REID. I object to any further proceedings at this time, Mr. President.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Objection is heard. The bills will be placed on the calendar.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we will proceed to executive session to consider the nomination of Robert Dow to be U.S. District Judge. That will take place immediately. The confirmation of that nomination is slated to occur at 10:10 this morning.

Following this vote, the Senate will go into a period of morning business until 12:30. That time is equally divided between the two parties, with the first portion under the control of the minority, with Senator DORGAN controlling 30 minutes of the majority's time.

At 12:30, we will recess for our regular party conferences and reconvene at 2:15. The Senate will then resume consideration of the farm bill.

There are a number of things I am going to speak to the Republican leader about in a few minutes, and then I will have another statement later in the day to talk about what we can expect in the next few days. This is the last week prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. This will be a busy week. We hope it doesn't spill into next week.

Tomorrow, Secretary Rice and Secretary Gates will brief Members on the current situation in the Middle East. That briefing will begin at 2 p.m. in S–407.

RECOGNITION OF THE MINORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Republican leader is recognized.

WISDOM OF BENJAMIN FRANKLIN

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, right outside this Chamber stands a statue of Ben Franklin. According to the Office of the Senate Curator, sculptor Hiram Powers received a contract from President James Buchanan himself to sculpt Franklin back in 1859. The statue arrived in the Capitol in 1862 and has been in that spot ever since.

Franklin wrote many famous aphorisms that live on to this day, and I wanted to talk about one of my favorites.

Two hundred eighteen years ago today, Franklin wrote to a friend words that will long outlive most

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Printed on recycled paper.

things we say. This is what Franklin had to say:

> Nothing can be said to be certain, except death and taxes.

Proving the aphorism, Franklin died less than a year later.

While we know the certainty of death and taxes, we can do something to ease the burden for the 23 million Americans who will be in for a rather unpleasant surprise on April 15 if Congress doesn't act now to stop the middle-class tax hike, which goes by the rather innocuous name of AMT—a law that was originally intended in 1969 to impose taxes on a handful of high-income individuals who used loopholes in the code to avoid paying any regular income tax.

Congress has known about the need to fix this problem all year long, but the majority hasn't brought a bill to the floor. Now they say it will be December before a bill is brought to the floor.

Now, the consequences of mismanaging this stealth tax are very real. This tax will grab $65 billion out of the pockets of middle-class taxpayers, an average of $2,000 per family. Millions will be hit for the very first time.

The IRS sent a letter warning the majority that unless they act before December, the tax returns of 50 million people and $75 billion in tax refunds will be delayed.

Last week, Democrats in the House of Representatives passed a bill that purports to delay the burden of the AMT for 1 year by socking a massive $80 billion tax increase to the American people. That is the last thing they need right now, and it would be a disastrous jolt to the economy.

Maybe a massive tax hike wrapped in an AMT fix sounds like a very good idea to some people, but I have a message to anyone who thinks that: Such a proposal is dead on arrival in the Senate.

The AMT was never meant to be collected from the millions of Americans whom it will hit this year if we don't act. I say this Congress ought to cut taxes by cutting taxes—cut taxes by cutting taxes—not by raising taxes.

I yield the floor.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I am going to speak for a short time and then Senator DURBIN wants to speak for a brief time. It is an Illinois judge we are voting on.

So I ask unanimous consent that the vote be put off until after Senator DURBIN speaks.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FISCAL POLICY

Mr. REID. Mr. President, at this point, I will respond to my friend from Kentucky, the distinguished Republican leader.

We have something new in town that has been going on now for almost 11 months, and that is we are paying for things. That is the reason the Clinton economic machine worked as well as it did. When we had a new program, we paid for it. When taxes were decreased, we paid for that.

We are going to go ahead and do the AMT fix, but we are going to do it by paying for it. We cannot continually run this country in the red. I repeat what I have said on a number of other occasions. When President Bush took office 7 years ago, we had a $7 trillion surplus over 10 years. He has driven us into near bankruptcy as a result of his fiscal irresponsibility.

We are responsible. We are going to fix AMT before the end of the year, but we will do it the right way; we are going to pay for it.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

NOMINATION OF ROBERT M. DOW, JR., TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to executive session to consider the following nomination, which the clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read the nomination of Robert M. Dow, Jr., to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the time until 10:10 a.m. shall be equally divided between the leaders and their designees.

The Senator from Illinois.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I wish to thank Senator REID and Senator LEAHY, Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, for bringing Robert Dow up for a vote this morning in the Senate. I enthusiastically support his nomination. If confirmed, he will fill a Federal District Court vacancy in Chicago that has been pending for over a year.

Robert Dow is an outstanding lawyer and an outstanding person. We have a process in Illinois that has worked almost flawlessly for the last 11 years, where we have bipartisan cooperation in screening judicial candidates. We have had the cooperation of the White House and leaders on both sides of the aisle, and we have not run into a problem. Robert Dow is the latest example.

Mr. Dow was recommended for this position by former Speaker of the House DENNIS HASTERT, the Republican leader in our delegation, with the understanding he faced a veto from myself or Senator OBAMA if we objected. Having met the man, having reviewed his background, there is no objection. He is an extraordinarily gifted and talented person.

He is a partner at one of Chicago's largest and most prestigious law firms—Mayer Brown—and he has been named as one of the 21 leading lawyers in the United States in the field of telecom, broadcast, and satellite.

There are many things you can say about Robert Dow, but I think there is one that stands out, as I reflect on what he had to say to us. Robert Dow has received an accolade that is noteworthy. In 2004, he received the annual Pro Bono Service Award from his law firm, which has over 1,500 attorneys, for his personal commitment to unpaid legal work to help those less fortunate.

That means a lot to me. It says he understands that being an attorney is not just a job, it is a profession, and a profession carries with it social responsibilities. His willingness to help the disadvantaged went a long way in convincing me he will bring to the court the kind of temperament and values which are so important.

The nomination of Robert Dow is a tribute to the successful bipartisan approach and the fact both parties look forward to his tenure on the Federal bench and the contributions he will make. Speaker HASTERT, Senator OBAMA, and I stand today excited about the prospect that Mr. Dow will soon fulfill this vacancy, which has been there for too long.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting Mr. Dow to be a district court judge in the Northern District of Illinois.

I yield the floor.

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, the Senate continues, as we have all year, to make progress filling judicial vacancies when we have the cooperation of the White House. The nomination before us today for a lifetime appointment to the Federal bench is Robert Michael Dow, Jr., for the Northern District of Illinois. He has the support of both home-State Senators. I thank Senators DURBIN and OBAMA for their work in connection with this nomination.

After we consider the confirmation of this nominee today, the Senate will have confirmed 35 nominations for lifetime appointments to the Federal bench this session alone. That matches the total number of judges confirmed for 2004. It exceeds the total number of judicial nominations that a Republican-led Senate confirmed in all of 1999, 2005 or 2006 with a Republican majority; all of 1989; all of 2001; all of 1983, when a Republican-led Senate was considering President Reagan's nominees; all of 1993, when a Democratic-led Senate was considering President Clinton's nominees; and, of course, the entire 1996 session during which a Republican-led Senate did not confirm a single one of President Clinton's circuit nominees.

Already this year, we have confirmed five circuit judges to the Federal

bench, including the nominations of Judge Jennifer Walker Elrod and Judge Leslie Southwick who became the fourth and fifth circuit court nominees we confirmed so far this year. That matches the total number of circuit court judges confirmed in all of 1989 and all of 2004, when a Republican-led Senate was considering this President's nominees. It matches the number of President Clinton's circuit court nominations confirmed by this time in 1999 with a Republican-led Senate and is five more than the Republican-led Senate confirmed in the entire 1996 session. That was the session in which not a single circuit court nominee was confirmed. It is more than were confirmed in the entire 1983 and 1993 sessions.

When this nomination is confirmed today, the Senate will have confirmed 135 total Federal judicial nominees in my tenure as Judiciary Chairman. During the Bush Presidency, more circuit judges, more district judges—more total judges—were confirmed in the first 24 months that I served as Judiciary chairman than during the 2-year tenures of either of the two Republican chairmen working with Republican Senate majorities.

The Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts will list 47 judicial vacancies and 14 circuit court vacancies after today's confirmations. At the end of the 109th Congress, the total vacancies when Republicans controlled the Senate were 51 judicial vacancies and 15 circuit court vacancies. Despite the additional 5 vacancies that arose before the start of the 110th Congress, the current vacancy totals under my chairmanship of the Judiciary Committee are below where they were under a Republican led-Judiciary Committee.

The President has sent us only 21 nominations for these remaining vacancies. Twenty-six of these vacancies—more than half—have no nominee. Of the 17 vacancies deemed by the Administrative Office to be judicial emergencies, the President has yet to send us nominees for nine, more than half of them. Of the 14 circuit court vacancies, six—nearly half—are without a nominee. If the President would decide to work with the Senators from Michigan, Rhode Island, Maryland, California, New Jersey, and Virginia, we could be in position to make even more progress.

Of the 26 vacancies without any nominee, the President has violated the timeline he set for himself at least 18 times—18 have been vacant without so much as a nominee for more than 180 days. The number of violations may in fact be much higher since the President said he would nominate within 180 days of receiving notice that there would be a vacancy or intended retirement rather than from the vacancy itself. We conservatively estimate that he also violated his own rule 7 times in connection with the nominations he has made. That would mean that with respect to the 47 vacancies, the President is out of compliance with his own rule more than half of the time.

Today we consider the nomination of Robert Michael Dow, Jr. He is a partner at the law firm of Mayer, Brown, Rowe & Maw, LLP, where he has worked almost his entire career. He received his B.A. from Yale University where he graduated summa cum laude and his J.D. from Harvard Law School where he graduated cum laude. A Rhodes Scholar, Mr. Dow earned a master and doctorate degrees from Oxford University. Mr. Dow also served as a law clerk to Judge Joel M. Flaum on the United States Court of Appeals for the Seventh Circuit.

I congratulate the nominee and his family on his confirmation today.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

• Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, I rise to express my support for the confirmation of Robert M. Dow, Jr. to the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois.

I am very pleased that this nomination has continued the bipartisan approach to filling judgeships in the Federal district courts—an approach that has served Illinois well.

Mr. Dow has an impressive record of professional achievement and an admirable commitment to public service. He has demonstrated fairness, decency, integrity, and a strong personal character that I expect will benefit the people of Illinois and all those with cases before the Northern District.

Most recently, Mr. Dow was a partner at the Chicago law firm of Mayer Brown. He earned his B.A. from Yale University where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa in 1987, and his J.D. from Harvard Law School, where he graduated cum laude in 1993. Mr. Dow was also a Rhodes Scholar who received degrees in international relations from Oxford University.

Mr. Dow has also distinguished himself in his professional career, where he has received a number of honors and accolades. Mr. Dow has been named a ''leading lawyer'' 5 years in a row by Chambers USA Guide to America's Leading Business Lawyers. He has been listed the past 2 years as an Illinois Super Lawyer in appellate law, and by the Best Lawyers in America in communications law. Mr. Dow also received an award for excellence in undergraduate teaching when he served as a teaching fellow at Harvard University.

Importantly, Mr. Dow has also been an engaged member of the Chicago community. In 2003, he served as a fellow for Leadership Greater Chicago, which stresses the development of community awareness and partnerships among leaders in the city. He is also an active member in a number of legal and academic associations as well as in his church.

Finally, Mr. Dow has a track record of personal commitment to pro bono service. Early in his career, he provided aid and advice to nonprofit organizations and a local court. Over the years, Mr. Dow has volunteered hundreds of hours to pro bono service, and continues to do so. He recently earned his firm's annual pro bono award. This kind of public service is essential to our legal system. When legal professionals provide voluntary expert legal counsel to those who cannot afford it, it shores up the integrity of our Nation's justice system.

It is good news for Illinois that Robert Dow will be joining the district court. I thank him in advance for his service and congratulate him on his confirmation today.•

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask for the yeas and nays.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Is there a sufficient second? There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of Robert M. Dow, Jr., to be a U.S. district court judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Missouri (Mrs. MCCASKILL), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA), and the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) are necessarily absent.

Mr. LOTT. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from North Carolina (Mr. BURR), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE), the Senator from Florida (Mr. MARTINEZ), the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN), and the Senator from Kansas (Mr. ROBERTS).

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The result was announced—yeas 86, nays 0, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 408 Ex.]

YEAS—86

Akaka	Dole	Lincoln
Alexander	Domenici	Lott
Allard	Dorgan	Lugar
Barrasso	Durbin	McConnell
Baucus	Enzi	Menendez
Bayh	Feingold	Mikulski
Bennett	Feinstein	Murkowski
Bingaman	Graham	Murray
Bond	Grassley	Nelson (FL)
Boxer	Gregg	Nelson (NE)
Brown	Hagel	Pryor
Brownback	Harkin	Reed
Bunning	Hatch	Reid
Byrd	Hutchison	Rockefeller
Cantwell	Inouye	Salazar
Cardin	Isakson	Schumer
Carper	Johnson	Sessions
Casey	Kennedy	Shelby
Chambliss	Kerry	Smith
Cochran	Klobuchar	Snowe
Coleman	Kohl	Specter
Collins	Kyl	Stabenow
Conrad	Landrieu	Stevens
Corker	Lautenberg	Sununu
Cornyn	Leahy	Tester
Craig	Levin	Thune
DeMint	Lieberman	

Vitter	Warner	Whitehouse
Voinovich	Webb	Wyden

NOT VOTING—14

Biden	Dodd	McCaskill
Burr	Ensign	Obama
Clinton	Inhofe	Roberts
Coburn	Martinez	Sanders
Crapo	McCain	

The nomination was confirmed.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is laid on the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senate will return to legislative session.

MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until the hour of 12:30 with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each and the time equally divided between the leaders or their designees, with the Republicans in control of the first half of the time and the majority in control of the second half.

The Senator from Texas.

VETERANS FUNDING

Mrs. HUTCHISON. Mr. President, I rise to discuss an issue that is important for our country. That is the appropriations bill for Veterans and Military Construction.

The Senate and House Appropriations Committees worked together in a bipartisan way to craft a bill that fully funds the Veterans' Administration and Military Construction for the quality of life of our troops. However, we became bogged down last week because the Senate and House leadership decided they would put forward a combination of bills that have no relationship to each other. The Labor-Health and Human Services bill and the Veterans' Administration-Military Construction bill. Under normal circumstances, that might be fine. We have had omnibus appropriations bills before. But there was one problem. That is, the President had already said he would sign the Veterans bill, but he would veto the Labor-Health and Human Services bill. So the combination of these bills was destined to assure a veto.

The Veterans and the Military Construction legislation should go forward on an expedited basis. I call on this Congress to do that. There is no reason—there is no substantive reason, no commonsense reason—we should delay a bill that has been agreed to by Republicans and Democrats and could easily pass the House and Senate and be sent to the President before the end of this week.

Yesterday we had celebrations all over the country for veterans, saying how much we appreciate their sacrifices and what they have given to our country. Today we come back to work, and we still don't have a Veterans' Administration funding appropriations passed for this year. It is not that the veterans' needs are not going to be funded, because we are in a continuing resolution that assures the basic things will be done. But what isn't going to be done is the new priorities we put in this legislation on a bipartisan basis. We have added more funding for research into protheses, artificial arms and legs, because those are the kinds of injuries our troops are coming home with. They are becoming veterans because, of course, they can no longer serve in Active Duty.

I will digress for one moment and say that when I visit Walter Reed or the Center for the Intrepid in San Antonio where young men and women who have come home injured from Iraq and Afghanistan are being rehabilitated, they complain because they are being put out of Active-Duty military. That is the kind of spirit these young men and women have. They will be maimed. They will have lost arms or legs; they will be burned. Yet they will say: Senator, I want to go back. I want to be with my comrades.

Of course, we are going to take care of those young men and women who have sacrificed so much through our Veterans' Administration. We have new priorities in these bills that will put more into research and rehabilitation for these brave men and women. We also have a new burn unit initiative to do more research on our burn victims. Many of our troops come back with mental health problems. We are establishing more research and centers of excellence for post-traumatic stress syndrome in the bill that has been agreed to.

All I am asking this morning is, why not pass this bill right now? We have a formality of calling a new conference committee on the separate bill. That could be done today. We have agreement. There is no reason not to fund these new priorities. I call on the Senate and House leadership to make it happen. There is no excuse. We have new priorities. We have bipartisan agreement.

My message to the leadership is: Let's trust our committee members. Let's trust the leadership on the committees. Democrats and Republicans came together. We increased the President's budget. We increased his request. He said: OK, because he knew how important it was that we fully fund the health care needs of our veterans.

Let me tell you another priority in this bill. We have heard story after story of people leaving the Active Duty, usually because of injuries, going into the veterans system. But what happens? There is a long delay, sometimes months, before the veterans' benefits kick in. These are injured warriors. In our bill, we have funding so those applications can be processed more quickly. We are trying to streamline leaving the Active-Duty military and going into the veterans system. That is in the bill that is languishing this week in Congress.

I call on our leadership to do the right thing. Let's put politics aside. We can take up the Labor-Health and Human Services bill in due course. But today we have a bill with bipartisan agreement that requires a mere formality of calling the conference committee, having the House pass it, the Senate pass it, and sending it to the President. We can celebrate a joint bipartisan victory with Congress and the President coming together. That is what the American people expect. That is what they are looking for in Washington. When we see the approval ratings of Congress and the President so low, why don't we try a new approach? Why don't we do something everyone can celebrate? That is, fund our veterans and military quality-of-life issues this week. It can be done. I call on the congressional leadership to do it. The President has said he will sign it.

I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Colorado.

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, first of all, I associate myself with the comments made by the Senator from Texas. She is right. I serve on the Appropriations Committee with her and have worked on veterans issues with her. I very much am joining her in this effort to try to get this veterans bill passed because it is extremely important.

FINDING SOLUTIONS

Mr. ALLARD. Mr. President, now, this year, the Senate has voted on Iraq over 20 times. We have voted on Iraq in the middle of the night. We have voted on Iraq on a Saturday. We have voted on cloture, points of order, motions to waive, and other permutations of the majority's desire to appease moveon.org and other radical constituencies regarding the war in Iraq.

Although Iraq is important, we have ignored other important business. Just last week, we just sent our first appropriations bills to the President, 38 days into the new fiscal year. We just voted on the Attorney General nominee, 45 days after it was sent to the Senate. We have yet to address next year's veterans health care funding needs, 2 days after Veterans Day.

The uncomfortable fact for those who would have us consider nothing not urged by the radical left is we stayed the course in Iraq, followed the plan for the surge as developed by the Pentagon, and we are now seeing the results there—but none here. Every day the situation improves some in Iraq. Every day there are more new stories showing that the country is moving somewhat out of its depths.

Allow me to read some of the news reports.

USA Today, November 13:

The number of roadside bombs found in Iraq declined dramatically in August and September.

Here is the New York Times, November 8:

American forces have routed Al Qaeda in Mesopotamia, the Iraqi militant network, from every neighborhood of Baghdad, a top American general said today, allowing American troops involved in the ''surge'' to depart as planned.

Here is a quote from the Washington Post of November 8:

The drop in violence caused by the U.S. troop increase In Iraq has prompted refugees to begin returning to their homes, American and Iraqi officials said Wednesday.

This is from the Associated Press, November 8:

Dramatic progress seen in Baghdad neighborhood.

And back to USA Today, from November 7:

With security improving In Iraq, commanders are now considering how to reduce the U.S. presence without losing hard-fought security gains.

So we are seeing progress in our task in Iraq. But the business we set aside here in the Senate on other important issues is left alone.

Every day our gas prices rise because we have not made meaningful efforts to improve our Nation's energy independence. Every day we grow closer to the looming entitlement spending crisis. Every day we draw closer to the expiration of the tax cuts that did so much to buoy our economy in the face of 9/11 and the Internet bubble crash of earlier this decade and even now help us ride through the oil and housing shocks to our economy. Every day we see greater lawlessness on our borders and confront a greater illegal immigration problem because we have not passed significant border security funding.

The Senate is sometimes referred to as the world's greatest deliberative body. But that compliment is not supposed to summarize the sole responsibility of this institution. We are not just here to deliberate and ruminate and ponder; we are also supposed to act. Meaningless vote after vote on ultimately pointless proposals is good politics, perhaps, but not good government. It is not suitable for the Senate to spend weeks and weeks ignoring the people's business so that we can score political points and mouth the key shibboleths on the war on terror or by appeasing special interest groups.

SCHIP expired on September 30. It is imperative that Congress reauthorize the current program to ensure children of lower income families still receive health coverage. Yet we make due with a short-term reauthorization so that political points can be scored at the expense of sound policy and practical government.

The farm bill expired on September 30, and we are here trying to squeeze in the work required to reauthorize it in the weeks before Thanksgiving, when we still have all but two appropriations bills to pass.

It is obviously too late to fix things this session. I know we will be here to the point where we are shopping for holiday presents at the Senate Gift Shop rather than back home. But I hope the American people are taking notice of what little we have accomplished this year and demand better next year. We must stop mining the Nation's problems for partisan sound bites and try to find solutions.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Wyoming.

Mr. BARRASSO. Thank you, Mr. President.

(The remarks of Mr. BARRASSO pertaining to the introduction of S. 2334 are printed in today's RECORD under ''Statements on Introduced Bills and Joint Resolutions.'')

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 15 minutes.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. VITTER. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

LAW OF THE SEA TREATY

Mr. VITTER. Mr. President, I wish to address the Senate and, indeed, our fellow citizens around America today about a very important matter before the Senate, the Law of the Sea Treaty. We have been studying this treaty in great detail in the Foreign Relations Committee, and it is a matter that could eventually come before the entire Senate.

I started this process, looked at the treaty, began to read it with a completely open mind. But as I got into the details of it—the significant details that would govern our laws, our activity—if we were to become a full participant in the treaty, many concerns began to mount in my mind. So I wish to come before the full Senate and before the American people to outline some of those concerns in great detail.

To begin with, let me say there are many good, productive, positive provisions of the Law of the Sea Treaty. I strongly support the same provisions the U.S. Navy supports and that personnel and admirals from the Navy have testified in favor of. That is really not the issue. The issue is the treaty as a whole and all of the provisions taken together and whether we should pass the treaty as a whole because we have no choice but to consider the whole, not simply one provision or the other.

This treaty has been around for many years—in fact, decades. It was negotiated decades ago. President Reagan, during his administration—very correctly, I think—rejected the treaty as it stood then. Because of that bold rejection, negotiators went back to the bargaining table and changed some significant aspects of the treaty. Now, those were improvements, but they don't in any way affect the main concerns I have about the Law of the Sea Treaty, and that is the fundamental baseline threat that the United States would be ceding our autonomy, our control over our own future to other international organizations that often don't have our best interests in mind.

So that is my fundamental concern. The renegotiation doesn't change that in any way. The testimony of the Navy doesn't even touch on that because it is about other provisions of the treaty. But my main concern with the Law of the Sea Treaty is the United States cedes autonomy to binding international tribunals—gives up American prerogatives, U.S. power, to binding international tribunals which, in the current international context, I do not think would often have our best interests in mind.

So why do I say that? Well, it is very important to look at the specific provisions of the treaty. We have been debating and discussing this in the Foreign Relations Committee. We have had numerous so-called expert witnesses. I am constantly shocked about how many participants in this discussion, quite frankly, including many expert witnesses, clearly haven't read all of the significant and important provisions of the treaty.

One of the most important provisions of the treaty has to do with these arbitral tribunals, these courts, if you will, that would have binding authority over all treaty participants, including the United States if the United States were to become a full treaty participant. So in other words, when disputes arise under the treaty, how do you resolve the dispute? You go to court. That court, if you will, that special tribunal, has binding authority over the parties to the dispute.

There are different sorts of these tribunals. One sort is called a special arbitral tribunal. Under that, under Annex VIII, the United States, again, cedes binding authority to these special tribunals in disputes about fisheries, the marine environment, marine scientific research, and navigation.

What is wrong with that? Well, I think what is wrong with it—or at least the threat it poses to the United States becomes clear when you look at the nature of this tribunal. It is a five-person body and simple majority rules. Now, who appoints the people? Well, both parties to a dispute pick two panelists. So if we were brought into court, if you will, by another country, that other country opposing our views, opposing our interests, would pick two panelists, and we would pick two panelists. What about the fifth panelist?

That is obviously important because it could well be the tie-breaking vote.

Under the treaty, the parties are supposed to try to agree on that fifth panelist. But if the parties can't agree—and, of course, that is a distinct possibility—the party taking us into court, the other country, could then flatout refuse to agree with any of our suggestions and choices no matter how reasonable.

Then what happens? Well, then the U.N. Secretary General picks the fifth panelist. He picks the tie-breaking vote.

I will be very honest with my colleagues; I don't feel comfortable with that. In the current international context, when we have been opposed so often at the U.N., when countries gang up on us, quite frankly, so often in forums such as the U.N., I don't feel comfortable with the Secretary General of the U.N. picking the tie breaker and essentially determining our fate.

There are other types of tribunals under the Law of the Sea Treaty. The next type is simply called a general arbitral tribunal. It is under Annex VII of the treaty. Again, the fundamental issue and the fundamental problem in my mind is, under that annex, under the provisions of the treaty, if the United States were to become a full partner in the treaty, the United States would cede, again, binding authority to these other sorts of tribunals regarding all other disputes.

So, in other words, the first type of arbitral tribunal would cover the four issue areas that I mentioned a few minutes ago. This general tribunal would cover all other disputes.

Now, how is this tribunal made up? Very similar, in fact, to the others. Again, a five-person body, simple majority rules. Both parties to the dispute, in this case, pick one panelist. So if we were hauled into international court, if you will, by another country, that other country would pick one panelist, and we would pick one panelist. Again, similar to the other tribunal. Then both parties together would try to agree on the other three panelists. Obviously, those three would compose a majority of the five. But if the parties can't agree—and, once again, if our opposing country, the country that has hauled us into court, doesn't want to agree to any of our ideas, any of our suggestions no matter how reasonable, it can just stand firm and not agree. In that case, those three members of the tribunal—a majority of the tribunal—would be chosen by the Law of the Sea lead bureaucrat, the head of the Law of the Sea under the treaty, an international bureaucrat similar in background and attitudes in many instances to the Secretary General of the U.N. Again, it is the same fundamental problem in my mind in that we are ceding our autonomy, we are ceding binding decisions that can be very significant in terms of our fate, our interests, our values, to this international court dominated by, controlled by, potentially, international bureaucrats.

Why is this a threat? What sort of disputes could arise that could go to these binding courts, or binding tribunals, panels? Well, one area that is clearly covered by the treaty is pollution. One would think that could be reasonable and necessary and natural with regard to pollution in the open ocean—this is a Law of the Sea Treaty, after all—but it also applies to pollution from land-based sources, and that comes as a great surprise to most people when they find that out. But that is why it is useful to read the treaty because when you read the treaty you actually find out some of these things.

Article 213 of the treaty is entitled—very frankly, very simply, very directly—''Enforcement With Respect to Pollution From Land-Based Sources.''

That article says:

> States shall enforce their laws and regulations in accordance with Article 207—

That is fair enough. We pass our laws; we should enforce them—

> and shall adopt laws and regulations and take other measures necessary to implement applicable international rules and standards, to prevent, reduce, and control pollution of the marine environment from land-based sources.

Well, wait a minute. I thought Congress and other political bodies in the United States determine our domestic laws, including about pollution from land-based sources. This is a distinct departure from that. This is a mandate in an international treaty saying: We shall adopt other laws to enforce international notions, international standards about pollution.

Another applicable article is Article 207, and under 207(1) it, again, says:

> States shall adopt laws and regulations to prevent, reduce and control pollution of the marine environment from land-based sources, taking into account internationally agreed upon rules, standards and recommended practices and procedures.

Once again, my reaction when I read that is, wait a minute. I thought Congress was in charge of environmental policy in the United States. I thought State legislatures, where appropriate, were in charge of that policy—bodies elected by the people. Isn't that what democracy is about? Well, this is a distinct departure. This is internationalizing many of those issues with mandates in the Law of the Sea Treaty that go beyond what we may think is the best law in these areas, and that we conform to certain international decisions.

Again, the title of the article couldn't be clearer: ''Enforcement With Respect to Pollution From Land-Based Sources.'' Again, this is just one example of an issue area where the United States could well be ceding autonomy, ceding authority to other folks outside our borders who don't necessarily have our values, our notions, our best interests in mind.

What sort of situation could arise from this? Well, I think the situation that would undoubtedly arise is an outbreak of international lawyering and litigation—trying to move decisions that are presently before elected political bodies in the United States to the international arena. Many folks who have studied this phenomenon call it ''lawfare.'' Again, not ''warfare'' but using international law to oppose us and battle our interests and move those decisions from the domestic political environment to an international tribunal, an international stage that very often doesn't have our best interests in mind. Again, U.S. autonomy gives way to international litigation.

This isn't a wild conjecture on my part. This isn't something I am imagining or seeing in the future. This is something that many international lawyers and activists are actively licking their lips over and looking forward to. In fact, there was a Law Review article published several months ago that was very straightforward about this phenomenon that would occur if we become a party to the treaty. The author of this Law Review article said very clearly:

> Climate change litigation—

One example of environmental issues, environmental litigation—

> in national and international fora is emerging as an alternative means by which to hold States and private actors accountable for climate change damages. The United Nations convention on the Law of the Sea is a promising instrument through which such action might be taken, given its broad definition of pollution to the marine environment and the dispute resolution mechanisms contained within its provisions.

That is exactly what I am talking about. That policy, that issue now is subject to our determination, and Congress is subject to the activity of other elected bodies in the United States, but under the Law of the Sea Treaty, it would be moved to an international forum, to international litigation, to lawfare, in many cases, against the values and interests of the United States.

We have great disagreement and debate in this body about significant issues such as climate change. That is legitimate in a democracy; we should have those debates, and we should hash out those differences, and we should make the best determinations and policies we can on behalf of the American people. But that is something very different from pushing those issues and those decisions outside of the United States to international courts, to international tribunals over which we essentially have no control.

There are other issue areas that could be the subject of this sort of international litigation, other countries hauling us into court to oppose our values and interests.

Another topic where this could happen—and this gives me grave concern—has to do with military activities. I actively asked many of the expert witnesses in our hearings before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee about it. What would prevent another country from hauling us into international court—that court, that tribunal having binding authority over

us, if we become a part of the treaty—to try to stop, prevent, hamstring us with regard to military activity?

The response was immediate: There is a clear exception in the Law of the Sea Treaty that excepts military activities. That is true. Article 298 excludes ''military activities'' from the Law of the Sea Treaty's binding dispute resolution.

The experts didn't have a good answer to my next question. It was logical. The next question is: OK, who determines what is a military activity and what is not a military activity? If there is an exclusion regarding military activities, then this term is pretty darn important. Who defines this term? Who applies this term on a case-by-case basis?

When I asked that to the experts before the committee, there was a fair amount of silence. And then, after some consultation with the lawyers behind the experts, the answer came: Well, we believe we define what is a military activity—we, the United States.

The next logical question: Where does the treaty say that? Where is that spelled out in the treaty? It is not. The treaty is completely silent on the issue. So the treaty excludes military activities, but it doesn't say what is military activity and what is not a military activity. The treaty doesn't determine who determines what is and is not a military activity.

Here in the United States, when two parties go to court, there is often a dispute in the beginning of the lawsuit about whether that particular court has jurisdiction. Guess who decides whether that court has jurisdiction. That court decides if it has jurisdiction. If the same thing were to occur in the Law of the Sea Treaty, who decides that? The international court, the tribunal, would decide, and it would decide that crucial threshold issue against our opinion, against our interests; and there we are again before a binding international tribunal, which could have grave effects on what we consider our military activities.

Another final area of concern I will highlight that could come up as a subject of this sort of international litigation is intelligence activities. Post-9/11, perhaps nothing is more important to our security, to the defense of our values and our way of life, than our necessary intelligence activities.

That gave rise to an obvious question I asked the experts before the committee: Would intelligence activities be covered by the Law of the Sea Treaty? And could these international tribunals, with binding authority on us, have that binding authority over our intelligence activities?

Once again, I would have thought this was a simple and obvious question, but it caused a long period of silence from the witnesses who were there to testify in favor of the treaty. Finally, after long periods of silence and much consultation with the lawyers behind them, the answer was: Well, we believe our intelligence activities fall under the military exemption. So we believe intelligence activities would not go to court, would not go to this international court with binding authority, because we believe it falls under the military exemption.

Again, an obvious followup question: Great. Where in the treaty does it say that? Long silence. Long pause. Consultation with the lawyers behind the experts. Well, the treaty doesn't say that. Does the treaty say anything about intelligence? The treaty doesn't mention intelligence—whether it is covered under the military exemption.

I have to tell you, that again gave me great pause and concern, because I immediately thought of this place—the Senate, the House, Capitol Hill—where intelligence is considered an entirely separate subject matter from military. When we are up here debating matters and sending matters to committees, there is an Intelligence Committee that handles intelligence. There is a completely separate Armed Services Committee that handles military matters. Intelligence isn't subsumed under military. Intelligence issues don't go to the Armed Services Committee. It is a completely separate category. So why should it necessarily be different in the Law of the Sea Treaty? I think an argument could be made—a very logical, forceful argument—that intelligence activities aren't excluded under the treaty.

Intelligence activities are different from military activities, just as they are considered different up here on Capitol Hill. Guess what. Intelligence activities could make the subject of this international law against us—before countries calling us into international court, before the international tribunals that would have binding authority on us—very disconcerting, particularly in a post-9/11 world, where our intelligence activities are so absolutely crucial to our national defense and our activities necessary to preserve our values and way of life.

Again, there are many significant issues that arise under the Law of the Sea Treaty debate. Hopefully, we will have a full opportunity to discuss these issues I brought up today, and more. But these issues I have discussed today are the heart of my concern with the treaty, and the heart of that concern is simply that the United States would be ceding our autonomy, our control over our own future and destiny to international bureaucrats, to international courts, who very often would not have our best interests in mind and would not share our perspectives or our values.

That is something very serious to consider when you are talking about environmental policy, which has always been the subject of debate in elected bodies within the United States; when you are talking about military activities, which are so important, particularly in a post-9/11 world; and when you are talking about intelligence activities, similarly crucial to our security, and defense of our way of life in a post-9/11 world.

I hope the Senate takes a very long, very hard look at this treaty. I hope every individual Senator will do something quite unusual, which is read the treaty, open the book, look at the details, think for yourself. Once I began that process several months ago, the concerns over this treaty—particularly with regard to U.S. autonomy—began to mount and multiply in my own mind. Every Senator has an obligation to pick up the treaty itself, read it personally, and think through these concerns, because the results, if things proceed as I have outlined, could be disastrous.

With that, I yield back my time and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CASEY). The clerk will call the roll.

The bill clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, what is the time situation?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Democrats control the time until the hour of 12:30.

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I yield myself such time as I might use.

PRESIDENTIAL VETO

Mr. President, last week, Congress took bold action on behalf of American families by sending an appropriations bill to the President that has important new investments in the everyday needs and hopes and dreams of the American people. It is a bill that funds our investments in education, health care, and in American jobs. These are not optional investments. They are not just nice little programs that can be funded 1 year and cast aside the next. These investments are about hope and opportunity for our children. They are about the dignity of middle-class and working families all across America. They are about our national strength. Unfortunately, it appears once again that the everyday concerns of the American people have fallen on deaf ears in the White House. This morning, the President vetoed this pro-family, pro-child, pro-worker legislation.

In fact, the White House says this bill is irresponsible and reckless. I ask: What is irresponsible and reckless about making sure our children receive the best education in the world? What is irresponsible and reckless about finding a cure for cancer so families no longer see that disease claim their mothers and fathers, brothers and sisters before their time? What is irresponsible and reckless about giving our workers the training and the skills they need to get good jobs and support

their families? If anything is irresponsible and reckless, it is the President's choices.

The President insists on continuing to spend billions of dollars on a failed policy in Iraq, but he refuses to deliver the relief America's families need. This morning, the President signed a Defense appropriations bill that includes a 10-percent increase in funding compared to last year, but he vetoed a bill that includes an increase of half that amount that would fund cancer research, investment in our schools, job training, and protection for our workers.

Let's take a closer look at what the President has vetoed.

The bill provides long overdue funding for education. Year after year, the White House and the Republican leadership in Congress have failed to make the needed new investments for better teachers and stronger schools. In fact, under Republican control, commitment to the education of our children has continued to go down.

This chart shows in 2002, the year No Child Left Behind was passed, there was funding at $7.7 billion. We wanted reform and resources. We got it that time once it was passed. This chart shows the gradual diminution of support for funding under Republican Congresses and a Republican Senate. Now we see the beginning of the Democratic resolution and now the Democratic conference report and an increase. The President's request, $1.5 billion less; the Democratic conference report, $3.2 billion. And we the find the legislation vetoed.

This bill finally reverses that course of reductions over recent years under this administration. So it delivers the largest increase in title I funding since we passed No Child Left Behind. Again, we had the increase at the time of passage of the act and then a decline in resources, and now we see in 2008 there is an increase in the title I program for the neediest children in America. That was vetoed this morning.

This bill delivers the largest increase in funding for education. That is funding that goes to the children who have fallen the furthest behind and need the most help. It pays for teachers, improved curriculum, tutors, and a whole array of actions that can help students do well in school.

It provides $4.5 billion in additional funding in education compared to the President's budget. How can the President of the United States say he will leave no child behind when he has vetoed the very bill that will enable us to do that?

We are working in Congress to renew the No Child Left Behind reforms and to make them work better, but we cannot do it with a ''tin cup'' education budget. This President seems to think we can improve our schools on the cheap. The President says $4.5 billion more to students is too much. Yet he is proposing 35 times that much for the war in Iraq. He wants us to say yes to $158 billion for Iraq, while he says no to $4.5 billion for American school children.

In Iraq, anything goes. The sky's the limit. Billions and billions and billions of dollars for Iraq. But here in America, right at home, a modest investment in our school children gets a veto.

This bill includes $1 billion for high-quality programs that help children after school; afterschool programs which are so important for children. Afterschool programs assist children with their homework, give them extra tutorial work, and give support when their parents are at work.

These funds will help 1.4 million needy children who need a place to go after the school day ends. These are programs that help hard-working parents, improve student lives, and keep communities safe by decreasing drug use and violence.

We can help these school children after school for the cost of 2½ days in Iraq. But the President says no.

The bill includes $3 billion to improve the quality of our teachers. Those funds will be used to hire 30,000 more teachers to reduce class sizes. How many days of hearings have we had that demonstrate smaller class sizes and well-trained teachers are absolutely essential? How many times do we have to learn that lesson? We understand that lesson. We have tried to, with bipartisan support, get these funds into this legislation to improve the support for our teachers.

These funds, as I mentioned, hire 30,000 more teachers. They will be used for mentoring 100,000 beginning teachers and professional development for an additional 200,000 teachers who will go into underserved communities across this country. We can do all of that for the cost of a single week in Iraq. But the President says no.

This bill includes $500 million to help our struggling schools turn around. Improving our schools means supporting them. We can provide support for our neediest schools for about the cost of a day in Iraq. We can take those schools that are falling further behind for a range of reasons—they may need restructuring, they may need additional assistance or targeted assistance, but whatever they need, they need to have this kind of assistance. But the President says no.

The bill includes $7 billion to provide high-quality early education through Head Start. This week, the Congress will pass a Head Start bill that will strengthen the program to make Head Start even better. Those funds will be used to ensure that nearly 1 million children are ready to learn when they enter kindergarten. These funds build a basic foundation for learning that will help these low-income and minority children for the rest of their lives. We can fund this program for the cost of a little more than 2 weeks in Iraq.

We are going to have a conference report, virtually a unanimous conference report where we have worked out the differences, that we will pass in the Senate at the end of this week. The House is taking it up on Thursday. We will pass it the end of this week or the early part of next week. It includes so many of the recommendations of early education. We need high-quality individuals working in Head Start and working on the curriculum. We need to coordinate the various services for our children in the early years, to smooth out the transition process from early education programs to kindergarten.

We are beginning to get that seamless web of services that we all understand are critical. We are providing assistance in education and supports for children at the earliest ages. This continues on to kindergarten through 12th grade so children are ready for college and work. That is what we are desirous of, a continuum. Read that magnificent book of Jack Shonkoff, who is now at Harvard, formerly with the Heller School at Brandeis, ''From Neurons to Neighborhoods.'' It brings together the three great studies that were done by the Institute of Medicine about the developing of a child's brain, the synapsis, the cognitive and social abilities to deal with their social conditions, the development of knowledge, a sense of inquiry and curiosity that develops and settles in a child's brain.

One cannot read that book and not understand that some of the best investments we make in education is in early education. We have taken so many of the lessons of that extraordinary document and have worked them through, Democrats and Republicans alike, in our conference. We will make real progress, but we need to invest the resources to do that. But when we came to do it and even as we work in Congress to improve the vital program, for the equivalent of 2 weeks in Iraq, the President said no.

This same misguided rationale applies to other investments in the bill as well. The President's veto means squandered opportunities for progress on the major health challenges the American people face. I recently spoke to a gathering of leading cancer researchers who are making extraordinary progress against this deadly disease. They have helped cancer become, in many cases, a treatable illness instead of a death sentence. Every day, they are fighting to help Americans with cancer live longer and longer and healthier lives.

We have seen for the first time, in recent years, where the total number of cancer cases are going down. In the previous 20 years, we saw some modification of those numbers going up. When evaluated against the change in the age of our population and other indicators, it showed we were making some progress that was encouraging. But the most important and significant has been in recent years, where we see the total number of cases are going down.

You cannot tell me that is not the result of the extraordinary investment

that was made in the Congress in recent years in doubling the NIH budget, with all of the progress we have made in mapping the human genome, sequencing the genes, various extraordinary breakthroughs that have come about. There are so many well-qualified, peer-reviewed projects that are on the desk at the NIH that will not be funded. These could offer hope for families in this country who have been touched by the devastation of cancer.

We provided in this legislation nearly $5 billion to fund more than 6,800 research grants to help win this fight. The President's veto tells Americans battling cancer that their fight for life is not a priority for the Nation. He tells patients they must wait a little longer, dream a little less, and hope a little more faintly for the breakthroughs that this research can bring.

On and on down the line, the President vetoed urgently needed research in heart disease, diabetes, asthma, infectious disease, mental health, and many other areas. The President would rather squander billions in Iraq than invest in the research that could bring progress against these diseases and relief for millions of our fellow citizens.

But the damage does not stop with the impact of this veto on the cures of the future. Patients today will feel the bite of the President's veto.

Community Health Centers make quality health care possible for millions of Americans who cannot afford health insurance. A veto of the $2 billion for community health centers included in this bill means that 15 million low-income people will be denied their opportunity for health care. This, at a time when we are seeing the total number of uninsured increasing. The only reason it has not increased more is because of the CHIP program. If we didn't have the CHIP program, the 47 million with no coverage would have been increased a good deal more. But if we look at the total number of Americans who are without health insurance over the course of the years, it is 75 million Americans out of a population of 300 million who sometime during the course of the year who lack adequate coverage, including 45 million who have no health care coverage at all. Those numbers are going up.

Where do individuals go? They go to their neighborhood health centers. We have had remarkable bipartisan support in the expansion of these programs, but when we tried to put in the resources, some $2 billion for these centers included in this bill, it was vetoed. The Centers for Disease Control are on call to protect us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. When there is an outbreak or disaster, CDC is there.

In my own community, in Massachusetts, over the weekend our water supply was closed down because E. coli had penetrated the water system. And here, with all of the various health challenges we have going on there is obviously a role for the FDA, but there is also a role for the Centers for Disease Control, which is extremely well led at the present time. They provide such importance when we are considering the pandemic dangers for this country, let alone the pandemic dangers as a result of terrorism with biologics and chemicals. It will be the Centers for Disease Control that we are going to call on; our first responders. But, no, the President's veto means our Nation's health readiness will be weakened and our progress against disease will be halted.

Training of new doctors and nurses, assistance to hospitals in rural and underserved communities, improving health information technology, immunizations programs, and on and on. The President has the same response to each of them: veto, veto, veto.

The President's veto will also be devastating to America's workers. With globalization and layoffs and corporations cutting benefits, Americans are worried about their jobs. The least we can do is make sure they are safe on the job and treated with dignity.

This bill provides the funds needed to enforce the labor laws that keep our workers safe and give them a level playing field. This bill has a very modest increase for OSHA, the Occupational Health and Safety Administration. Since the implementation of this law, the number of deaths has been cut by more than half in America. This is from $490 million to $501 million. This is the very minor increase in MSHA, the Mine Safety Health Administration, from $313 million to $340 million. Have we forgotten what happened in the Sago mines in West Virginia or out in Utah, where scores of individuals lost their lives? And here we have the agency that is challenged with new legislation that reflected a bipartisan effort here in this body, Republicans and Democrats coming together making the recommendations, and making these recommendations as well, in order that we would have safety in the workforce. Yet that is vetoed.

Just last week, three workers were killed in an explosion in a powerplant in Salem, Massachusetts. Terrible incidents like this are all too common. Every year, more than 5,700 workers are killed, with more than 4,000 injured or made ill on the job. Workers everywhere—at powerplants, coal mines, hospitals, and construction sites—rely on our Federal agencies to protect them and make sure they can return home to their families each night.

But the President's veto takes bad employers off the hook and puts American workers at risk. We won't have the needed funds this bill provides to inspect workplaces and enforce our safety laws. Millions of workers' safety and very lives will be at risk.

The veto of this bill is also devastating to veterans. We just observed Veterans Day. Each year, nearly 320,000 brave servicemembers return to civilian life, many coming from Iraq and Afghanistan. Sadly, our hearing in the Labor Committee last week showed they faced daunting challenges.

Tens of thousands of Reserve and National Guard members have lost their benefits, and even their jobs because they served their country. That is why this bill provides $228 million to help our veterans find jobs, receive training—and protect their right to return to their former jobs. This is guaranteed in the law but not adequately fulfilled at this present time. The President's veto takes away this modest welcome mat and slams the door in our veterans' faces.

All Americans are certainly familiar with what happened at Walter Reed, but there are so many other aspects that we are continuing to support. Senator MURKOWSKI, Senator MURRAY, and many of our colleagues on the appropriate committees are making extraordinary efforts to help address these issues for our service men and women. But we must all recognize that one out of four of the homeless today is a veteran. One out of four of the homeless is a veteran. And if veterans return to the United States without a job, with lost backpay, or lost health insurance, there is a rapid spiral right down into destitution and poverty and homelessness and, in some instances, suicide and other horrific behavior.

What about other American workers who want to upgrade their skills to compete and win in the global economy? This bill says we should not cast workers and their dreams aside. It rejects the President's cut and includes $2.9 billion for job training. But the President's veto, again, leaves these hard-working Americans out in the cold.

In my State of Massachusetts, there are 92,640 jobs that needed workers at the end of last year, and there are 178,000 people who didn't have jobs and were on the unemployment lists. It should be pretty understandable that if we can get those people trained and place them into productive employment, they are going to be productive, useful, and valuable workers in our communities. Their hopes and dreams for their families will be enhanced. And, through taxes, they will increase additional tax revenues for the future. That kind of investment is necessary. But what happens, Mr. President? We see those programs have been effectively vetoed.

This appropriations bill is about the strength and the well-being of American families. By vetoing the bill, the President is turning his back on the priorities of America's families—their hopes, their dreams, and their opportunities. But we will not give up on providing the solutions that are so desperately needed. We will continue to work with our colleagues in the Senate and the House and chart a new course and fight for the real needs of all Americans.

This battle is not over. It has only just begun.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, am I allotted a certain amount of time in morning business?

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator is to be recognized for up to 30 minutes.

TORTURE

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, I shall not take all that time, but I wanted to talk about a couple of things this morning. Before I do that, I want to express my appreciation for the comments of my colleague from Massachusetts, Senator KENNEDY, about what our priorities seem to be and what they should be with respect to fiscal policy and appropriations bills as well as the larger priorities of our country.

Let me now talk briefly about the vote that occurred last week on the confirmation of Attorney General Mukasey. I wish to talk about it because I think a very important issue that needs to be discussed—and we have not really discussed it much on the floor of the Senate—is the issue of torture.

I don't think the issue of torture, for this country, is negotiable. And, I don't think it is a very difficult question.

But, before I talk about the issue of torture specifically, let me just describe what I think represents the great strength of this country, and the great strength of this country does not include a willingness or an allowance to torture anybody anywhere.

We were engaged in a long, difficult Cold War for decades. That struggle against the Soviet Union and totalitarianism lasted a long time. But it wasn't, in the end, bombs and bullets that won that war; it was American values that won that war. It was the idea of our country, and the idea of our country is rooted in the Constitution. People are free. They believe what they want. They are able to say what they want. The Government has to respect the rights of everyone.

That is the embroidery and the framework of our Government and our Constitution. America is an idea, with a written Constitution and a Bill of Rights, that protects people, and stands for liberty, human rights, and human dignity.

In fact, those values of this country were so strong that even during the Cold War those values shined a light of hope into the darkest cells in the Soviet Union, in the gulag prisons, in the outermost reaches of Siberia. We know that because people who were in those dark cells came out from behind the Iron Curtain and told us of the ray of hope they saw from this country.

Millions of political prisoners were held, often in solitary confinement in the Soviet Union, simply for thinking and speaking freely. Many were there for years, swept off the streets in the Soviet Union, never to be heard from again.

Often, they weren't charged. When they were, they were convicted after show trials because they had no rights. But some survived, and they talked about how important the idea and the values were that embodied this country called the United States. America gave them hope. The idea of America reached to the farthest and darkest places on this planet. It always has, and it has offered hope.

Now, it is true that this country is not perfect. We all understand that. But it is also true that what we stand for is very important in terms of the message we send around the world. It is important for our self-respect, and it is important for what we believe America to be.

It is troubling to me that polls that are done around the world show that so many in the world now are very concerned about our country, with views that are very negative about the United States, and these views are held by historic foes but also historic friends. That is something which should concern all of us. We have to hold ourselves to a higher standard. We always have, and we should hold ourselves to a higher standard.

The issue of torture was an issue that arose because of the questions asked a candidate, a nominee, for Attorney General. There are some who believe under certain circumstances, apparently, torture is all right or appropriate or sanctioned. I am not one of them, and I would think most Americans would not believe that.

George Washington led the Continental Army in the War for Independence. After a large number of his troops were captured, he and his troops saw Hessian mercenaries, fighting for the British, slaughter unarmed prisoners from the Continental Army. They saw that, and yet George Washington refused to treat Hessian prisoners the same way. He insisted we were different and we would treat people the way we should be treated.

That is America's birthright. It has always been the case. And that is why the discussion about torture is so very important. It is why the discussions about treatment of detainees, about enemy combatants, about habeas corpus, and about the power of the executive branch in this country are important as well.

The Attorney General's post is very important. I met with the nominee and I liked him. I talked to him about his commendable experience in Government as a Federal Judge. But his inability to answer the basic questions about waterboarding and torture were very troubling to me. I don't understand that inability, and I don't think, from my standpoint, that issue is negotiable. Torture is not what America is about.

Some say or some imply that being against torture is somehow being soft on terrorists. That is as despicable as it is wrong. Being against torture is being for an America that is better than its enemies. Being against torture is being for an America that continues to be a beacon of hope around the world for doing the right thing, and it is being for an America that stands for the rule of law and human dignity and human rights.

So I wanted to make the point, after the debate we had last week, that this is not an irrelevant issue. It is an issue that defines our country. It is an issue about who we are, the value system of this great country of ours.

FISCAL POLICY

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, let me describe a couple of things that represent front-page news these days. Regrettably, I believe, these things threaten the potential future prosperity of our country and require an urgent response on the part of the President and the Congress.

The economy and fiscal policy of this administration—and the lack of regulatory interest on the part of this administration—has led us to an abyss that is very troublesome. We see the dollar dropping in value to other currencies. We see a dramatic trade deficit of $2 billion a day, that we are buying from other countries more than we are selling to other countries. We see a fiscal policy budget deficit that the President says is coming down. The only way he can say the deficit is significantly coming down is that he is taking all of the surplus Social Security revenues that are supposed to go into the Social Security trust fund and using every dollar of that surplus as an offset against other revenue and other spending in order to show a much lower deficit. We are far off track in trade policy and fiscal policy, and now we have in front of us a proposal for $196 billion in emergency spending—none of it paid for. That will bring us very close to three-quarters of a trillion dollars that the President has requested on an emergency basis—none of it paid for. That is not conservatism. We have a responsibility to begin paying for these costs. We send soldiers to war and the President says to the American people: You go shopping and do your part for the American economy.

That should not happen. What should happen is when we send soldiers to go to war and ask them to wear the uniform of their country and go in harm's way, we should, as a responsible Congress and President, pay for the costs as we go.

I don't understand it. The President is down there at the White House saying $22 billion additional for the kinds of things that invest in our country—he says I am opposed to that. He said I will veto 10 of your bills, if necessary. He said, I am opposed to that $22 billion of your bills, half of which is invested in health care. Then he says, by the way, I want $196 billion on the other side, none of it paid for, for my priorities, and he says: But that is for the troops.

I am sorry, it is not just for the troops. A substantial portion of that is for the contractors. There is dramatic

evidence of the greatest waste, fraud, and abuse in the history of this country going to contractors who are profiteering, regrettably, during a war. For a long while I have believed—we have had votes in the Senate and all on the other side of the aisle have voted against it—that we should have a Truman-type committee, such as the one Harry Truman led many decades ago, that began to investigate the waste, fraud, and abuse in contracting that is existing, that is fleecing the American taxpayer, undermining the American troops, going on under the nose of this administration, and nobody seems to care.

With respect to a fiscal policy that is out of control, let me describe the second portion of that, and that is an administration that doesn't want regulators to regulate. I understand some do not like regulation, but this administration has gone way beyond the pale in saying to regulators, look the other way.

Here is what is happening. This morning you read the newspaper and see that subprime loans are beginning to have a big impact on all Americans because it is beginning to have an impact on the economy. What does all this mean, subprime lending?

Let me describe it to you. Again, the regulators were asleep, didn't do anything, didn't care very much. Here is what has been going on. We have had mortgage companies that used to be kind of the slow, little companies that would lend you money for your home, down on the street corner someplace, not much going on, somebody who was a thoughtful person with a pencil above their ear, they were wearing a white shirt and suspenders. You would sit down and say, I need a home loan. They would be glad to help you and they would sit down and work out a home loan for you. That was the way home loans worked.

All of a sudden, home loans have changed. All of a sudden it is a go-go industry. This is what they started doing. It is unbelievable. This is an advertisement from the biggest home lending company in this country: Homeowners, do you want to refinance and get cash? Countrywide has a great reason to do it now. A no cost finance. It has no points, no applications fee, no credit reporting and no third party fees. No title, no escrow, or appraisal fees. Absolutely no closing costs. So you wind up with a lot more cash.

Here is another company that had a different thing to say, Zoom Credit:

> Credit approval is just seconds away. Get on the fast track at Zoom Credit. At the speed of light, Zoom Credit will pre-approve you for a car loan, a home loan or a credit card. Even if your credit's in the tank. Zoom Credit's like money in the bank. Zoom Credit specializes in credit repair and debt consolidation, too. Bankruptcy, slow credit, no credit—who cares?

This is an ad from a mortgage company.

Millenia Mortgage had to say in their advertisement:

> Twelve months No Mortgage Payment. That's right. We will give you the money to make your first 12 payments if you call in the next 7 days. We pay it for you.

Let me describe what all this means and what they were doing. I will do it with respect to the largest mortgage lending company. Angelo Mozilo created Countrywide Finance, the biggest mortgage company in our country. They are the ones, along with others, who helped create the riskier loans and in many cases targeted those loans to those who could not repay.

> Do you have less than perfect credit? Late mortgage payments? Denied by other lenders? Call us.

That was one of Countrywide's advertisements. Let me say again:

> Do you have less than perfect credit? Do you have late mortgage payments? Have you been denied by other lenders? Call us—

Countrywide says.

So they began to attract borrowers through advertising, and then they had brokers on the phone soliciting, calling somebody up, saying: Let's talk about a new mortgage. We can get some cash for you and reduce your interest rates. So they created ''affordability loans,'' a new category; then adjustable rate mortgages; then interest-rate-only loans; then reduced documentation or no-documentation loans. When I heard that one, I thought, What does that mean? It means just what it says: If you want to get a loan, a home mortgage, and you don't want to document your income, they say that is fine, we will give you a no-doc loan. You will pay a little higher interest rate, but we will certainly give you a mortgage if you don't have documentation.

One of the new mortgages they began to offer is interest-only loans so the borrower is required to pay interest charges only. They deferred any principal payment to much later; and then they came up with a pay option adjustable rate mortgage, which allowed the borrower to pay only a portion of the interest, none of the principal, just a portion of the interest, and defer all of it to the end of the loan. This means you might end up paying much more for the house than the house is worth.

All these fancy things—what they were saying to potential borrowers was, if you have bad credit, come to us because we have an instrument for you.

This is about greed, by the way, because the brokers and the banks made extraordinary amount of money. So what they did was they created a circumstance where they would loan to people something called subprime loans. There is evidence they put people into subprime loans, even though they could have qualified for prime loans. Why? Because subprime loans paid more. Then they rolled these subprime loans, in many cases for people who couldn't repay, and they would set the interest rate ridiculously low—pay 2 percent interest rate, for example, and then it will reset in 24 months, 36 months, and when it resets, it will reset way up here, but in the meantime here is your monthly payment.

They were quoting monthly payments without the escrow, so they were recording ridiculously low payments. In some cases, they were quoting interest only loans, some cases with only partial interest, in other cases at ridiculously low rates that were going to reset at a high rate, and then they would attach prepayment penalties to them so they could lock people in. And then what they did is they rolled this up like sausage.

There was a story about how there used to be sawdust in with meat when they rolled sausage up so you didn't know what you were eating. It was good filler, apparently. They rolled these up as securities with the subprime loans, the prime loans, rolled them up as a security, sliced them up to be sold.

Guess what. The big investors out there liked this stuff. It paid pretty high rates at this point because you were able to have prepayment penalties and a whole series of things. They are buying these things without having the foggiest idea what is in them. The rating agencies are rating them as OK. So you have the folks investing in the securities that represent these subprimes. Then all of a sudden it is discovered people are not able to pay. They can't make their house payments. The interest rate gets reset. It is way up. They don't have a ghost of a chance of making the house payment, and then they stand around scratching their head wondering what happened. I will tell you what happened, a carnival of greed on the part of the mortgage brokers, bank security firms—all of them, a total carnival of greed. Now they are all walking around scratching their head, trying to figure out what do we do next.

Well, Merrill Lynch, for example, lost $8.4 billion, I guess it was, 2 weeks ago, so they fired their CEO. I believe he got $161 million in securities and retirement benefits—as he went out the door.

Last week it was CitiGroup that fired their CEO. There was a pretty substantial benefit.

That is going on all over the country. By the way, the head of the company that is the largest company, Mr. Mozilo, in the midst of all this, head of the largest company that is engaged in all this, Countrywide, earned $142 million last year. He was celebrated as the executive—Fortune Magazine's prestigious Company of the Year. The Horatio Alger award. He made $142 million last year and the New York Times reports that he was selling $138 million of his stock in the company as he was talking about how well the company was doing.

This subprime scandal is all about greed. It is not new. It happened in the savings and loan industry. It has happened in other areas. It is now happening with respect to this mortgage industry scandal. The administration, of course, doesn't want anybody looking over anybody's shoulder, so there

has been no regulation. You have hedge funds buying into these things. They are unregulated, by and large. There is no regulation, no oversight, Katy-bar-the-door, do what you want to do, the private sector will be fine.

It is not fine. This is having a significant and serious impact on this country's economy. I am going to come back to this in a moment, but let me describe the other issue that is happening.

We wake up this morning and oil is $90 to $100 a barrel. You ask why is that the case? Why is oil $90 to $100 a barrel? Once again, it is lack of oversight. Here we have a futures market on which oil is bought and sold. This futures market has now become an unbelievable orgy of speculation.

I was reading yesterday from an article, an analyst from the Oppenheimer Company in New York, was talking about the price of oil. He says:

> I'm absolutely convinced that oil prices shouldn't be a dime above $55 a barrel. Oil speculators include the largest financial institutions of the world. I call it the world's largest gambling hall. It is open 24–7. Unfortunately there are segments of the market that are unregulated. This is like a highway with no cops, no speed limit, and everybody is going 120 miles an hour.

What is happening with oil? It is interesting, if you take a look at this unbelievable speculation that is going on in the futures market. You have industrial banks in this country, investment banks. They are actually buying tanks to store oil. This takes the oil off the market. They are doing this because they believe that the price of oil will be higher in the future. So they take oil off the market now, store it, and sell it later for a profit. This creates an upward pressure on price. You now have hedge funds hip deep in the futures markets. They didn't used to be. It used to be that the futures market for oil had a relationship to the supply and demand with respect to oil. There were other tensions in various parts of the world that might affect it some, but not like we have seen recently. As is the case in most areas, this has gotten way out of hand. There is no way that current supply-and-demand relationships with oil justify $100 a barrel. It is a futures market that is propelled by unbelievable speculation in search of profits by a whole range of interests, especially now including hedge funds and investment banks and others.

The question is, who are the victims of all of this? The victims are people, the people who drive up to the gas pump. The victims on the subprime market are the people who cannot repay a mortgage; and somebody says maybe they should have known better. Maybe so, but when a broker is going to make a $30,000 commission by writing a $1 million mortgage and selling over the phone 2 percent interest rates, I am telling you there are a whole lot of folks who get sucked into that.

The point here is we face a situation in several areas where there is a total, complete lack of common sense. There is this little book written by Robert Fulghum a long while ago that would, in my judgment, provide some benefit to some people. The title of the book is, ''All I Really Need To Know I Learned In Kindergarten.'' The lessons are not unusual. The lessons are: Play fair, don't hit, don't take what is not yours, wash your hands, flush—you know, the things I learned in kindergarten; the things that are important.

We could write a primer on ''All The Things I Really Need To Know I Learned In Kindergarten.'' We could write that primer and instantly people would say you can't have an oil futures market that is rampant in speculation with hedge funds and others now pushing up the price of oil having little to do with supply and demand. You can't have a mortgage industry in which the mortgage companies decide they are going to provide loans to people who cannot afford to repay the loan and make very big profits and lock them in with a prepayment penalty. They are all fat and happy and making a massive amount of money. You can't have that without a significant consequence to our economy.

What do I suggest? It is simple. Let's sober up a little bit on fiscal policy in this administration and this Congress. Maybe we can say to the President: You want $196 billion. OK. You tell us how you want to pay for it. Send us the recommendation, and we will certainly take a look at that. We want to do everything that needs to be done to support our troops. But a substantial portion is not going to support our troops. It is going to support big contractors that have been bilking the taxpayer for a long time. We are going to take a hard look at that and investigate it and get to the bottom of it.

We need to get back on track in trade and fiscal policy. Ignoring it might feel good, but it is not the right thing for the future.

With respect to the issue of subprime lending and futures markets, if that doesn't persuade Members of this body there needs to be some thoughtful, sensible regulation, then I don't know what will. I chaired the hearings on Enron. It was to my subcommittee that Ken Lay came on behalf of Enron, raised his hand, and took the fifth amendment. Mr. Lay is dead. Many of the folks who worked with him at Enron are in prison. But I understand what happened in that scandal. The American public, again, was a victim. They got fleeced. In Enron's case, they were manipulating markets to drive up the cost of electricity on the west coast and bilk people out of billions of dollars. What did it mean? It meant we had to put in place some regulations to prevent that from happening again. What does this mean, the subprime scandal that exists, and its impact on the economy? It means we have to put in place some regulations to prevent this sort of thing from happening. People have profited in a very unholy way at the expense of a lot of victims across the country.

What does it mean when people go up to the gas pump this afternoon and pay a substantial amount for a tank of gasoline at a time when the price of oil is running toward $100 a barrel and the futures market is driving that price up, having very little to do with supply and demand but more to do with an orgy of speculation? It means we ought to care about that. It means there ought to be some regulatory oversight.

This administration has a lot to answer for, as does the Congress. I am pleased to be a part of the majority, and we are working hard to try to respond to and deal with these issues. But these issues are not going to go away. The prosperity of this country's future is at stake. We need to get it right.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Hawaii.

VETERANS DAY 2007

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, over the past weekend, our Nation observed Veterans Day, a day to commemorate the connection between the American people and America's veterans. This connection is something that the American people are always aware of at the bottom of their hearts, though it may not always be in the front of our minds as we go about our daily lives.

We Americans often define ourselves by the freedoms we enjoy. America's veterans are men and women who sacrificed some of their own freedoms to serve and defend our Nation. The connection between these two groups—the defended and the defenders—may not always be visible, but it cannot be denied. Veterans Day gave us the opportunity to recall that connection, to honor those who wore the uniform of our country.

As chairman of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, it has been my privilege to work alongside other leaders in answering a simple question: How do we best honor veterans? Having so recently celebrated Veterans Day, I am pleased to report on the committee's work in the areas of legislation and oversight to try to answer that question.

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs has worked diligently to fulfill its oversight and legislative responsibilities, demonstrated in part by our hearing and meeting schedule. We have held 40 hearings and meetings, including 7 field hearings, since our organizational meeting in January. The committee has heard from 220 witnesses, and reported 4 nominees to the Senate, each of whom was later confirmed.

At our committee's very first meeting, I discussed my agenda to work with other members to bring the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs together to provide a seamless transition for veterans from DOD to VA. We focused on seamless transition and set an agenda to pursue the issue in the coming year.

These actions were taken long before the horrible news reports about conditions at Walter Reed shocked the country into action. Our foresight positioned the committee, in collaboration with the Senate Armed Services Committee, to craft legislation that attacked the flaws within the DOD and VA systems. I am pleased that our legislative responses were incorporated into the National Defense Authorization Act. I look forward to seeing them become law.

Two weeks after the organizational meeting, the committee held its first hearing, which was on VA and DOD cooperation and collaboration. We heard testimony from officials from VA and DOD, as well as the personal stories of veterans who slipped through the cracks during their transition from military service to veterans status. This would be the first of a number of hearings the committee would hold on VA and DOD cooperation and collaboration. Later hearings on this issue focused on specific areas such as health care, education, information technology, and benefits.

In February, I contacted DOD on behalf of VA's Polytrauma Center health care providers so as to ensure that VA providers had easy and appropriate access to DOD's Joint Patient Tracking Application. This medical information sharing application is important to data sharing between VA and DOD. I was pleased when DOD responded shortly thereafter, providing assurance that they would resume their important data sharing practices.

The decision to focus on cooperation and collaboration between DOD and VA was made well before news broke on the deplorable conditions at Walter Reed. As these news stories moved questions about veterans care into the forefront of America's attention, our committee put our focus on the total system of care, involving DOD and VA.

Shortly after the press revelations of problems at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, I visited Walter Reed, along with my good friend and colleague, Senator CARL LEVIN, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee. On the way back to the Capitol from that visit, we agreed to hold an unprecedented joint hearing of the Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs Committee on the issue of DOD–VA cooperation and collaboration. On April 12, we held that hearing, further pursuing answers both about what was happening at Walter Reed and how we could fix it and about the overall state of the relationship between the two Departments.

From that hearing and subsequent work on the problems at Walter Reed and elsewhere in both the DOD and VA systems, and how those problems affected wounded servicemembers, it was clear that a commonsense approach was needed.

One specific focus of that effort was on how to reform the DOD disability system so as to promote greater uniformity among the services and between the services and VA. On April 30, I introduced S. 1252, a bill that would mandate a number of changes to the DOD disability evaluation system, including uniform use of the Veterans Affairs rating schedule across the military services, inclusion of all conditions which render a member unfit when making a disability rating, uniform training of Medical Evaluation Board/Physical Evaluation Board personnel, and accountability by DOD to ensure compliance with disability rating regulations and policies.

Just as veterans and servicemembers benefit when VA and DOD work together, the Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the Senate Committee on Armed Services saw an opportunity to collaborate on legislative solutions. All of the provisions of S. 1252 were included as part of S. 1606, the joint SVAC and SASC proposed Dignified Treatment of Wounded Warriors Act of 2007, which was later included in the 2008 National Defense Authorization Act.

While demands on VA have dramatically increased over recent years, VA funding has not. To allow the hard working men and women of VA to do their jobs without having to worry about whether there will be sufficient funding, we have sought a substantial increase to VA funding. I am pleased that the funding level in VA's fiscal year 2008 appropriations bill amounts to the largest funding increase in the history of the Department.

The appropriations bill also includes significant increases that will enable the Veterans Benefits Administration to pay for up to 3,100 new full-time employees. I hope the VBA will use these funds to attack the current backlog of veterans' claims aggressively. I will continue to work with my colleagues to enact this historic and long overdue increase in funding for veterans.

In working on the legislative front, the committee has taken a collaborative approach with other Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives. Our focus has been on getting good law enacted, whatever the vehicle. I am pleased to report on the committee's progress on many pieces of legislation, some of which have already been enacted into law.

As we continue to pursue adequate funds to pay for the true cost of war, we must also recognize that the nature of the battles our troops are fighting has changed as well. VA health care must be better prepared to address traumatic brain injury, the signature wound of the current war. To improve VA's diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation for traumatic brain injuries, I introduced S. 1233, the proposed Traumatic Brain Injury and Health Programs Improvements Act of 2007. This bill, amended to include a number of other health care provisions, was reported by the committee. In addition, many of the provisions of S. 1233 were later incorporated into the Wounded Warriors Act and the National Defense Authorization Act.

S. 1233 would increase access to VA health care for combat veterans, extending the period of eligibility during which recently released or discharged combat veterans have unfettered access to VA care from 2 to 5 years. This provision will help ensure that these newest combat veterans have more time to identify and deal with invisible wounds, such as traumatic brain injury and PTSD. Another key provision of the bill relating to the treatment of invisible wounds is a requirement that VA provide a servicemember with a mental health evaluation within 30 days of making such a request.

S. 1233 also would enhance care for older veterans already in the VA system. It would repeal the 2003 VA regulation which barred Priority 8 veterans, so-called ''higher-income'' veterans, from enrolling in the VA health care system, essentially re-opening the system to these veterans. Many issues have been raised this year with regard to access to VA care for veterans residing in more rural areas, and S. 1233 includes an entire section aimed at looking at ways to increase access for rural veterans.

I am also very proud of the provisions in S. 1233 that seek to expand and enhance services for homeless veterans. We all recognize the sad reality that veterans suffer disproportionately from homelessness. S. 1233 would not only increase the resources available to community-based entities that provide reintegration services to those who are already homeless, it would also provide supportive services to low-income veterans to help prevent homelessness.

This bill also contains a significant increase in the travel reimbursement benefit paid to certain veterans who are forced to commute long distances to access care at VA facilities. The current mileage reimbursement rate is only 11 cents per mile, and this rate has not been increased since 1978. The committee bill would increase the rate to 28 cents per mile—a substantial increase and one that will hopefully help ease the financial burden for those who have to travel sometimes hundreds of miles to get to a VA hospital or clinic.

Two other health care bills that I introduced this year are currently moving through the committee process—S. 2160, the proposed Veterans Pain Care Act of 2007, and S. 2162, the proposed Mental Health Improvements Act of 2007. The committee is scheduled to mark up both of these bills, along with two others, tomorrow. I hope to see each of them passed by the end of this year.

For too many veterans, returning home from battle will not bring an end to conflict. They will return home, but the things they have done and seen in combat will follow them. Invisible wounds such as PTSD are complicated and can manifest themselves in many different ways. Studies have estimated that as many as 1 out of every 5 Iraq

war veterans are likely to suffer from readjustment issues. It is clear that action is necessary on the part of Congress to ensure that VA is equipped to deal with these issues.

In April, the committee held a hearing dedicated to veterans' mental health concerns and VA's response. We heard very compelling testimony from witnesses who suffered the consequences of invisible wounds in their families and their own lives. Randall Omvig spoke of his son's suicide upon returning from Iraq. Tony Bailey spoke of his son's struggle with substance abuse, and of his ultimate death from it. Patrick Campbell shared his own experience with PTSD and the experiences of his fellow servicemembers. Their touching and often painful stories put human faces on an issue that is to often reduced to numbers.

The proposed Mental Health Improvements Act is a direct outgrowth of that hearing and the testimony given by those who have suffered with mental health issues and by their family members. The bill addresses the immediate needs of veterans by ensuring high quality mental health services at VA facilities and in their communities. The measure also seeks to address the plight of veterans who suffer both from PTSD and substance abuse.

S. 2160, the proposed Veterans Pain Care Act of 2007, would enhance VA's pain management program. It is estimated that nearly 30 percent of Americans—some 86 million people—suffer from chronic or acute pain every year. A recent study conducted by VA researchers in Connecticut found that nearly 50 percent of veteran patients that are seen at VA facilities reported that they experience pain regularly.

While pain increases in severity with age, it is also a growing problem among younger veterans who have been injured in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Many of these veterans are coming home with severe injuries—often traumatic brain injuries—that require intensive rehabilitation. In some cases, younger veterans will have to live with the long-term effects of their injuries, of which pain is a large and debilitating part.

Pain management is an area of health care that by many accounts is not yet to up to par, in both the private and public sectors. S. 2160 would standardize VA's pain management program on a national, systemwide level, by requiring VA to establish a pain care initiative at every VA health care facility. Every hospital and clinic would be required to employ a professionally recognized pain assessment tool or process, and ensure that every patient who is determined to be in chronic or acute pain is treated appropriately. The bill also calls for comprehensive research on pain management to improve care for chronic pain.

During this session, I introduced S. 1163, the proposed Blinded Veterans Paired Organ Act of 2007, a bill that would offer enhanced benefits to veterans who suffer from service-connected impairment of vision. The bill was amended in committee and the language that was favorably reported to the full Senate was inserted into H.R. 797, the House companion, and passed on November 2. The Senate-passed H.R. 797 would broaden the benefit eligibility requirements for two distinct groups of veterans with impaired vision due to service—those with service-connected blindness in one eye who subsequently suffer loss of vision in the other eye later in life and those who receive special monthly compensation for multiple disabilities, including vision impairment.

The amended bill also includes a series of provisions that would enhance memorial and burial benefits for veterans and private cemeteries, including permanently authorizing VA to provide government headstones or markers for the privately marked graves of veterans interred at private cemeteries; instructing VA to design a medallion or other device to signify a decedent's veteran status, to be placed on a privately purchased headstone or marker, as an alternative to a Government-Furnished headstone or marker; extending the time limit for States to be reimbursed for the unclaimed remains of veterans; and authorizing $5 million for operational and maintenance expenses at State cemeteries. The provisions in the bill are fully paid for through legislative repeal of a Court of Veterans Appeals decision which inappropriately extended a needs-based benefit to a population that Congress did not intend to receive it.

Because inflation erodes the value of the dollar, Congress is responsible for adjusting compensation for service-connected disabilities. This year I sponsored S. 423, the proposed Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2007. The veterans' COLA legislation ensures that the purchasing power of veterans' benefits, including compensation for veterans and assistance for their survivors, is maintained. This annual COLA is done in recognition of the Nation's gratitude towards veterans young and old for their service and sacrifices.

As the sponsor of the Senate version of this bill, I was pleased to support the passage of the House companion, H.R. 1284. I applaud Congress and the President for their work in making it law as of Monday, November 5, 2007. I hope veterans, including the 17,000 recipients of compensation who are served by VA's Honolulu Regional Office, benefit from this demonstration of our appreciation.

Oversight investigations carried out by committee staff uncovered concerns in the veterans' benefits system as well. To improve the benefits system, the committee reported S. 1315, the proposed Veterans' Benefits Enhancement Act of 2007. This bill would improve veterans' life insurance, adaptable housing, education benefits, and provide the committee with more oversight data. It would also address a 60-year wrong that is still being done to Filipino veterans who served under the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II.

In the years since the end of the Second World War, Filipino veterans and their advocates, especially my distinguished colleague, Senator INOUYE, have worked tirelessly to secure these veterans the status they were promised when they agreed to fight under U.S. command in defense of their homeland and to protect U.S. interests in the region.

This bill would also more than double the maximum amount of Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance that a service-connected disabled veteran may purchase from $90,000 to $200,000. The VMLI program was established in 1971 and is available to those service-connected disabled veterans who have received specially adapted housing grants from VA. In the event of the veteran's death, the veteran's family is protected because VA will pay the balance of the mortgage owed up to the maximum amount of insurance purchased.

The measure would also establish a new program of insurance for service-connected disabled veterans that would provide up to a maximum of $50,000 in level premium term life insurance coverage. This new program would be available to service-connected disabled veterans who are less than 65 years of age at the time of application. Under the new program, eligible service-connected veterans would be able to purchase, in increments of $10,000, up to a maximum amount of $50,000 in insurance.

S. 1315 would also increase the amount of supplemental life insurance available to totally disabled veterans by 50 percent, from $20,000 to $30,000. This provision stems from S. 643, the proposed Disabled Veterans Insurance Act of 2007, which I introduced in February of this year. Many totally disabled veterans find it difficult to obtain commercial life insurance. This legislation will give totally disabled veterans better life insurance, a small measure of support for veterans who sacrificed so much.

In addition, this bill would expand eligibility for retroactive benefits from traumatic injury protection coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance. This insurance program went into effect on December 1, 2005. All insured servicemembers under SGLI from that point forward were covered under traumatic injury protection regardless of where their injuries occur. However, individuals sustaining traumatic injuries between October 7, 2001, and November 30, 2005, which were not incurred as a direct result of Operations Enduring or Iraqi Freedom, are not eligible for a retroactive payment under the traumatic injury protection program. S. 1315 would expand eligibility to these individuals.

The reported bill would allow for home improvements for totally disabled servicemembers prior to release from active duty. This provision is very important because many servicemembers return home to finish their rehabilitation and recuperation prior to discharge from the military. Their homes need to be adapted so that they can live comfortably and independently.

S. 1315 also contains a number of provisions derived from S. 1215 which I introduced on April 25 that would make four small but necessary changes in existing laws relating to education and employment. First, it would restore the funding cap on the amount of funding available for State Approving Agencies to the fiscal year 2007 level of $19 million. Without this restoration, these entities that assist VA in approving programs of education would be facing a reduction of more than 30 percent beginning in fiscal year 2008. It is particularly important for SAAs to have adequate resources as more veterans return to civilian life and begin to use their educational benefits.

Second, it would update the special unemployment study required to be submitted by the Secretary of Labor to the Congress by requiring that it cover veterans of Post 9/11 Global Operations. It would also require the report to be submitted on an annual, rather than a biennial, basis. By updating this report, we will have more data available to us on more recent groups of veterans those who served and are serving in the Gulf War and Post 9/11 Global Operations. This should better help us assess the needs of current veterans entering the work force and develop appropriate responses.

Third, the bill would extend for 2 years a temporary increase in the monthly educational assistance allowance for apprenticeship or other on-the-job training. Eliminating the temporary increase would mean a monthly benefit rate cut on veterans enrolled in this type of training and remove marketable incentive to encourage individuals to accept trainee positions they might not otherwise consider.

Finally, the bill would provide for a waiver of the residency requirement for State veterans' employment and training directors. By giving the Secretary of Labor the ability to waive the 2-year residency requirement, this provision would help ensure that the best qualified individuals from any state may be considered for SDVET vacancies.

Both S. 1233 and S. 1315 were reported to the Senate in late August and have been pending floor action ever since. It is most unfortunate that we have been unable to reach agreement to proceed to their consideration, due in part to an abrupt and unexpected change in the minority committee leadership. Late last week, just days before Veterans Day, the other side of the aisle affirmatively blocked consideration of this important legislation that has the support of a majority of the members of the Veterans' Affairs Committee. Let me be clear—I do not expect all Members to support or agree with these bills, only to allow for their consideration by the full Senate. If members have amendments to offer, bring them forward. We can then craft an agreement under which the Senate might do its work and debate these bills.

One final legislative item that I wish to mention—recently, I worked with my colleague Senator WEBB on a matter of symbolic and real importance to servicemen and women as well as to veterans. Concerned that the Department of the Army was in a rush to replace the Tomb of the Unknown at Arlington National Cemetery, I introduced an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act requiring the Army to prepare a comprehensive report for Congress before any further action could be taken. I am hopeful that this provision will be in the final agreement on the NDAA and look forward to the report, and its recommendations on how to best steward this national treasure.

As chairman of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, I am mindful of the employment issues facing veterans, members of the Guard and Reserves, and their families as they seek to move from the military to the civilian workforce. Making this transition is never easy, and for younger veterans it can be particularly difficult. For members of the National Guard and Reserves, returning to a job they previously held may be challenging for a variety of reasons. For family members, the uncertainty of multiple and extended deployments poses different obstacles. Finally, the obstacles facing those who are disabled during their service can sometimes seem overwhelming. The needs of these individuals deserve our utmost attention and resources.

The committee has held two oversight hearings on employment issues this session. The more recent of the two hearings focused specifically on the Uniformed Services Employment and Re-employment Rights Act of 1994, or USERRA. As our troops are returning home from battle, many of them seek to return to the jobs that they held prior to their military service, particularly those serving in Guard and Reserve units. I must admit to being particularly upset at the volume of USERRA claims related to Federal service. It is simply wrong that individuals who were sent to war by their government should, upon their return, be put in the position of having to do battle with that same government in order to regain their jobs and benefits.

It is well known that veterans make good employees. Despite the challenges many face, veterans across the country are working and excelling in the labor force. They know how to work and they bring with them a wealth of expertise and experience. I believe the employment data supports my belief since rates of unemployment for veterans generally are lower than their nonveteran counterpart. However, the rate of unemployment for younger veterans and those recently separated from active duty tends to be higher than their nonveteran peers. I pledge to continue to pursue these issues aggressively in the months ahead.

The issues regarding veterans' educational benefits are especially important to me. Having attended college at the University of Hawaii under the original World War II GI bill, I know the value of this important benefit first hand.

The complexity and the importance of the issues surrounding the various education assistance programs administered by VA have been heard at two hearings this session. I plan to build off of the findings from both hearings for the committee's future work in this area. Educational assistance benefit has an important role in terms of a readjustment benefit for returning veterans and servicemembers. Properly tailored, these same benefits form an important keystone in recruiting and retaining high caliber young men and women in the Armed Forces. The balance between these twin goals is very complex and needs careful examination.

I am concerned that the current structure of benefits has some flaws. It is disturbing to me that servicemembers who are in the line of fire and who place their own safety in jeopardy in service to our country have to pay for their educational benefits. It is also disturbing that members of the Guard and Reserve who complete multiple deployments in combat situations run the risk of having no educational benefits available to them.

I do not expect to see a quick or easy answer for veterans' education benefits reform. I believe we will need to build a foundation for cooperation, compromise and consensus building. That will take some time. But I believe this process has begun, and that by working together, we will be able to develop something that is really meaningful to veterans, their families, and their futures.

As I noted earlier, the committee held seven field hearings over the year. The first, chaired by Senator BROWN, was held on May 29, 2007, in New Philadelphia, OH, and focused on the issues facing veterans in the rural areas of Appalachia. Two months later, the committee held its second field hearing, chaired by Senator TESTOR, again focusing on the needs of rural veterans. This hearing was held on July 21, 2007, in Great Falls, MT. These hearings, along with the insights of our committee members, enabled the committee to develop and mark up legislation to address certain issues facing rural veterans.

On August 17, 2007, Senator MURRAY chaired a field hearing in Tacoma, WA. The hearing focused on the mental health care services available to veterans and servicemembers in the State of Washington.

In August, I chaired a series of field hearings in my home State of Hawaii, on the islands of Maui, Oahu, and the Big Island. These hearings brought high-ranking VA officials from Washington, DC, to examine the state of VA services for Hawaii's veterans and returning servicemembers.

On August 28, 2007, the committee held a field hearing in Augusta, GA, on cooperation and collaboration between VA and DOD, chaired by Senator ISAKSON. The specific focus of the hearing was on VA and DOD care for wounded servicemembers returning from Afghanistan and Iraq.

The committee has also carried out aggressive oversight activity during this session. Since January, the majority staff has conducted 95 days of oversight involving 28 trips to 18 states as well as to Korea, Guam and American Samoa. Oversight investigations have included visits to nine separate VA regional offices.

During these nine visits, oversight staff reviewed a total of 119 individual veteran claim files, including 45 claim files for members of the National Guard and various Reserve units. Claims were selected for review based upon claims for service-connected disability due to traumatic brain injuries, posttraumatic stress disorder, or musculoskeletal conditions. In particular, the reviews were conducted to identify any systemic problems impeding the fair and efficient adjudication of veterans' claims.

On a national level, one of the most critical issues identified by the claims review was a VA regulation which resulted in the denial of a rating higher than 10 percent for almost all traumatic brain injuries, or TBI, claims. As noted earlier, TBI has been described as a signature wound of the current conflicts. Medical evidence supports the view that severe long-term consequences can result from blast injuries involving improvised explosive devices, or IED, such as those used in Iraq and Afghanistan. Despite this, VA adjudicators believed that they could not authorize a rating in excess of 10 percent, or $115 per month, because of a current VA regulation.

Upon learning of this problem, I contacted VA's Under Secretary for Benefits, Daniel Cooper, to ask why veterans with migraine headaches were eligible for higher disability ratings than combat veterans with TBI. I was pleased when Under Secretary Cooper informed me that VA adjudicators have been instructed to stop limiting ratings to 10 percent if not warranted. However, because Under Secretary Cooper's instruction is not binding upon the Board of Veterans Appeals or the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, I also wrote to the Acting Secretary for Veterans Affairs, Gordon Mansfield, to ask that the ''10 percent and no more'' regulation be rescinded. I understand that VA is now working on new regulations for the adjunction of TBI claims which will hopefully resolve this matter. I will continue to monitor these claims and VA's actions.

In addition to the restrictive instruction in the rating schedule, it appears that neither the military services nor VA are providing comprehensive and thorough evaluations of veterans with mild and moderate TBI. While veterans who are being treated at polytrauma centers appear to be getting appropriate diagnosis and treatment, this is not true for veterans with significant, but less severe injuries. I believe that it is imperative that veterans with silent wounds, such as mild and moderate TBI have a comprehensive evaluation of their signs and symptoms by appropriate medical specialists. New data, such as the recently released information from VA that nearly 6 percent of the veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan screened have sustained traumatic brain injuries, adds to the importance of legislation that improves VA's ability to respond aggressively.

Review of service medical records for claims involving PTSD indicated poor follow-up, assessment and referral of servicemembers who endorsed symptoms of PTSD on postdeployment surveys. This matter has been noted by the GAO and others. In some cases, veterans were discharged for a ''personality disorder'' which was not manifested prior to combat exposure and with no evaluation of classic PTSD symptoms. In other cases, veterans with significant psychiatric symptoms were not considered for a military disability retirement, but were awarded benefits by VA upon discharge.

The committee's oversight investigations indicate that VA generally did a better assessment of claims for service-connected PTSD than the military services. However, for some disorders, VA will not grant service-connection for the small number of veterans who were diagnosed with PTSD during military service without independent verification of the stressor which gave rise to the diagnosis by military doctors. Some veterans who served in Iraq, but did not receive a medal acknowledging their participation in combat, have experienced difficulty establishing their ''personal participation in combat'' in order to validate the existence of a combat stressor.

Under current law, veterans who allege disabilities related to their combat experience may prove their claim without presentation of official military documents. In order to clarify this issue and provide combat veterans with the benefits intended, I recently introduced S. 2309, the proposed Compensation for Combat Veterans Act. This bill would provide that service in a combat zone, recognized as such under the Internal Revenue Code, shall be sufficient proof that the veteran engaged in combat for purposes of the relaxed evidentiary requirement. I hope that we will be able to address this issue in the coming months.

There is no question that the Guard and Reserve have experienced difficulties due to our current combat engagements, in a fashion quite similar to branches such as the Army and Marine Corps. There is some concern that members of the National Guard and Reserve units receive less favorable consideration of their service-connected claims than members of the Armed Forces. While oversight investigations did not substantiate allegations of less favorable treatment for Guard and Reserve claimants, other issues may require further analysis. Many regional office staff reported significant difficulties in obtaining copies of the medical records of members of the Guard and Reserve. As a result, I wrote to the National Guard Bureau to express my deep concern about a policy that I had been told exists in some states that requires National Guard members to sign a release form before their Service Medical Records can be shared with VA for purposes of adjudicating a claim for compensation benefits. Acting upon my request, the National Guard Bureau sent guidance to the field that removes the requirement that servicemembers sign release forms to have their records provided to VA.

VA cannot be expected to end the benefits backlog if it lacks the staff to adjudicate veterans claims. While VA froze hiring in this area, there has been an increase in the number and complexity of claims received. As a consequence, the backlog has ballooned beyond already disconcerting levels. Although the infusion of additional monies for staff should improve the situation, some offices have too few experienced staff compared to the number of new hires. Oversight studies have found that less experienced staff is more likely to make errors on veterans' claims.

In some cases, service medical records are maintained in an electronic format and are not provided to VA adjudicators in any form. In other cases, medical reports are scanned into the Veterans Health Administration electronic records, but are not able to be viewed by VA adjudicators who use a CAPRI system to access VHA records. I have questioned VA about the need to make these records available to VBA and am awaiting a response.

While the committee does much direct oversight, as chairman, I also rely on the VA's inspector general. Indeed, the IG has consistently served as the committee's right hand in the execution of our oversight responsibilities. In the last year alone, the IG has provided us with a number of professional inquests and reports on issues of critical importance to veterans' health care. In the areas of traumatic brain injury, mental health, and substance abuse, among others, the IG has identified the problems and solutions with an insightfulness that few can match. The IG has also responded to my investigation requests in an efficient and collegial manner. The IG is, without question, the central gear in VA's internal

controls and quality assurance mechanism.

All American's have a role to play in honoring veterans. Ordinary citizens give in extraordinary ways, such as volunteering at VA hospitals and VA shelters, and supporting local Veterans Service Organizations. For those of us who serve in Congress, we have a special privilege and responsibility to honor veterans by ensuring that they receive the benefits and care they have earned through service. This Congress has done much for veterans already, but there is more to be done.

The Committee on Veterans' Affairs will continue to do its share throughout this Congress. To name just two items of pending business, we will hold a markup tomorrow on pending legislation, including a bill that is designed to improve significantly VA's programs which address the mental health needs of veterans, especially those recently returned from combat, and second, the Committee is preparing to consider the nomination of Dr. James Peake to become Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

I close with this thought: On the battlefield, one never leaves behind a fallen comrade. Similarly, veterans should never be left behind by a system designed to care for and honor them. We cannot stand by while veterans who have fought for our country have to fight to get the care and benefits they have earned through their service. The Committee on Veterans' Affairs will respond to whatever challenges may arise in our work on behalf of those who rose up to defend and serve our Nation. To our veterans: Our thoughts, prayers, gratitude, honor and pride are with you, not only on Veterans Day, but always.

RECESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate stands in recess until the hour of 2:15 p.m.

Thereupon, at 12:28 p.m., the Senate recessed until 2:15 p.m. and reassembled when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. CARPER.)

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Who seeks recognition?

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to speak for up to 10 minutes in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Chair hears none, and it is so ordered.

Mr. REED. Thank you, Mr. President.

NOMINATION OF MICHAEL MUKASEY

Mr. REED. Mr. President, last week, this Senate deliberated and voted on the nomination of Judge Mukasey for the position of Attorney General of the United States. I opposed that nomination, and I believe it is appropriate to indicate formally and officially and publicly my concerns and my rationale for this vote.

This was not a decision that was made lightly. The Constitution gives the President the unfettered right to submit nominees to the Senate, but the Constitution also gives the Senate not only the right but the obligation to provide advice and consent on such nominations.

We do not name a President's Cabinet, but it does not mean we are merely rubberstamps for his proposals. Senatorial consent must rest on a careful review of a nominee's record and a thoughtful analysis of a nominees's ability to serve not just the President but the American people.

As I have said in the past, unlike other Cabinet positions, the Attorney General has a very special role—decisively poised at the juncture between the executive branch and the judicial branch. In addition to being a member of the President's Cabinet, the Attorney General is also an officer of the Federal courts and the chief enforcer of laws enacted by Congress.

He is, in effect, the people's lawyer, responsible for fully, fairly, and vigorously enforcing our Nation's laws and the Constitution for the good of all Americans.

Although I believe Judge Mukasey to be an intellectually gifted and legally skilled individual, I am very concerned about his ability to not just enforce the letter of the law but also to recognize and to carry out the true spirit of the law.

Frankly, I found Judge Mukasey's lawyerly responses to questions regarding the legality of various interrogation techniques, in particular waterboarding, evasive and, frankly, disturbing.

Waterboarding is not a new technique, and it is clearly illegal. As four former Judge Advocates General of the military services recently wrote to Senator LEAHY, in their words:

> In the course of the Senate Judiciary Committee's consideration of President Bush's nominee for the post of Attorney General, there has been much discussion, but little clarity, about the legality of ''waterboarding'' under United States and international law. We write because this issue above all demands clarity: Waterboarding is inhumane, it is torture, and it is illegal.

These gentlemen have devoted themselves to their country, as soldiers and sailors and aviators, and also as attorneys. At the crux of their service was the realization that what we espoused, what we stood for, would also be the standard we would claim for American soldiers and aviators and sailors and marines if they were in the hands of hostile forces. It is clear in their eyes—and should be clear in our eyes—that waterboarding is inhumane, it is torture, and it is illegal.

It is illegal under the Geneva Conventions, under U.S. laws, and the Army Field Manual. The U.S. Government has repeatedly condemned the use of water torture and has severely punished those who have applied it against our forces.

As Evan Wallach—a judge in the U.S. Court of International Trade and a former JAG who trained soldiers on their legal obligations—wrote in an opinion piece in the Washington Post, it was for such activities as waterboarding that members of Japan's military and Government elite were convicted of torture in the Tokyo war crimes trials.

The law is clear about this horrifying interrogation technique. Waterboarding is illegal torture and, to suggest otherwise, damages the very fabric of international principle and more importantly, of what we would claim and demand for our own soldiers and sailors and marines.

Now, Judge Mukasey was given several opportunities to clearly state that waterboarding is illegal. Instead, he went through a lengthy legal analysis regarding how he might determine if a certain interrogation technique was legal and then told us that if Congress actually wrote a law stating that a particular technique is illegal, he would follow the law. I found the last declaration almost nonsensical. This is the minimum requirement we would expect of any citizen of this country, that if we passed a law, they would follow the law.

I think we expect much more from the Attorney General. We expect him to be a moral compass as well as a wise legal advisor. We expect he would be able to conclude, as these other experts and as our history has shown, that this technique is indeed illegal. We need an Attorney General who has the ability to both lead the Department of Justice and to tell the President when he is crossing his boundaries. We do not need a legal enabler to the President. We need an Attorney General who will stand up for his obligation to the Constitution, and make this his foremost obligation, rather than his obligation to the President.

Not definitively stating that a technique such as waterboarding is illegal demonstrates to me that Judge Mukasey does not have those qualities we need in an Attorney General. As we learned from Attorney General Gonzales, we need someone who is willing to stand up to the President instead of helping the President negotiate around either the letter or the spirit of the Constitution.

This is not just an academic exercise. If the question of whether waterboarding is illegal torture was asked of the parents of American soldiers, their answer would be quite

clear: Of course, it is. If it was applied to the spouse or the loved one of a soldier—their answer would be: Of course, it is. I think those people are as expert as Judge Mukasey and certainly much more candid.

I also think we have risked a great deal in the administration's embrace of these techniques because today, as we look around the world, there are many nations that do not even need that kind of suggestion to embark on the torture of their own citizens. The Burmas of the world and other countries, they will use what we say and do as justification for what they might want to do. I think we have lost the moral high ground during this whole exercise going back several years.

Finally, I would like to mention my concerns about Judge Mukasey's responses to questions regarding executive power. His responses to these questions did nothing to reassure me. In fact, I now believe that Judge Mukasey believes that even a constitutional statute could become unconstitutional if its application constrains the so-called constitutional authority of the President.

As we all know, the genius of our Founding Fathers was not to allow power to be concentrated in the hands of the few. Indeed, they were particularly concerned about a concentration of power in the hands of the President.

Although they made the President the Chief Executive Officer of our Government and the Commander in Chief, the Founding Fathers constrained the President through the very structure of our Government, through both law and treaty. The Attorney General has a duty not just to serve the President but also to support, protect, and defend the Constitution.

I did not vote in support of Alberto Gonzales's nomination to be Attorney General because I was concerned about his ability to serve more than the President—a concern that has been borne out by the events over the last several months. It is largely because of his actions we are in the quandary we are in today with respect to torture and so many other issues.

Instead of protecting our Nation's Constitution and upholding our laws, he engaged in actions that damaged our Nation's core values and put our citizens' rights at risk both here and abroad.

Given the extreme politicization of the Department of Justice, and the demoralization that has followed in his wake, I believe our Nation needs an Attorney General who can help lead us like a beacon of light and help right our country's moral compass as an example again for the rest of the world.

I do not think Judge Mukasey met that standard.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, what is the pending legislation?

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Morning business is closed.

FARM, NUTRITION, AND BIOENERGY ACT OF 2007—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the pending business.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2419) to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

Pending:

Harkin amendment No. 3500, in the nature of a substitute.

Reid (for Dorgan-Grassley) amendment No. 3508 (to amendment No. 3500), to strengthen payment limitations and direct the savings to increased funding for certain programs.

Reid amendment No. 3509 (to amendment No. 3508), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 3510 (to the language proposed to be stricken by amendment No. 3500), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 3511 (to amendment No. 3510), to change the enactment date.

Motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with instructions to report back forthwith, with Reid amendment No. 3512.

Reid amendment No. 3512 (to the instructions of the motion to commit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with instructions), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 3513 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit), to change the enactment date.

Reid amendment No. 3514 (to amendment No. 3513), to change the enactment date.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The majority leader is recognized.

Mr. REID. Thank you, Mr. President.

We have the farm bill before us. We have been trying for a week to do amendments on the bill. The Republicans have said that because this bill is being handled in such an unusual procedural way, they are not going to let us move forward on this bill.

This bill is being handled similar to every farm bill in the last 30 years. In that entire period, there has only been one time that a nongermane amendment was offered, and that was on the last farm bill when Senator KYL offered an amendment dealing with the estate tax. It was a sense-of-the-Senate resolution. That is it.

So for the minority to cry about this is simply that they are crying about something there is no reason to cry about. We want to move this bill. I had a conversation this morning right over here on the floor with the distinguished Republican leader and the ranking member of the committee, SAXBY CHAMBLISS. At that time, as I understood the conversation, the Republicans had 10 amendments they wanted to do. Let's look at them. We have some we want to do. Let's pare them off, set very short time limits on them, and move this bill.

This is an important bill. If this bill does not move forward—a bill that is being treated similar to every other farm bill in recent history—the reason it is not going forward is the Republicans. If they do not want a farm bill, why don't they say so. They can explain to all the farm organizations around the country that they did not want a farm bill, they wanted us to extend what is now in existence. If that is what they want, why don't they say so?

It is unfortunate we have been unable to move forward on these amendments. The first amendment pending is a bipartisan amendment offered by Senator DORGAN. It is a good amendment. It is one that should be debated and voted on. Another amendment is a complete substitute—that is my understanding—and Senator LUGAR and Senator LAUTENBERG want to do that amendment. Let's debate it, find out what the will of the Senate is, and move on. But to be in this position is really unfair to farm State Senators, to farmers and ranchers, to the Senate, and to our country. If you are unwilling to fight, just say so. If you don't want this bill to come forward, just tell us that. Don't play these games that they are not treating us right procedurally. This is the way this bill is always handled.

So I just think it is something we need to do. It is an important piece of legislation. The committee, on a bipartisan basis, reported this bill out with an overwhelming vote. This is not a Democratic bill; it is a bill reported out by the Agriculture Committee on a bipartisan basis. So I hope this afternoon we can get some work done on the farm bill.

Mr. HARKIN. Will the leader yield?

Mr. REID. I am happy to yield to my friend, the chairman of the Agriculture Committee.

Mr. HARKIN. I thank our majority leader for all the support he has given us in getting this bill through even when we worked in committee and working with the Finance Committee to make sure we had the necessary money to meet our obligations and bringing it to the floor in a timely manner. We had all last week; we couldn't get anything done. We have this week before we go home for the Thanksgiving break. We could finish this bill, I say to our leader, we could finish this bill if we could just get the other side to agree to start the process.

We have an amendment, I say to the leader, before us which we could debate. We could even put a time limit on it. We have another amendment on which we could put a time limit. We could get two or three or four amendments done today. But, I say to the leader, I am very frustrated that we have the farm bill out here, we are ready to go—we have been ready for some time—there are amendments filed, and we would like to get started on it, but we can't until the minority leader agrees to move ahead and says we can bring up some of these amendments and move ahead on them. I just hope we don't waste another whole day.

I ask the leader, is there any way we can get the other side to kind of help move us along? I have talked to my ranking member, Senator CHAMBLISS. He wants to move ahead. He has the desire, as I do. As the leader pointed out, this bill came out of committee on a bipartisan vote. There are going to be amendments, and I may support some and not others, and I am sure my ranking member will support some and not others, but that is the amendment process. I think we have a good bill that is going to wind up getting a lot of support on the Senate floor, and the sooner we get to it, the better off we are.

So I am just kind of perplexed, I guess, as to why the minority leader won't let us move ahead or why we can't get some amendments and time agreements.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I would say to my friend that we have, as I understand it, 22 amendments upon which the 2 managers have agreed.

Mr. HARKIN. That is right.

Mr. REID. We could take care of those very quickly. There are amendments that, in the minds of the managers, improve the bill. We should get those done. We are unable to move on anything.

The calendar dictates a lot of what happens here in Washington in Congress. We have a limited amount of time. We have 3 very short weeks when we come back after Thanksgiving before Christmas. I say to my friends, we are not going to have time to work on the farm bill when we come back after Christmas. We don't have time. We have to take care of all of our appropriations matters. The funding for this Government runs out on December 14. We have some must-do things that run out at the end of this year. So the record should be spread with the fact that Senate Democrats have been willing and terribly interested in moving this farm bill. If it doesn't go forward, the blame is at the doorstep of my Republican colleagues.

We are in the majority. We Democrats are in the majority, but it is a slim majority. The way the Senate operates, the Republicans can stop us from doing a lot—not everything but a lot. But I would bet, if there were a fair vote and not some arm-flexing exercise, that a vast majority of Democrats and Republicans want this farm bill to move forward. Are they asking me—is this what they are asking—to file cloture on this bill so we can have a cloture vote on it Thursday? Is that what they want? Is that what we are going to be relegated to, filing cloture on this bill without having heard a single amendment? And why? Because they won't let us. Is that what they want? If cloture fails—I know it will fail, not because of Democrats but because of Republicans. We know we have broken records here in this year of this session of Congress by having to file cloture 52 times. Only one of those cloture motions was a bipartisan effort. We did it once. That is all. So I am very disappointed because I don't see what the Republicans are going to gain.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I say to my leader, if he will yield again, I think we have set a record in committee. In a day and a half, we had a comprehensive, 5-year farm bill passed—in a day and a half. I don't think that has ever been done.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to my friend, that was the culmination of weeks and weeks——

Mr. HARKIN. Months.

Mr. REID. Of meetings between Democrats and Republicans to move this bill along.

Mr. HARKIN. That is right.

Mr. REID. I have great admiration for the Agriculture Committee for getting a bill out of that committee on a bipartisan basis. There are people who want very badly to try to improve this bill, but nothing will be done. It is Tuesday. We have this bridge thing coming, dealing with the Iraq war, tomorrow. Time is wasting. I am beginning to have my doubts, I say to everyone here, because of the intransigence of the Republicans, that we can do a farm bill.

Mr. HARKIN. I hope we can overcome that because, as the leader said, we had great agreement in committee. He is right. We worked weeks and weeks and weeks in meetings with people in getting it all together, and in a day and a half we got it through on a unanimous vote—not one dissenting vote. So we have a good bill.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to my friend, on the floor right now are farm State Senators—Arkansas, Georgia, North Dakota, North Dakota, Iowa—and in the back of the room is a State that does a lot of agricultural products, the State of New York. Now, as I look around this room, Senator DORGAN is an example. Senator DORGAN's amendment is pending—a bipartisan amendment. He supports this bill. It came out of committee, but he thinks it would be an improvement. Why shouldn't he have an opportunity to offer that amendment and have a debate on it? That is what this is all about. It is unfair to everyone concerned, as I have mentioned before, that we are not able to move on this important piece of legislation. I am from the State of Nevada. We grow alfalfa. We are the largest white onion producer in America. We grow garlic but mostly alfalfa and white onions. This bill is important to those farmers out there. There are things from which they will benefit. I just think it is too bad we can't move forward. This is a bill——

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, will the majority leader yield?

Mr. REID. Oh, I am sorry. And Kentucky grows things too.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I would just say to my friend, the majority leader, I am on the Agriculture Committee. I am from a farm State. I want a farm bill. We have been discussing how to go forward. If I may be so bold to suggest—I know Senator CHAMBLISS and Senator HARKIN have been working on a list of amendments. I think we ought to see if we can lock in a list. It will be bigger than we would like, but that is the way it always starts. Most of those will go away in one way or another, but at least it would help define the universe. I think that is achievable, hopefully sometime this afternoon, and it will allow us to get started. That is what I would recommend.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, it would be untoward on the Senate floor to walk over and hug the Republican leader, but that is what I feel like doing. I agree with him 100 percent. I think we should try to get a number of amendments locked in, whether it is 5 or 50, whatever it is. I think we should get it done and start moving on this bill.

I have been, as my friend from Kentucky knows, in a minority position more than I would like to admit here in the Senate as the minority Democratic leader. I understand he has certain things to do within his caucus. Whatever was needed to be proven has been proven. Let's move forward on this bill as the Republican leader has outlined. We greet his suggestion with open arms.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, would the leader yield just one more time?

Mr. REID. I yield.

Mr. HARKIN. I would like to ask the minority leader if during this time we are trying to work out a set number of amendments, we know there are two or three amendments that are absolutely going to be offered. One is the one we are on right now. Then there is another one with I think Senators LUGAR and LAUTENBERG. I am just wondering if we could get time agreements on those.

Mr. REID. I would say to my friend, let's take one step at a time. He has made an offer, and let's see what we can do. He has indicated—the ranking member of the committee is here, you are here, and we will work on that and see if we can get something done in the next little bit.

Mr. MCCONNELL. I thank the majority leader. I think that is a good way to go forward, and we will work on it this afternoon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia is recognized.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, let me just say while the leadership is here, we appreciate their assistance in moving this bill. Senator HARKIN, Senator CONRAD, and I have taken our list of amendments we have out there and we are working through them to try to get down to a reasonable number. One problem, frankly, we are having—and I think maybe on the other side too—is we keep having people come forward with amendments. I would simply say to colleagues on both sides of the aisle that we are going to reach a limit with these amendments, and if you have an amendment, we need to know about it now so we can negotiate and deliberate in good faith relative to the number of

amendments that are going to be on this list so that we can pare those amendments down to a reasonable number.

I thank the leadership for working with us.

Mr. DORGAN. Mr. President, would the Senator yield for a question?

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Certainly.

Mr. DORGAN. The important point here is that I think everyone on the floor wants to get this bill passed, and while there will be some amendments, my hope and my expectation—I have one amendment—would be that we would relatively easily get time agreements, have a reasonable number of amendments with time agreements. I think there should be a lot of cooperation on the floor because I think all of us want what you want, and that is to get a piece of legislation passed. This was not easy to get out of the committee. I support this bill. I am going to support a couple of amendments here and there, but by and large I think we are on the right track, and I appreciate hearing the words of the minority leader today on this subject because we need to get this done.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Dakota.

Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, first of all, I am enormously relieved to hear what has been discussed, and I hope in the next few moments that we could agree, first of all, on amendments that have to be voted on for both sides, No. 1; No. 2, that we would agree on time limits, and it is very clear that unless the time for the debate on amendments that must be voted on is limited to 1 hour apiece, on average—some could be a little more, some could be a little less, but if we don't on average have time agreements of 1 hour or less, we cannot finish the work this week; and finally, that we agree to an order. I have seen colleagues who are very interested in some certainty. For example, if we could do Grassley-Dorgan in an hour and a half and then go to Lugar-Lautenberg for an hour and a half to at least begin the process, that would be enormously helpful, and then establish a list in order with time agreements.

I wanted to take a moment to respond, as leadership is working on that kind of proposal, to an article that appeared in the Washington Post this morning that I thought was not telling the whole story about this farm bill. They have asserted that there is all this new spending in the farm bill. They focus just on the spending side of the ledger; they didn't focus at all on how we pay for it.

I want to indicate that it is true that there are increases in this bill. We have increased spending on nutrition by $5.3 billion; on conservation, we have increased resources by $4.5 billion; on energy, by $1.1 billion and then an additional $1.4 billion from the Finance Committee, for a total increase in energy of $2.5 billion.

Where did we find the resources for those additional investments? Well, that is the uses on this side, and the sources are on this side. Over one-third of the money came out of the commodity programs. Commodity programs have been reduced. They have been reduced from the baseline. They have been reduced as a share of total Federal spending. The fact that the press—at least some elements of the press—seem unwilling to tell the American people is that the reduction in commodities—over a third of the money that has been used to give more money for nutrition, more money for conservation, more money for energy, a third of the money came out of commodities.

Almost a third of the money came out of crop insurance. Now, if you are going to tell the story, Washington Post, tell the whole story. These are not just my estimates. These are not KENT CONRAD's numbers, or the committee's numbers; these are the numbers from the CBO. They show, on the 2007 farm bill, commodity programs have been cut by $4.2 billion, crop insurance by $3.7 billion, for a total savings out of the $7.9 billion. That is from these so-called baselines. These are facts.

They also seem to overlook the fact that if you look back on the last farm bill, you will see that the estimate at the time was that the farm bill would take 2.3 percent of total Federal spending. The commodity programs were to take three-quarters of 1 percent. Look at the contrast with this farm bill. With this farm bill, the total share of Federal spending is down from 2⅓ percent to less than 1.9 percent, and commodity programs—the ones that draw all of the conflict and the controversy—have been dramatically reduced to one-quarter of 1 percent of total Federal spending. The Washington Post never mentions these facts.

If we look at commodity program outlays on this chart, here is the baseline at the time of the farm bill. This is what it would cost into the future. Look at the estimates from the CBO on what the commodity programs will cost now. It is a very dramatic reduction in real terms, in relative terms—in whatever terms you want to use. If you are going to report honestly to the American people, then you need to tell them the whole story, not just the story that is the way you want to write it. You have an obligation to people to tell them the whole story so they can make a judgment about what is fair and what is right.

This bill is fiscally responsible. It is paid for. It takes up a much smaller share of total Federal spending than the previous farm bill, and the commodity provisions have been cut by two-thirds as a share of total Federal spending. If you look at where the money goes—I will tell you, I sometimes read these articles and hear broadcasts, and I wonder why don't these reporters tell people where the money is going. You would think this is all for subsidies for rich farmers.

The fact is, the vast majority of the spending in this bill is going to go to nutrition programs; 66 percent of the money in this bill is going to go for nutrition programs. Have you seen any article written by the major mainstream press that has told the American people that fact? Nutrition programs go to every corner of this country. They are 66 percent of the money in this bill. Crop insurance is 7.6 percent. Conservation is 9 percent. Again, conservation is important to every corner of America. When you put conservation and nutrition together, that is 75 percent of the spending in the bill. Commodity programs are only less than 14 percent of what is in this farm bill.

I hope at some point somebody will start to tell the American people the full story. I certainly don't read it in the Washington Post. I have not seen a single story in the Washington Post about agriculture that I thought was fair and balanced. I have not seen one. They are writing with a point of view. They are writing as advocates.

When I grew up, news people felt an obligation to try to tell both sides of the story. But, apparently, those days are gone. Today, if a publication has a point of view, or your television program or television station or network has a point of view, that is how you report it. You report one side of the story. That is not responsible, and it is not telling people what they really need to know to make an informed judgment. It is withholding from people certain information they would need to make any kind of objective judgment. That is what is going on here.

I don't want my colleagues to be fooled or to miss the point that this farm bill is taking much less of total Federal spending than the previous farm bill, and the commodity provisions that, in the last farm bill, were estimated to take three-quarters of 1 percent of Federal spending is down to one-quarter of 1 percent. Why do we need that one-quarter of 1 percent? Very simply, because our major competitors, the Europeans, are providing more than three times as much support to their producers as we provide to ours. This is a fact. The Europeans are providing more than three times as much support to their producers as we provide to ours.

So what happens if you yank this slim rug out from under American producers? Even though we are already outspent more than 3 to 1 by our major competitors, what would happen if we yank that rug out from our producers? Two words: ''mass bankruptcy.'' That is what would happen.

Is anybody paying attention? Do these publications or these news broadcasts give one whit about what happens to the rural economy in America? Why don't they ever report that the Europeans—on export subsidies—are outgunning us more than 80 to 1? That is a fact. But they don't seem to care.

They don't seem to care because, I guess, it doesn't affect their economic lives directly. But I represent a State that has farm and ranch families from one side of our State to the other, from one corner of North Dakota to the other. The hard reality is they are out there competing against the French and German farmers, and they can do that. They are ready to do that, to take on a fair fight. But when you ask them to take on not just the French and German farmers but the French Government and the German Government, as well, that is not a fair fight. To say to our farmers and ranchers: You go out there and take on the French and German farmers, and while you are taking on the French and German Governments, your Government is going to be AWOL, absent without leave; your Government is going to declare unilateral disarmament; your Government is going to let you fend for yourself—good luck, Charlie, because the other side is outgunning us more than 3 to 1 already.

But some here say, let's not even put up a fight; let's throw in the towel and let the Europeans take over world agriculture. They are already equal to us in world market share. They are already advancing every day, increasing their market share, while ours slips—they are not alone, by the way. It is also our friends in Brazil, Argentina, and other countries who manage their currencies to secure advantage in terms of agriculture.

How long will it be, I ask these cynics, before America succumbs on the agricultural front the way we have on automobiles, electronics, and all the others, where our foreign competitors have taken the advantaged position? How long? We are right on the brink of it happening now.

This farm bill is an attempt to meet many needs of the American people. As I said, if you look at where the money goes, the overwhelming majority of this money goes for nutrition; 66 percent of the money in this bill goes to nutrition. I hear some of my colleagues from nonfarm States saying, ''I don't have a dog in this fight; I don't really care what happens in the farm bill.'' Really? Then you don't know what is in the bill. Somebody from a nonfarm State who says they don't have anything in this fight simply don't know what is in the bill.

Sixty-six percent of the money goes for nutrition, 9 percent for conservation, and more for research and trade. That is where the money goes in this bill. Commodity programs are a small minority of less than 14 percent. As a share of total Federal spending, the commodity parts of this bill, according to the Congressional Budget Office, will be less than one-quarter of 1 percent of Federal spending. That is a fact. It is an important fact. It is a fact that the Washington Post, apparently, doesn't want people to know because they never report it. They also never report that the vast majority of this money goes to nutrition programs, or that the next biggest category is conservation. They have an agenda, and their agenda is to look down their nose at people who are in production agriculture, farm, and ranch families, who apparently don't have their respect.

It is interesting, they don't write the same kind of article about any other industry that gets help from the Federal Government. Virtually every industry in America has some kind of Federal assistance, whether it is highways for the trucking industry or airports for the airline industry or any of the other things that are done for industry after industry. I don't see them come after them with this same sort of look-down-your-nose arrogance because that is what it is. It is incredible arrogance.

Mr. President, I hope my colleagues will have a chance to pay attention to both sides of the story in this farm program today. They deserve to hear both sides of the story.

I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mrs. MCCASKILL). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for up to 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRESIDENTAL VETO

Mr. HARKIN. Madam President, earlier today, President Bush vetoed the Labor, Health and Human Services and Education Appropriations bill. I wish I could say I was surprised but, frankly, few actions by this President surprise me anymore. This is a good bill, a bipartisan bill, a bill that cleared both Houses with clear, strong majorities. In fact, the first one cleared here by 75 votes. It is a bill that reflects the critical education, health, job training needs of our country, especially for Americans who are at the bottom rungs of the socio-economic ladder. The bill was endorsed by more than 1,000—actually 1,075, to be exact—health, education, social service, and labor organizations in this country. There are disability groups in this letter, disease advocacy groups, school groups, community action partnerships, religious groups—millions of people across America are represented on this letter. This morning President Bush turned his back on all of them.

He seems to have no problem pouring billions of dollars into Iraq for schools, hospitals, job programs, health needs, but when it comes to those priorities here in America, the President says no. After spending all these billions of dollars on schools, hospitals, job programs, and health needs in Iraq, it is time to start investing some of that money here in America.

The President insists we have to stick to exactly the top number in his budget. Frankly, if we did that, we would be cutting programs such as the Low Income Heating Energy Assistance Program for the elderly at a time when we know fuel prices are going to be extremely high this winter.

The President completely zeroed out the social services block grant and cut the community services block grant by 50 percent.

Under the President's budget, we would be cutting the National Cancer Institute. At a time when we are starting to make some progress in the fight against cancer, Alzheimer's, Parkinson's and so many other things, he cuts funding for the NIH.

Again, we need to put more money into special education to help some of our beleaguered property tax payers in our States.

We have a backlog of several hundred thousand cases in Social Security. People who have paid in all their lives to Social Security, if they have a problem and they have an appeal pending or a case to be heard—there are 700,000 backlogged. It is about a year-and-a-half wait right now to get Social Security. It is unconscionable. We put money in there to reduce the backlog.

We wanted to fund more community health centers as one of the great things we have done in this country to help people who are not getting their health care needs attended to, to get them at their community health care centers. It has done a great job nationally.

We put more money into the Head Start Program. And No Child Left Behind—we put more money in there to meet our needs in title I schools, teacher training.

These are all provisions that were in our bill. As I noted before, it was bipartisan. I worked very closely with Senator SPECTER, our ranking member. There were dozens of provisions and funding increases in the bill that were requested specifically by Republicans, those on the other side of the aisle who requested that we increase funding in these areas. Unfortunately, it seems Mr. Bush is more interested in provoking a confrontation than in governing responsibly. He recently dismissed the funding in this bill as ''social spending,'' as though somehow it pays for ice cream socials or Saturday-night socials or something such as that—social spending. I never heard it referred to like that. It is out of bounds, it is out of touch, it shows how isolated this President has become.

Every dime of additional funding in this bill goes to bedrock essential programs and services that have been shortchanged in the last few years. I mentioned them: community health centers, Head Start, NIH, special education, student aid, social services block grant and community services

block grant, Pell grants. These are all things that have been shortchanged. The President's budget would cut NIH, LIHEAP, special education, and eliminate the community services block grant, job training, housing and emergency food assistance for our most needy citizens. Apparently, Mr. Bush sees this as frivolous social spending. I couldn't disagree more.

We have to keep the President's veto this morning in context. During the 6 years Republicans controlled Congress, Mr. Bush did not veto a single appropriations bill, including many that went over his budget. He never vetoed one of them. Now Democrats are in charge. Yes, we have gone over budget in some of the areas I mentioned and not only with the support but the encouragement of Republican Members who wanted to add more money. I guess because the Democrats run Congress now, the President says he will veto them. He did. He vetoed the bill this morning, but he never vetoed one in 6 years even though they were above his request. It smacks of the most blatant form of partisanship and politics. It kind of goes beyond the pale.

A few weeks ago the President sent up a new supplemental spending bill. We will be working on that this week. I don't know if we will pass it this week or when we come back in December. It is more than $196 billion, mostly for Iraq. The Congressional Budget Office now estimates that Mr. Bush's war in Iraq will cost a staggering $1.9 trillion in the next decade. Yet he vetoed this bill, over $12 billion in funding for education, health, biomedical research, and other domestic priorities.

You ask: $1.9 trillion, $12 billion, what does it mean? Look at it this way: Do away with all the zeroes. It means Mr. Bush is asking for $1,900 for Iraq. Yet he vetoed this bill because we spent $12 more than what he wanted. That shows misplaced priorities: $12 billion a month for the war in Iraq, yet he vetoed this bill which is $12 billion for a whole year.

What is most disappointing about the President's veto this morning is his total unwillingness to compromise. Any time we work out bills, we compromise. That is the art of democracy. We compromise. No one around here ever gets everything he or she wants, but we make compromises. We do it in committee; we do it on the floor of the Senate. We do it between the House and the Senate. Then when all is said and done and we work in conference, usually the President will work with us to work out problems. This is where the White House is. Where do we meet? The President never came to our conference—I shouldn't say the President didn't, but his people never came to our conference to offer compromises, where we might meet halfway.

When the President sent down his veto message, he mentioned two things about our bill: One, it had the lifting of his ban on stem cell research; two, it spent more money than he wanted. I thought a compromise might be: OK, we will take off the stem cell stuff, and you agree to the spending priorities we have. We voluntarily, to try to meet the President halfway, said: OK, we will take off the stem cell issue, even though Senator SPECTER and I both believe strongly in it. It passed the committee with only three dissenting votes. The Senate has spoken at least twice in support of an embryonic stem cell bill to take off the handcuffs the President has put on scientists. But even that wasn't enough.

Then we went to conference. We thought: OK, will the President now try to meet us somewhat on the spending part? The answer was no. It was his way or the highway. We either agree totally with the President or he is going to veto it and the White House will put pressure on the House because that is where the bill goes for an override, to keep them from overriding his veto.

It is sad the President has taken that position. Under the Constitution, Congress does have the power to override a veto. It happened last week with the water resources bill. He vetoed it. Both the House and Senate voted over two-thirds, as is constitutionally required, to override the veto. We could do it on this bill that funds education, everything from Head Start, elementary education with title I, No Child Left Behind, elementary and secondary education, college with Pell grants, student loans, forgiveness of loans if you go into certain occupations such as medically underserved areas, legal services, or become a prosecuting attorney—the type of occupations that don't pay a lot of money but are needed in our country.

On health, especially all the biomedical research that was in that bill for NIH, the money for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for making sure we get more flu vaccine this year stockpiled, not to mention all of the efforts that CDC is doing in stockpiling other vaccines in case of a terrorist incident, something that might happen—we hope it doesn't, but we have to be prepared for it—that is in this bill he vetoed.

I mentioned things such as low-income heating energy assistance for low-income elderly. This is all in this bill. Now it is up to the House whether they will vote to override the veto. It will be interesting to see how many House Members would vote to override the President on the water resources bill but would not vote to override a bill that deals with health, education, community block grants, NIH, the Centers for Disease Control. It will be interesting.

The Water Resources Development Act was an important bill. I was strongly supportive of it. It goes basically to meet one of the urgent infrastructure needs of the country: waterways, to make sure we upgrade our locks and dams and make sure they are adequate to the environmental needs and river transportation needs for the next century. It is vital. The Education, Health and Human Services, and Labor appropriations bill is sort of the counterpart of that in terms of the human infrastructure, making sure we have the best educated populace, that we meet the health care needs of people, that we invest in cutting edge research, that we have good job retraining programs.

We just had a case where a Maytag plant, after all these years, closed in Newton, IA. We need job retraining programs. That is in this bill the President vetoed. It is human infrastructure needs.

It will be interesting to see how many House Members vote to override the President when it comes to the physical infrastructure but now will not vote to override the President when it comes to the human infrastructure. I hope it is very few. I hope we get the same number of votes to override the President's veto on this Education, Health and Human Services, and Labor appropriations bill as we got on the water resources bill.

It is a sad day that the President would veto this bill. We went out of our way to meet him halfway, but he said absolutely not. It is his way or nothing else.

That is not the way we do things. The President is not acting responsibly, quite frankly, in this area. I don't know what we can do. If the House overrides the veto, I am pretty certain we would have the votes here to override the veto. We would have to wait for the House to act first. I hope they do, and I hope we get it. I hope we vote to override the veto. But until then, we have to see what the House is going to do.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent to speak as in morning business for 10 minutes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRESIDENT'S VETO OF LABOR, HHS APPROPRIATIONS BILL

Mr. DURBIN. Madam President, they say in life you can really judge a person's values by where they put their wealth. Certainly, we all love our families, and we think nothing of spending a lot of money on our children. We all value our health, and we go to great extent to spend whatever is necessary to have a healthy lifestyle and to live on for many years.

The President, today, had a chance to demonstrate his values with his veto pen. He had a chance to decide what priorities we should have in America

for our future. We sent him a bill called the Labor, Health and Human Services appropriations bill.

There was a venerable Congressman from Kentucky named Bill Natcher. He served for many years and distinguished himself as never having missed a rollcall vote in his life. I will not get into that side story, but his responsibility in the House Appropriations Committee was to chair the subcommittee that generated this spending bill, the Labor, Health and Human Services bill, the bill that includes education, health care, medical research—programs that really directly reach the people of America. He called it the people's bill. He used to wear these starched white shirts and dark-blue suits and silver-gray ties. He looked like a Senator. He had the gray hair and would stand there and say: This is the people's bill. The people should vote for it. And they did. Overwhelmingly, House Members—Democrats and Republicans—would vote for it because this bill really does reach families everywhere across America.

President Bush decided to veto this bill today. He vetoed the bill, which is rare. Incidentally, he never vetoed a bill until this year. Now, he has, after a long search, found his veto pen and is using it frequently. He vetoed this bill this year because it called for 4 percent more spending than he had asked for—$6 billion.

Madam President, $6 billion is a lot of money, for sure, but not by Federal budget standards. The President, before he vetoed this bill, signed the Defense appropriations bill. That bill was 10 percent over his request, and yet he signed it. When it came to this bill that reaches families and people across America, he said no.

Of course, this President, who says we cannot afford $6 billion for programs for the American people, is asking us for $196 billion for programs for the people of Iraq—$196 billion. It is hard to understand how we cannot afford health care in America, cancer research in America, education in America, worker protection in America, homeless shelters for veterans in America, yet $196 billion for Iraq. I said it before. This President gets up every morning in the White House, opens the window, looks outside and sees Iraq. He doesn't see America, because if he would see America, he would understand the American people across this Nation value so much the priorities he vetoed today.

Yesterday we celebrated Veterans Day. We acknowledged what the men and women who have served this country mean to us, our history, and our future. There were a lot of good speeches given by great politicians talking about how much we value our veterans. Those speeches had hardly been finished when the President returned to the White House to veto this bill.

This bill would have provided funding for employment and health programs for veterans. It is hard to believe in America that one out of four homeless people is a veteran. You see them on the streets of your town, large and small; you see them standing on the highways with little cardboard signs. One out of four of them is a veteran. This bill tried to provide counseling, shelter, ways to give these veterans a place to sleep at night. The President vetoed it and said it was too darn much spending.

This bill would have provided $228 million for veterans employment, $9.5 million for traumatic brain injury, and $23.6 million for the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Programs.

Last night on television I saw a program. James Gandolfini, who was the star of ''The Sopranos,'' had a special documentary; I believe it was called ''Alive Day.'' I think that was the name of it, but you couldn't miss it if you saw it because he invited veterans on this program to be interviewed, veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan who had been injured. These young men and women came and talked about their love of this country, their service to our Nation and what they had been through. This beautiful young woman who had been a lieutenant in the Army had a rocket-propelled grenade explode right next to her, tearing off her right arm and shoulder. She now has a prosthetic arm that appears to be real but of course does not even have function to it, but it is what she uses. It was a touching moment when she talked about what her future would be, this beautiful young woman, this disabled veteran.

There were many amputees—some of them double amputees—talking about trying to put their lives back together. Some of the most painful episodes involve victims of traumatic brain injury. There was one young man with his mother sitting next to him. They showed before pictures, when he was a hard-charging soldier, happy go lucky and a lot of fun, who then sustained a serious traumatic brain injury and now is in a wheelchair. He hopes the day will come when he can once again walk and run. It is hard to imagine we could give tribute to those veterans yesterday and veto a bill today that would have spent just $9.5 million for traumatic brain injury programs, but the President did that this morning.

The President came to Washington and said he wanted to be the education President. We remember it well because he came up with a new term we hadn't heard before called No Child Left Behind; he persuaded leaders on both sides of the aisle to vote for it and produced a new education program for America. This bill provided money to make that program work. It is not enough to identify the problems in our schools and the difficulties facing our children and our students; you need help to make certain you have the best teachers in the classroom, the proper class size, the right equipment at the school.

We also understand early childhood education is essential for kids to succeed. Show me a family where the mom and dad focus on teaching that child to read and read to the child and take the child out and speak to them in adult terms and I will show you a child probably destined to be pretty good in kindergarten. A lot of kids don't have that good fortune; mom and dad are off to work. So the Head Start Program is a way to give them a fighting chance. The bill the President vetoed today included more than $7 billion for the Head Start Program, increasing it by $200 million from last year. The President said we can't afford to increase the Head Start Program.

The bill also included $18 billion for higher education initiatives and student financial aid. How many working families do you know with a child they want to see go to the best school in America, struggling with the idea of how they will pay for it and the debt they will carry out of school? We put money in this bill to help those families help those students, and the President said we can't afford it.

The President's budget would have provided title I funds for 117,000 fewer students and cut the number of new teachers in classrooms by 8,000. So the President says it is wasteful for us to provide title I funds to help children from disadvantaged families—117,000 more—and new teachers and classrooms by 8,000. At the same time, he wants $196 billion for a war in Iraq not paid for.

In Illinois, almost 3,500 students will be left behind by the President's veto, and 200 teachers will not be hired. Will that be better for those schools, those families, those children? Of course not.

The appropriations bill the President vetoed also included $11.3 billion for special ed, kids with special challenges who need special help and with that help have a chance to succeed. The President said we spend too much money on those kids and he vetoed it.

Had Congress provided what the President requested, Federal funding for disabled children would be lower by an average of $117 per child. I have been in schools with special education classes, and I have watched the special care those children need and receive, often one-on-one help. If that teacher is caring and competent, the child has a chance—just a chance—to come out of the shadows of darkness and have a future. That is what this bill is about—a bill the President says America cannot afford.

In the area of health care—this is one I think touches me and most people—we included $29 billion for medical research at 27 institutes and centers at the National Institutes of Health. Senator MIKULSKI knows all about this. This is in her neck of the woods in Maryland. The National Institutes of Health and what they achieve, we put in this bill $29 billion and included $1.4 billion more than the President requested for medical research at NIH.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, would the Senator from Illinois yield for a question?

Mr. DURBIN. I am happy to yield.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Is the Senator aware the President's budget actually cut NIH by $310 million? He cut the National Institutes of Health projects by $310 million, wiping out research opportunities for those young scientists with breakthrough ideas, as well as those which were ready for advancements; is the Senator aware of that?

Mr. DURBIN. I am aware of it. I will tell my colleagues the Senator from Maryland probably recalls that over the last 10 years or so, this has kind of been an area of real bipartisan cooperation. We may fight like cats and dogs over everything else, but we said: Come on, when it comes to the National Institutes of Health and medical research, Democrats get sick and Republicans get sick, too, and our kids do as well, so let's all join hands and promise we are going to increase the spending for medical research, not just to find the cures but also, as the Senator from Maryland says, to build up the infrastructure of talented professionals who will devote their lives to this medical research. The President says: No, we can't afford it.

Madam President, $1.4 billion, we can't afford to spend $1.4 billion more on cancer research, heart disease, diabetes, Parkinson's, Alzheimer's? We can't afford that? Well, for $12 billion to $15 billion a month, we can obviously afford a war in Iraq, but the President can't find money for the war against disease and death in this country. That is truly unfortunate.

Since I see my colleague from Maryland, I will surrender the floor and give her a chance to speak. I hope this veto today will not go unnoticed. Elections have consequences. In the last election, the American people said: We are going to give you—the Democrats—a majority in the Senate and a majority in the House. Now do something with it.

We have tried. We have succeeded in many areas. But we have run into the opposition of this President more often than not. When we tried to change the course and policy of the war in Iraq, the President used his first veto as President of the United States to veto on foreign policy, to veto that decision. When we tried to change his horrendous decision to stop medical research involving stem cells, he used his veto pen again. When we tried to provide children's health insurance for millions of kids across America who are not poor enough to qualify for Medicaid but not lucky enough to have health insurance in their family, he used his veto pen again. He used it again today.

Why is it a recurring theme that we see this President stopping efforts by this Democratic Congress to address the issues people care about: Health care, making sure we have the best; medical research to find those cures; making sure our schools are preparing the next generation of leaders; making certain that as a country, we move forward in providing health insurance protection for kids. It is a sad moment.

I hope the House of Representatives can rally the votes to override that veto. I hope a few of our Republican friends who joined us in passing this bill, with over 70 votes, if I am not mistaken—I think close to 75 votes—I hope they will stand with us again and override this President's veto—a mistake, a mistake this President made at the expense of America's families.

I yield the floor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland is recognized.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the pending amendments on the farm bill be laid aside and that I be allowed to speak on two important amendments that I will offer at an appropriate time.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Madam President, today I rise to speak about two very important amendments. I will ask for a vote on both of these amendments at an appropriate time. The first amendment requires the U.S. Government to label any food that comes from a cloned animal or its progeny. The second amendment would increase food safety because I will ask for three studies on the impact of cloned products in our food supply—the impact on trade, the impact on the economy, and the impact on health.

But let me talk about the fundamental problem. See this picture up here? This is Dolly. You remember Dolly, the cloned lamb that burst onto the scene? Dolly is cloned. She has gone from a novelty to a biotech product, to possibly Dolly burger in your food supply. So we have gone from: Hello Dolly, who are you, to being on the verge of having Dolly burgers in our school lunch program, maybe Dolly Braunschweiger in our Meals on Wheels program. Why are we on the verge of doing that? It is because the FDA said it is OK. You remember the FDA. They said OK to Vioxx. They said OK to a lot of things.

It seems, in December of 2006, the FDA announced that milk and meat products from cloned animals are safe for human consumption. Now, I have very serious doubts about that, but I am not a scientist, so I want more science and more research. Most Americans agree with me, that scientists should be able to monitor cloned animals as they enter the food supply. To my dismay, FDA has refused to label cloned food. I believe people have a right to know and a right to make their own decisions.

The American people find cloned food disturbing. A Gallup poll reports over 60 percent of Americans think it is immoral to clone animals. My bill doesn't deal with morality. My bill deals with: When you eat it, you know where it came from. Consumers have a right to know. They have no way to tell if the food comes from a cloned animal, the cloned animal's progeny, such as Dolly, or if it comes from a cow, a pig, a chicken. I want the public to be informed.

I am for consumer choice. If most Americans don't want cloned milk and meat, they should not be required to eat it. I cannot stop the cloning of animals. Maybe that would not be a good idea. I cannot stop the FDA from approving it. I don't believe in meddling at that level. But I can insist on labeling. And if it enters your food supply, whether you buy it at the supermarket or whether you are in a restaurant or whether it is going to be in the child's school lunch program or your elder parents' Meals on Wheels program, you ought to know about it. My amendment would require labeling by the FDA and the Department of Agriculture, to put a label on all food from cloned animals that says this product is from a cloned animal or its progeny. These labels would be at the wholesale level, retail level, or restaurant level, or wherever the U.S. Government acts in calling it nutrition. It would allow the American people to make an informed decision on what they are eating.

You would think I am creating Armageddon. The BioTrade Association has been all over me with the functional equivalent of cleats, running editorial boards, and whispering science as they know it into the ears of the ed boards. If they have such confidence that cloned food is OK, why would they care if it were labeled? If they had such confidence that the American people would be indifferent to labeling, why would they oppose it?

They say it will cost too much. Guess what. They said it about nutritional labeling. They said that about other forms of labeling on our food. I reject those arguments. I believe you want to know this. I really believe you want to know if you are eating cloned food.

Madam President, you know me. You know I am one of the people in the Senate who has stood fairly on the side of science, the technology advancements it brings and the need always for more research. I believe we need more research into what this means. What is the impact and consequence on public health, on individual health, on unborn children, which I know is a great concern to many of our colleagues here? We don't know. Are we going to wake up and, instead of fetal alcohol problems, have the impact of cloned food? I don't know that.

My second amendment would require three studies: a health impact study on cloned foods and do more of it; an economic impact to the United States from adding cloned food to our food supply; a foreign trade impact on exporting food made in the United States from cloned animals.

My amendment also requires scientific peer review of the FDA's decision to improve scientific rigor. It would eliminate and assure there were no conflicts of interest. Many studies done with cloned food were done with the supporters of cloning, and those who would profit from cloning. The FDA received over 13,000 comments

when it released its initial decision that food from cloned animals is safe. Many of these comments said more information is needed. Scientists said there is more information needed. The public said more information is needed. I believe we need to listen to the National Academy of Sciences, which is the premier adviser to the Congress and the people on this.

The National Academy of Sciences agrees that cloning is a brand-new science. There may be unknown and unintended consequences. These scientists recommend this technology be monitored and urge postmarket surveillance. You cannot have postmarket surveillance unless it is labeled. If it is mixed in with your food, you won't be able to do this.

The FDA tells us that once they determined cloned food is safe, they would allow it to enter the market. The scientists want this labeling. I believe we are going down a difficult path. In Europe, they call this type of food ''Frankenfood.'' Cloned beef is having a hard time in the marketplace. Do we want the EU to ban all American food products because the people are worried about ''Frankenfood'' and are worried that this ''Frankenfood'' has been mingled with the other food? Essentially, they could ban all exports of meat products there. I don't want to hear one more thing coming from the EU that says they don't want to buy our beef or lamb because they are worried that it is ''Frankenfood.''

Again, I am worried about it. How about having an amendment that mandates a study on the trade impacts?

I also believe in science and research. I believe, therefore, we need to mandate a study now and follow a scientific program based on sound science. Were they accurate? Were they impartial? Were they free of conflict of interest? What additional research needs to be done? We need to be able to also look at the impact on our economy. Are we running a shortage in beef, lamb, and so on, so that we have to go to cloned animals? I don't think so. It seems to be readily available in the American marketplace. I don't know why we need to do this.

People say, well, don't you believe in the FDA? I do. The FDA is in my State. Over a thousand dedicated men and women work there every day. What I also know is that the FDA has been making some pretty big mistakes. They have been making mistakes in their food supply. They cannot stand sentry over spinach and E. coli in our own country. How are they going to monitor Dolly as she makes her way into our food supply? They don't even have enough people to keep an eye on E. coli spreading in spinach in our own country. What about the food coming in from other countries that we don't seem to be able to stand sentry over?

The FDA has not had enough resources in the food supply area. Then they say: Don't worry, honey, we will take care of you. We learned that line a long time ago and we know how false it was. The FDA, I believe, needs more help. They need more research. They need more monitoring, and this is why I am for labeling. Labeling would tell us where these foods go. It would give us the ability to have postmarket surveillance to look at the consequences, some of which might be OK and some of which might be quite questionable. So all I am saying is give the public a right to know and let's do more studies.

I don't know about Dolly. She looks so sad here in this photo, doesn't she? I don't know if she is happy that she is a clone, and I don't know if she is sad that she is a clone. I know whatever happens to Dolly, and whatever breakthrough comes from cloning—and maybe there are wonderful things that I don't know about. I do know that when I sit down on my heart-smart program and bite into a nice juicy roll, I want to know whether I am eating beef, lamb, or a Dolly burger. So my amendment simply says: Give me the right to know; otherwise, I will take further steps to say bah, bah to Dolly burgers.

Madam President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BYRD. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRESIDENTIAL VETO

Mr. BYRD. Madam President, today the President, our President, demonstrated once again that he values political posturing more than making America a safer, healthier, more economically strong nation.

This morning, President Bush vetoed a bipartisan, fiscally responsible Labor-HHS-Education bill that increases funding for programs to improve student performance, makes college more affordable, supports lifesaving medical research, and provides relief for families coping with rising home heating costs.

The bill also provides money for veterans employment programs, homeless veterans, and research to help those veterans suffering from traumatic brain injuries.

The President, in an effort to convey the appearance of fiscal discipline, has threatened to veto 10 of the 12 appropriations bills—10 out of 12.

Today the President vetoed the Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill because Congress chose to increase funding by 5 percent. The hypocrisy of the President's political posturing became even more clear today. This morning, the President signed the Defense appropriations bill which provides a $40 billion, or 10-percent, increase for the Department of Defense. Also, this morning, the President vetoed the Labor-HHS-Education bill because Congress chose to restore irresponsible and shortsighted cuts proposed by the President.

As part of the President's political message, he describes the 5-percent increase for Labor-HHS-Education programs as ''bloated'' spending. I call it responsible investments in research in cancer, heart disease, diabetes, in educating our children, in providing access to health care to rural America, and to heating the homes of low-income elderly Americans.

The President proposed to cut funding for the National Institutes of Health by $279 million for studying cancer, diabetes, and heart disease. Under the President's budget, the National Institutes of Health would have to eliminate 717 research grants that could lead to cures or treatments for cancer, diabetes, Alzheimer's, and other diseases.

Congress restored those cuts and provided an increase of $1.1 billion. I ask the question: Is increasing spending for the National Institutes of Health by 3.8 percent ''bloated'' spending? Is it? Of course not.

The President proposed over $3 billion in cuts for educational programs, including special education, Safe and Drug-Free Schools, and improving teacher quality. Congress—that is us—restored those cuts. Is increasing by 3 percent to educate our children bloated spending? I ask the question again. Congress restored those cuts. Is increasing funding by 3 percent to educate our children bloated spending? No.

The President proposed cuts of nearly $1 billion from health programs, such as rural health, preventive health, nurse training, and mental health grants. Congress, on a bipartisan basis, restored those cuts. I ask the question: Is providing an increase of $225 million for community health centers bloated spending? Is it? Certainly not.

The President—our President—proposed to cut low-income home energy assistance by $379 million. Congress restored that cut and provided an increase of $250 million. With the price of a barrel of oil reaching $100, does anyone really think increasing low-income home energy assistance is bloated spending? No.

No Senator will be cold this winter. I will not be cold this winter. You on that side of the aisle will not be cold this winter. We on this side will not be cold this winter. No Senator will be cold at home this winter. The President will not be cold down at the White House. No. Yet the President wants Congress to slash such assistance.

President Bush's Budget Director, Jim Nussle, with whom I met several weeks ago, indicated he would be prepared to negotiate in good faith with Congress over our differences in spending. To my dismay—to my dismay—Director Nussle has not reached out to the leadership of the Appropriations Committees in the House and the Senate in a genuine effort to find common ground.

Now, what is the problem? Why, Mr. President, why, Mr. Nussle, is the $40 billion increase for the Department of Defense fiscally responsible while a $6 billion increase to educate our children and improve the health of our citizens bloated spending?

Now, let's stop—please, let's stop—this charade of political gamesmanship. I say this most respectfully to our President. Let's move forward for the good of the American people. They deserve more from their elected officials.

I suggest to this White House that it stop its intransigence and help us—the elected Representatives of the people in Congress—to enact this vital legislation. Let's sit down together and work out the problems in this bill. Providing for our people's needs should not be a game of us versus them. It should not be a Republican White House versus a Democratic conference. People's lives should not be fodder for ego-driven political games.

Homeless veterans, veterans in need of health care, children in need of education, these must not become the target in a foolish game of kickball. I urge this White House—I plead with this White House—to sit down with the Congress and address the growing unmet needs in this country. If we can build schools and hospitals in Iraq, we can certainly provide health care and education for our own citizens. Nobody wins in a game of chicken, and surely the White House can and ought to work with us—us, in Congress—to stop this charade.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, I ask to speak for up to 7 minutes in morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. NELSON of Nebraska). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BROWN. Mr. President, November voters in my State of Ohio spoke out for change. They spoke out for a very different and new set of priorities in Washington, priorities that match their own priorities and their own values back home.

Heeding their calls earlier this year, Congress raised the minimum wage, passed potentially lifesaving stem cell legislation, voted to expand access for health insurance to literally 4 million low-income children, and last week, Congress sent to the President the Labor, Health and Human Services bill for his signature, a bipartisan bill that was filled with our national priorities. That bill would increase funding for Head Start and Pell grants and programs that benefit our Nation's veterans.

Earlier today, once again, the President made it clear that this administration and its supporters do not share the priorities of America's middle class. He vetoed lifesaving stem cell legislation, he vetoed expanding access to children's health insurance, and he, today, vetoed the bipartisan bill for Head Start, to give preschool kids a chance. He vetoed the legislation that included Pell grants to give middle-class working families, working-class kids an opportunity to go to college without a huge, onerous burden on them when they leave college. And he vetoed legislation that would matter to our Nation's veterans.

Today's veto was a veto of middle-class families and a veto of our values as a nation. The Labor, Health and Human Services bill funds the priorities that matter most in Ohio and across the Nation—more funding to help low-income children get the best possible start in school, more funding for students hoping to realize their American dream, more funding for programs to help our Nation's veterans with job training, with college costs, and to help with the all too serious issue of traumatic brain injury.

The day after Veterans Day, the day set aside to honor our Nation's veterans, the President vetoed legislation that would benefit those who have sacrificed so much for our great country. That, Mr. President, is unacceptable.

Yesterday, in Cleveland, at the Wade Park Veterans Hospital, I spent the afternoon with veterans from northeast Ohio, listening to them and their concerns. I learned that they need more, not less, assistance from the Federal Government. I heard from a former Ohio National Guardsman living in Jefferson, OH, not far from Ashtabula. Before being deployed to Iraq, he was an engineer and his wife was the vice president of a local company. After being injured in Iraq by an IED, he returned home suffering from a traumatic brain injury, a spinal cord injury, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Unable to work full time because of his injuries, this former National Guardsman, who worked full time before he left, now had to rely on disability compensation to support his family. His wife Julie had to leave her job to care full time for her child and for her husband. His care requires four trips weekly to the nearest VA hospital, a trip of about 110 miles each way.

I heard from a reservist, CPL Anthony Niederiter, of Euclid, OH, who was deployed to Iraq in 2005. Corporal Niederiter shared stories about the need for a better system that helps our military men and women return to civilian life after serving our country. The confusing transition process has caused veteran after veteran to miss filing deadlines for health benefits and educational opportunities.

One veteran, one soldier, told me after he left the military, he applied for dental benefits 32 or 33 days after he left the military. But he found out if you don't apply within 30 days, they are not available. Nobody told him that. Others have been denied educational benefits because they didn't follow the right rules because nobody told them that when they left the military.

Too many commanding officers, after these troops are used up and of no value anymore to the military, just wash their hands of them and look to the next class of military recruits they are going to send off to war, not informing those who are leaving, those who have served their country—frankly, not caring enough to make sure those veterans, those soldiers leaving the Armed Forces have been notified and told of their rights and the benefits they are able to receive—education, health care, and the like.

I heard from Dr. John Schupp, a Cleveland State University professor, who emphasized the importance of doing more, not less, for our veterans. Dr. Schupp founded the SERV Program, a two-semester program at Cleveland State University designed just for veterans. The program helps veterans apply for GI bill benefits, offers veterans-only classes that help ease the transition back into the classroom for many veterans who have not been in a classroom for 6, 8, 10 years or longer. He works with veterans to navigate VA issues and offers a veteran-to-veteran mentoring program.

Mr. President, we need more programs like this. Dr. Schupp's involvement, his brainchild, his program—much of this should be done by the Department of Defense before our soldiers, our marines, and our sailors leave government or military service. Dr. Schupp has taken up the slack, frankly, for much that hasn't been done. We need more programs like this, not just in Ohio but across our great country.

We need more Federal investment in our Nation's veterans. We must continue to honor our heroes from World War II and Korea and Vietnam, while finding ways to care for the new generation of veterans returning from Afghanistan and Iraq—and Kosovo, as one of the veterans came from yesterday. As more and more veterans return from these overseas engagements, especially from Afghanistan and Iraq, we must ensure that this growing group has access to the best care and the best benefits available. They have earned them.

Congress cannot simply wait to correct problems that arise. We can, we must anticipate those problems and address them now, not later. Providing care and support for Ohio's veterans is a moral obligation. Instead of vetoes, our veterans deserve, from their Government, the support they have earned. Congress can start by overriding the veto of the Labor-Health and Human Services appropriations bill.

I strongly encourage my colleagues to stand up for middle-class families, stand up for our communities, stand up for our workers, and to stand up, importantly, for our Nation's veterans. I strongly encourage my colleagues to override this veto.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. CARDIN). Without objection, it is so ordered. The Senator is recognized to speak as in morning business, without objection.

GLOBAL WARMING

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. President, as a member of the Senate environmental committee, and also on the Energy Committee, it is my view that the time is long overdue for Congress to go beyond deal-making and politics as usual in addressing the crisis of global warming. The droughts, the floods, and the severe weather disturbances our planet is already experiencing will only get worse, potentially impacting billions of people, if we do not take bold and decisive action in the very near future.

While the Lieberman-Warner cap-and-trade bill is a strong step forward—and I applaud both Senators and I applaud Senator BARBARA BOXER for her entire leadership on global warming—it is my view that legislation as currently written does not go anywhere near far enough in creating the policies the scientific community says we must develop in order to avert a planetary catastrophe.

This legislation is also lacking in paving the way for the transformation of our energy system, away from fossil fuels into energy efficiency and sustainable energy technologies.

Here are some of my concerns about the Lieberman-Warner bill. These are concerns I will be working on in the next number of weeks, trying to improve that legislation. First, virtually all the scientific evidence tells us, at the least, we must reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 80 percent by the year 2050, if we stand a chance to reverse global warming. Unfortunately, the Lieberman-Warner bill, as currently written, under the very best projections, provides a 63-percent reduction. In other words, under the best projections, this bill does not go far enough, according to the scientific community, in giving us a chance to reverse global warming. Secondly, this legislation allows major polluters to continue emitting greenhouse gases for free until the year 2036. In fact, old-fashioned, dirty coal-burning plants could still be built during this period. That is wrong. The right to pollute should not be given away for up to 26 years. Further, in calculating emission reductions, this bill relies much too heavily on ''offsets,'' a process which is difficult to verify and which could lead to the underreporting of emission reductions.

Third, this bill provides a massive amount of corporate welfare to industries that have been major emitters of greenhouse gases, while requiring minimal performance standards and accountability for these same industries. According to a recent report published by Friends of the Earth, the auction and allocation processes of the bill could generate up to $3.6 trillion over a 40-year period. While a large fund does exist in the bill for ''low carbon technology,'' there is no guaranteed allocation for such important technologies as wind, solar, geothermal, hydrogen or for energy efficiency. But there is a guaranteed allotment of $324 billion over a 40-year period for the coal industry through an advanced coal sequestration program and $232 billion for advanced technology vehicles.

The time is late. If Congress is serious about preventing irreversible damage to our planet because of global warming, we need to get our act together. We need to move in a bold and focused manner. Not only are the people of our country looking to us to do that, but so are countries all over the world. The good news is, we can do it.

As Members will recall, in 1941, President Roosevelt and the Congress began the process of rearming America to defeat Naziism and Japanese imperialism. Within a few short years, we had transformed our economy and started producing the tanks and bombs and planes and guns needed to defeat Nazism. We did it because of the leadership of Roosevelt and the Congress. In 1961, President Kennedy called upon our Nation to undertake the seemingly impossible task of sending a man to the Moon. Working with Congress, NASA was greatly expanded. The best scientists and engineers in this country and in the world were assembled to focus on the task. Billions of dollars were appropriated and, in 1969, as we all remember with great pride, Neil Armstrong stepped foot on the Moon. We did it. There was a challenge. We stepped up to the plate. We did it.

As a result of global warming, the challenge we face today is no less daunting and no less consequential. Quite the contrary. Now we are fighting for the future of the planet and the well-being of billions of people in every corner of the world. Once again, if we summon the political courage, I have absolutely no doubt the United States of America can lead the world in resolving this very dangerous crisis. We can do it.

In that context, let me take a moment to suggest some ways we can strengthen the Lieberman-Warner bill—and I look forward to working with those Senators and the entire committee—to aggressively reverse global warming. Most importantly, significant resources in this bill must be explicitly allocated for energy efficiency and sustainable energy, the areas where we can get the greatest and quickest bang for the buck. In terms of energy efficiency, my home city of Burlington, VT—and I have the honor of having been mayor of that city from 1981 to 1989—despite strong economic growth, consumes no more electricity today than it did 16 years ago because of a successful citywide effort on the part of our municipally owned electric company to make our homes, offices, schools, and buildings all over the city more energy efficient. That is what we did in Burlington, VT. In California, which has a strong and growing economy, electric consumption per person has remained steady over the last 20 years because of that State's commitment to energy efficiency. In other words, in Burlington, VT, and the State of California—and I am sure in other communities around the country—despite economic growth, the consumption of electricity does not have to go soaring, if we invest in energy efficiency, if we rally the people to not waste energy.

Numerous studies tell us that by retrofitting older buildings and by establishing strong energy efficiency standards for new construction, we can cut fuel and electric consumption by at least 40 percent. If we want to save energy, that is how we do it. Those savings will increase with such new technologies as LED light bulbs, which consume 1/10th the electricity of an incandescent bulb, while lasting 20 years. These LED light bulbs are on the verge of getting on the market. We have to facilitate that process and get them all over the country as soon as we possibly can.

In terms of saving energy in transportation, it is beyond my comprehension that we are driving automobiles today which get the same mileage per gallon—25 miles per gallon—as cars in this country did 20 years ago. Think of all the technology, all of the changes. Yet we are driving cars today which get the same mileage per gallon as was the case 20 years ago. That is absurd. If Europe and Japan can average over 44 miles per gallon, we can do at least as well. Simply raising CAFE standards to 40 miles per gallon—less than the Europeans, less than the Japanese—will save more oil than we import from Saudi Arabia. How about that? That makes a lot of sense.

Further, we should also be rebuilding and expanding our decaying rail and subway systems and making sure energy-efficient buses are available in rural America so travelers have an alternative to the automobile. Everybody knows the state of the rail system in America today is absolutely unacceptable, way behind Europe, way behind Japan. Subways in large cities need an enormous amount of work. In rural States such as Vermont, there are communities that have virtually no public transportation at all. We have to address that crisis, if we are serious about global warming.

In terms of sustainable energy, the other area we can make tremendous leaps forward, wind power is now the fastest growing source of new energy in the world and in the United States, but we have barely begun to tap its potential. In Denmark, for example, 20 percent of the electricity is produced by wind. We, as a Congress, should be supporting wind energy, not only through the creation of large wind farms in the appropriate areas but through the production of small inexpensive wind turbines which can be used in homes and

farms all across rural America. These small turbines can produce up to half the electricity an average home consumes and are now—right now, forget the future—reasonably priced. Without Federal tax credits, which are available, without rebates such as what is being done in California today, a 1.8-kilowatt turbine is now being sold for some $12,000, including installation, with a payback of 5 to 6 years. That is a pretty good deal. If you are not worried about global warming, if you are not worried about carbon emissions, it is a good deal because you are going to save money on your electric bill.

The possibilities for solar energy are virtually unlimited. In Germany, a quarter of a million homes are now producing electricity through rooftop photovoltaic units, and the price per kilowatt is rapidly declining. In California, that State is providing strong incentives so 1 million homes will have photovoltaic rooftop units in the next 10 years. But the potential for solar energy goes far beyond rooftop photovoltaic units. Right now in the State of Nevada, a solar plant is generating 56 megawatts of electricity. What we are now beginning to see developed in the Southwestern part of the country are solar plants which are capable of producing enormous amounts of electricity. According to the National Renewable Energy Laboratory of the U.S. Department of Energy:

> Solar energy represents a huge domestic energy resource for the United States, particularly in the Southwest where the deserts have some of the best solar resource levels in the world. For example, an area approximately 12% the size of Nevada (15% of federal lands in Nevada) has the potential to supply all of the electric needs of the United States.

Whether that area can in fact supply all the electric needs of the United States, I don't know. But I have recently, in the last couple weeks, talked to people who are involved in these solar plants. They say in the reasonably near future, they can supply 20 percent of the electricity our country needs. There it is, sitting there, ready to happen. Our job is to facilitate that process and make it happen sooner rather than later.

Perhaps most significantly, Pacific Gas & Electric, which to my understanding is the largest electric utility in the country based in California, has recently signed a contract with Solel, an Israeli company, to build a 535-megawatt plant in the Mohave Desert. This plant, which should be operating in 4 years—my understanding is they are going to break ground in 2, and it should be operating in 4 years—will have an output equivalent to a small nuclear powerplant and will produce electricity for some 400,000 homes. This is not a small-time operation. The people I talked to involved in this industry say this is the beginning. Think of what we can do if we provided them with the support they need.

Most importantly, people say: Well, that is a good idea, but unfortunately this electricity is going to be sky high, very expensive.

That is not the case. The price of the electricity generated by this plant to be online in 4 years is competitive with other fuels today and will likely be much cheaper than other fuels in the future.

News reports indicate that the 25-year purchase agreement signed by Pacific Gas and Electric with Solel calls for electricity to be initially generated at about 10 cents per kilowatt, with very minimal increases over the next 25 years—minimal increases because this is a process that does not have all that many moving parts. There it is. It needs maintenance. It needs work. But, unlike gas, unlike oil, you are not looking at a volatile market. There is the Sun. It will shine. So we are talking about a price over a 25-year period which probably will end up being less than 15 cents a kilowatt in the year 2035, which I suspect will be not only very competitive, it will be more than competitive.

The potential for solar plants in the Southwest is extremely strong. While there certainly is no magical silver bullet in the production of new, nonpolluting energy sources, experts tell us we can build dozens of plants in the Southwest, and that this one nongreenhouse gas-emitting source could provide a huge amount of the electricity our country needs.

Geothermal energy is another source of sustainable energy that has huge potential. Mr. President, as you know, geothermal energy is the heat from deep inside the Earth. It is free, it is renewable, and it can be used for electricity generation and direct heating. While geothermal is available at some depth everywhere, it is most accessible in Western States where hydrothermal resources are at shallow depths.

Currently, the United States has approximately 2,900 megawatts of installed capacity, which is just 5 percent—5 percent—of the renewable electricity generation in the United States. The installed geothermal capacity is already expected to double in the near term with projects that are under development, but this is just the tip of the iceberg.

A recent report for the U.S. Department of Energy by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MIT, suggests that geothermal could provide 100,000 megawatts of new carbon-free electricity at less than 10 cents per kilowatt hour, comparable to costs for clean coal. Drilling technology from the petroleum industry is the key to unlocking this huge potential. Enhanced geothermal systems tap energy from hot impermeable rocks that are between 2 and 6 miles below the Earth's crust.

So geothermal is another opportunity for us as a nation to be producing large amounts of energy in a way that does not emit carbon dioxide and does not create greenhouse gases.

An investment of $1 billion—less than the price of one coal-fired powerplant—could make this resource commercially viable within 15 years. The potential payoff is huge. It is estimated that electricity from geothermal sources can provide 10 percent of the U.S. base-load energy needs in 2050.

In terms of the future—in terms of the future of our planet—the bad news is that scientists are now telling us they have underestimated the speed and destructive aspects of global warming.

As you remember, Mr. President, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, which recently won the Nobel Peace Prize, along with former Vice President Al Gore—many of those scientists are now saying their projections were too conservative, that the planet is warming faster than they had anticipated, and the damage will be greater if we do not move boldly to reverse it. That is the bad news.

There is good news, however. The good news is that, at the end of the day, we know how to reverse global warming. We know what to do. What is lacking now is not the scientific knowledge, though more and more knowledge will come, and it is not the technology, though more and more technology will be developed, and sustainable energy will become less and less expensive. But after all is said and done, we know what we have to do. We know how to make our homes and our transportation systems more energy efficient. We are now making great progress in driving down the cost of nonpolluting, sustainable energy technologies. That is what we are doing.

What is lacking now is the political will—the political will to think outside of the box, the political will to envision a new energy system in America which is not based on fossil fuels, the political will to stand up to powerful special interests that are more concerned about their profits than about the well-being of our planet.

So I think not only the children—the young people of our country and the people all over America—but people throughout the world want this Congress to catch up to where they are. They are far ahead of where we are. I think if we have the courage to do the right thing here, we can reverse global warming. In the process, we can create millions of good-paying jobs, we can help restore our position in the international community as a country that is leading and not following on this issue of huge consequence.

Mr. President, I yield back the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll of the Senate.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. BOXER. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The Senator from California is recognized.

Mrs. BOXER. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

Mr. President, I thank Senator HARKIN because I know he is going to be speaking shortly, and I wanted to follow Senator SANDERS.

As the Chair of the Environment Committee, I was very interested in his presentation. I thank him for caring so deeply about global warming. The thing we have to do around here is get a good bill down to the floor. Because everything Senator SANDERS talks about—geothermal, solar—everything he talks about—green jobs—depends on our ability to get a good bill to the floor of the Senate.

What also is interesting is that Senator SANDERS called the Lieberman-Warner bill a very strong bill. I agree with him. It is a very strong bill. And that is before we even make some perfecting amendments out of subcommittee.

I think it is interesting, it is the evening time now. Senator HARKIN is on the floor, and Senator CARDIN is the Presiding Officer. Senator HARKIN is a cosponsor of the Lieberman-Warner bill. Senator HARKIN is truly a great conservationist, as we are going to hear from him. He gave a presentation to us at our caucus lunch that showed how deeply committed he is to this country's environment.

The fact that he is on the Lieberman-Warner bill gave a great lift and a great boost to that piece of legislation. Mr. CARDIN, the Senator from Maryland, sitting in the chair, our Presiding Officer, has played a tremendous role already in moving forward the legislation if we are going to address global warming.

There is not any question that the ravages of global warming are around the corner. Is it going to be 20 years? Is it going to be 10 years? Do we already see it? Some say yes—in Darfur, in some of the weather patterns, in some of the fires, in some of the floods, in some of the droughts—because the scientists tell us that unfettered global warming will lead to extremes in weather. So it is coming down the track right at us.

We have some options in this Senate as to what we are going to do about it. We can hold out for the ''perfect'' bill. I can say, as someone who wrote a bill with Senator Jeffords, and then Senator SANDERS: Oh, I know which bill is perfect for me; it is the bill I wrote. I know my friends in the Senate each could take their turn at writing a bill, and that bill would be ''perfect'' for that Senator. But this is a legislative body, and if you have 100 ''perfects,'' and we cannot agree to come together on a very good bill, we get nothing done.

I would suggest that for those who, very well-intentioned, decide to turn their back on a very good bill because it is not their idea of ''perfect,'' I think that is an irresponsible position to find yourself in. I feel very strongly about that.

There is much about the Lieberman-Warner bill I am going to work to strengthen in the full committee. If the bill gets to the floor, I am going to work hard to strengthen it. But I know, as long as it is a very strong bill, we need to move it forward.

So we could hold out for the ''perfect.'' That is very dangerous because that leads to no bill. And no bill—doing nothing about global warming in the face of all the science—would be very irresponsible.

The next thing we could do is have a bill that is very weak. I think a very weak bill is dangerous because people will think, ''Oh, they have taken care of global warming,'' when, in fact, we have not. You may be stuck with a weak bill, and you cannot strengthen it, so that is a problem too.

So it seems to me we could hold out for the ''perfect,'' and that means no bill, we could have a dangerously weak bill, which is a very bad option, or we could have a very good bill. We know that. We have people who are saying: Wait a minute, this bill, Lieberman-Warner, is too weak. We heard some of that on the floor tonight. It is too weak. I want an 80-percent cut in 2050, and it is 65 percent. So is the solution to do nothing? I say no. Then we have many people on the other side who say this bill is too strong. It is kind of like the three bears—what is just right?

I think what is just right is a very strong bill that moves us forward, that asserts the real dangers of global warming, and we know what that is: sea level rise. Those of us who went to Greenland saw what could happen if that sheet melts. We could see huge increases in sea level for all of us who represent coastal States, and the whole country and the world will suffer. The intelligence community, the Department of Defense—they are saying to us: With a few feet rise in sea level, we are going to have refugee problems, we are going to have every problem in the world. So the fact is, we can't turn our backs.

We had a hearing on the public health implications of unfettered global warming. The star witness was the head of the CDC, Julie Gerberding, Dr. Gerberding. She is the top doc of the country. She had very strong views that we have to look at the public health impacts. For example, what is going to happen to our elderly when heat levels rise and they can't seek refuge? What is going to happen to our children when they are swimming in lakes and streams and rivers and those bodies of water are so warm that dangerous amoebas live in those waters? What is going to happen to them? What is going to happen to the people of the world when they can't get the food they need?

So what happened was the White House redacted page after page of their own head of the CDC—they redacted page after page of their own head of the CDC. Her testimony was redacted. When we wrote and asked for it, the answer came back from the White House Counsel: Oh, no, we couldn't possibly send you this. This is a breach of executive privilege and the rest.

Can you believe, Mr. President, that the people of this country who pay the taxes for the CDC employees cannot hear what the top doc has to say about the ravages—the potential ravages—of global warming? This is what we are facing. Yet we see signs that the people who think our bill doesn't go far enough are going to team up with the people who want to kill this legislation. What a tragedy that would be. And who loses? The people of the United States of America. These new technologies that are going to save us, the ones Senator SANDERS talked about—he talked with great passion about solar and wind and all the rest—you are not going to get it, folks, unless you have a bill that puts a price on carbon. If you hold out for your version of the perfect, trust me, it isn't going to happen, and you give false hope to people—false hope to people.

So I would just say to my colleagues who may be listening that we have a golden opportunity in the Environment Committee. We have held more than 20 hearings on global warming. We have this bipartisan bill. We have gotten it through the subcommittee. We are working to make it better, get it through the full committee and onto the floor of the Senate, where we will see where people stand. We will have amendments that range from one extreme to the other, and we will see where people stand on global warming.

I would say to you, Mr. President, coming from a State that has done so much about this already, we are late to the game. We are late to the dance. We are late to the party. But we are not too late, unless everybody stands up and says: If I don't get it my way, then I will show you the highway. We have a lot of that going on already. We have a President who really won't talk to us about anything. He won't talk to us about Iraq; he won't meet us halfway there. He won't talk to us about CHIP; he won't meet us halfway there. He won't talk to us about education funding; he won't meet us halfway there. Won't, won't, won't, won't, won't. He vetoed the Water Resources Development Act. We overrode it. He still has never said he was wrong. There is too much of that. We in the Senate have to show that we are adult enough to admit that the perfect cannot be the enemy of the good, particularly when there is so much at stake.

So I am excited about the work of the Environment Committee, and I am so pleased we had a bipartisan breakthrough. I am so grateful to all the groups out there who are helping us, who are giving us the courage to move forward, because, believe me, special interests are going to be pounding us, pounding us, pounding us.

To wrap this up, there are always people who say no to the science. There are always people who say: Oh, no, HIV doesn't cause AIDS, I don't believe it.

There are always people who say cigarette smoking doesn't cause lung cancer. I am sure there were people who said to Jonas Salk: Your vaccine idea is just not going to work. We have to go with the consensus view, and we have it on our side. We know we have to act.

So it is going to be an exciting time in the Environment Committee. It is going to be an exciting time here on the floor when this legislation comes to the floor. I don't know exactly when that will happen, but it will happen, and when it does we will have a chance to fulfill our responsibility not just to our generation but to our kids' generation and our grandkids and future generations. I see young people sitting here on the floor of the Senate helping us out every day. Their generation has so much at stake.

I met with some young people from the UC system, UC Santa Cruz. They are going to 100 percent renewable energy to run UC Santa Cruz, and all of the different campuses, UC campuses, are going to try to do that. So whether we vote here or we don't vote here, the people are way ahead of us. How sad it is if we were to walk away from this challenge because it wasn't just right on page 102 or page 6. It is never going to be perfect, I say to my colleagues, but we have an obligation to come together. We did it with the Clean Water Act years ago, the Safe Drinking Water Act, and the Endangered Species Act. We have really moved forward, and we became a leader in the world. We are behind the world today, and the world is looking to us.

So I am excited about this challenge, and I thank Senator SANDERS for his passion, for coming down and making the case for solar energy, making the case for wind energy. But I will say to him and everyone else within the sound of my voice that it isn't going to happen unless this Congress sets up a cap-and-trade system with mandatory cuts in carbon. It just isn't going to happen the way it should.

Thank you very much, Mr. President, and I thank, Senator HARKIN for this time.

I yield the floor, and I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. MENENDEZ). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, it is hard to believe, but we are on the farm bill. As any casual observer might notice, we are not doing anything. We sit here with an empty Chamber. The farm bill has now been on the floor for over a week. The farm bill was laid down a week ago yesterday, as a matter of fact, and nothing has happened. Why hasn't anything happened? Because we can't get anything from the other side.

We want to move ahead. We wanted to ask unanimous consent to go ahead with an amendment with a time limit, vote on it, and move to another amendment, but the other side refuses. The Republican leadership refuses to move ahead on the farm bill. I suggested earlier today that we may at least want to have some amendments up. We cannot get consent on the other side. So here we sit. At this rate, we may not have a farm bill.

We worked very hard on it this year. First, on the other side in the House, they got a farm bill passed early. We met and worked hard on it all summer long and worked with the Finance Committee to get extra funds to meet our obligations. I am checking on this right now, but I believe we had a record movement of a farm bill through our committee this year—a day and a half, a short day and a half.

Now, this is my seventh farm bill. I have never seen anything move that fast. It was the result of weeks and weeks and months and months of working with the other side, with everybody working together, hammering out agreements, before we brought it to the committee. That is a good way of doing things around here. You establish relationships, figure out what people need to make sure they take care of their constituents. We came out of committee with not one vote against the farm bill. That never happened before, either, to the best of my memory. We always have a split vote coming out of committee on the farm bill. So it took a day and a half to get it out.

I commend my ranking member, Senator CHAMBLISS, who worked very hard on his side to pull things together. I don't even know how many amendments we had in that day and a half—four, five, or six—not very many. We disposed of them; we either adopted them or not. When we voted the bill out, we didn't have one dissenting vote.

So you would think a bill such as that coming to the floor could be handled rapidly. But then we got here and we wanted to move it, so our majority leader, exercising his right as majority leader, said we will do this bill and we will do relevant amendments. If it is relevant to the farm bill, we will take all comers. Bring them all. That sounds good to me—open debate, open amendments. Bring on the amendments to the farm bill. But the other side said, no, they may have some extraneous amendments dealing with children's health care, estate taxes—I don't know what else. We may have had some on this side too. But we were agreeing that we would not take any non-relevant amendments, whether they were from Democrats or Republicans. I thought that was a pretty good way to proceed, to just focus on the farm bill. The Republican side said no.

We have been locked here for over a week. I say to my friends in farm country—farmers, ranchers, agribusiness, the suppliers, wholesalers, retailers, shippers, those who sell seed, the elevator operators, fertilizer dealers, and those in the livestock industry, who want to know what the farm bill is like so they can plan ahead on whether they are going to milk more cows or fewer cows: Will the milk go to class A or class B? Will we feed more cattle or will we shift to feeding hogs? What is the lay of the land going to be? They need certainty. The livestock market is volatile as it is, but they need some certainty as to what we are going to do here. That is why we worked very hard to get the bill done, hopefully, by December, which is not unusual—except for the last farm bill when I was chairman at that time, the House was in Republican hands and the Senate was Democratic, and we got it through ahead of schedule. But for that one exception, every farm bill comes in late. That is just the nature of things around here, I guess. We usually get them done by December. The present farm bill is expired. We are now on a continuing resolution.

I say to my friends in farm and ranch country, you ought to be calling up the minority leadership and saying we ought to get this farm bill through. We have to get it through. But if we don't move soon, we will have an extension of the present farm bill. We will just extend it. All the work we have done this year will be for naught. We will have to pick it up again some other time. That may be what will happen because of the fact that we cannot get an agreement to move ahead. We are stuck here at 6:20 in the evening, and we have been on the bill 1 week with not one amendment. All we ask is for the other side to bring forth amendments, and we will get ours and start moving.

I know we are trying to work things out. After a while, my patience runs out. Next week, we have Thanksgiving. People want to go home for Thanksgiving. If we don't finish the farm bill this week, it is going to be hard to have a farm bill done before we go home for Christmas. I know what it is like after Thanksgiving when we come back. We have 3 weeks, and we have all our appropriations bills. I am chairman of one of the appropriations subcommittees. We have all that to do. We have the Iraq war funding to consider, and we have some tax bills. Everybody is going to want to get out of here and get home for Christmas.

I say to all those watching, if we don't get a farm bill done this week, it will be hard to get one done this year. Maybe we will have to go into next year sometime to get it done. I hope that doesn't happen, but here we sit with no action, and there are going to be other things to be brought up this week, such as conference reports.

So here we sit. I hope we can reach some agreement and move ahead rapidly. If we don't, it looks as if we may be in for a long continuing resolution on the farm bill—either into next year or beyond. I don't know when we can

finally get it done. But it is too important to just leave it go. We would like to get it done. Is there everything in the farm bill I would have wished for? No. Senator CHAMBLISS and every member of the committee could say the same thing. That is the art of compromise. This bill is a good compromise among all regions of the country. I hope we can move ahead.

I want to talk a little about one area of the farm bill about which I feel very passionate. Even though we have done some good things, we haven't done as much as we need to do, considering the enormity of what confronts us in terms of the loss of our soil, the pollution of our water and waterways, and the degradation of whole areas of this country because of intensive cropping or lack of good practices. We are facing a dire circumstance in this country where we are going to lose the productivity of our soil. Almost like global warming, it may reach a point where the scales have tipped so far that to get the productivity back, to clean up our waterways might be almost impossible or will cost so much money that we won't be able to do it.

All of the farmers I have fought for so hard over these last 32 years are what I call the front line of conservationists. Farmers and ranchers want to protect the soil. They want to leave it better for future generations. When you are caught between a rock and a hard place in terms of all of the input costs, what it costs to produce a crop, the demands on those crops, and some negative incentives in the system right now in terms of Government support to farming and ranching—you put all those together, and there is a counterpressure, if you will, from the Government and from society at large against the farmer being a good conservationist.

We are placing tremendous demands on our food and fiber producers in this country—tremendous demands—and, with the ethanol boom and others, even more demand for the productivity of our soil. So what is happening right now, in many cases, is we are pushing it to the limits and beyond the limits to what soil can carry and what our water can carry, and now we have to think about being really good conservationists, not on the scale of the individual farmer but on a national scale.

I wish to take some time to talk about conservation and what is happening in our country at large in terms of conservation and what is happening to our soil and water in America and why we have to do something about it and why little steps, little things aren't going to do it. We need some big steps, big interventions, just as we do on global warming. The previous two speakers talked about that. If we just tinker around the edges, it won't mean anything. It is the same with conservation. We need a national commitment to a conservation ethic to restore, renew, and preserve our waterways, our soil, our wildlife habitats, and, yes, the source of our water. All that needs to be preserved.

I have some pictures I wanted to point to here, some charts to give an idea of what I am talking about. I will bet you, Mr. President, a lot of Americans have seen this first picture somewhere. Every school kid has seen it in a history book. It is reprinted time and time again in one of our periodical magazines, talking about the great Dust Bowl of the 1930s.

What was the Dust Bowl? It took place in the panhandles of Oklahoma, Texas, some in New Mexico, Colorado, Kansas, up into Nebraska, and stretching up into South Dakota. This is one of the famous pictures taken in Cimarron, OK, in 1936 in the Dust Bowl. You can see there is no grass, nothing. You can see that the top of the posts are covered with dust. And there is a farmer and his kids running to take shelter from yet another one of the dust storms. That was in Cimarron County.

The year before that, in 1935, under President Franklin Roosevelt, the Soil Conservation Act passed and the Soil Conservation Service began providing help and service to farmers on conservation.

The next picture shows what happened that year. This is another famous picture, of a dust cloud in Kansas. On April 14, 1935, a dust storm started in eastern Montana, western North Dakota, rumbled through South Dakota into Nebraska, across Kansas into Oklahoma and into Texas. This dust storm was called Black Sunday. It was the biggest dust storm ever. In fact, it was preceded the previous year by a dust storm that swept from west to east that dumped dust on New York City. New York City got so dark it had to turn on its lights. Ships at sea could not dock in New York City because of the dust.

There is a wonderful book that I recommend that was released last year. This book by Timothy Egan is called ''The Worst Hard Time: The Untold Story of Those Who Survived the Great American Dust Bowl.'' I recommend this book.

First of all, it is a great read. He tells a wonderful story about the Dust Bowl, but he tells the history of the whole area and what happened in that area in the 1890s, 1900s, 1910s, 1920s, up to the 1930s. Here is what he said:

> By some estimates, more than 80 million acres in the southern plains were stripped of topsoil.

Mr. President, 80 million acres.

> In less than 20 years, a rich cover that had taken several thousand years to develop was disappearing day by day.

Eighty million acres of grassland turned over, grassland that he says in the book was laid down almost 20,000 years ago. As he said, this was land the buffalo couldn't hurt, the tornadoes, the fires, and the floods struck, but the grasslands stayed, and they came back year after year.

But then there was the land rush. That area was opened up to homesteaders. They came in with plows and new equipment. They plowed it all up, turned it over.

As one person said in Timothy Egan's book, he looked around and said: There is something wrong here; the wrong side is up. The dirt is up and the grass is down and the wind started blowing. And then came Black Sunday, April 14, 1935, the worst dust storm in recorded history. I don't mean in this century; I mean in recorded history, the worst dust storm ever.

Again, when people look at that picture and they read about Black Sunday, they say: That is all over with; we took care of that situation. But look at this next photograph: a dust storm, the same as you saw before, and this time with color photography. That is a dust storm in the same area in Kansas, taken last year. The same huge dust storms rumbling through the plains because we have, once again, stripped the soil bare, turned the wrong side up, and we lack good conservation practices.

Here is another picture. This one could have been in the thirties just as the first picture I showed, but this was taken in South Dakota last year. Here is a fence. We can barely see it. The top of the fence is almost covered, and it stretches as far as the eye can see. That is just dust and a few tumbleweeds. That is South Dakota last year.

I hope we can recall the lessons of the thirties and what putting marginal cropland in production will really cost us.

This farm bill will prohibit allowing newly broken native sod into the Crop Insurance Program. That is vitally important because you cannot be covered under the disaster provisions of this farm bill unless you buy crop insurance. So if you turn over native sod, you cannot get crop insurance on the newly broken land, and you will not get disaster payments, and you will not be eligible then for all the other programs. So there is a strong provision in this bill to at least save some of the native sod because history can and will and does repeat itself, as we have just shown.

That is the dust. Here is the water. This is a cornfield in my part of the country. We can see that it has rained, and there is water running off. It is running probably into a ditch, that ditch drains probably into a small stream, that small stream runs into a bigger river, and that river goes into either the Missouri River or the Mississippi River.

What happens is when this soil and water runs off, it is taking with it phosphorous, and it is taking with it nitrogen, washing down into the river. What happens to it? When it goes down river, it winds up down south of New Orleans. In this next photograph, the red area is called the hypoxic area, the dead zone in the mouth of the Mississippi. This picture was taken by satellite this year. That area in red is now

the size of New Jersey. These nutrient levels are so high, that it triggers an explosive growth of algae; when the algae dies, the decomposition process consumes all the oxygen, so all marine life dies—no crabs, no shrimp, no nothing.

So, again, the water we saw running off these fields goes into the Mississippi, and this is what happens to it.

What can be done about it? There are things that can be done about it. This picture show us one. I showed you a picture a little bit ago of the water running off the field. That wouldn't happen here. This is the Boone River watershed, Hamilton County, IA. We see buffer strips along the streams. So if there is a heavy rain, any runoff will be trapped by the trees and the grasslands and whatever else is in between.

Those nutrients are good for trees. It makes them grow. The trees keep the nutrients from going in the water. Practices such as this are promoted by several conservation programs—the Conservation Stewardship Program, the EQIP program, the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, and the Conservation Reserve Program, especially the continuous signup.

What is so important to note is that these are incentives paid to farmers to do these strips. One might say: Why wouldn't farmers just do that on their own? Why? Because of economics. The Senator was present today when I mentioned earlier about my backyard. I happen to be one of a few people who actually lives in the house in which he was born. Not many people can say that. I actually live in the house in which I was born.

A lot of people say: HARKIN, I live in the house I grew up in.

I said: That is not what I said. I live in the house in which I was born. I wasn't born in a hospital. I was born in a house, as were all my five siblings. We lived in a small town in rural Iowa. People were born at home.

In my home, we have a nice backyard with fruit trees. My wife planted a nice garden out there. Ever since I was a kid, I always thought I knew where the end of our garden was to the east, and there has always been a field there, about a 140-acre field with corn and beans.

Because of the high price of corn and the high price of beans, the owner of that property sent a notice to all of us who live around it saying: I just had my property resurveyed, and my property is about 6 feet more into your property than what you think.

He has his rights. No one ever bothered to think about it in the past. We had our garden there, and we had our trees. As a consequence, I am going to have to have some of our bushes and trees taken out and move the line back. I guess I mind a little bit, but the guy is within his rights.

One might think: What does 6 feet mean? Up until now, 6 feet never meant a hoot to any farmer who farmed that land, and it has gone through three or four different hands. No one ever cared about it. Because the demands are now so high on the owner of that property, and I am sure the farmer who farms that land says: You know, that extra 6 feet, I can grow a few more rows of corn in there and get some more money. So before next year we have to move everything back, and they get another 6 feet.

I tell that story to demonstrate the pressures that farmers are under to plow and plant right up to the fence row or anyplace they can get.

I don't know the farmer who owns that land in this photograph, but I can tell you his economic pressures are to plant right up to the stream, to get rid of all that buffer and plant right up to the stream. Why doesn't he? Because he is in a conservation program that is giving him incentives, payments to provide a continuous strip through there. He might have made a little more money if he had planted right up to it, but he has probably a CRP agreement for 10 years, maybe has a CSP contract.

I know a lot of farmers in Iowa who have done buffers like this. You know what, Mr. President. They feel better about it. They feel better about it because they know they are helping keep the water clean. They are farming the way nature really meant for them to farm. But because of economic pressures, they need help.

That is what this farm bill does, it provides some help and support. They get a benefit, but I can tell you, he probably would make more money if he plowed right up to the stream. But he is willing to give up a little bit as long as he gets some help from the Government to put this buffer in. They feel better about it.

What do we get out of it? Cleaner water, fish, not hypoxia down in the Gulf of Mexico. It cleans up our waterways. It preserves our soil for future generations. That is what is in this farm bill, to help them continue to do that.

I talked about the Midwest. How about the East? Here is a farm in Pennsylvania that uses many of our conservation practices. We see strip cropping and contour farming. They have some corn, maybe some alfalfa in there for livestock. It is good conservation practice. It looks as if he has a good rotation practices on this land.

There is one other item in this photograph. We see the city out here. It is encroaching on his farmland. There is a program called the Farmland Protection Program which buys easements on land, permanent easements on land. So that land cannot be converted to development; it has to stay as farmland. Again, here is a farmer. He could be getting CSP, the Conservation Stewardship Program. He may have gotten some EQIP money, and he may be getting farmland protection program money. I don't know. But those are all programs involved in preserving the land. We can see the strip cropping on the hillside and the contour plowing. That is what he has done to hold back the water. Again, part of our farm bill is to provide money for the Farmland Protection Program.

Here is something a little bit closer to where we are here in the Capitol. Any of us who have been around this area for any time knows the Chesapeake Bay is polluted. Now, not all of that Chesapeake Bay pollution is because of farmland. There is a lot of industrial waste coming from factories and from other places up and down—plants, people dumping stuff out and going into the Chesapeake Bay. That has to be stopped. But a big part of the Chesapeake Bay problem is the nutrients coming off a lot of our land, such as livestock waste. It comes from the whole Chesapeake Bay watershed, which extends all the way to New York State. So New York State, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, a little bit of West Virginia, all that water dumps into the Chesapeake Bay, eventually.

Here is a farm in New Castle County, DE. Again, this is a prime example of conservation of the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Prior to this picture being taken—you can see some wetlands and farm fields in the background—where that wetland is, crops used to grow. So from those fields, nutrients ran off right into the bay. Through conservation programs and through the Wetlands Reserve Program, this farmer has gone back and, with the help of conservation, has put this back into a wetlands, secluded off from the Chesapeake Bay, so any runoff filters through the wetlands. It filters through the wetlands before it gets to the Chesapeake Bay.

If anybody wants to see how a wetlands works, you don't have to go more than about 15 miles from where this Capitol is, southwest of here. There is something called the Huntley Meadows Wetlands Reserve. I recommend it highly for anyone. Go down there and take a stroll through the wetlands. They have done a great job. They have preserved the wetlands, and it is right in the middle of a city. All of a sudden you go from housing developments and busy thoroughfares up Route 1 and down south, and all of a sudden you are in a wetlands area. A lot of the runoff from apartment houses and businesses and parking lots and everything else drains into this wetlands. By the time it gets through and dumps into the Potomac River, it is clean. The wetlands cleans it up. It is 15 miles from here where you can see it happen, Huntley Meadows.

This bill provides $160 million for the Chesapeake Bay to do this kind of work to back up into the farmlands, restore wetlands, and help farmers build the structures and do the things to clean up the Chesapeake Bay. We can do it. This farmer did it in Delaware.

Now, this photo is from Georgia. Well, you can't see much except this shows pine trees back here. All pine

trees back here, but in the past they were overgrown and so thick that wildlife could not use it for habitat. So they thinned it out to provided for some wildlife cover in that area. One of Senator CHAMBLISS's priorities was to add a feature to the Conservation Reserve Program that will result in better management of soft wood pine stands currently enrolled in the CRP. The Senate bill invests $84 million in this effort. Again, showing the breadth and the depth of what we are doing on conservation in forested areas in the South, making sure we have good conservation at work there also.

And lest we forget about the West, this is Arizona. This is well-managed grazing land. The Conservation Stewardship Program provides incentives to increase current conservation, use better management practices, such as rotational grazing that better utilizes the resource base and increases wildlife habitat. The Senate bill continues to devote 60 percent of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program to livestock needs.

Again, it is hard to see here, but what we are trying to show with this is that with fences, with rotational grazing, you don't feed down all the grass and don't create areas where the wind blows all the dust, or if they have a heavy rain it runs the soil off. This is good conservation practice and rotational grazing. You graze for a while, then you move them on. But in order to do that, you obviously need some fences, and fences cost money. So we provide that kind of help. If a rancher wants to get involved in good conservation practices with rotational grazing, we help with that. We help with that. So even in the Arizona southwest, we can make a difference.

Well, now you might wonder about this picture. Well, we are all familiar with the problems affecting honeybees and other pollinating species. In this farm bill, we have made strategic changes to help with this issue. In the Conservation Reserve Program, the Conservation Stewardship Program, and the Environmental Quality Incentives Program, we emphasize the creation and improvement of both the native and managed pollinator habitat. We require the Secretary of Agriculture to update conservation standards to include consideration for pollinators. Now, our Senate bill provides clear direction to focus conservation programs on creating, improving, and maintaining pollinator habitats and to revise and update conservation practices to include pollinators.

Again, together these practices will help to establish better pollination. We know we have had a problem with honeybees dying. We don't know exactly what is causing it. They are doing a lot of research on it now. But we do know one thing. In order for our prairies once again to blossom and do all the kinds of conservation work we need, we need that little animal called a honeybee for pollination purposes. So this bill invests in that also.

Coming full circle, when I started off my talk, I showed pictures of the great Dust Bowl in Kansas and places such as that—eastern Colorado. That is where this picture was taken. If you could take a picture of here in 1935, you would see the Dust Bowl. What has happened in this area, obviously a housing development has grown up, but in the foreground you will see grassland. That is a grassland reserve. They can't build houses there. You see a part of it, but this is a huge grassland reserve—protected by an easement that ensures that it stays in agricultural production. Grass will grow there, and livestock will graze, and the grass will hold the soil down, and keep the dust from blowing.

So, again, in this Grassland Reserve Program, there are about a million acres enrolled right now, but we haven't been doing it very long. Remember, I mentioned in the Dust Bowl that 80 million acres—80 million acres—were turned up. We have a million in protected grassland. We have a long way to go. We have a long way to go. But we put in $240 million for the Grassland Reserve Program in this bill to continue the program.

Now, again, I want to digress a little bit on this grassland. You see, one of the other things we are doing in our farm bill is we are providing money for ethanol—cellulosic ethanol. Ethanol not made from row crops, such as corn, but cellulose made from grass, such as this. With the research we are doing, we know we can make ethanol from these grasses. We are getting the right enzymes to make it economical. The scientists and engineers tell me that in 5 years or so we will have an economical means of making cellulosic ethanol. We are already investing in that in several ethanol plants around the country.

Imagine, if you will, this huge area of grasslands in the Plains States, where I showed the picture of the Dust Bowl.

This is the picture I showed earlier of a dust storm in Kansas last year. Now imagine, if you will, that rather than cropping this land, as we do every year, we have grassland. Now, as Timothy Egan pointed out in his book, nature has a way of selecting the best ecosystem over a long period of time. Nature does that, whether it is the rain forest up in the Northwest, the bay area here for shellfish and others, and backwaters, where all the fish life starts, or in the grasslands in the Plains areas. So over thousands and thousands and thousands of years, nature laid down this thin topsoil, and on top of it grew grasses—buffalo grass, blue stem, others—and through selectivity, over periods of time, were the hardiest to grow there. They sent their roots down 20, 30 feet into the ground, and they could withstand years of drought, the worst blizzards, and grass fires that used to sweep across the Plains.

Anyone who has ever read the Laura Ingalls Wilder book ''Little House on the Prairie'' knows how she talks about the threat of these huge fires sweeping through and all of that kept coming back, the grasslands that were there. Millions of buffalo ranged up and down there and had enough food to sustain them forever, and in 20 years we turned over 80 million acres of it that then dried up and blew away.

But think about this. We are going to have cellulose ethanol made from grass. Ten years from now, fifteen years from now, twenty years from now, we could see much of this land back into grassland. Not for buffalo to graze on but being grown as cellulosic feedstock being cut for ethanol and making fuel for our country. You don't have to plow it up. You leave it there, you cut it, it stays there and grows the next year. We can have the best conservation, we can have our grasslands, and we can produce the fuel we need for this country and do it in a way that is in concert with nature.

So that is why it is so important we get this grassland back and provide the incentives to protect as much of this grass as possible, and that is why we put $240 million into this bill.

The last couple of things I want to show is the Conservation Security Program, now renamed the Conservation Stewardship Program, which has enrolled about 15 million acres since 2002. This was a new program put into the farm bill in 2002. You see, most conservation programs are programs designed to give incentives to someone to take land out of production, put it into grassland, put it in trees, wetlands and buffer strips. And that is an important part of conservation.

But there is a lot of working lands. We need farmers to be better conservationists on working lands, lands that are being cropped. That means, for example, putting on the right amount of fertilizer and other management practices that can make a big difference for the environment.

Through the Conservation Security Program, I saw areas where farmers enrolled, and transitioned to precision agriculture, with equipment guided by the Global Positioning System. They had soil tests done of their farm, and rather than applying the same amount of fertilizer all over, they put the right amount of fertilizer wherever they applied it—more one place, less in another place. They were able to monitor and get the right amount of fertilizer so it wouldn't run off. They were able to buy equipment so they could do minimum tillage, where they didn't have to turn the soil over with the plow. They could combine, cut the cornstalks and leave it right there on the ground.

I visited a farm in southern Iowa this summer that was in the Conservation Security Program. With help the farmer received from the program, he had purchased some equipment to do what I am talking about. Then he took me over his land. He had corn last year. This year, he is planting beans. So he

is on a rotation, which is good for the soil. But he left all his cornstalks chopped and laid on the ground. At the time of my visit, there was rain in his area. It rained almost 5 inches—5 inches in about 12 hours. Now that is a heavy rain. We drove all over his land in a four-wheel drive vehicle. He hardly had any soil runoff because that rain would hit those cornstalks on the ground, slide off—he almost had literally no soil runoff.

Right across the road was a farmer who was not in the program and was planting corn up and down the hillsides and there were ditches where the water had taken that soil and run off the farm into other ditches, into streams, and the soil was gone.

The program in the 2002 farm bill was a conservation program to help farmers be better conservationists on land on which they were actually producing crops or livestock. They didn't have to take land out of production. They just had to do things better: minimum tillage, crop rotations, buffer strips, applying with the right amount of fertilizer—that type of thing. For producers who have been able to enroll, it has worked wonderfully.

But there has been one problem. The administration decided to allow enrollment on the basis of a watershed rotation. Over eight years, the program would supposedly cover all the watersheds in the country, but it has fallen far short of that goal. That is the bad news.

The good news is in this farm bill we get off the watershed rotation, and make CSP a national program—producers in every watershed and region of the states would be eligible to enroll, every year. Producers are ranked based upon the level of conservation they are already doing, and how much new conservation they are willing to do as part of the contract. We are strengthening this program.

It is hard to see on this chart, but the conservation security program is in every State in the Nation. It is all over, from Washington, Oregon, California, all across the east coast. A lot of people have said it is mostly for the Midwest. That is not true. On the east coast, on the far west up in Idaho. We even have some in Alaska, even some in Hawaii—again, to protect our soil and other resources.

The point I want to make here is in the last 5 years since we put this program in, we have enrolled 15 million acres. I know that sounds like a lot, but under the new program we have in this bill, with the funding we have, we will enroll 13.2 million acres each year in this program—13.2 million acres every year. We had 15 million acres in 5 years. We will do almost as much every year for the next 5 years. This means by the end of this farm bill we will have about 80 million acres enrolled in this program.

What will that mean? It will mean cleaner water, better wildlife habitats, less soil runoff; a better environment, a healthier environment for farmers, their families, and for all of us. That is why this program is so important.

It is sad to say, the House didn't put anything into this program and actually cut the program from baseline. It is an important program, one that can do a lot of good for our country. But it needs to be funded properly to give producers a fair shot at enrolling for it to do the good it has the potential of doing.

Last, here is the kind of thing we are looking at here. We talked about the soil and the land but it all comes down to people and the kind of people we have farming, and their families. That is what it comes down to. How do we nurture beginning farmers? How do we get young people involved in this?

Here is a young dairy farmer, Matt Fendry. He is 25 years old. He farms near Lanesboro in southeast Minnesota. He is a beginning farmer. He sells his milk through Organic Valley out of Lafarge, WI.

Matt, like many beginning farmers and ranchers, will benefit from the provisions we have in the conservation title. Here is how we do it.

For beginning farmers like Matt Fendry, and socially disadvantaged producers, we have included a special increase in cost-share rates up to 90 percent. So if the young man here wants to do good conservation work on his land—maybe rotational grazing the grassland for his cattle—it probably will cost him a little bit to get some things established. He can get back 90 percent. He only has to put up 10 percent of this money. The Government will come in for 90 percent for a beginning farmer.

Ten percent of our conservation programs will be reserved for beginning farmers. And for the first time we will allow the Secretary of Agriculture to advance up to 30 percent of the value of an EQIP contract to beginning and socially disadvantaged producers so they can purchase the materials they need for conservation work.

Most of the EQIP money that will go to Matt for what he will do for good conservation would come after he does it, maybe a year after. That means he would have to borrow the money, and pay interest. Now we give the Secretary authority to get what he needs, 30 percent up front, so if he needs to put in fencing, buy seed, whatever he needs to get this operation going using good conservation, he can get up front.

I think that is probably the bottom line here on my whole talk this evening, and that is what can we do for conservation. But what can we do to get young people involved in a way so they start from the very beginning, not just being a producer but being an environmentally conscious producer and one who, from the very beginning, protects our soil, our water, and our wildlife habitat? That is the goal of this.

You can see I am very passionate about this. I am passionate because if you read history, you know what we are doing. We saw it in the photos at the beginning of my presentation—we are repeating the mistakes of the past. We are abusing the land and pushing it beyond its productive capacity. As I said—the farmers want to protect their soil and their land. But the economics of agriculture drives producers to produce as much as they can when prices are high. The farm bill has to counter those pressures.

It is not good for this country. It is not good for our society. It is not good for rural America. So we need to make some changes in this farm bill and redirect it and guide it toward more conservation.

Back in 1998, I was wondering why it was that Europe was spending so much of government money on their farmers, yet they were complying with the World Trade Organization restrictions on farm subsidies. We are spending less money on our farmers and somehow we are not complying. I wanted to see what were they doing in Europe different than we were doing. So I traveled around and visited a lot of their farms.

No matter where I went, I saw a pristine countryside. I saw a countryside with small towns that were vibrant. I saw soil that was protected, waterways that were decently clean—some areas better than others. Finally I began to figure it out, what countries like France, Belgium, Germany, Spain, England, and Denmark were doing. They were making ''green payments'' to farmers, payments to farmers for conservation. Under the WTO, that is in the ''green box,'' which means it doesn't count against WTO limits. So some of the Europeans figure out here is the way we support our farmers, our small towns, our communities, clean up our water, provide for a beautiful countryside, and, guess what, we don't take a hit in the WTO because of that.

That made me think. I come back, traveling around through this country, I see the wind blowing, I see the dust storms, the soil erosion, the hypoxia maps in the Gulf of Mexico, what is happening to the Chesapeake Bay, and I think: Wait a minute, why aren't we doing that?

We have a program now, a direct payment program—$5 billion a year, $25 billion over the life of this farm bill, that started in 1996, of direct payments to farmers. To qualify for direct payments, all you had to do is have base acreage and a certain crop back in 1981 to 1985. You don't have to plant anything to get this money.

Moreover, the bigger you are, and the bigger the base you had, the more money you get. The result is that these payments lead to a cycle. More direct payments means a greater opportunity to expand. More expansion means more direct payments. It is like a black hole, there is nothing to stop it.

I am concerned that this cycle is hurting family farmers. It encourages producers to get bigger and bigger. Yet here we go, $5 billion a year, $25 billion

over the life of this. It seems to me it would make much more sense and would be more supported, I think, by the general populace, if we took that money and put it out in green payments to farmers to build the buffer strips, the contours, the wetlands, the grasslands—yes, paying farmers to help them use the right amount of fertilizer and do rotations and things such as that, that help preserve the soil.

Conservation programs are perfectly acceptable under WTO. We get a lot out of it. I am hopeful in the coming weeks, maybe as we go to conference on this farm bill, we can do more for conservation.

I want to say we did a good job on conservation in this bill. I am not denying that. We put good money in conservation. I thank my ranking member, SAXBY CHAMBLISS, and all the others on the committee. It was a hard fight but we got the money in there. But it is not quite enough when you look at all the other things in the farm bill. We moved the ball forward, but I think with the demands on our farmers now, what we see happening around this country, we need an even greater commitment. We need to do a lot more in conservation than we have ever done before or pretty soon the scales will tip so far that the kind of money it is going to take it to do it will be prohibitive.

That is why I take the time of the Senate tonight to talk about conservation. We need a better conservation ethic in this country. As we consider the farm bill, we need to be talking about soil and water conservation, helping farmers be better stewards of the soil and water. I am hopeful as we move into more debate we can make a few changes that will add some money to conservation before we go to conference. We have done a lot in the farm bill, but we have a lot more we can do.

So I ask any Senator out there who has an amendment, if you have not filed it, you better file it because pretty soon we may cut it off.

I am not encouraging amendments, you understand. I am just saying, if you have one, you better get it in in a hurry, and we will take a look at it.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, on behalf of Senator REID, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 206, the nomination of James Kunder to be Deputy Administrator of the U.S. Agency for International Development; that the nomination be confirmed; the motion to reconsider be laid on the table; the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action; and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Reserving the right to object, I understand that Senator COBURN, who was on the Senate floor a little earlier, has an objection to this request. On his behalf I would object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I would like to say to all of our colleagues, we have worked diligently to try to come together with a list of amendments on the farm bill to try to make sure that we proceed in some sort of regular order over the next several days.

Unfortunately, we have been here all day without being able to consider amendments. It is the unfortunate part of the way we do business in this body, trying to be deliberate, trying to make sure we are fair, not operating under a rule like our colleagues in the House do.

It is the way the Senate is designed to work. I think now it appears our leaders are going to be able to sit down with a list of amendments that have come forward from the majority side of the aisle, a list of amendments that have come forward from the minority side of the aisle, and we are going to be able to agree that these are all of the amendments that can be considered.

There is no agreement that all of them are germane, but there is hopefully going to be an agreement shortly that will allow us to proceed in the regular order for the consideration of amendments. It is a frustrating process that we go through from time to time.

When we were in the majority and our colleagues on the other side of the aisle were in the minority, again, there was many a day that we sat wanting to move forward and not being able to because of the way the process in the Senate works.

I would simply say to our colleagues that I fully expect that we are going to have an agreement, which means we should be able to move forward with the farm bill tomorrow, from an amendment consideration standpoint. Senator HARKIN and I pretty well agreed on the order of a couple of amendments that we will begin with that are critical amendments for consideration.

I am very hopeful that within the next couple of days not only will we make significant progress on the farm bill, but I am very hopeful, as I know Senator HARKIN, Senator CONRAD, and all of us are who have been working very hard together in a bipartisan way to get this bill before our colleagues, to have it considered before we get away from here for Thanksgiving so we can complete it early on in December and, hopefully, get it to the desk of the President in time that farmers and ranchers across this country will know what the farm policy is going to be for the next 5 years versus having to enter into the end-of-the-year process with a big question mark out there.

I simply say, again, we hope that is going to happen. I hope before we leave here in the next several minutes, whatever it may be, that we do have some agreement on the direction in which we are moving with respect to amendments to be offered to the farm bill.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. BROWN.) Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THUNE. Mr. President, we are still, as I understand, on the 2007 farm bill. I wanted to speak to one particular title of that bill, if I might, today.

As I have noted before, I support the Food Security and Energy Security Act of 2007, which is currently before the Senate. My hope is that in the not too distant future, we will be able to reach an agreement with regard to amendments so that we can move this process forward.

My fear is, if we do not reach any resolution this week and this gets pushed back until after the Thanksgiving break, that we run a very serious risk that we are not going to be able to get a bill through the Senate, conferenced with the House, before the end of the year.

In my judgment it is incredibly important to farmers and ranchers across this country that we come to some conclusions with this farm bill to give them some certainty, as they approach the 2008 planting season, about what the rules are going to be, what the programs are going to be, how it has perhaps changed from what we currently have in place.

But, in any event, it is, from a timing standpoint, of great importance that we act as soon as we can on the 2007 farm bill. So my hope would be, again, that we reach some resolution between the leadership on both sides as it pertains to amendments, and, of course, I have an amendment dealing with renewable fuel standards that I hope will be able to be included in that list of amendments that we get to debate and ultimately vote on.

But I do want to speak this evening with regard to one particular aspect of this farm bill, and it is an important one. It is one that perhaps has not been emphasized as much in this debate, although the Senator from Iowa, I heard earlier this evening, speaking to the conservation title of the farm bill. But my colleagues and I have spent the better part of the last 2 years listening to our constituents and translating those concerns and suggestions into the farm

bill that we have before the Senate today. We have also listened to multiple criticisms, mostly coming from those who are not directly involved in agriculture, telling us what is wrong with this farm bill.

But today I would like to talk about the conservation title because I believe it is just as critical to production agriculture in many respects as the commodity title.

The conservation title of the farm bill comprises only about 9 percent of its total cost. Yet it potentially affects more than 350 million acres of land in the United States.

When I say 9 percent, if you look at total spending in the 2007 farm bill, about 14 percent of the money in the bill is in the commodity title. Those are the programs that support production agriculture. About 9 percent is in this conservation title to which I address my remarks. The balance—about 67 percent or about two-thirds—of the funding in the farm bill actually goes toward nutrition, those aspects of the farm bill that really are very much unrelated to production agriculture. That is where the predominant share of the money is spent. A lot of times when those who criticize farm bills attack the funding that goes toward production agriculture, it is important to realize that most of the money in this bill isn't going to production agriculture. It is not going to the commodity title. It is going, two-thirds of it, to the nutrition title. That is in contrast to the last farm bill, the farm bill we operate under today, where about 28 percent of the funding in the bill goes to the commodity title, production agriculture, and about 54 percent of the funding, under the 2002 farm bill which is currently in effect and which we are hopefully reauthorizing with the 2007 version, goes toward nutrition. Under the new farm bill, the one before us today, about 67 percent of the money would go toward the nutrition title of the bill. I don't think it is fair in many respects when those who would like to criticize this attack it for the money going to the commodity title. That is certainly not the case.

The 9 percent that goes into conservation is important. There probably isn't anything that we do in terms of conservation or environmental stewardship that actually does more to achieve the objectives we all want than this conservation title in the farm bill achieves.

This picture, taken in 2007, is an example of the role played by the farm bill conservation title. What you see in the picture is CRP on the farm. You see also an example of crop production, working literally hand in hand. If you look in the bottom part of the picture, you see Conservation Reserve Program, the land that has been put into native grasses that is in abundance. You see in the center of the photograph a wetland area, some water in the background. Across the way, you see the cornfields that have been planted. The balance that has been struck on this property is seen between conservation, between native grasses, a wetland area that has been managed, and it all being complemented with a corn crop as well. That sort of describes what all of us would like to see when it comes to the way we manage our lands and the way farmers go about incorporating conservation practices into their crop production as well.

The CRP on this farm, the 1.5 million acres enrolled in CRP in South Dakota added 10 million pheasants and $153 million to South Dakota's economy. This year's record corn crop in South Dakota at 556 million bushels is worth an additional $1.8 billion to South Dakota farmers—again, those two working hand in hand in South Dakota achieving record corn crops at the same time that we have a record pheasant crop because of the good conservation practices that have been employed by many of the farmers in our State and which have been in response to, their practices, many of the incentives that were put in place in previous farm bills.

The second picture we have this evening is a picture taken not too long ago in South Dakota, a few months back, in the year 2007, and it tells another story. A lot of people would look at this picture and say: That must be the Great Depression, because when you look at it, that certainly is what it would appear to be. But it is not a scene from the 1930s; it is a scene from last March in 2007. It is an example and a result of what happened when native sod was cropped, because crop insurance provided an unintended incentive to convert marginal pastureland or native sod into cropland. This picture sends a stronger message than any words could about the inherent need to take care of our land. The topsoil you see in the fence line and ditch along this South Dakota field took literally millions of years to create and one dust storm to remove. The damage you see here cannot be undone.

There is a sod saver provision in the farm bill we are considering. It won't prohibit anyone from converting native sod into cropland, but what it does do, what the sod saver provision in this bill does is eliminate the incentives found in current Federal farm policy that encourage unwise farming practices which result in the consequences shown here.

Again, it is not a scene from the 1930s, which at first glance one might expect, but it is a scene literally from last March, calendar year 2007, in South Dakota. It is an example of what can happen when bad practices are undertaken.

The next picture is an example of some of the native sod that is being converted to cropland in South Dakota. For the past 100 years, billions of acres of prairie have been converted to productive farmland. Most native sod that can be productively farmed in South Dakota and other prairie States has already been converted to cropland. We faced a shortage of money to write this farm bill. I don't believe it is a wise use of Federal funds to pay for crop insurance and disaster programs on this type of land. If the farmer who owns this land wants to farm it under this farm bill, he or she is free to do so. But let's not subsidize it. That is an example of land that should not be brought under the plow, and this farm bill prevents crop insurance or disaster program payments from going to a farmer who would convert native prairie ground such as this into cropland.

This is an example of a dust storm that was not limited to the 1930s. This picture was taken in 2005 in South Dakota. Once again, we see the consequences of unwise land stewardship practices disturbingly evident in this picture.

During the 1930s, South Dakota received billions of tons of Kansas and Oklahoma topsoil, much of it still in place in fence lines and fields. The programs we drafted in the conservation title of this farm bill, if funded adequately, will ensure that Kansas and Oklahoma farmers no longer see their topsoil blow to South Dakota and that South Dakota farmers will keep their topsoil in their fields and not in the ditches and fence lines as we saw in the previous picture.

I have stated many times before and I will emphasize once more that production agriculture and conservation should not compete; rather, they should complement each other.

This is another picture of a South Dakota cornfield in CRP. CRP is native grasses in the foreground and then, of course, a cornfield planted toward the background of the picture. Every agricultural area in the country is blessed with productive land and also land that needs help to keep from polluting the water we drink and the air we breathe.

I ask those who are so critical of this farm bill to take a close look at the conservation title and what it offers. In spite of the budget cuts made in drafting this farm bill, which made it more difficult than writing any other farm bill that has ever been written, I am pleased that my colleagues and I have been able to write a farm bill with a sound conservation title.

I will point out once more examples of the benefits of the conservation title in this farm bill: First, protecting and enhancing our soil and our land; secondly, providing an economic alternative to placing costly fertilizer, seed, and chemicals on unproductive cropland; third, enhancing recreation and boosting local economies, which, as I noted earlier, created in our State of South Dakota an abundance of pheasants, 10 million pheasants this year, which is the highest number of pheasants we have seen at any time since the 1960s—they say about 1962 was the last time we had this kind of pheasant numbers in South Dakota—and $153 million to the economy of my State as a result of the recreation value that

comes from good, sound conservation practices.

I believe it is very important to take a breather from the controversy surrounding this farm bill and to take a few minutes to focus on the farm bill's proven capabilities to enhance rural America and to improve our Nation's water and soil. The conservation title will do just that. This is one of many reasons this farm bill deserves the support of our colleagues.

I leave my colleagues with the following information regarding the conservation title in the 2002 farm bill. Nationwide, without a conservation title, we would have 13.5 million fewer pheasants, 450 million tons of topsoil disappearing every single year, 2.2 million fewer ducks, an additional 170,000 miles of unprotected streams, and 40 million fewer acres of wildlife habitat. That is the value of a conservation title in the farm bill which accomplishes multiple objectives—protecting and enhancing our soil and land, providing an economic alternative to placing costly fertilizer, seed, and chemicals on unproductive cropland, and enhancing recreation and boosting local economies. Nine percent of the funding in this farm bill goes toward that end. That, when put in a total perspective of what this farm bill spends, is not that much relative to the benefit we accomplish and to the bad things we avoid happening by having a good conservation title.

As this farm bill is debated, we will have amendments at some point when we get an agreement. The amendments will focus on a lot of other areas of the farm bill. Some will focus on the commodity title and trying to move money around within the farm bill.

I am interested in the energy title. I have an amendment to the energy title, and we worked very hard in crafting the energy title in this farm bill to provide the necessary economic incentives for further investment in cellulosic ethanol production. The renewable fuels standard amendment I hope to be able to offer along with Senators DOMENICI AND NELSON of Nebraska and others on a bipartisan basis will make that energy title stronger. It will improve it.

It will give us some headroom to work within the area of renewable energy. The renewable fuels standard put in place back in 2005 called for 7.5 billion gallons of renewable fuel by the year 2012. We are going to hit 7.5 billion gallons by the end of this year if we don't act to increase the renewable fuels standard. We have a terrible crunch that is coming ahead of us. I hope we can get this amendment adopted that raises the renewable fuels standard, moves it to 8.5 billion gallons in the year 2008. It will give us the necessary headroom to keep this wonderful example of renewable energy in this country and a remarkable story going forward.

If we don't do something to address the renewable fuels standard, my fear is we will run into a wall. That would not be good. It would not be good for those who have already invested in ethanol facilities. It would not be good, clearly, for the economy in rural areas and all the jobs that have been created as a result of renewable energy. As importantly, if not more importantly, it will do nothing to lessen our dependence upon foreign sources of energy, which at the end of the day is so important in terms of our policy objectives.

This farm bill, by encouraging more energy production, if we can get the renewable fuels standard added to it, will take us a long way toward lessening our dependence on foreign energy. I would hope before this debate is concluded we will be able to have the amendments adopted and voted on, if not adopted, but certainly a chance to debate these things which we think will make the farm bill stronger. Some of those amendments may deal with the conservation title, but I think this particular title is one that often gets overlooked in the discussion that is held about the farm bill because of the focus on production agriculture and because of the focus on the nutrition title of the bill which really comprises about two-thirds of the total funding of the bill.

But 9 percent of the money that is spent in this farm bill, the conservation value we get from that and the difference it is making in areas all across this country in protecting our critical soil and water resources, in adding to our economy, providing recreational opportunities such as pheasant hunting in South Dakota—this is a very important title of this bill, one that there was great deliberation and consideration given toward coming up with.

I hope at the end of the day we will get the farm bill passed before the end of the year and get this conservation title, along with the other policy changes that are included in the farm bill, implemented into law so our farmers and our ranchers and those who will benefit from the great recreational opportunities that will result from this conservation title will know what the rules are going to be as we approach this next year.

So, again, I have heard many of my colleagues come down and speak on the floor today about different aspects of this bill. My biggest hope and greatest fear at this point is—my biggest hope is we get this thing moving this week. My greatest fear is if we do not, we are not going to get a farm bill this year. So I hope before we leave this week we will come to a resolution about amendments and the way forward and the process we are going to use to get a farm bill adopted.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

VETERANS DAY

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, 53 years ago, President Dwight Eisenhower named November 11 ''Veterans Day,'' setting aside that day to honor all Americans who have served our country so honorably in the military, both in war and in peace.

I want to take the opportunity this day of remembrance provides to say to all veterans and their families, thank you for your courage, your character, your strength, and the enduring power of your example. All Americans owe you our gratitude and appreciation for your commitment to and sacrifice for our Nation.

Since our Nation's struggle for freedom more than two centuries ago, nearly 50 million men and women have served in the U.S. military and nearly 25 million of these veterans are alive today. Our thoughts and prayers also are with our veterans of tomorrow—the 1.4 million Americans serving in our Armed Forces, including the more than 189,000 service men and women who are in harm's way in Iraq and Afghanistan. Because of the noble service and tremendous sacrifices of our men and women in uniform, the United States stands as a beacon of democracy, hope, and opportunity to the rest of the world.

At this moment, as we send soldiers to fight overseas, our support for our servicemembers must remain steadfast and strong. Our veterans have earned access to quality health care, affordable educational opportunities, and a chance to thrive once home.

I am proud today to be a part of this Congress that has worked to honor our commitment to our Nation's veterans. In September, the Senate passed the Veterans Affairs Appropriations bill for 2008. The legislation provides nearly 65 billion dollars for the Veterans' Administration. Specifically, the bill makes substantial new investments to improve and strengthen health care for our brave veterans, making critical investments in medical services, including treatment of traumatic brain injury, TBI, and post-traumatic stress disorder, PTSD, for Iraq and Afghanistan veterans; funding for new claims processors to address the backlog of pending disability claims, and the investment in VA repair and maintenance necessary to prevent another Walter Reed type situation. These investments address key shortcomings in our veterans health care system.

Although a minority in the Senate blocked our ability to send that legislation to the President's desk last week, we voted this past Thursday to provide temporary funding at the level the Bush administration requested. That amount is $4 billion less than what we in Congress originally intended. We remain committed to ensuring the VA receives the full $65 billion necessary to provide veterans the care and services they have earned.

But just as important as the quality of care is access to care. My colleague, Senator BARBARA A. MIKULSKI, and I have worked together to secure Federal funding for two new VA community-based clinics in Maryland—one at Andrews Air Force Base in Prince

George's County and another at Fort Detrick in Frederick County. Not only will facilities like these help to reduce backlog and waiting times, they will allow more veterans to receive care close to home.

We know, however, that we can and must do more for our Nation's veterans, for those who have given so much to our country. In addition to giving our veterans the benefits they deserve, we must continue to honor their service and keep the memory of our fallen soldiers alive. In that spirit, I introduced bipartisan legislation to grant a Federal charter to the Korean War Veterans Association, S. 1692, the only fraternal veterans' organization in the Unites States devoted exclusively to veterans of the Korean war. This bill unanimously passed the Senate, and I am hopeful it will soon pass the House. Should that happen, it will ensure that the nearly 1.2 million American veterans of the Korean war will receive the Federal recognition they deserve for their dedication and sacrifice.

As elected leaders, we also have an obligation to act as good stewards for our military, exercising wise judgment for its use and providing the equipment, training, and materiel necessary for its success. My colleagues and I have made a good faith effort to act as those stewards.

Just this past Thursday evening, Congress passed a spending bill that provides $460 billion for the Department of Defense, which is $40 billion above the fiscal year 2007 enacted level. Congress directed that money be spent on a pay raise and better medical care and benefits for our troops but also on procuring new equipment for our National Guard, increasing troop strength, and developing the Armed Forces and the tools necessary to engage in the very different types of conflicts we are confronted with in the world today.

In his second inaugural address, a portion of which is engraved on our Veterans' Administration building, President Lincoln said:

> Let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan—to do all which may achieve and cherish a just, and a lasting peace, among ourselves, and with all nations.

I see those words as a charge to us here in Government, laying out the grave and important work we have left to do. But I think these words can serve as a guide to all of us, in every community, today and every day, as we welcome and honor our returned and returning heroes and work toward a more perfect Union.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, founding Veterans Day in 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower called upon Americans to "solemnly remember the sacrifices of all those who fought so valiantly, on the seas, in the air, and on foreign shores, to preserve our heritage of freedom. . . ." Today, we heed the advice of President Eisenhower and pay respect to all soldiers who have sacrificed to ensure America remains free, safe, and the symbol of democracy around the world.

Throughout history, our soldiers have been asked to abandon their livelihoods to defend America's ideals and freedoms. Our soldiers have shouldered this great responsibility with courage, dedication, and honor. In return, this Nation cannot forget the countless sacrifices our soldiers have made for this country. We commemorate these valiant Americans who have protected the liberties and freedoms that all enjoy today.

Congress must do its part to honor our Nation's soldiers. We are profoundly grateful for the many sacrifices that our soldiers have made in the current war against terrorists and in past conflicts. This includes ensuring all veterans receive proper health care, benefits, rehabilitation, and services. Congress will continue to support our veterans.

We are all forever indebted to our veterans. I, therefore, personally thank all veterans and their families for the sacrifices you all have endured. I salute your valor and am immensely grateful for your service.

RECOGNIZING THE RUNNIN' BULLDOGS

Mrs. DOLE. Mr. President, it is with great honor that I rise today to proudly recognize the accomplishments of the Gardner-Webb University "Runnin' Bulldogs" of Boiling Springs, NC.

Originally chartered on December 2, 1905, Gardner-Webb has long been known for its excellent academic and athletic programs, which is a testament to its accomplished faculty. As a thriving regional university, Gardner-Webb offers eight unique degree programs on its beautiful 200 acre campus. Led by University President Dr. Frank Bonner, its approximately 4,000 students are some of the brightest minds their generation has to offer and I look forward to witnessing their rise through the ranks in the coming years ahead.

On November 7, 2007, in a truly David versus Goliath story, the Gardner-Webb "Runnin' Bulldogs" basketball team visited storied Rupp Arena to challenge the Kentucky Wildcats, one of college basketball's most successful programs, boasting seven National Championships. Late into the evening it became official, the Bulldogs shocked college basketball by upsetting the #20 ranked Wildcats. The Bulldogs entered the locker room at halftime with an 11 point lead and never looked back. With a final score of 84–68, head coach Rick Scruggs, team staff and the determined players masterfully executed their game plan which will forever be remembered as one the greatest upsets in college basketball history.

I join the university's many loyal supporters, alumni and fans everywhere in commending not only the Bulldogs' outstanding accomplishment last night, but the entire Gardner-Webb community for cultivating an environment that believes that accomplishing anything is not only plausible, but as highlighted last night, is possible.

TRAVEL RULES

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I wish to notify all Senators that on Friday, November 9, 2007, the Committee on Rules and Administration approved the request of the Select Committee on Ethics and granted a 3-week extension until December 3, 2007, for the Ethics Committee to issue the initial guidelines implementing the new rules on privately sponsored travel required by Public Law 110–81.

In their letter to the Rules Committee, Senators BOXER and CORNYN note that unless the request is approved, the new travel rules would become effective on November 13, 2007. Due to the scheduling of a number of proposed trips on or shortly after November 13, the Ethics Committee believes that the additional required paperwork would not be submitted in time for review before the trips commence.

The 3-week extension will afford the Ethics Committee additional time to post the proposed new travel guidelines on its Web site. These guidelines will be effective on December 3, 2007, and all privately sponsored travel beginning on or after that date will be required to conform to the new rules and guidelines.

I ask unanimous consent to have the letter from the Ethics Committee dated November 7, 2007, printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

U.S. SENATE,
SELECT COMMITTEE ON ETHICS,
Washington, DC, November 7, 2007.

Hon. DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
Chairman, Committee on Rules and Administration, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBERT F. BENNETT,
Ranking Member, Committee on Rules and Administration, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATORS FEINSTEIN AND BENNETT: Consistent with the Honest Leadership and Open Government Act of 2007 (the "Act"), the Select Committee on Ethics requests that the Committee on Rules and Administration extends until December 3, 2007, the deadline for the Ethics Committee's formal issuance of the initial guidelines implementing the new rules on privately-sponsored travel. (See Section 544(b)(4) of the Act.)

The legislative history of the Act provides that the new travel requirements "go into effect 60 days after enactment, or the date the Select Committee on Ethics issues the required guidelines under the rules, whichever is later." Without the requested extension, the new travel rules would become effective on November 13, 2007. The Committee has prepared guidelines and new forms that

must be completed by Senate members and staff, as well as trip sponsors, 30 days prior to their travel. We would be ready to issue these guidelines and forms on November 13. However, a number of proposed trips that have been submitted to the Committee for review begin on or shortly after November 13, and it would be highly unlikely that the additional paperwork could be completed for review by the Committee before these trips begin.

If the Committee on Rules and Administration extends the deadline for issuance of the guidelines until December 3, 2007, all privately-sponsored travel beginning on or after that date would be required to conform to the new rules and guidelines.

So that privately-sponsored travel starting on or after December 3, 2007, may meet the requirements of the new travel rules, the Committee intends on November 13, 2007, to post on its Web site a preview of the complete text of the new travel guidelines, and related regulations and forms, that the Committee will issue formally on December 3, 2007, if the Committee on Rules and Administrations grants the requested extension.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request,

Sincerely,

BARBARA BOXER,
Chairman.
JOHN CORNYN,
Vice Chairman.

EMANCIPATION HALL

Mrs. FEINSTEIN. Mr. President, I rise today, as chairman of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, to voice my support of legislation to name the great hall in the new Capitol Visitor Center ''Emancipation Hall.''

This legislation—S.1679—was introduced by Senator MARY LANDRIEU on June 21, 2007, and is cosponsored by Senator BARACK OBAMA. I am proud to join them as a cosponsor.

A companion bill has been introduced in the House of Representatives by Representatives ZACH WAMP and JESSE JACKSON. The measure has over 225 cosponsors in the House and last week it was approved by the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. It is my understanding that it will soon be taken up by the House, which earlier approved the proposal as part of the fiscal year 2008 legislative branch appropriations bill.

I encourage my colleagues in the Senate to support this legislation.

The naming of ''Emancipation Hall'' in the new Capitol Visitor Center would be a fitting tribute to the contributions of slaves in the construction of our Nation's Capitol Building. It would also serve to recognize the end of slavery in the United States.

The Capitol Visitor Center is nearing completion, and its Great Hall promises to be a spectacular place—an estimated 3 million people are expected to gather in the area as they come to visit our great Capitol each year.

And through large skylights in the ceiling, visitors will be able to look upwards and gaze upon the grand Capitol dome.

This environment is the perfect place for visitors to reflect upon the construction of the U.S. Capitol, and to recognize the slaves who helped to build it.

The total number of slaves who worked on the Capitol is unknown. But there is evidence that slave workers contributed in a number of important ways to its construction. This includes a slave named Philip Reid who played an important role in the casting of the 19-foot, 15,000-pound bronze Statue of Freedom that rests atop the Capitol dome. Others are memorialized in pay stubs to their owners for work done in the Capitol.

Naming the Great Hall of the Capitol Visitor Center as ''Emancipation Hall'' would serve to recognize both the brutal truth of our Nation's past and the importance of freedom as a pillar of modern America.

The history of slavery in the United States is a grim chapter in our Nation's history. But the Emancipation Proclamation, issued by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863, was an important step toward abolishing slavery in the United States.

In the Emancipation Proclamation, President Lincoln declared:

> I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free; and that the Executive government of the United States, including the military and naval authorities thereof; will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

While the Emancipation Proclamation did not officially abolish slavery in all of the United States, it was an important commitment by the government to end this centuries-long injustice.

By sustaining the history of this great act, we highlight the importance of freedom. And by naming the Capitol Visitor Center's main entry as ''Emancipation Hall,'' we do so in a significant way that all visitors of our Nation's Capitol Building will notice and respect.

As chairman of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee and the Joint Committee on the Library, which oversees Capitol artwork, I believe it is very important to provide an accurate and diversified image of our Nation for the visitors to our Capitol. The naming of ''Emancipation Hall'' would be one step toward achieving that.

I also welcome a new report by the congressional Slave Labor Task Force, which has come forward with a number of recommendations for acknowledging and commemorating the work slaves performed in building our Capitol.

I look forward to working with the task force on this issue so people throughout the world will know more about the contribution by slaves toward constructing the building that has become the very foundation of our democracy.

IDENTITY THEFT ENFORCEMENT AND RESTITUTION ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am disappointed that some Senator is preventing the Senate from taking an important step forward to combat identity theft and to protect the privacy rights of all Americans by passing the Leahy-Specter Identity Theft Enforcement and Restitution Act of 2007. This bipartisan cyber crime bill, which was requested by the Department of Justice, will provide new tools to Federal prosecutors to combat identity theft and other computer crimes. I know that it is cleared for passage by all Democratic Senators.

The dangers of identity theft and other cyber crimes continue to increase as our Nation becomes more dependent on high technology. In fact, just last week, FBI Director Robert Mueller stated that ''[c]yber threats will continue to grow as people become more and more dependent upon digital technology'' and ''we will be vulnerable to terrible attacks.'' Prompt Senate action on this bill will bring us one step closer to providing greatly needed tools to the Federal prosecutors and investigators who are on the front lines of the battle against identity theft and other cyber crimes. I urge those objecting to proceeding on this bill to reconsider their actions and allow the bill to be considered and passed.

I thank Senator SPECTER, who has been a valuable partner in combating the growing problem of identity theft for many years, for joining with me to introduce this important privacy bill. I have once again worked in a bipartisan manner with a group of Senators on both sides of the aisle to draft this legislation. I thank Senators DURBIN, GRASSLEY, SCHUMER, BILL NELSON, INOUYE, STEVENS, and FEINSTEIN for joining with us as cosponsors of this important legislation.

I commend Senators BIDEN and HATCH for their contributions in this area. I am pleased that several provisions they have suggested to further strengthen this cyber crime legislation were included by amendment in this bill when it was considered and reported by the Judiciary Committee and that they, too, have now cosponsored our bill.

Senator SPECTER and I have worked closely with the Department of Justice in crafting this bill, and the Leahy-Specter Identity Theft Enforcement and Restitution Act has the strong support of the Department of Justice and the Secret Service. This bill is also supported by a broad coalition of business, high-tech and consumer groups, including Microsoft, Consumers Union, the Cyber Security Industry Alliance, the Business Software Alliance, AARP, and the Chamber of Commerce.

The Identity Theft Enforcement and Restitution Act takes several important and long overdue steps to protect Americans from the growing and evolving threat of identity theft and other cyber crimes. First, to better protect American consumers, our bill provides the victims of identity theft with the ability to seek restitution in Federal court for the loss of time and money

spent restoring their credit and remedying the harms of identity theft, so that identity theft victims can be made whole.

Second, because identity theft schemes are much more sophisticated and cunning in today's digital era, our bill also expands the scope of the Federal identity theft statutes so that the law keeps up with the ingenuity of today's identity thieves. Our bill adds three new crimes—passing counterfeit securities, mail theft, and tax fraud—to the list of predicate offenses for aggravated identity theft. And, in order to better deter this kind of criminal activity, our bill also significantly increases the criminal penalties for these crimes. To address the increasing number of computer hacking crimes that involve computers located within the same State, our bill also eliminates the jurisdictional requirement that a computer's information must be stolen through an interstate or foreign communication in order to federally prosecute this crime.

Our bill also addresses the growing problem of the malicious use of spyware to steal sensitive personal information, by eliminating the requirement that the loss resulting from the damage to a victim's computer must exceed $5,000 in order to federally prosecute this offense. The bill also carefully balances this necessary change with the legitimate need to protect innocent actors from frivolous prosecutions and clarifies that the elimination of the $5,000 threshold applies only to criminal cases. In addition, our bill addresses the increasing number of cyber attacks on multiple computers by making it a felony to employ spyware or keyloggers to damage 10 or more computers, regardless of the aggregate amount of damage caused. By making this crime a felony, the bill ensures that the most egregious identity thieves will not escape with minimal punishment under Federal cyber crime laws.

Lastly, our bill strengthens the protections for American businesses, which are more and more becoming the focus of identity thieves, by adding two new causes of action under the cyber extortion statute—threatening to obtain or release information from a protected computer and demanding money in relation to a protected computer—so that this bad conduct can be federally prosecuted. In addition, because a business as well as an individual can be a prime target for identity theft, our bill closes several gaps in the Federal identity theft and the aggravated identity theft statutes to ensure that identity thieves who target a small business or a corporation can be prosecuted under these laws. The bill also adds the remedy of civil and criminal forfeiture to the arsenal of tools to combat cyber crime, and our bill directs the U.S. Sentencing Commission to review its guidelines for identity theft and cyber crime offenses.

The Identity Theft Enforcement and Restitution Act is a good, bipartisan measure to help combat the growing threat of identity theft and other cyber crimes to all Americans. This carefully balanced bill protects the privacy rights of American consumers, the interests of business, and the legitimate needs of law enforcement. This privacy bill also builds upon our prior efforts to enact comprehensive data privacy legislation. The Leahy-Specter Personal Data Privacy and Security Act, S. 495, which Senator SPECTER and I reintroduced earlier this year, would address the growing dangers of identity theft at its source—lax data security and inadequate breach notification. Protecting the privacy and security of American consumers should be one of the Senate's top legislative priorities, and I urge the majority leader to take up that measure at the earliest opportunity.

Again, I thank the bipartisan coalition of Senators who have joined Senator SPECTER and me in supporting this important privacy legislation, as well as the many consumer and business groups that support this bill. I urge whoever is holding up this bipartisan bill to stop delaying this measure so that the Senate can promptly pass this important and much needed privacy bill before the Thanksgiving recess.

I ask unanimous consent that a support letter from the Chamber of Commerce be printed in the RECORD following my remarks.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,
Washington, DC, November 2, 2007.

Hon. PATRICK LEAHY,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

Hon. ARLEN SPECTER,
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN LEAHY AND RANKING MEMBER SPECTER: The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region, thanks you for your leadership on issues related to identity theft and other types of cyber crime. The Chamber strongly supports S. 2168, the ''Identity Theft Enforcement and Restitution Act of 2007,'' and congratulates the Committee on the Judiciary for reporting favorably this important legislation.

The Internet today is a major engine of economic growth for the United States. Unfortunately, accompanying this amazing growth has been the continued rise of malicious cyber activity by very coordinated and clever criminal networks. S. 2168 will go a long way to address this very serious issue by giving law enforcement officials much needed tools and resources to combat these criminals.

Once again, the Chamber appreciates your leadership on these issues, and looks forward to working with the Committee to assure passage of S. 2168 by the full Senate.

Sincerely,

R. BRUCE JOSTEN,
Executive Vice President, Government Affairs.

HEALTHY AMERICANS ACT

Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, today, I join a bipartisan group of Senators in support of the Healthy Americans Act. This legislation marks the beginning of what I hope will be a growing bipartisan effort to address one of our most daunting domestic challenges—health care reform. Historically, the issue of health care and how to solve our growing crisis has divided us, but we must find a way to come together and provide leadership on an issue that is central to the lives and finances of millions of Americans.

There are over 47 million uninsured people in America today; another 16 million are underinsured. Diminished health and shorter life spans due to lack of health insurance cost an estimated $65 to $130 billion annually. Meanwhile, an estimated $35 billion in uncompensated care is delivered to uninsured individuals annually.

The ever-rising costs of health care are being felt by all Americans, not only those who are uninsured. When I speak to constituents in my home State of Connecticut, I am struck by the number of currently insured families who worry about maintaining that coverage. With premiums rising more rapidly than wages, it is increasingly difficult for these families to continue to afford their coverage.

And the costs are certain to continue rising. Health spending between 2006 and 2015 will total $30.3 trillion and will grow at an average rate of 7.2 percent—2.3 percent higher than the average annual GDP growth rate. To bring the growth in health care spending into line with the annual GDP growth rate, we would need to decrease health care spending by $3 trillion over this period.

But while we spend more than any other nation in the world on health care, Americans do not receive the highest quality of care. A 2003 study published in the New England Journal of Medicine found that in the U.S., appropriate medical care is provided to individuals approximately 50 percent of the time.

It is clear that we must work across party and ideological lines to cover those that are uninsured in this Nation, provide health security to those hardworking families with insurance, bring the rising costs of health care under control, and provide high quality care to all. In the past, I have advocated for, and have proposed, targeted reforms to our health care system. I proposed the creation of a program called MediKids to insure all children in America from the moment of their birth to 25 years of age. Families would choose from a menu of private health care plans and pay based on their income. And for the millions of uninsured adults in the U.S., I proposed the establishment of a program called MediChoice, which would create large pools of coverage to bring the cost of health insurance down, and would provide the uninsured, the self-employed,

and small business employees with affordable private health insurance options. In addition, my plan would have included a new program called FairCare to reduce racial disparities, increased the number of school-based health centers around the Nation, reinvested in our public health infrastructure, and provided new funds and incentives for the improvement and adoption of health information technology. Lastly, my health care proposal included a new strategic investment in promising breakthroughs in biomedical research to bring new treatments, diagnostics, and cures to the public. I will continue to support these incremental reforms as we move forward.

But as our health care system shows increasing signs of strain and growing numbers of Americans join the ranks of the uninsured, I also believe that we must seriously consider comprehensive, systemic reform to achieve the goal of quality, affordable health care for all Americans.

For that reason, I am proud to support the Healthy Americans Act, a strong proposal that provides this Congress with a bipartisan starting point on health care reform.

The Healthy Americans Act has the potential to offer universal coverage while using a fiscally responsible approach, which I believe are the keys to moving forward in a bipartisan manner. The legislation would reform the tax code in a well-thought out manner to make comprehensive health care reform a true possibility. By realigning key provisions in the Tax Code, this legislation would achieve universal coverage without adding yet another burden to the Federal budget. The legislation would also shield American business from ever-rising health care costs and, by unleashing market forces, protect the economy by reining in overall health care costs—all while reassuring our families that their health care will always be there.

An independent health care consulting group found that through new revenues, savings, and the restructuring of tax credits, the Healthy Americans Act would not result in new Federal spending. The group also projects that the proposal would reduce the annual health spending growth rate by 0.86 percent totaling a savings of $1.48 trillion from 2007–2016, or 4.5 percent of total spending over that time period. Lastly, the group estimates that the proposal would cover 99 percent of all Americans.

The act would establish a centrally financed system of private health insurance for all Americans. Comprehensive coverage policies would be available through new insurance pools, which would harness the power of a reformed health insurance marketplace that would provide individuals with choice and value. The plan would be paid for by eliminating the current employer health benefits tax exclusion, which is estimated to cost the Federal Government approximately $200 billion per year. Instead, subsidies would be provided to lower income and working families to purchase comprehensive coverage. Employers, in turn, would convert the health benefits they currently provide to employees into higher wages that employees would use to buy health insurance. Lastly, individuals would also receive a new health insurance premium tax deduction to prevent tax increases in middle-income workers resulting from the higher wages.

This proposal embodies both the foundation and architecture for building a health care system that will achieve universal coverage. Each of the stakeholders in our health care system—from individual Americans, employers, to insurance companies, health care providers and hospitals—will gain something under this plan. I believe this legislation offers crucial benefits for all stakeholders while calling on them to make equitable, economically efficient contributions to the shared effort of achieving health security for all Americans.

As we move through what I hope will be a successful legislative process, I will be working with my colleagues to ensure that we perfect the balance this bill strives to reach. That effort will be crucial for my home State of Connecticut. First, nearly 60 percent of Americans currently receive coverage through their employers, and in Connecticut, more than 60 percent of our workers are covered through employers. We must move cautiously and ensure we protect coverage for those currently a part of the system that has served us for decades, and provide American businesses with the support necessary to make short-term changes in benefits, in exchange for long-term cost savings and increased competitiveness. At the same time, moving away from a primarily employer-based system of coverage would provide individuals with true portability and stability of coverage, while, again, protecting competitiveness of American businesses against runaway health care coverage costs, in this new global economy.

Second, the legislation as currently drafted would mandate that employers provide employees higher benefits equivalent to the amount that employers currently contribute for employee health care benefits. We should consider the prudence of safeguards following a mandate period in order to prevent employees from facing wage cuts that would reduce their capacity to purchase comprehensive coverage.

Third, a new health premium tax exemption will be created by this legislation so that most workers are not paying higher taxes with the increase in wages, which are to be used for the purchase of health insurance. But in many States, such as mine, the cost of living and cost of health insurance are higher than in other parts of the nation, placing unique pressures on residents of those States. Therefore, I plan to work with Senator WYDEN and the other sponsors of the act to move in a direction that will take account of differences in health insurance coverage costs, as well as in cost of living.

Lastly, the proposal would transition Medicaid and CHIP beneficiaries into the new program. Given the complex health needs of many Medicaid beneficiaries, we must ensure that they have the necessary levels of coverage under any new system. I look forward to working with my colleagues on each of these issues.

I applaud the efforts of my colleagues, Senators WYDEN and BENNETT, and of the bipartisan group that is supporting this legislation, and I am proud to join them. If we put aside partisan politics and muster political will, we can provide the American people with true leadership on this most important domestic policy issue, and can succeed in bringing quality health care to all Americans.

INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION WEEK

Mr. FEINGOLD. Mr. President, in honor of the eighth annual International Education Week, which runs Monday, November 12 to 16, 2007, I would like to emphasize the importance of international education and exchange programs and the key role they play in strengthening our own educational system, shaping our young citizens to become successful in our interconnected world, and improving our image as Americans overseas.

In so doing, I want to share a number of stories from my constituents about how their international education and exchange experiences have changed their lives. While I do not have time to read all of their stories, I will ask to have them printed in the RECORD as each and every one of these stories demonstrates how critical it is that we support international education and exchange programs and initiatives.

You will see in all of my constituents' stories a common theme—international education has opened their eyes to the fact that we are an interconnected global community and that we have responsibilities as Americans to reach out to that global community. A constituent, Claire from River Falls, WI, wrote to me that:

> I was an AFS student in high school (in Brazil) and since then firmly believe that if we could lift every 16 year old out of their ''comfort zone'' and have them live somewhere else in the world for a few months; we'd end war and certainly increase global understanding.

I agree with this statement and firmly believe that if we all stepped out of our ''comfort zone,'' we would be facing a future that is more stable and secure than where we appear to be today.

International education and exchange strengthens our own educational system in a variety of ways. First and foremost, educational exchanges better prepare our children for

the workforce and competing in the global economy. Katherine from River Falls shared her experience working through a nongovernmental organization called Building Tomorrow. She wrote:

While in Uganda [with Building for Tomorrow], I was fortunate enough to have a homestay experience with a Ugandan family . . . I and two other Building Tomorrow members were paired with a doctor because we all had an interest in some aspect of health care . . . This experience was remarkable and contributed to my decision to pursue a career in public health.

International education and exchange strengthens our own educational system. Teachers and students participating in exchange programs are able not only to broaden their own horizons, they also inform their peers of their experiences and thinking and, in so doing, contribute to their school systems for the lasting benefit of others. Sandra, a teacher in Sun Prairie, wrote to me that she participated in two separate Fulbright Hayes Group Projects Abroad and that, ''both Fulbright-Hayes Group Projects Abroad inspired me to develop innovative interdisciplinary curriculum units, made infinitely richer by my newly acquired photographs, video footage, cultural artifacts, interview notes, books published outside of the U.S., and personal reflections . . . As a result of ongoing internationally focused literacy programming, my middle school students, including reluctant and struggling readers, seek out books on other cultures and countries, are intrigued by world maps, and pay more attention to world news and global concerns.''

International education and exchange programs foster greater cultural understanding. Today's students are tomorrow's leaders—and the better they understand other cultures, the better prepared they will be to make informed and balanced decisions for the benefit of our Nation's and our world's security and well-being. Thanks to the disastrous policies of this administration, anti-American sentiment around the world is at alarming levels. Those policies were based, in part, on inadequate information or misinformation about the rest of the world. As a result, future American leaders are facing a world that is fraught with mistrust. Their overseas experiences today will build relationships for tomorrow. Those experiences will form their future decisions and provide them with a broader appreciation of others' views and interests.

Sarah, a senior at University of Wisconsin Stevens Point, wrote to explain to me about her semester abroad program:

Traveling and studying abroad in general taught me about American and other cultures, societies, views, and ideas, different forms of government, a greater sense of independence, and how to look at cultures and traditions that are different from my own with an open mind, rather than making judgment[s] before I know all the facts.

As U.S. citizens, many of us have privileges that countless millions of people throughout the world will never experience. International educational opportunities encourage a greater sense of social responsibility to assist those who face lives of poverty, disease, and the effects of natural disasters. Lacey, a 25 year-old graduate of UW Madison, e-mailed me upon her return from spending a summer studying in China which impacted her so much that she is returning to be a volunteer interpreter at the Beijing 2008 Olympics. She wrote:

I use my travels and the things I learn from each place to bring back to my community with me and try to give back in whatever way I can as much as possible.

Finally, our citizens are our best diplomats. International education and exchange programs offer them the opportunity to reach out to others to reverse negative or inaccurate images that the rest of the world has formed. Kathy from Oshkosh shared with me how her experiences changed her perceptions:

I recall with distinct clarity a conversation I had with my host mother in Spain about the people of Islam in our country. She was very surprised that I had friends who are Muslim and that I respect their culture and religion. She told me that I changed the way she views Americans . . . Senator Feingold, I am no longer just a citizen of the United States of America. I am a citizen of the World.

Congress has an important role to play in enabling and promoting these experiences for our constituents. I was a strong supporter of the creation of the Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program, an independent commission created in 2004 for the purpose of recommending a program to greatly expand the opportunity for students at institutions of higher education in the United States to study abroad, with special emphasis on studying in developing countries. One of my colleagues—Senator DURBIN—has taken an important step in working to implement the commission's published recommendations by introducing the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act of 2007, S. 991. But this bill is not enough. We also need to be supporting opportunities for every American to study overseas. And if not study, then to volunteer or participate in one-on-one exchanges. Cultural misunderstanding makes our world more dangerous, and, as you have heard from the accounts I have read, it is our citizens who make the biggest, longest lasting change.

As we recognize and celebrate International Education Week, I call on all Americans to take a little time to learn something new this week about another culture, and I encourage all Americans to recognize and support international education and exchange throughout the year.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have constituent stories printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

ADDITIONAL STORIES

In the summer of 2005 our family, which owns a dairy farm, did an international exchange with a Mexican college student named Ceci.

Boy oh boy did it open our eyes to the cultural differences as well as similarities that we share. Our children later did a reciprocal exchange, and stayed with Ceci's family for 3 weeks, and again this summer we had an opportunity to go visit Ceci's family who live in Queretaro, Mexico. I have also volunteered to speak about this cultural eye opening experience to our local elementary school, and have shared our pictures of the farms we visited while in Queretaro. Very similar...

Our countries have so much to offer each other, it sickens me that our government is spending so much money in the name of terrorism to build a wall between our borders. I respect the need to secure our borders, but there should be a diplomatic way in which we could legally allow those seeking work to come here and work. Those who come are following a dream of a job, not a dream to kill Americans. If we were working them to place them in jobs, it would be easier to outline our expectations and track them as well.

ELLEN, *Independence.*

Studying abroad is an opportunity that any student should be able to take advantage of. This past Spring Semester, I had the chance to study abroad in Pamplona, Spain. Never did I imagine it possible for me to study in Spain had it not been for the financial help provided for me in the form of grants and loans. I entered Spain, expecting to learn a language, when I left I had learned and gained so much more. Coming back to the United States, I not only feel more comfortable in my ability to speak Spanish but in the way I present myself. When studying abroad, language can become a barrier, and one must rely on other things such as tone of voice, hand gestures, and more often relationships to understand the culture to its fullest. Having to conquer the hurdle of language while I was abroad, I learned to depend on other strengths and attributes I never knew I had. I can say honestly, that I have gained much more than the experience of learning a language, moreover the growth of a family. Living in the United States, I take a little piece of Spain with me wherever I go, hoping to influence others with my experience.

MARY, *Oshkosh.*

This past summer I completed an internship on the Tibetan Plateau in the Yunnan Province of southwestern China. It was coordinated through UW—River Falls and the China Exploration and Research Society (CERS). The mission of CERS is to conserve the cultural and natural environments of remote China. I aided in this mission by helping to develop eco-tourism plans for one of their current projects. This involved designing nature trails, septic systems, and composting toilets.

Living in a developing country really puts the world into perspective. I now look at my day-to-day life differently than before. It is hard to put into words, but I feel much more content with my decisions and myself. Seeing the lives of the rural Chinese and Tibetan people has shown me how other people live and sustain themselves on very limited resources. They get things done with the tools around them and are patient to let things unfold naturally. When time is taken to look at all the options for solving a problem and all the consequences have been laid out, the likelihood of success based on common sense is far greater.

Studying abroad is a great opportunity and a true life-altering event. It challenges a person right down to their core and really builds character on a newly formed understanding of the world.

NICK, *River Falls*.

I had a once-in-a-life-time opportunity to study abroad in the Wisconsin in Scotland program in the spring of 2006. This experience changed my life. It not only helped me realize what I wanted to do in my life, and gave me the desire to travel, it also changed the way I looked at every aspect of the world. This biggest thing I took away from the program is my view of other cultures. I was naive when I first left to study abroad thinking that any culture that wasn't as ''advanced'' or ''sophisticated'' as the U.S. was simply just not wealthy enough to be up to our ''standards.'' I now am adamant that this is not the case. I live by the phrase ''different isn't bad, scary, or wrong, it is just different.'' This experience also helped me realize what I wanted to do with my life. I intend to become a theatre professor, and I want to teach somewhere in the UK. I loved every single aspect of my study abroad experience and cannot wait to go back. Lastly, and perhaps most importantly, I learned something about myself that I would not have learned anywhere else besides in another study abroad experience. I learned my own personal strength. I learned what I was capable of. When I was on holiday in Milan I missed my flight, and it was up to me, not my professor, or my parents, to figure out what to do. I never realized what it was like to be a real adult until I had to take care of myself. It was scary, and it was hard, but I did it. I now have this inner strength of knowing what I accomplished by myself, in a land where no one spoke my native language, and I got myself through it. I will be forever grateful to the University of Wisconsin—Superior and their Wisconsin in Scotland study abroad program for turning me into the strong, well-educated, and open-mined woman that I am today.

NICOLE, *Superior*.

I was fortunate enough to study in another country. At first, when my friends told me about the study abroad program, I was hesitant to sign up for the experience. In the end I had made a decision that would change my life forever. I had decided to study in the Wisconsin in Scotland program. Before that time I had never even been in an airport much less fly to another country. When I was in Scotland, I learned far more about culture than any one could experience from a class or text book. I was place in a foreign world and had to deal with the changes. This is what made me feel more confident about my independence as a person. Soon after my return, my communication and people skills flew through the roof. Thanks to the study abroad program for helping me become the successful person I am today.

Aaron, Menomonie.

I am currently a student at the University of Wisconsin—River Falls. Last semester, spring 2007, I was a participant in the ''Wisconsin in Scotland Program.'' It was an amazing experience to be a part of. Not only were we able to enroll in courses which would transfer credit back to our home university, but we could fully absorb a different culture by living in it. One of my friends said it best—you learn more from traveling, especially studying abroad, than you could from years in a classroom with text books. Although Scotland is relatively similar to Wisconsin, volunteering in the community of Dalkeith, visiting with host families, and traveling with new friends offers new challenges. When we flew back in May, I think we all had a new sense of independence, a different look on the influence of the United States on other countries, and an appreciation for what we have at home. Being able to have the opportunity to study abroad is an important, valuable experience.

GENA, *River Falls*.

I am a senior at the University of Wisconsin—River Falls. Two years ago, I spent a semester of my academic career studying Spanish in Queretaro, Mexico. I lived with a host family while I attended the Instituto Tecnologico de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey, and I had an absolutely phenomenal experience. Yes, I developed my language skills significantly, but even more so, I developed an appreciation for the Mexican culture and an understanding of the social and educational problems that cause so many of the Mexican people to emigrate to the United States. My study abroad experience impacted me so greatly that I changed my major from Elementary Education to Spanish Education with a minor in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) so that I might work with the growing immigrant population.

THERESA, *River Falls*.

From September 2005 until September 2006 I was on a sabbatical leave from UW—Whitewater in Oman as a senior Fulbright program scholar. I taught business and economics courses at Modern College of Business and Science, which is located in Muscat. In addition, I assisted the College administration and owners in preparing their college for academic accreditation. I participated in English language training of Omani judges (in collaboration with the U.S. Embassy and the Ministry of Justice). My family and I have met many interesting people from different ways of life and had many opportunities to travel throughout the region.

Promoting American values in the Middle East today is very difficult. I believe that my solid work particularly with college students will enhance good will and will bring tangible benefits in the future by developing bilateral business and educational linkages.

TOM, *Whitewater*.

UWM's Fulbright-Hayes summer program offered an opportunity to nurture an interest I've had in the Middle East and North Africa since I was a freshman in college (over a decade now). Like many Americans, I had reservations about traveling to a part of the world that seems hostile to us. My experience with my Moroccan host family proved this perception false. I learned that the legendary warmth and hospitality of the Arab world are not myths. Indeed, my host family gave the impression that their primary enjoyment of material comforts came from sharing them with me, a stranger with strange ways to whom they had opened their home. They eagerly shared their culture with me, and were infinitely patient as a I learned the finer points of Moroccan manners, such as eating with my right hand and remembering to take my shoes off when I walked on a carpet.

After my experiences in Morocco, I find myself having a lot to say when I hear another American declare that Arabs or, more broadly, people in the Muslim world, hate us. Hearing this is frustrating, knowing what I know now, especially when people use it to justify an unjust action on the part of the United States toward countries in the Muslim world. The Moroccans I met went out of their way to distinguish between the U.S. government and the American people when expressing dislike of a particular U.S. government policy or action against a country in their region. They feel that their side of the story is not heard or understood. Since I've been back, I find myself seeking out news coverage of the Middle East and North Africa, waiting to hear those perspectives my Moroccan friends and family shared with me. Their absence only seems to reinforce the ''well, they hate us,'' attitude, since they are often preempted by more extreme viewpoints.

I think that programs like our summer trip to Morocco can expose both sides to new ways of seeing the conflicts that exist between us and that can be a positive first step to better relations.

VALERIE, *Ripon*.

I was selected to participate in the Training of Writers program offered by the National Council on Economic Education (NCEE). This program is part of the Cooperative Education Exchange Program, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools, and carried out in coordination with the U.S. Department of State.

Briefly, the week I spent in Bucharest was amazing and exceeded all of my expectations! On a professional level, I benefited from the formal goal of the program: creating a pool of qualified economic curriculum writers which provided insights into NCEE curriculum materials, voluntary national content standards in economics, and active learning strategies. This program has already improved my teaching as I re-focus my lessons on meaningful and relevant economics content. (Hence, the reason why I am swamped as I am making adjustments and improvements in my classroom.) On a personal level, the experience of working with international educators was invaluable. We worked as partners in collegial teams creating active, meaningful economic lessons which could be implemented in K–12 classrooms worldwide. The collaboration allowed me to learn about economic education in various countries and build an international network of fellow educators. I will continue to work on this program over the coming months as I refine my lesson with feedback from the U.S. faculty, field-test the lesson in classrooms here in Wisconsin, and finally submit my final lesson to NCEE with revisions based on feedback from teachers involved in the field-testing.

My international experiences through opportunities provided by the NCEE have shown me the importance of working in partnership with people in other countries and building positive collaborative relationships.

ANN, *New Richmond*.

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

100TH BIRTHDAY OF GRACE DODD

• Mr. DODD. Mr. President, November 9, 2007, was a very special day for me and my whole family. On that day, my mother, Grace Dodd, would have turned 100 years old. She has been gone for many, many years now; but not a day goes by without her memory. I would like to take this chance to call back those memories and speak about what made her so special.

I have never known a more infectious optimist. More than anything, that is what comes back: her unshakeable confidence that no matter how bad the problem, she could fix it; her lifelong dedication to the bright side; a smile that could turn even the grumpiest person pleasant.

Some kinds of optimism are bought cheaply: they come from sheltering yourself from the world. But the much more valuable, much more lasting kind of optimism comes from embracing the world—and that was my mother's kind. She was a dedicated Latin student, a bundle of energy, a basketball star in high school and at Trinity College in Washington, DC. Her nickname—''the adhesive guard''—testifies, I think, to her persistence on the court and everywhere else.

Born Mary Grace Murphy, she married my father Tom Dodd in 1934, loved him deeply, and gave him six children, of which I was the second-to-last. When my father left home to serve as a prosecutor at the Nuremberg Trials in 1945, he wrote home to his ''dearest Grace'' every day—sometimes twice a day. His letters are filled with descriptions of the Nazi war criminals, ravaged, postwar Germany, growing conflict between the Americans and the Russians; but above all, they are filled with how much he missed his Grace. Being away from her, he wrote, was the hardest thing he had to do.

I can't help thinking that my mother had an even harder job—raising all of us! But as full as her hands were, raising four boys and two girls, she found time to give herself fully to her community, as well. She served on the local school board, was an early advocate for public kindergarten, and wrote a column in the Hartford newspaper. And with all that, she still had time left over to read avidly, travel widely, and study Spanish.

But my sister Martha said that her greatest talent was something much simpler, something that I think was at the root of everything else in her full life: the ability to take a walk. Not a modern, calorie-burning power-walk; but simply the skill for consciously forgetting the turmoil and bustle of life and taking time to reflect. My mother loved walks—and I think that they are what kept her smile bright and her optimism undimmed for so many years.

I know a great story about that optimism. When I moved back to Connecticut after graduating law school, the driver of the moving van had a hard time finding my new house. My mother was on hand to make sure everything was going smoothly, and as the driver got angrier and angrier, she finally climbed into the cab and said, ''I'll show you exactly where it is.'' As they drove into the dark, she kept insisting, ''I can just see it! I can just see it!''—for 4 miles. But she knew exactly where they were going, she calmed the driver's nerves, and she got him there, just as she promised.

Grace Dodd did the same for all of us. Whenever times were tough and the road ahead of us seemed dark, there she was by our side, saying, ''I can just see it!'' What we are, we owe to her; and on her 100th birthday, the best words we say in response are, ''Thank you.''●

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

TRIBUTE TO DONALD J. MULVIHILL

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I speak in memory of the life of Donald J. Mulvihill, a distinguished lawyer, a proud public servant, and an honored friend of the Dodd family. He recently died at the age of 76.

Donald gave nearly a half century—more than half of his life—to his law firm, Cahill Gordon & Reindel, and the length of his service testifies to his dedication and consummate skill as an attorney. For more than four decades, he managed his firm's Washington office, where he gained a reputation as one of America's leading authorities on federal business regulations.

Donald would tell you, though, that his most successful day at the office came when he was fresh out of law school and assigned to the same office as Grace Conroy, one of Cahill's first female lawyers. ''He thought he was getting demoted because they put a woman in his office,'' Grace would later joke. But Donald's attitude soon changed—he and Grace were married 3 years later, and they spent 45 years together.

Donald's skill in the law led President Johnson to tap him in 1968 to direct a task force on individual acts of violence for the National Commission on the Causes and Prevention of Violence, a council convened in the wake of the assassination of Senator Robert F. Kennedy. Along with Princeton sociologist Mel Tumin, Donald wrote three volumes of the committee's final report, clearly detailing the link between deteriorating urban conditions and a swell in violent crime.

In 1970, he wrote with great insight and penetration on what it means to feel the seductive draw of crime in the inner city, ''to be young, poor, male and Negro, to want what the open society claims is available, but mostly to others; to see illegitimate and often violent methods of obtaining material success, and to observe others using these means successfully.''

For Donald, that was no mere academic conclusion; with the Eisenhower Foundation, he spent years working to put his recommendations into practice, giving as much energy to the revitalization of urban America as he did to his work in the law.

His example still reminds us: An open society is justly measured by the gap between what it claims is available, and what it provides—between what it promises, and what it delivers.

For his services, Donald Mulvihill will be remembered as a public-spirited leader who combined, in equal proportion, private success and civic duty. But I confess that all of those accomplishments mean comparatively little to me, next to what he did during a few months in 1967.

I was 23, but I can still recall as if it were yesterday the Senate's censure hearings of my father, Senator Tom Dodd. What a painful time that was for my family—but it gave me strength to know that sitting at my father's side, through the whole ordeal, was a talented young lawyer named Donald Mulvihill. I know how thankful my father was for Donald's good counsel.

It was the rare case that Donald didn't win; but still, he won my father's sincere and lasting gratitude. And though Tom Dodd is long gone, my family and I have kept his gratitude alive.

Now Donald is beyond our thanks. But I pledge to remember him, to keep alive his good name, and to hold up his example of a life well lived.●

(At the request of Mr. REID, the following statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD.)

REMEMBERING CHIEF RALPH STURGES

● Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I wish to mark the passing of a true Connecticut leader and a great benefactor of his people: Ralph Sturges, chief of the Mohegan Indian tribe. Chief Sturges was 88.

At various times in his long life, Ralph was a deliveryman, a public relations director, a Civilian Conservation Corps worker, a noted marble sculptor, and a World War II Bronze Star winner—but he found his greatest purpose late in life, leading and reviving Connecticut's Mohegan tribe.

Ralph's work on behalf of the Mohegans—who have called New England home for more than four centuries—was unflagging and successful at long last. When he first sought Federal recognition for the tribe, the Government replied that the Mohegans had ceased to exist in the 1940s. That rang clearly false to Ralph, who knew firsthand that the Mohegan identity was still alive; and under his leadership, the tribe pushed until it was finally recognized in 1994.

The Mohegans were only the ninth tribe ever to be recognized on the basis of documentary evidence—evidence which Ralph and other Mohegan leaders were tireless in collecting. The chairman of the neighboring Mashantucket Pequot tribe called his efforts ''an inspiration to native peoples everywhere.'' The Mohegans honored Ralph by naming him chief for life.

But Ralph was more than a cultural guardian; he was also a shrewd businessman. He understood that a prosperous tribe was more likely to survive into his children's and grandchildren's generations, and beyond; and so he negotiated to build the Mohegan Sun casino on tribal land.

Its popularity testifies to Ralph's economic leadership, and its profits pay for health care and college tuition for all Mohegans. Ralph was proud of the casino's success and spoke plainly

about the incentive it created for Mohegans to maintain their cultural identity: ''Because Indians are making money, now it's a privilege to be one.''

The casino offered the means; but the end was always clear, and it was the end to which Ralph dedicated decades of his life: bringing back a people that had seemed on the verge of fading away. Ralph dealt cannily with Wall Street investors—but took more pleasure in spending afternoons raking the leaves from his tribe's ancient burial ground.

He was a proud product of two cultures, Indian and Western, comfortable in either, taking the best from both. ''What probably happened is my father's people were rowing ashore on the Mayflower and my mother's people were probably on the shore throwing stones,'' Ralph once joked.

He will be remembered as an artist, a businessman, and a wise chief, presiding over his tribe with a feathered talking-stick in one hand and a gavel in the other. The cultures he represented in either hand—and our whole State of Connecticut—are united in honoring Chief Ralph Sturges.●

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF LAS CRUCES

● Mr. DOMENICI. Mr. President, today I celebrate the 100th birthday of Las Cruces, NM. Being the second largest city in New Mexico, Las Cruces has a lot to be proud of and a lot to celebrate.

Before New Mexico became a State, Las Cruces was making its mark on the world. When it was founded in 1907 as a small railroad town, no one could have foreseen what a major metropolitan area it would become in the southern part of my State. Being sheltered by the Organ Mountains to the east, and the Rio Grande River on the west, Las Cruces boasts 350 days of sunshine a year making it one of AARP's Top 5 Places To Retire. The city also has continued to receive the title of Best Small Metro Area for Business Careers from the Forbes/Milken Institute.

Las Cruces, English translation is ''the crosses,'' is home to the second largest university in New Mexico, New Mexico State University, with a student population of 26,000. NMSU continues to grow and improve upon the various programs and degrees they offer. This university is vital to the strength of Las Cruces. The Dona Ana Community College is located here as well. Their student population is over 4,000 strong. Las Cruces also hosts the nationally acclaimed annual Whole Enchilada Festival. The festival attracts over 40,000 visitors each year. Because of this annual event, Las Cruces holds the Guinness Book of World Records for the world's largest flat enchilada.

Las Cruces has seen a giant explosion in population over the last decade. They have grown from just over 74,000 residents in 2000 to around 87,000 residents in 2006. And the boom in population shows no signs of stopping in the near future. Small and large industries continue to see this budding town as a great place to do business. While it is hard to point to just one industry that has caused the extreme growth, Las Cruces continues to do what it does best, be consistent in its offerings.

To celebrate their 100th birthday, Las Cruces has planned to serve a piece of cake to every resident. They might also make the Guinness Book of World Records for the largest sheet cake after the celebration! The city is planning on cutting this cake at the culmination of an all-day festival at the Downtown Mall. The festival will include live entertainment all day with various acts to include a mariachi band, craft fair, and theatre performances at the Rio Grande Theatre.

Las Cruces has so much to be proud of, and I congratulate them on their 100th birthday. May they celebrate many more. Que Viva Las Cruces muchos mas años!●

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND EDWIN ''D'' EDMONDS

● Mr. LIEBERMAN. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Rev. Edwin ''Doc'' Edmonds, a retired pastor and civil rights leader from New Haven who passed away Tuesday, November 6. Reverend Edmonds, or ''Doc,'' as his friends called him, was one of the smartest, warmest, and most effective people I have ever had the pleasure to know, and led a truly inspirational life.

Born and raised in Texas, Edwin Edmonds was an excellent student, graduating high school at 15 years of age. In college he began losing his eyesight until he was legally blind. Despite having much difficulty reading and writing his assignments, he prevailed and graduated from Morehouse College in 1938, only 1 year later than expected. He would then go on to earn a bachelor's of sacred theology and a doctorate in social ethics from Boston University. In 1950, he was ordained in the Methodist Church.

While teaching Sociology at Bennett College in Greensboro, NC, Reverend Edmonds became deeply involved with the civil rights movement, where he was elected president of the Greensboro chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. In 1958, he met the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. and the two exchanged letters until Dr. King's tragic death.

He also was an adviser to the ''Greensboro Four,'' a group of brave college students committed to racial equality who would later lead the famous sit-in at a segregated lunch counter at a Woolworth's department store. This courageous protest is widely believed to be the first sit-in of the civil rights movement. Many Greensboro historians consider Reverend Edmonds a pioneer in the fight for equal rights for the city's minorities.

In 1959, Reverend Edmonds moved to New Haven to become pastor of the Dixwell Avenue Congregational Church, which is now known as the United Church of Christ. As pastor, Mr. Edmonds soon became a fixture in the local community and quickly gained a reputation as one who was always willing to help those in need. His youngest daughter, Toni Walker, who serves as a representative in the Connecticut General Assembly, recalls that people in need often stayed at their home as guests. ''As long as they needed help, they were able to get it,'' Walker remembers.

Reverend Edmonds' congregants all knew that he was around to address not just their spiritual needs, but also everyday needs such as housing and jobs. Under his leadership, the church built a housing development and a creative arts center for the community. In addition, he was involved with many community service groups, such as the Urban League, the New Haven Clergy Association, the Amistad Committee and the New Haven Inter-Faith Ministerial Alliance. He was also a longtime member of the New Haven Board of Education, serving as its chairman from 1979 to 1988.

Even after retiring from the church in 1994, Mr. Edmonds remained active in his community. In 2000, after a meeting with single mothers who had to defer going to school to raise their children, he helped to establish Edwin R. and Maye B. Edmonds Scholarship Fund for single parents.

I bid farewell to ''Doc'' Edmonds and will keep his friends and family in my thoughts and prayers. I take solace in knowing that he will live on in all the people he helped to inspire to serve their community. As Clifton Graves, an activist and professor in New Haven who has known and looked up to Reverend Edmonds since he was a boy, said of his death: ''We mourn this loss, but we celebrate his life and the contributions he made not only to New Haven but to Connecticut and indeed, around the country.''●

TRIBUTE TO FATHER BONIFACE HARDIN AND SISTER JANE SCHILLING

● Mr. LUGAR. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to two Hoosiers who have touched the Indianapolis community and the world through their tireless leadership and commitment to the positive effect that education can have on both individuals and the communities in which they live. Over the years I have admired Father Boniface Hardin and Sister Jane Schilling for their dedication to both their religious calling as well as the more temporal needs of our communities as they worked to fight racial injustice and poverty through education and empowerment.

In 1977, Father Hardin and Sister Jane founded Martin University, an institution dedicated to serving low-income, minority, and adult learners,

while at the same time welcoming students of all backgrounds. In the ensuing 30 years, Martin University has changed the lives of thousands of students. It has grown from a converted church and school to a beautiful campus in the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood of Indianapolis that serves as a tremendous resource to both faculty and students as well as the surrounding community.

As Father Hardin and Sister Jane step down as president and vice president of Martin University, I am hopeful that you will join me, the board of trustees, faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends of the university in congratulating them on their many years of service to the people of Indianapolis. I wish them both every continuing success as they pursue new and exciting opportunities to offer important service to many more of the people they have dedicated their lives to helping.●

RECOGNIZING JACOBY ELLSBURY

● Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, today, on behalf of all Oregonians, I recognize the recent accomplishments of Madras, Oregon's own Jacoby Ellsbury of the World Champion Boston Red Sox.

As a child growing up, I followed the Boston Red Sox closer than any other team. I recall my father telling me stories of the four west coast boys who were members of the Boston Red Sox in the 1940s. He told me about how they put their baseball careers on hold to defend our Nation at war. Two of those west coast boys, Johnny Pesky and Hall of Famer Bobby Doerr, had connections to Oregon and the Pacific Coast League. The story of these four young men from the west coast who became members of the Boston Red Sox was highlighted in the late David Halberstam's book ''The Teammates—A Portrait of Friendship.'' For the four friends, Ted Williams, Bobby Doerr, Johnny Pesky and Dominic DiMaggio, it was about more than baseball. Their story is about the American dream and the bonds of friendship.

I recall Williams, Pesky, Doerr, and DiMaggio when I see Jacoby Ellsbury on the field with his teammates: Dustin Pedroia and Jon Lester. Dustin, the Red Sox second baseman, hails from California and Arizona State University and pitcher Jon Lester grew up in Tacoma, WA. Jacoby hails from the small town of Madras, OR, in the central part of the State and was a first team All-American at Oregon State University in 2005 when he led his team to the College World Series for the first time since 1952. Jacoby's career has blossomed on and off the field since joining the Boston Red Sox organization, and he is considered by many to be one of the game's future superstars.

Jacoby exhibits many of the qualities a young man should emulate. It is apparent that his work ethic, sportsmanship, and dedication to the game he loves have propelled him to the top of the baseball world. I praise his Mom and Dad, Margie and Jim, for a job well done. Oregonians and the Red Sox Nation are very proud of Jacoby Ellsbury.

Finally, I wish to note how proud I am to recognize Jacoby, not only as an American and an Oregonian representing the Boston Red Sox so proudly, but I am equally proud to recognize him as a man of Native American descent, particularly the first of Navajo descent to play in the Major Leagues. The members of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs in Oregon should be extremely proud of Jacoby.

I congratulate Jacoby Ellsbury and his teammates on winning the 2007 World Series and wish him the best of luck as he continues his professional career in Boston.●

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2007, the Secretary of the Senate, on November 8, 2007, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bill:

H.R. 3043. An act making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2007, the enrolled bill was signed on November 8, 2007, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

ENROLLED BILLS SIGNED

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2007, the Secretary of the Senate, on November 9, 2007, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

H.R. 2602. An act to name the Department of Veterans Affairs medical facility in Iron Mountain, Michigan, as the ''Oscar G. Johnson Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Facility''.

The enrolled bill was subsequently signed on November 13, 2007, by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

H.R. 3222. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense of the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

Under the authority of the order of the Senate of January 4, 2007, the enrolled bill was signed on November 9, 2007, during the adjournment of the Senate, by the President pro tempore (Mr. BYRD).

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE

At 10:13 a.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bill, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3688. An act to implement the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement.

The message also announced that the House disagrees to the amendment of the Senate to the bill (H.R. 3093) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; it agrees to the conference asked by the Senate on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Messrs. MOLLOHAN, KENNEDY of Rhode Island, FATTAH, RUPPERSBERGER, SCHIFF, HONDA, Ms. DELAURO, Messrs. PRICE of North Carolina, OBEY, FRELINGHUYSEN, CULBERSON, ROGERS of Kentucky, LATHAM, ADERHOLT, and LEWIS of California as managers of the conference on the part of the House.

At 5:33 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate:

H.R. 3355. An act to ensure the availability and affordability of homeowners' insurance coverage for catastrophic events.

H.R. 3996. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes.

MEASURES REFERRED

The following bill was read the first and the second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

H.R. 3355. An act to ensure the availability and affordability of homeowners' insurance coverage for catastrophic events; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

MEASURES PLACED ON THE CALENDAR

The following bills were read the second time, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3495. An act to establish a National Commission on Children and Disasters, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3685. An act to prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

The following bill was read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and placed on the calendar:

H.R. 3688. An act to implement the United States-Peru Trade Promotion Agreement.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME

The following bills were read the first time:

H.R. 3996. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions, and for other purposes.

S. 2334. A bill to withhold 10 percent of the Federal funding apportioned for highway

construction and maintenance from States that issue driver's licenses to individuals without verifying the legal status of such individuals.

S. 2340. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

S. 2346. A bill to temporarily increase the portfolio caps applicable to Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, to provide the necessary financing to curb foreclosures by facilitating the refinancing of at-risk subprime borrowers into safe, affordable loans, and for other purposes.

S. 2348. A bill to ensure control over the United States border and to strengthen enforcement of the immigration laws.

EXECUTIVE AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS

The following communications were laid before the Senate, together with accompanying papers, reports, and documents, and were referred as indicated:

EC–3895. A communication from the Secretary of the Senate, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the receipts and expenditures of the Senate for the period from April 1, 2007 through September 30, 2007; ordered to lie on the table.

EC–3896. A communication from the Chairman, Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board, transmitting, pursuant to law, a quarterly report relative to the status of significant unresolved issues with the Department of Energy's Design and Construction Projects; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3897. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Reserve Affairs), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled ''Report on the Montgomery G.I. Bill for Members of the Selected Reserve''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3898. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulation Z—Truth in Lending'' (Docket No. R–1284) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3899. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulation M—Consumer Leasing'' (Docket No. R–1283) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3900. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulation E—Electronic Fund Transfer'' (Docket No. R–1282) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3901. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Revenue Ruling Modifying Rev. Rul. 2001–62 as a Result of the Addition of Section 417(e)(3)(D) to the Code by PPA '06'' (Rev. Rul. 2007–67) received on November 7, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–3902. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulation DD—Truth in Savings'' (Docket No . R–1285) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3903. A communication from the Chief Counsel, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Flood Elevation Determinations'' (72 FR 58553) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3904. A communication from the Counsel for Legislation and Regulations, Office of Housing, Department of Housing and Urban Development, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Model Manufactured Home Installation Standards'' (RIN2502–AI25) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3905. A communication from the Assistant to the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Regulation B—Equal Credit Opportunity'' (Docket No. R–1281) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3906. A communication from the Deputy Assistant General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs, received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3907. A communication from the Program Analyst, Federal Aviation Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Airworthiness Directives; Learjet Model 31, 31A, 35, 35A, 36, 36A, 55, 55B, and 55C Airplanes, and Model 45 Airplanes'' ((RIN2120–AA64)(Docket No. 2006–NM–227)) received on October 30, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3908. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pollock in Statistical Area 620 of the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XD06) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3909. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Vessels Using Trawl Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XD08) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3910. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Economic Exclusive Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands'' (RIN0648–XD14) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3911. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Processor Vessels Using Hook-and-Line Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XD11) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3912. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Adjustments; Inseason Actions 8 and 9'' (RIN0648–XC71) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3913. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Adjustments; Inseason Actions No. 10 and No. 11'' (RIN0648–XC77) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3914. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Adjustments; Inseason Actions 5, 6, and 7'' (RIN0648–XC69) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3915. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries Off West Coast States and in the Western Pacific; West Coast Salmon Fisheries; Inseason Adjustments; Inseason Actions 3 and 4'' (RIN0648–XB09) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3916. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Processor Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XC99) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3917. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Exclusive Economic Zone Off Alaska; Pacific Cod by Catcher Vessels Using Pot Gear in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands Management Area'' (RIN0648–XD00) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3918. A communication from the Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Temporary Rule; Inseason Bluefish Quota Transfer from FL to NJ'' (RIN0648–XC67) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3919. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Economic Exclusive Zone Off Alaska; Trawl Gear in the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XD26) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3920. A communication from the Deputy Assistant Administrator for Operations, National Marine Fisheries Service, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Final Rule to Implement Daily Bag Limits for Albacore and Bluefin Tuna Under the Fishery Management Plan for U.S. West Coast Fisheries for Highly Migratory Species''

(RIN0648–AU77) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3921. A communication from the Attorney, Office of Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Energy Conservation Program for Consumer Products: Test Procedure for Residential Central Air Conditioners and Heat Pumps'' (RIN1904–AB55) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–3922. A communication from the Attorney, Office of Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulatory Law, Department of Energy, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Loan Guarantees for Projects That Employ Innovative Technologies'' (RIN1901–AB21) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

EC–3923. A communication from the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Semiannual Report for the period ending September 30, 2007; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

EC–3924. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Security Under 6166 Elections'' (Notice 2007–90) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–3925. A communication from the Chief of the Publications and Regulations Branch, Internal Revenue Service, Department of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''LMSB Division Commission Memorandum—Coordinated Issue: Loss Importation Transaction'' (Notice 2007–57) received on October 30, 2007; to the Committee on Finance.

EC–3926. A communication from the Deputy Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits'' (29 CFR Parts 4022 and 4044) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC–3927. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Policy), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Biological Threat Reduction-FSU Program Area; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

EC–3928. A communication from the Deputy Chief, Regulatory Management Division, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Removal of Receipt Requirement for Certain H and L Adjustment Applicants Returning from a Trip Outside the United States'' (RIN1615–AB62) received on November 2, 2007; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–3929. A communication from the Chairman, Board of Trustees, John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's Report on the organization; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

EC–3930. A communication from the Director of the National Gallery of Art, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Inspector General's report for fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–3931. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17–172, ''Jobs for D.C. Residents Amendment Act of 2007'' received on November 7, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–3932. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17–135, ''Closing of a Portion of a Public Alley in Square 163, S.O. 05–8289, Act of 2007'' received on November 7, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–3933. A communication from the Chairman, Council of the District of Columbia, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report on D.C. Act 17–171, ''Housing Support for Teachers Act of 2007'' received on November 7, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–3934. A communication from the Associate General Counsel for General Law, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a nomination for the position of General Counsel, received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

EC–3935. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the funding transfers made during fiscal year 2007; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3936. A communication from the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (Installations and Environment), transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of the Department's intent to conduct a public-private competition of nonguard security support services nationwide; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–3937. A communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting, pursuant to law, a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to Syria that was declared in Executive Order 13338; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3938. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Approved End-Users and Respective Eligible Items for the People's Republic of China Under Authorization Validated End-User'' (RIN0694–AE13) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3939. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Burma: Revision of the Export Administration Regulations'' (RIN0694–AE17) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3940. A communication from the Chairman, Securities and Exchange Commission, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Annual Report of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for fiscal year 2006; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3941. A communication from the Assistant Secretary for Export Administration, Bureau of Industry and Security, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''December 2006 Wassenaar Arrangement Plenary Agreement Implementation: Categories 1, 2, 3, 5 Part I, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of the Commerce Control List; Wassenaar Reporting Requirements; Definitions; Statement of Understanding on Source Code'' (RIN0694–AD95) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

EC–3942. A communication from the Deputy Chief Counsel (Regulations), Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Privacy Act of 1974: Implementation of Exemption; Secure Flight Records'' (RIN1652–AA48) received on November 7, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3943. A communication from the Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, Department of Commerce, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled ''Fisheries of the Economic Exclusive Zone Off Alaska; Trawl Gear in the Gulf of Alaska'' (RIN0648–XD41) received on November 6, 2007; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

EC–3944. A communication from the Assistant Secretary, Transportation Security Administration, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Administration's intent to enter into a contract with FirstLine Transportation Security, Inc., for screening services in New Mexico; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD), from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs, without amendment:

S. 2338. An original bill to modernize and update the National Housing Act and enable the Federal Housing Administration to more effectively reach underserved borrowers, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110–227).

By Mr. BAUCUS, from the Committee on Finance, without amendment:

S. 2345. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and to extend the financing for the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes (Rept. No. 110–228).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. ENZI):

S. 2334. A bill to withhold 10 percent of the Federal funding apportioned for highway construction and maintenance from States that issue driver's licenses to individuals without verifying the legal status of such individuals; read the first time.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2335. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide adequate case management services; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 2336. A bill to designate the Port Angeles Federal Building in Port Angeles, Washington, as the ''Richard B. Anderson Federal Building''; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. SMITH):

S. 2337. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow long-term care insurance to be offered under cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements and to provide additional consumer protections for long-term care insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD):

S. 2338. An original bill to modernize and update the National Housing Act and enable the Federal Housing Administration to more effectively reach underserved borrowers, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; placed on the calendar.

By Ms. STABENOW (for herself and Mr. LEVIN):

S. 2339. A bill to designate the Department of Veterans Affairs clinic in Alpena, Michigan, as the ''Lieutenant Colonel Clement C. Van Wagoner Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic''; to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 2340. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. REID (for Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Ms. LANDRIEU)):

S. 2341. A bill to provide Individual Development Accounts to support foster youths who are transitioning from the foster care system; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. JOHNSON:

S. 2342. A bill to prohibit States from carrying out more than one Congressional redistricting after a decennial census and apportionment, to require States to conduct such redistricting through independent commissions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. REED:

S. 2343. A bill to amend the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act to require mortgage originators to make their fees more transparent; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. MENENDEZ:

S. 2344. A bill to create a competitive grant program to provide for age-appropriate Internet education for children; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. BAUCUS:

S. 2345. An original bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and to extend the financing for the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Finance; placed on the calendar.

By Mr. SCHUMER:

S. 2346. A bill to temporarily increase the portfolio caps applicable to Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, to provide the necessary financing to curb foreclosures by facilitating the refinancing of at-risk subprime borrowers into safe, affordable loans, and for other purposes; read the first time.

By Mr. REID (for Mr. OBAMA (for himself, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. KENNEDY, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. BINGAMAN, Mr. WYDEN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. KERRY, Mr. HARKIN, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Ms. KLOBUCHAR, Mr. SCHUMER, Mr. BROWN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mrs. CLINTON)):

S. 2347. A bill to restore and protect access to discount drug prices for university-based and safety-net clinics; to the Committee on Finance.

By Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. GRAHAM):

S. 2348. A bill to ensure control over the United States border and to strengthen enforcement of the immigration laws; read the first time.

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself and Mr. DEMINT):

S.J. Res. 24. A joint resolution proposing a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution of the United States; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Mr. SUNUNU, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. HAGEL):

S. Res. 375. A resolution amending Senate Resolution 400, 94th Congress, and Senate Resolution 445, 108th Congress, to improve congressional oversight of the intelligence activities of the United States, to provide a strong, stable, and capable congressional committee structure to provide the intelligence community appropriate oversight, support, and leadership, and to implement a key recommendation of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States; to the Committee on Rules and Administration.

By Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. REED, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. Res. 376. A resolution providing the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of Commerce should declare a commercial fishery failure for the groundfish fishery for Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island and immediately propose regulations to implement section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. COBURN):

S. Res. 377. A resolution recognizing and celebrating the centennial of Oklahoma statehood; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 334

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the names of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) and the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 334, a bill to provide affordable, guaranteed private health coverage that will make Americans healthier and can never be taken away.

S. 594

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from Oregon (Mr. WYDEN) were added as cosponsors of S. 594, a bill to limit the use, sale, and transfer of cluster munitions.

S. 613

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 613, a bill to enhance the overseas stabilization and reconstruction capabilities of the United States Government, and for other purposes.

S. 667

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 667, a bill to expand programs of early childhood home visitation that increase school readiness, child abuse and neglect prevention, and early identification of developmental and health delays, including potential mental health concerns, and for other purposes.

S. 803

At the request of Mr. ROCKEFELLER, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI) was added as a cosponsor of S. 803, a bill to repeal a provision enacted to end Federal matching of State spending of child support incentive payments.

S. 937

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 937, a bill to improve support and services for individuals with autism and their families.

S. 999

At the request of Mr. COCHRAN, the name of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 999, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve stroke prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation.

S. 1014

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the name of the Senator from Arizona (Mr. KYL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1014, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide parental choice for those students that attend schools that are in need of improvement and have been identified for restructuring.

S. 1159

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1159, a bill to amend part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act to provide full Federal funding of such part.

S. 1183

At the request of Mr. HARKIN, the name of the Senator from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1183, a bill to enhance and further research into paralysis and to improve rehabilitation and the quality of life for persons living with paralysis and other physical disabilities, and for other purposes.

S. 1233

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1233, a bill to provide and enhance intervention, rehabilitative treatment, and services to veterans with traumatic brain injury, and for other purposes.

S. 1243

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1243, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to reduce the age for receipt of military retired pay for nonregular service from 60 years of age to 55 years of age.

S. 1299

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1299, a bill to establish on behalf of consumers a fiduciary duty and other standards of care for mortgage brokers and originators, and to establish standards to assess a consumer's ability to repay, and for other purposes.

S. 1363

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1363, a bill to improve health care for severely injured members and former members of the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

S. 1386

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1386, a bill to amend the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, to provide better assistance to low- and moderate-income families, and for other purposes.

S. 1394

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from Minnesota (Ms. KLOBUCHAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1394, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, to exclude from gross income of individual taxpayers discharges of indebtedness attributable to certain forgiven residential mortgage obligations.

S. 1448

At the request of Mr. REED, the name of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1448, a bill to extend the same Federal benefits to law enforcement officers serving private institutions of higher education and rail carriers that apply to law enforcement officers serving units of State and local government.

S. 1512

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1512, a bill to amend part E of title IV of the Social Security Act to expand Federal eligibility for children in foster care who have attained age 18.

S. 1551

At the request of Mr. BROWN, the name of the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1551, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis, and for other purposes.

S. 1734

At the request of Mrs. BOXER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1734, a bill to provide for prostate cancer imaging research and education.

S. 1737

At the request of Mr. SESSIONS, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1737, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for a waiver of the 35-mile drive requirement for designations of critical access hospitals.

S. 1800

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1800, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to require emergency contraception to be available at all military health care treatment facilities.

S. 1812

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1812, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to strengthen mentoring programs, and for other purposes.

S. 1852

At the request of Mr. INOUYE, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1852, a bill to designate the Friday after Thanksgiving of each year as ''Native American Heritage Day'' in honor of the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States.

S. 1858

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1858, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. CARDIN, his name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1858, supra.

At the request of Mrs. LINCOLN, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 1858, supra.

S. 1880

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1880, a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit dog fighting ventures.

S. 1921

At the request of Mr. WEBB, the name of the Senator from Louisiana (Mr. VITTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1921, a bill to amend the American Battlefield Protection Act of 1996 to extend the authorization for that Act, and for other purposes.

S. 1943

At the request of Mr. KENNEDY, the name of the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1943, a bill to establish uniform standards for interrogation techniques applicable to individuals under the custody or physical control of the United States Government.

S. 1944

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1944, a bill to provide justice for victims of state-sponsored terrorism.

S. 1981

At the request of Mr. REED, the names of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. WHITEHOUSE), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) and the Senator from Maine (Ms. SNOWE) were added as cosponsors of S. 1981, a bill to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 regarding environmental education, and for other purposes.

S. 1998

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1998, a bill to reduce child marriage, and for other purposes.

S. 2020

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2020, a bill to reauthorize the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 through fiscal year 2010, to rename the Tropical Forest Conservation Act of 1998 as the ''Tropical Forest and Coral Conservation Act of 2007'', and for other purposes.

S. 2071

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) and the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER) were added as cosponsors of S. 2071, a bill to enhance the ability to combat methamphetamine.

S. 2092

At the request of Mr. DURBIN, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2092, a bill to amend title 11, United States Code, to improve protections for employees and retirees in business bankruptcies.

S. 2119

At the request of Mr. JOHNSON, the name of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. BARRASSO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2119, a bill to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of veterans who became disabled for life while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States.

S. 2169

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2169, a bill to temporarily increase the portfolio caps applicable to Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, to provide the necessary financing to curb foreclosures by facilitating the refinancing of at-risk subprime borrowers into safe, affordable loans, and for other purposes.

S. 2257

At the request of Ms. MIKULSKI, her name and the names of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. SANDERS), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) and the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2257, a bill to impose sanctions on officials of the State Peace and Development Council in Burma, to amend the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003 to prohibit the importation of gemstones and hardwoods from Burma, to promote a coordinated international effort to restore civilian democratic rule to Burma, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2257, supra.

S. 2267

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California

(Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2267, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an income tax credit for eldercare expenses.

S. 2268

At the request of Ms. KLOBUCHAR, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2268, a bill to require issuers of long term care insurance to establish third party review processes for disputed claims.

S. 2291

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2291, a bill to enhance citizen access to Government information and services by establishing plain language as the standard style of Government documents issued to the public, and for other purposes.

S. 2310

At the request of Ms. LANDRIEU, her name was added as a cosponsor of S. 2310, a bill to establish a National Catastrophic Risks Consortium and a National Homeowners' Insurance Stabilization Program, and for other purposes.

S. 2323

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the name of the Senator from Alaska (Mr. STEVENS) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2323, a bill to provide for the conduct of carbon capture and storage technology research, development, and demonstration projects, and for other purposes.

S. 2324

At the request of Mrs. MCCASKILL, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA) were added as cosponsors of S. 2324, a bill to amend the Inspector General Act of 1978 (5 U.S.C. App.) to enhance the Offices of the Inspectors General, to create a Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity and Efficiency, and for other purposes.

S. 2332

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2332, a bill to promote transparency in the adoption of new media ownership rules by the Federal Communications Commission, and to establish an independent panel to make recommendations on how to increase the representation of women and minorities in broadcast media ownership.

S.J. RES. 22

At the request of Mr. CRAPO, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT) and the Senator from Tennessee (Mr. ALEXANDER) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 22, a joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services within the Department of Health and Human Services relating to Medicare coverage for the use of erythropoiesis stimulating agents in cancer and related neoplastic conditions.

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH) and the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN) were added as cosponsors of S.J. Res. 22, supra.

S. RES. 366

At the request of Mr. BAUCUS, the names of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 366, a resolution designating November 2007 as ''National Methamphetamine Awareness Month'', to increase awareness of methamphetamine abuse.

S. RES. 371

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the names of the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU), the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) and the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 371, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the issuance of State driver's licenses and other government-issued photo identification to illegal aliens.

S. RES. 372

At the request of Mr. KERRY, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 372, a resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the declaration of a state of emergency in Pakistan.

AMENDMENT NO. 3508

At the request of Mr. DORGAN, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3508 proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3538

At the request of Mr. AKAKA, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3538 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3575

At the request of Mr. COLEMAN, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 3575 intended to be proposed to H.R. 2419, a bill to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. BARRASSO (for himself and Mr. ENZI):

S. 2334. A bill to withhold 10 percent of the Federal funding apportioned for highway construction and maintenance from States that issue driver's licenses to individuals without verifying the legal status of such individuals; read the first time.

Mr. BARRASSO. Mr. President, I would like to take a few minutes today to discuss the issue of giving legal government documents to people who are in the United States illegally.

There is no question our immigration process is broken. People who attempt to enter the United States legally—to work, to join their families—well, they often face bureaucratic redtape and incredible delays. Legal entry into the United States has become more difficult as a result of the events of September 11, 2001. There is no question that should be the case.

Unfortunately, illegal entry remains a significant problem. It is estimated that between 13 million and 20 million people are illegally in the United States. The fact that the estimates are so far apart should in and of itself give us all cause for concern.

What should also give us concern is that there are efforts in the United States today to provide driver's licenses to those in this country illegally. I believe such efforts are inappropriate and are a serious threat to our national security.

There is no question that legally issuing driver's licenses or other government documents to people who are here illegally puts our entire Nation at risk. I am troubled by those who argue that we will be safer if we provide official government papers to those who have come to our country illegally. I believe this is the wrong path. It is the wrong path for us to take, and it is contrary to the lessons we should have learned from the events of September 11.

To receive a driver's license, any State used to require proof that someone could drive and proof of identity through a legally issued government document. This was often done through a notarized birth certificate or a passport. Over time, criminals have found ways to forge these documents, and they made it easier for individuals to illegally acquire identification, such as a driver's license.

Some of the 9/11 hijackers had acquired identification documents through forged papers. It should be a wake-up call to all of us. More must be done to prevent this from happening in the future.

This past year, in the Wyoming State Senate, I worked with Representative Pete Illoway to pass legislation making it a crime to use false documents to conceal a person's identity, to conceal a person's citizenship, or to conceal their resident alien status in order to obtain public resources or public services. We specifically identified driver's licenses in the law in Wyoming because of the significance that document plays in allowing individuals to freely move about the country. The bill was passed by the legislature and was signed into law. The value of legally issued driver's licenses cannot be underestimated in

maintaining our national security. In Wyoming, we get it.

I, along with many people in America, cannot understand the arguments supporting the issuance of driver's licenses to illegal immigrants. To me, giving driver's licenses to illegal immigrants will compromise our national security.

We have an immediate situation before us where illegal immigrants in certain parts of the country will be provided government documents that will allow them to freely travel all across our great Nation. It is inconceivable to me that this will make our Nation safer.

The Federal Government has a responsibility to secure our borders and to secure the interior of the United States. Though that effort has come up short over the years, it does not mean we should throw up our hands and do nothing. I believe we must take action—aggressive action—to address this issue.

Today, I am introducing a straightforward legislative proposal. It is S. 2334. It is a straightforward legislative proposal to deal with States that provide driver's licenses to those who are in our Nation illegally. Simply stated, my legislation would require States to verify lawful presence in the United States before granting a driver's license. States that refuse would lose a part of their Federal transportation funds, and those Federal transportation funds would then be redistributed to the States that do follow the law.

I do not know if this is a perfect solution. I do know that issuing driver's licenses to illegal immigrants is wrong. Rewarding illegal immigrants—people who have broken into our country—with a driver's license is a flawed idea. It is an idea that deserves Congress's immediate attention. We cannot allow our country to go down this path. The time for action is today.

By Ms. LANDRIEU:

S. 2335. A bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to provide adequate case management services; to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Ms. LANDRIEU. Mr. President, almost a year ago, we passed a Homeland Security Appropriations bill. Included in that very large piece of legislation was a small provision that probably went beneath most people's notice.

Section 426 of that bill allows Federal funding to provide case management services after a disaster. That has been a tragically absent component to our circumstances in Louisiana. Educated people struggle to find their way through the Byzantine morass that is FEMA individual assistance program, the Small Business Administration's loan program, the Road Home program and their own insurance company's requirements. Think of how all of this seems to working people who are encountering Federal bureaucracy for the first time.

So, we need case management badly. Unfortunately, Section 426 fails the people of my State in two important ways. First, and this predates the change in Congressional leadership, it allows for case management services—but only for future disasters. The legislation that I am introducing today makes Section 426 retroactive to 2005 and will now cover Hurricanes Rita and Katrina, as well as succeeding disasters.

Two years after the disaster, we only distributed half of the Road Home grants. It is obvious that we will need case management services for years to come in Louisiana. It is only common sense to direct these resources to the Gulf Coast today, where they are direly needed.

However, an equally important failing of Section 426 comes from its implementation. In New Orleans and throughout the Gulf Coast, the energy for the recovery effort has truly come from America's faith community. You can see their good work in neighborhoods that are returning in my hometown. You can see them with hammers and nails in the Gulf Coast towns of Mississippi, and you can find them helping thousands of victims of Katrina and Rita to navigate the bureaucratic hurdles between them, and rebuilding their lives.

As we have not had the benefit of Government supported case management, nonprofits and the faith-based community have stepped in to fill the obvious void. Unfortunately, the same community that has been such a lifeline to the people of the Gulf Coast has been barred from competing for Federal funding under Section 426.

This is a shocking turnaround for an administration that has put so much emphasis on including the faith-based community in Government programming. I believe that the instinct to incorporate programs that are organic to the community, and are already working, was a good one. It is clear to me that case management services are prime examples of programs that should incorporate the faith-based community.

So, as you can see, circumstances have compelled me to clarify Congressional intent. The bill I am introducing today does two things. First, it makes Section 426 retroactive to 2005, so that it may cover Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Secondly, it strikes the phrase ''qualified private organizations'' which has been misinterpreted to exclude the faith-based community. That phrase has been replaced with ''nonprofit or faith-based organization with experience in case management services.'' It is unfortunate that we have arrived at the point where a legislative solution is needed. But nevertheless, I believe that this legislation resolves the problem, and will give comfort to the people of the Gulf Coast that Federal monies are being spent wisely, and given to those that have shown themselves capable and willing to help.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill and letters of support be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2335

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Case Management Services Improvement Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 426 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5189d) is amended by striking ''qualified private organizations'' and inserting ''nonprofit or faith-based organizations with experience in case management services''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—Section 426 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5189d), as amended by this Act, shall apply to any major disaster (as that term is defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)) declared on or after January 1, 2005.

UNITED METHODIST
COMMITTEE ON RELIEF,
Washington, DC, October 25, 2007.

Hon. MARY LANDRIEU,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR LANDRIEU, I am writing on behalf of the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR), to express my strong support for the Case Management Services Improvement Act of 2007.

UMCOR is the not-for-profit global humanitarian aid organization of the United Methodist Church, working in more than 80 countries worldwide, For domestic disasters, UMCOR maintains a corps of trained disaster response specialists for quick reinforcement of local efforts, and keeps a supply of relief materials in warehouses to be dispatched as required. These practices proved invaluable in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina when, as one of the founding members of the Katrina Aid Today (KAT) coalition, UMCOR played a vital role in helping nearly 200,000 individuals rebuild their lives. UMCOR also served as the KAT's fiscal agent, overseeing the administration of over $70 million in federal funding and an addition contribution of over $70 million in private dollars to Hurricane Katrina's victims.

The broad language currently contained within the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act offers federal funding to ''qualified private organizations'' to provide case management services to individuals affected by major disasters. Unfortunately, this language does not recognize the extent to which organizations such as UMCOR have efficiently and effectively provided these services in the past. Through the Case Management Services Improvement Act of 2007, you recognize and highlight the value of the disaster-related case management services provided by mission-driven, faith-based or non-profit organizations, value that can not be duplicated by less-experienced, profit-driven private companies.

Please let me know if the United Methodist Committee on Relief, or the other members of Katrina Aid Today, can be of any

assistance as you proceed in getting this important legislation passed. Again, we appreciate the Introduction of this significant bill.

Sincerely,

F. THOMAS HAZELWOOD,
Assistant General Secretary,
UMCOR Emergency Services U.S.

OCTOBER 25, 2007.

Hon. MARY LANDRIEU
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR LANDRIEU, On behalf of Lutheran Disaster Response, I am writing to express my full support for the Case Management Services Improvement Act of 2007. This legislation is of great importance to all individuals affected by major disasters, as it will allow them to receive case management services from the non-profit and faith-based organizations that have a long and successful history of carrying out these activities,

Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) is a mission-driven collaborative ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. We have a long history of effective case management following major disasters, and in partnership with other faith-based, non-profit voluntary organizations such as the United Methodist Committee on Relief, played a vital role in helping nearly 200,000 individuals rebuild their lives in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, This collaboration of non-profit voluntary agencies, known as Katrina Aid Today, established a strong partnership with FEMA and effectively administered over $70 million in federal funding to disaster victims. Additionally, we matched this federal funding with another $70 million in private dollars, providing a comprehensive continuum of care that addressed the needs of each survivor,

As you know, the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act currently offers federal funding to ''qualified private organizations'' to provide case management services to individuals affected by major disasters, This broad language does not recognize the organizations that have provided these services efficiently in the past, such as Lutheran Disaster Response. Through the Case Management Services Improvement Act of 2007, you recognize and highlight the value of disaster-related case management services provided by mission-driven, faith-based or non-profit organizations, rather than leaving these vital responsibilities to less- experienced private companies that answer to shareholders,

Please let me know if Lutheran Disaster Response, or the other members of Katrina Aid Today, can be of any assistance as you proceed in getting this important legislation passed. Again, we appreciate the introduction of this significant bill.

Sincerely,

HEATHER FELTMAN,
Director,
Lutheran Disaster Response.

KATRINA AID TODAY,
Washington, DC, October 25, 2007.

Hon. MARY LANDRIEU,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR LANDRIEU: I am writing to express my full support for the Case Management Services Improvement Act of 2007 on behalf of United Methodist Committee on Relief's Katrina Aid Today program. This legislation is of great importance to all individuals affected by major disasters, as it will allow them to receive case management services from the non-profit and faith-based organizations that have a long and successful history of carrying out these activities.

Katrina Aid Today (KAT) is a consortium of 10 social service and voluntary organizations, dedicated to helping survivors navigate the system as they recovered from this tragic disruption of their lives. Member organizations include Catholic Charities USA, Lutheran Disaster Response, Episcopal Relief & Development, the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and the Salvation Army, among others. Following Hurricane Katrina, KAT administered over $70 million in federal funding for disaster case management, helping nearly 200,000 individuals rebuild their lives. Additionally, the partner organizations within KAT matched this federal funding with another $70 million in private dollars, providing a comprehensive continuum of care that addressed the needs of each survivor.

Currently, the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act overlooks the valuable work of the faith-based organizations that have effectively provided these services in the past, by broadly allowing ''qualified private organizations'' to provide case management services to individuals affected by major disasters. In the Case Management Services Improvement Act of 2007, you recognize the value in having disaster-related case management services provided by mission-driven, faith-based or non-profit organizations such as KAT, rather than leaving these vital responsibilities to less-experienced private companies that must answer to shareholders.

Please let us know if any of the members of Katrina Aid Today can be of any assistance as you proceed in passing the Case Management Services Improvement Act of 2007. Thank you for your efforts and time on this matter.

Sincerely,

JIM COX,
UMCOR,
Executive Director.

By Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL):

S. 2336. A bill to designate the Port Angeles Federal Building in Port Angeles, Washington, as the ''Richard B. Anderson Federal Building''; to the Committee on Environment and Public Works.

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2336

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RICHARD B. ANDERSON FEDERAL BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The Federal building located at 138 West First Street, Port Angeles, Washington, shall be known and designated as the ''Richard B. Anderson Federal Building''.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the Federal building referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the ''Richard B. Anderson Federal Building''.

By Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself, Mrs. LINCOLN, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. SMITH):

S. 2337. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow long-term care insurance to be offered under cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements and to provide additional consumer protections for long-term care insurance; to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, Saturday, November 10, marked the last day of Long-Term Care Awareness Week—this was a week where our Nation recognized that now more than ever, Americans need to pay attention to long-term care issues. My colleagues Senators LINCOLN, SNOWE, STABENOW, SMITH and I couldn't think of a better way to cap off the Week than by introducing the Long-Term Care Affordability and Security Act of 2007.

Our Nation is graying. Research shows that the elderly population will nearly double by 2030. By 2050, the population of those aged 85 and older will have grown by more than 300 percent. Research also shows that the average age at which individuals need long-term care services, such as home health care or a private room at a nursing home, is 75. Currently, the average annual cost for a private room at a nursing home is more than $75,000. This cost is expected to be in excess of $140,000 by 2030.

Based on these facts, we can see that our Nation needs to prepare its citizens for the challenges they may face in old age. One way to prepare for these challenges is by encouraging more Americans to obtain long-term care insurance coverage. To date, only 10 percent of seniors have long-term care insurance policies, and only 7 percent of all private-sector employees are offered long-term care insurance as a voluntary benefit.

Under current law, employees may pay for certain health-related benefits, which may include health insurance premiums, co-pays, and disability or life insurance, on a pre-tax basis under cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, FSAs. Essentially, an employee may elect to reduce his or her annual salary to pay for these benefits, and the employee doesn't pay taxes on the amounts used to pay these costs. Employees, however, are explicitly prohibited from paying for the cost of long-term care insurance coverage tax-free.

Our bill would allow employers, for the first time, to offer qualified long-term care insurance to employees under FSAs and cafeteria plans. This means employees would be permitted to pay for qualified long-term care insurance premiums on a tax-free basis. This would make it easier for employees to purchase long-term care insurance, which many find unaffordable. This should also encourage younger individuals to purchase long-term care insurance. The younger the person is at the time the long-care insurance contract is purchased, the lower the insurance premium.

An aging Nation has no time to waste in preparing for long-term care, and the need to help people afford long-term care is more pressing than ever. I look forward to working with Senators LINCOLN, SNOWE, STABENOW, SMITH and

all of our Senate colleagues toward enacting the Long-Term Care Affordability and Security Act of 2007.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2337

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Long-Term Care Affordability and Security Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. TREATMENT OF PREMIUMS ON QUALIFIED LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE CONTRACTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) CAFETERIA PLANS.—The last sentence of section 125(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (defining qualified benefits) is amended by inserting before the period at the end ''; except that such term shall include the payment of premiums for any qualified long-term care insurance contract (as defined in section 7702B) to the extent the amount of such payment does not exceed the eligible long-term care premiums (as defined in section 213(d)(10)) for such contract''.

(2) FLEXIBLE SPENDING ARRANGEMENTS.—Section 106 of such Code (relating to contributions by an employer to accident and health plans) is amended by striking subsection (c) and redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (c).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Section 6041 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(h) FLEXIBLE SPENDING ARRANGEMENT DEFINED.—For purposes of this section, a flexible spending arrangement is a benefit program which provides employees with coverage under which—

''(1) specified incurred expenses may be reimbursed (subject to reimbursement maximums and other reasonable conditions), and

''(2) the maximum amount of reimbursement which is reasonably available to a participant for such coverage is less than 500 percent of the value of such coverage.

In the case of an insured plan, the maximum amount reasonably available shall be determined on the basis of the underlying coverage.''.

(2) The following sections of such Code are each amended by striking ''section 106(d)'' and inserting ''section 106(c)'': sections 223(b)(4)(B), 223(d)(4)(C), 223(f)(3)(B), 3231(e)(11), 3306(b)(18), 3401(a)(22), 4973(g)(1), and 4973(g)(2)(B)(i).

(3) Section 6041(f)(1) of such Code is amended by striking ''(as defined in section 106(c)(2))''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL CONSUMER PROTECTIONS FOR LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE.

(a) ADDITIONAL PROTECTIONS APPLICABLE TO LONG-TERM CARE INSURANCE.—Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of section 7702B(g)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to requirements of model regulation and Act) are amended to read as follows:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of this paragraph are met with respect to any contract if such contract meets—

''(i) MODEL REGULATION.—The following requirements of the model regulation:

''(I) Section 6A (relating to guaranteed renewal or noncancellability), other than paragraph (5) thereof, and the requirements of section 6B of the model Act relating to such section 6A.

''(II) Section 6B (relating to prohibitions on limitations and exclusions) other than paragraph (7) thereof.

''(III) Section 6C (relating to extension of benefits).

''(IV) Section 6D (relating to continuation or conversion of coverage).

''(V) Section 6E (relating to discontinuance and replacement of policies).

''(VI) Section 7 (relating to unintentional lapse).

''(VII) Section 8 (relating to disclosure), other than sections 8F, 8G, 8H, and 8I thereof.

''(VIII) Section 11 (relating to prohibitions against post-claims underwriting).

''(IX) Section 12 (relating to minimum standards).

''(X) Section 13 (relating to requirement to offer inflation protection).

''(XI) Section 25 (relating to prohibition against preexisting conditions and probationary periods in replacement policies or certificates).

''(XII) The provisions of section 28 relating to contingent nonforfeiture benefits, if the policyholder declines the offer of a nonforfeiture provision described in paragraph (4) of this subsection.

''(ii) MODEL ACT.—The following requirements of the model Act:

''(I) Section 6C (relating to preexisting conditions).

''(II) Section 6D (relating to prior hospitalization).

''(III) The provisions of section 8 relating to contingent nonforfeiture benefits, if the policyholder declines the offer of a nonforfeiture provision described in paragraph (4) of this subsection.

''(B) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph—

''(i) MODEL REGULATION.—The term 'model regulation' means the long-term care insurance model regulation promulgated by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (as adopted as of December 2006).

''(ii) MODEL ACT.—The term 'model Act' means the long-term care insurance model Act promulgated by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (as adopted as of December 2006).

''(iii) COORDINATION.—Any provision of the model regulation or model Act listed under clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) shall be treated as including any other provision of such regulation or Act necessary to implement the provision.

''(iv) DETERMINATION.—For purposes of this section and section 4980C, the determination of whether any requirement of a model regulation or the model Act has been met shall be made by the Secretary.''.

(b) EXCISE TAX.—Paragraph (1) of section 4980C(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (relating to requirements of model provisions) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) REQUIREMENTS OF MODEL PROVISIONS.—

''(A) MODEL REGULATION.—The following requirements of the model regulation must be met:

''(i) Section 9 (relating to required disclosure of rating practices to consumer).

''(ii) Section 14 (relating to application forms and replacement coverage).

''(iii) Section 15 (relating to reporting requirements).

''(iv) Section 22 (relating to filing requirements for marketing).

''(v) Section 23 (relating to standards for marketing), including inaccurate completion of medical histories, other than paragraphs (1), (6), and (9) of section 23C.

''(vi) Section 24 (relating to suitability).

''(vii) Section 27 (relating to the right to reduce coverage and lower premiums).

''(viii) Section 31 (relating to standard format outline of coverage).

''(ix) Section 32 (relating to requirement to deliver shopper's guide).

The requirements referred to in clause (vi) shall not include those portions of the personal worksheet described in Appendix B relating to consumer protection requirements not imposed by section 4980C or 7702B.

''(B) MODEL ACT.—The following requirements of the model Act must be met:

''(i) Section 6F (relating to right to return).

''(ii) Section 6G (relating to outline of coverage).

''(iii) Section 6H (relating to requirements for certificates under group plans).

''(iv) Section 6J (relating to policy summary).

''(v) Section 6K (relating to monthly reports on accelerated death benefits).

''(vi) Section 7 (relating to incontestability period).

''(vii) Section 9 (relating to producer training requirements).

''(C) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the terms 'model regulation' and 'model Act' have the meanings given such terms by section 7702B(g)(2)(B).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to policies issued more than 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

By Mr. REID (for Mr. DODD):

S. 2338. An original bill to modernize and update the National Housing Act and enable the Federal Housing Administration to more effectively reach underserved borrowers, and for other purposes; from the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs; placed on the calendar.

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, today I come to the floor to report the FHA Modernization Act of 2007. This is vitally important legislation, and I want to take a moment to express my thanks to Senator MARTINEZ for his very close collaboration and support in putting this legislation together. This is an original bill produced by the Senate Banking Committee, and as such, the rules prohibit us from obtaining cosponsors. However, I would like to recognize Senators REED, SCHUMER, BAYH, MENENDEZ, BROWN, KERRY, MURRAY, WHITEHOUSE, MARTINEZ, VOINOVICH, CORNYN, and COLEMAN for their support of this bill and for their offers of cosponsorship.

The mortgage markets—particularly the subprime market—are in the midst of a meltdown. Historically high default and foreclosure rates generated, in significant part, by abusive and predatory lending practices, are threatening millions of American families with the loss of their most significant financial asset—their homes—at a cost of over $160 billion in home equity, according to testimony presented before the Banking Committee.

While these problems are addressed, we need to make sure that credit is available, including for subprime borrowers, on fair terms so that the people of this country have an opportunity to build wealth for the future.

A revitalized, strengthened, and modernized FHA can be and, under this legislation, will be a source of this constructive, wealth-building credit, both

for new homeowners and for people who are seeking a way out of the abusive loans in which they are currently trapped.

In short, by providing low-cost credit, without prepayment penalties, without teaser rates, and without other deceptive terms, FHA is a part of the solution to the predatory lending crisis we are experiencing.

Moreover, FHA has traditionally been an important tool for creating new minority homeowners, and for lower-, moderate-, and middle-income families to become homeowners. By modernizing FHA, we will help millions of families achieve their American Dream. FHA is in a strong position to play this role: an independent audit report indicates that FHA has a record $22 billion in capital, and a capital ratio, 6.82 percent, that is more than three times higher the mandated level of 2 percent.

The bill passed by the Committee, and which is being filed today does a number of important things: it raises FHA loan limits so that the program can reach many more people; it lowers downpayment requirements, while still ensuring that people will have a real stake in their new homes; it expands the reverse mortgage program for elderly homeowners by both raising the loan limit and removing the current cap on the number of these mortgages FHA can insure. I know Senators REED, CRAPO, and ALLARD strongly support this program; it reduces the origination fee that elderly homeowners can be charged for these mortgages by one-quarter, from 2 percent to 1.5 percent making it more affordable for seniors to take out these loans; and, it includes a major overhaul of FHA's manufactured housing program, authored by our colleagues Senators BAYH and ALLARD.

Taken together, these changes will help make FHA a more relevant and effective program. This legislation is supported by the Mortgage Bankers Association, the National Association of Home Builders, the National Association of Realtors, AARP, the Manufactured Housing Association, the Manufactured Housing Institute, and others. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be placed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2338

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the ''FHA Modernization Act of 2007''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title and table of contents.

TITLE I—BUILDING AMERICAN HOMEOWNERSHIP

Sec. 101. Short title.
Sec. 102. Maximum principal loan obligation.
Sec. 103. Cash investment requirement and prohibition of seller-funded downpayment assistance.
Sec. 104. Mortgage insurance premiums.
Sec. 105. Rehabilitation loans.
Sec. 106. Discretionary action.
Sec. 107. Insurance of condominiums.
Sec. 108. Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund.
Sec. 109. Hawaiian home lands and Indian reservations.
Sec. 110. Conforming and technical amendments.
Sec. 111. Insurance of mortgages.
Sec. 112. Home equity conversion mortgages.
Sec. 113. Energy efficient mortgages program.
Sec. 114. Pilot program for automated process for borrowers without sufficient credit history.
Sec. 115. Homeownership preservation.
Sec. 116. Use of FHA savings for improvements in FHA technologies, procedures, processes, program performance, staffing, and salaries.
Sec. 117. Post-purchase housing counseling eligibility improvements.
Sec. 118. Pre-purchase homeownership counseling demonstration.
Sec. 119. Fraud Prevention.
Sec. 120. Limitation on mortgage insurance premium increases.
Sec. 121. Savings provision.
Sec. 122. Implementation.

TITLE II—MANUFACTURED HOUSING LOAN MODERNIZATION

Sec. 201. Short title.
Sec. 202. Purposes.
Sec. 203. Exception to limitation on financial institution portfolio.
Sec. 204. Insurance benefits.
Sec. 205. Maximum loan limits.
Sec. 206. Insurance premiums.
Sec. 207. Technical corrections.
Sec. 208. Revision of underwriting criteria.
Sec. 209. Prohibition against kickbacks and unearned fees.
Sec. 210. Leasehold requirements.

TITLE I—BUILDING AMERICAN HOMEOWNERSHIP

SEC. 101. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''Building American Homeownership Act of 2007''.

SEC. 102. MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL LOAN OBLIGATION.

Paragraph (2) of section 203(b)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(b)(2)) is amended—

(1) by amending subparagraphs (A) and (B) to read as follows:

''(A) not to exceed the lesser of—

''(i) in the case of a 1-family residence, the median 1-family house price in the area, as determined by the Secretary; and in the case of a 2-, 3-, or 4-family residence, the percentage of such median price that bears the same ratio to such median price as the dollar amount limitation in effect under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act (12 U.S.C. 1454(a)(2)) for a 2-, 3-, or 4-family residence, respectively, bears to the dollar amount limitation in effect under such section for a 1-family residence; or

''(ii) the dollar amount limitation determined under such section 305(a)(2) for a residence of the applicable size;

except that the dollar amount limitation in effect for any area under this subparagraph may not be less than the greater of (I) the dollar amount limitation in effect under this section for the area on October 21, 1998, or (II) 65 percent of the dollar limitation determined under such section 305(a)(2) for a residence of the applicable size; and

''(B) not to exceed 100 percent of the appraised value of the property.''; and

(2) in the matter following subparagraph (B), by striking the second sentence (relating to a definition of ''average closing cost'') and all that follows through ''section 3103A(d) of title 38, United States Code.''.

SEC. 103. CASH INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT AND PROHIBITION OF SELLER-FUNDED DOWNPAYMENT ASSISTANCE.

Paragraph 9 of section 203(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(b)(9)) is amended to read as follows:

''(9) CASH INVESTMENT REQUIREMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—A mortgage insured under this section shall be executed by a mortgagor who shall have paid, in cash, on account of the property an amount equal to not less than 1.5 percent of the appraised value of the property or such larger amount as the Secretary may determine.

''(B) FAMILY MEMBERS.—For purposes of this paragraph, the Secretary shall consider as cash or its equivalent any amounts borrowed from a family member (as such term is defined in section 201), subject only to the requirements that, in any case in which the repayment of such borrowed amounts is secured by a lien against the property, that—

''(i) such lien shall be subordinate to the mortgage; and

''(ii) the sum of the principal obligation of the mortgage and the obligation secured by such lien may not exceed 100 percent of the appraised value of the property.

''(C) PROHIBITED SOURCES.—In no case shall the funds required by subparagraph (A) consist, in whole or in part, of funds provided by any of the following parties before, during, or after closing of the property sale:

''(i) The seller or any other person or entity that financially benefits from the transaction.

''(ii) Any third party or entity that is reimbursed, directly or indirectly, by any of the parties described in clause (i).''.

SEC. 104. MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUMS.

Section 203(c)(2) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(c)(2)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A), by striking ''or of the General Insurance Fund'' and all that follows through ''section 234(c),,''; and

(2) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by striking ''2.25 percent'' and inserting ''3 percent''; and

(B) by striking ''2.0 percent'' and inserting ''2.75 percent''.

SEC. 105. REHABILITATION LOANS.

Subsection (k) of section 203 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(k)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1), by striking ''on'' and all that follows through ''1978''; and

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking ''General Insurance Fund'' the first place it appears and inserting ''Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund''; and

(B) in the second sentence, by striking the comma and all that follows through ''General Insurance Fund''.

SEC. 106. DISCRETIONARY ACTION.

The National Housing Act is amended—

(1) in subsection (e) of section 202 (12 U.S.C. 1708(e))—

(A) in paragraph (3)(B), by striking ''section 202(e) of the National Housing Act'' and inserting ''this subsection''; and

(B) by redesignating such subsection as subsection (f);

(2) by striking paragraph (4) of section 203(s) (12 U.S.C. 1709(s)(4)) and inserting the following new paragraph:

''(4) the Secretary of Agriculture;''; and

(3) by transferring subsection (s) of section 203 (as amended by paragraph (2) of this section) to section 202, inserting such subsection after subsection (d) of section 202,

and redesignating such subsection as subsection (e).

SEC. 107. INSURANCE OF CONDOMINIUMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 234 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715y) is amended—

(1) in subsection (c), in the first sentence—

(A) by striking ''and'' before ''(2)''; and

(B) by inserting before the period at the end the following: '', and (3) the project has a blanket mortgage insured by the Secretary under subsection (d)''; and

(2) in subsection (g), by striking '', except that'' and all that follows and inserting a period.

(b) DEFINITION OF MORTGAGE.—Section 201(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707(a)) is amended—

(1) before ''a first mortgage'' insert ''(A)'';

(2) by striking ''or on a leasehold (1)'' and inserting ''(B) a first mortgage on a leasehold on real estate (i)'';

(3) by striking ''or (2)'' and inserting '', or (ii)''; and

(4) by inserting before the semicolon the following: '', or (C) a first mortgage given to secure the unpaid purchase price of a fee interest in, or long-term leasehold interest in, real estate consisting of a one-family unit in a multifamily project, including a project in which the dwelling units are attached, or are manufactured housing units, semi-detached, or detached, and an undivided interest in the common areas and facilities which serve the project''.

(c) DEFINITION OF REAL ESTATE.—Section 201 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(g) The term 'real estate' means land and all natural resources and structures permanently affixed to the land, including residential buildings and stationary manufactured housing. The Secretary may not require, for treatment of any land or other property as real estate for purposes of this title, that such land or property be treated as real estate for purposes of State taxation.''.

SEC. 108. MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE FUND.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(a)) is amended to read as follows:

''(a) MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE FUND.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—Subject to the provisions of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, there is hereby created a Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund (in this title referred to as the 'Fund'), which shall be used by the Secretary to carry out the provisions of this title with respect to mortgages insured under section 203. The Secretary may enter into commitments to guarantee, and may guarantee, such insured mortgages.

''(2) LIMIT ON LOAN GUARANTEES.—The authority of the Secretary to enter into commitments to guarantee such insured mortgages shall be effective for any fiscal year only to the extent that the aggregate original principal loan amount under such mortgages, any part of which is guaranteed, does not exceed the amount specified in appropriations Acts for such fiscal year.

''(3) FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBILITY.—The Secretary has a responsibility to ensure that the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund remains financially sound.

''(4) ANNUAL INDEPENDENT ACTUARIAL STUDY.—The Secretary shall provide for an independent actuarial study of the Fund to be conducted annually, which shall analyze the financial position of the Fund. The Secretary shall submit a report annually to the Congress describing the results of such study and assessing the financial status of the Fund. The report shall recommend adjustments to underwriting standards, program participation, or premiums, if necessary, to ensure that the Fund remains financially sound.

''(5) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—During each fiscal year, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress for each calendar quarter, which shall specify for mortgages that are obligations of the Fund—

''(A) the cumulative volume of loan guarantee commitments that have been made during such fiscal year through the end of the quarter for which the report is submitted;

''(B) the types of loans insured, categorized by risk;

''(C) any significant changes between actual and projected claim and prepayment activity;

''(D) projected versus actual loss rates; and

''(E) updated projections of the annual subsidy rates to ensure that increases in risk to the Fund are identified and mitigated by adjustments to underwriting standards, program participation, or premiums, and the financial soundness of the Fund is maintained.

The first quarterly report under this paragraph shall be submitted on the last day of the first quarter of fiscal year 2008, or on the last day of the first full calendar quarter following the enactment of the Building American Homeownership Act of 2007, whichever is later.

''(6) ADJUSTMENT OF PREMIUMS.—If, pursuant to the independent actuarial study of the Fund required under paragraph (4), the Secretary determines that the Fund is not meeting the operational goals established under paragraph (7) or there is a substantial probability that the Fund will not maintain its established target subsidy rate, the Secretary may either make programmatic adjustments under this title as necessary to reduce the risk to the Fund, or make appropriate premium adjustments.

''(7) OPERATIONAL GOALS.—The operational goals for the Fund are—

''(A) to minimize the default risk to the Fund and to homeowners by among other actions instituting fraud prevention quality control screening not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Building American Homeownership Act of 2007; and

''(B) to meet the housing needs of the borrowers that the single family mortgage insurance program under this title is designed to serve.''.

(b) OBLIGATIONS OF FUND.—The National Housing Act is amended as follows:

(1) HOMEOWNERSHIP VOUCHER PROGRAM MORTGAGES.—In section 203(v) (12 U.S.C. 1709(v))—

(A) by striking ''Notwithstanding section 202 of this title, the'' and inserting ''The''; and

(B) by striking ''General Insurance Fund'' the first place such term appears and all that follows through the end of the subsection and inserting ''Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund.''.

(2) HOME EQUITY CONVERSION MORTGAGES.—Section 255(i)(2)(A) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(i)(2)(A)) is amended by striking ''General Insurance Fund'' and inserting ''Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The National Housing Act is amended—

(1) in section 205 (12 U.S.C. 1711), by striking subsections (g) and (h); and

(2) in section 519(e) (12 U.S.C. 1735c(e)), by striking ''203(b)'' and all that follows through ''203(i)'' and inserting ''203, except as determined by the Secretary''.

SEC. 109. HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS AND INDIAN RESERVATIONS.

(a) HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.—Section 247(c) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–12(c)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''General Insurance Fund established in section 519'' and inserting ''Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund''; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking ''(1) all references'' and all that follows through ''and (2)''.

(b) INDIAN RESERVATIONS.—Section 248(f) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–13(f)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''General Insurance Fund'' the first place it appears through ''519'' and inserting ''Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund''; and

(2) in the second sentence, by striking ''(1) all references'' and all that follows through ''and (2)''.

SEC. 110. CONFORMING AND TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.

(a) REPEALS.—The following provisions of the National Housing Act are repealed:

(1) Subsection (i) of section 203 (12 U.S.C. 1709(i)).

(2) Subsection (o) of section 203 (12 U.S.C. 1709(o)).

(3) Subsection (p) of section 203 (12 U.S.C. 1709(p)).

(4) Subsection (q) of section 203 (12 U.S.C. 1709(q)).

(5) Section 222 (12 U.S.C. 1715m).

(6) Section 237 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–2).

(7) Section 245 (12 U.S.C. 1715z–10).

(b) DEFINITION OF AREA.—Section 203(u)(2)(A) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(u)(2)(A)) is amended by striking ''shall'' and all that follows and inserting ''means a metropolitan statistical area as established by the Office of Management and Budget;''.

(c) DEFINITION OF STATE.—Section 201(d) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707(d)) is amended by striking ''the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands'' and inserting ''the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands''.

SEC. 111. INSURANCE OF MORTGAGES.

Subsection (n)(2) of section 203 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(n)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A), by inserting ''or subordinate mortgage or'' before ''lien given''; and

(2) in subparagraph (C), by inserting ''or subordinate mortgage or'' before ''lien''.

SEC. 112. HOME EQUITY CONVERSION MORTGAGES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 255 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20) is amended—

(1) in subsection (b)(2), insert '' 'real estate,' '' after '' 'mortgagor','';

(2) in subsection (g)—

(A) by striking the first sentence; and

(B) by striking ''established under section 203(b)(2)'' and all that follows through ''located'' and inserting ''limitation established under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act for a 1-family residence'';

(3) in subsection (i)(1)(C), by striking ''limitations'' and inserting ''limitation''; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(o) AUTHORITY TO INSURE HOME PURCHASE MORTGAGE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Secretary may insure, upon application by a mortgagee, a home equity conversion mortgage upon such terms and conditions as the Secretary may prescribe, when the home equity conversion mortgage will be used to purchase a 1- to 4-family dwelling unit, one unit of which that the mortgagor will occupy as a primary residence, and to provide for any future payments to the mortgagor, based on available equity, as authorized under subsection (d)(9).

''(2) LIMITATION ON PRINCIPAL OBLIGATION.—A home equity conversion mortgage insured pursuant to paragraph (1) shall involve a principal obligation that does not exceed the dollar amount limitation determined under section 305(a)(2) of the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Act for a 1-family residence.''.

(b) MORTGAGES FOR COOPERATIVES.—Subsection (b) of section 255 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (4)—

(A) by inserting ''a first or subordinate mortgage or lien'' before ''on all stock'';

(B) by inserting ''unit'' after ''dwelling''; and

(C) by inserting ''a first mortgage or first lien'' before ''on a leasehold''; and

(2) in paragraph (5), by inserting ''a first or subordinate lien on'' before ''all stock''.

(c) LIMITATION ON ORIGINATION FEES.—Section 255 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20), as amended by the preceding provisions of this section, is further amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (k), (l), and (m) as subsections (l), (m), and (n), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (j) the following new subsection:

''(k) LIMITATION ON ORIGINATION FEES.—The Secretary shall establish limits on the origination fee that may be charged to a mortgagor under a mortgage insured under this section, which limitations shall—

''(1) equal 1.5 percent of the maximum claim amount of the mortgage unless adjusted thereafter on the basis of—

''(A) the costs to the mortgagor; and

''(B) the impact of such fees on the reverse mortgage market;

''(2) be subject to a minimum allowable amount;

''(3) provide that the origination fee may be fully financed with the mortgage;

''(4) include any fees paid to correspondent mortgagees approved by the Secretary; and

''(5) have the same effective date as subsection (o)(2) regarding the limitation on principal obligation.''.

(d) STUDY REGARDING PROGRAM COSTS AND CREDIT AVAILABILITY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study regarding the costs and availability of credit under the home equity conversion mortgages for elderly homeowners program under section 255 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1715z–20) (in this subsection referred to as the ''program'').

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the study required under paragraph (1) is to help Congress analyze and determine the effects of limiting the amounts of the costs or fees under the program from the amounts charged under the program as of the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) CONTENT OF REPORT.—The study required under paragraph (1) should focus on—

(A) the cost to mortgagors of participating in the program;

(B) the financial soundness of the program;

(C) the availability of credit under the program; and

(D) the costs to elderly homeowners participating in the program, including—

(i) mortgage insurance premiums charged under the program;

(ii) up-front fees charged under the program; and

(iii) margin rates charged under the program.

(4) TIMING OF REPORT.—Not later than 12 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives setting forth the results and conclusions of the study required under paragraph (1).

SEC. 113. ENERGY EFFICIENT MORTGAGES PROGRAM.

Section 106(a)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 12712 note) is amended—

(1) by amending subparagraph (C) to read as follows:

''(C) COSTS OF IMPROVEMENTS.—The cost of cost-effective energy efficiency improvements shall not exceed the greater of—

''(i) 5 percent of the property value (not to exceed 5 percent of the limit established under section 203(b)(2)(A)) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(b)(2)(A); or

''(ii) 2 percent of the limit established under section 203(b)(2)(B) of such Act.''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) LIMITATION.—In any fiscal year, the aggregate number of mortgages insured pursuant to this section may not exceed 5 percent of the aggregate number of mortgages for 1- to 4-family residences insured by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under title II of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707 et seq.) during the preceding fiscal year.''.

SEC. 114. PILOT PROGRAM FOR AUTOMATED PROCESS FOR BORROWERS WITHOUT SUFFICIENT CREDIT HISTORY.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Title II of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1707 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 257. PILOT PROGRAM FOR AUTOMATED PROCESS FOR BORROWERS WITHOUT SUFFICIENT CREDIT HISTORY.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall carry out a pilot program to establish, and make available to mortgagees, an automated process for providing alternative credit rating information for mortgagors and prospective mortgagors under mortgages on 1- to 4-family residences to be insured under this title who have insufficient credit histories for determining their creditworthiness. Such alternative credit rating information may include rent, utilities, and insurance payment histories, and such other information as the Secretary considers appropriate.

''(b) SCOPE.—The Secretary may carry out the pilot program under this section on a limited basis or scope, and may consider limiting the program to first-time homebuyers.

''(c) LIMITATION.—In any fiscal year, the aggregate number of mortgages insured pursuant to the automated process established under this section may not exceed 5 percent of the aggregate number of mortgages for 1- to 4-family residences insured by the Secretary under this title during the preceding fiscal year.

''(d) SUNSET.—After the expiration of the 5-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of the Building American Homeownership Act of 2007, the Secretary may not enter into any new commitment to insure any mortgage, or newly insure any mortgage, pursuant to the automated process established under this section.''.

(b) GAO REPORT.—Not later than the expiration of the two-year period beginning on the date of the enactment of this title, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Congress a report identifying the number of additional mortgagors served using the automated process established pursuant to section 257 of the National Housing Act (as added by the amendment made by subsection (a) of this section) and the impact of such process and the insurance of mortgages pursuant to such process on the safety and soundness of the insurance funds under the National Housing Act of which such mortgages are obligations.

SEC. 115. HOMEOWNERSHIP PRESERVATION.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development and the Commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration, in consultation with industry, the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, and other entities involved in foreclosure prevention activities, shall—

(1) develop and implement a plan to improve the Federal Housing Administration's loss mitigation process; and

(2) report such plan to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 116. USE OF FHA SAVINGS FOR IMPROVEMENTS IN FHA TECHNOLOGIES, PROCEDURES, PROCESSES, PROGRAM PERFORMANCE, STAFFING, AND SALARIES.

(a) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, $25,000,000, from negative credit subsidy for the mortgage insurance programs under title II of the National Housing Act, to the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for increasing funding for the purpose of improving technology, processes, program performance, eliminating fraud, and for providing appropriate staffing in connection with the mortgage insurance programs under title II of the National Housing Act.

(b) CERTIFICATION.—The authorization under subsection (a) shall not be effective for a fiscal year unless the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development has, by rulemaking in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code (notwithstanding subsections (a)(2), (b)(B), and (d)(3) of such section), made a determination that—

(1) premiums being, or to be, charged during such fiscal year for mortgage insurance under title II of the National Housing Act are established at the minimum amount sufficient to—

(A) comply with the requirements of section 205(f) of such Act (relating to required capital ratio for the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund); and

(B) ensure the safety and soundness of the other mortgage insurance funds under such Act; and

(2) any negative credit subsidy for such fiscal year resulting from such mortgage insurance programs adequately ensures the efficient delivery and availability of such programs.

(c) STUDY AND REPORT.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall conduct a study to obtain recommendations from participants in the private residential (both single family and multifamily) mortgage lending business and the secondary market for such mortgages on how best to update and upgrade processes and technologies for the mortgage insurance programs under title II of the National Housing Act so that the procedures for originating, insuring, and servicing of such mortgages conform with those customarily used by secondary market purchasers of residential mortgage loans. Not later than the expiration of the 12-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit a report to the Congress describing the progress made and to be made toward updating and upgrading such processes and technology, and providing appropriate staffing for such mortgage insurance programs.

SEC. 117. POST-PURCHASE HOUSING COUNSELING ELIGIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS.

Section 106(c)(4) of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 (12 U.S.C. 1701x(c)(4)) is amended:

(1) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) in clause (i), by striking ''; or'' and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in clause (ii), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) a significant reduction in the income of the household due to divorce or death; or

''(iv) a significant increase in basic expenses of the homeowner or an immediate family member of the homeowner (including the spouse, child, or parent for whom the homeowner provides substantial care or financial assistance) due to—

''(I) an unexpected or significant increase in medical expenses;

''(II) a divorce;

''(III) unexpected and significant damage to the property, the repair of which will not be covered by private or public insurance; or

''(IV) a large property-tax increase; or'';

(2) by striking the matter that follows subparagraph (C); and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(D) the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development determines that the annual income of the homeowner is no greater than the annual income established by the Secretary as being of low- or moderate-income.''.

SEC. 118. PRE-PURCHASE HOMEOWNERSHIP COUNSELING DEMONSTRATION.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT OF PROGRAM.—For the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the date that is 3 years after such date of enactment, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall establish and conduct a demonstration program to test the effectiveness of alternative forms of pre-purchase homeownership counseling for eligible homebuyers.

(b) FORMS OF COUNSELING.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall provide to eligible homebuyers pre-purchase homeownership counseling under this section in the form of —

(1) telephone counseling;

(2) individualized in-person counseling;

(3) web-based counseling;

(4) counseling classes; or

(5) any other form or type of counseling that the Secretary may, in his discretion, determine appropriate.

(c) SIZE OF PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall make available the pre-purchase homeownership counseling described in subsection (b) to not more than 3,000 eligible homebuyers in any given year.

(d) INCENTIVE TO PARTICIPATE.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may provide incentives to eligible homebuyers to participate in the demonstration program established under subsection (a). Such incentives may include the reduction of any insurance premium charges owed by the eligible homebuyer to the Secretary.

(e) ELIGIBLE HOMEBUYER DEFINED.—For purposes of this section an ''eligible homebuyer'' means a first-time homebuyer who has been approved for a home loan with a loan-to-value ratio between 97 percent and 98.5 percent.

(f) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall report to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representative—

(1) on an annual basis, on the progress and results of the demonstration program established under subsection (a); and

(2) for the period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act and ending on the date that is 5 years after such date of enactment, on the payment history and delinquency rates of eligible homebuyers who participated in the demonstration program.

SEC. 119. FRAUD PREVENTION.

Section 1014 of title 18, United States Code, is amended in the first sentence—

(1) by inserting ''the Federal Housing Administration'' before ''the Farm Credit Administration''; and

(2) by striking ''commitment, or loan'' and inserting ''commitment, loan, or insurance agreement or application for insurance or a guarantee''.

SEC. 120. LIMITATION ON MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUM INCREASES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including any provision of this Act and any amendment made by this Act—

(1) for the period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act and ending on October 1, 2009, the premiums charged for mortgage insurance under multifamily housing programs under the National Housing Act may not be increased above the premium amounts in effect under such program on October 1, 2006, unless the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development determines that, absent such increase, insurance of additional mortgages under such program would, under the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990, require the appropriation of new budget authority to cover the costs (as such term is defined in section 502 of the Federal Credit Reform Act of 1990 (2 U.S.C. 661a) of such insurance; and

(2) a premium increase pursuant to paragraph (1) may be made only if not less than 30 days prior to such increase taking effect, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development—

(A) notifies the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Financial Services of the House of Representatives of such increase; and

(B) publishes notice of such increase in the Federal Register.

(b) WAIVER.—The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development may waive the 30-day notice requirement under subsection (a)(2), if the Secretary determines that waiting 30-days before increasing premiums would cause substantial damage to the solvency of multifamily housing programs under the National Housing Act.

SEC. 121. SAVINGS PROVISION.

Any mortgage insured under title II of the National Housing Act before the date of enactment of this title shall continue to be governed by the laws, regulations, orders, and terms and conditions to which it was subject on the day before the date of the enactment of this title.

SEC. 122. IMPLEMENTATION.

The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall by notice establish any additional requirements that may be necessary to immediately carry out the provisions of this title. The notice shall take effect upon issuance.

TITLE II—MANUFACTURED HOUSING LOAN MODERNIZATION

SEC. 201. SHORT TITLE.

This title may be cited as the ''FHA Manufactured Housing Loan Modernization Act of 2007''.

SEC. 202. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this title are—

(1) to provide adequate funding for FHA-insured manufactured housing loans for low- and moderate-income homebuyers during all economic cycles in the manufactured housing industry;

(2) to modernize the FHA title I insurance program for manufactured housing loans to enhance participation by Ginnie Mae and the private lending markets; and

(3) to adjust the low loan limits for title I manufactured home loan insurance to reflect the increase in costs since such limits were last increased in 1992 and to index the limits to inflation.

SEC. 203. EXCEPTION TO LIMITATION ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTION PORTFOLIO.

The second sentence of section 2(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''In no case'' and inserting ''Other than in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place such a home (or both), in no case''; and

(2) by striking '': *Provided*, That with'' and inserting ''. With''.

SEC. 204. INSURANCE BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 2 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(b)), is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) INSURANCE BENEFITS FOR MANUFACTURED HOUSING LOANS.—Any contract of insurance with respect to loans, advances of credit, or purchases in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place a manufactured home (or both) for a financial institution that is executed under this title after the date of the enactment of the FHA Manufactured Housing Loan Modernization Act of 2007 by the Secretary shall be conclusive evidence of the eligibility of such financial institution for insurance, and the validity of any contract of insurance so executed shall be incontestable in the hands of the bearer from the date of the execution of such contract, except for fraud or misrepresentation on the part of such institution.''.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall only apply to loans that are registered or endorsed for insurance after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 205. MAXIMUM LOAN LIMITS.

(a) DOLLAR AMOUNTS.—Paragraph (1) of section 2(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) in clause (ii) of subparagraph (A), by striking ''$17,500'' and inserting ''$25,090'';

(2) in subparagraph (C) by striking ''$48,600'' and inserting ''$69,678'';

(3) in subparagraph (D) by striking ''$64,800'' and inserting ''$92,904'';

(4) in subparagraph (E) by striking ''$16,200'' and inserting ''$23,226''; and

(5) by realigning subparagraphs (C), (D), and (E) 2 ems to the left so that the left margins of such subparagraphs are aligned with the margins of subparagraphs (A) and (B).

(b) ANNUAL INDEXING.—Subsection (b) of section 2 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(b)), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(9) ANNUAL INDEXING OF MANUFACTURED HOUSING LOANS.—The Secretary shall develop a method of indexing in order to annually adjust the loan limits established in subparagraphs (A)(ii), (C), (D), and (E) of this subsection. Such index shall be based on the manufactured housing price data collected by the United States Census Bureau. The Secretary shall establish such index no later than 1 year after the date of the enactment of the FHA Manufactured Housing Loan Modernization Act of 2007.''

(c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING CHANGES.—Paragraph (1) of section 2(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''No'' and inserting ''Except as provided in the last sentence of this paragraph, no''; and

(2) by adding after and below subparagraph (G) the following:

''The Secretary shall, by regulation, annually increase the dollar amount limitations in subparagraphs (A)(ii), (C), (D), and (E) (as such limitations may have been previously adjusted under this sentence) in accordance with the index established pursuant to paragraph (9).''.

SEC. 206. INSURANCE PREMIUMS.

Subsection (f) of section 2 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(f)) is amended—

(1) by inserting ''(1) PREMIUM CHARGES.—'' after ''(f)''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(2) MANUFACTURED HOME LOANS.—Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in the case of a loan, advance of credit, or purchase in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place such a home (or both), the premium charge for the insurance granted under this section shall be paid by the borrower under the loan or advance of credit, as follows:

''(A) At the time of the making of the loan, advance of credit, or purchase, a single premium payment in an amount not to exceed 2.25 percent of the amount of the original insured principal obligation.

''(B) In addition to the premium under subparagraph (A), annual premium payments during the term of the loan, advance, or obligation purchased in an amount not exceeding 1.0 percent of the remaining insured principal balance (excluding the portion of the remaining balance attributable to the premium collected under subparagraph (A) and without taking into account delinquent payments or prepayments).

''(C) Premium charges under this paragraph shall be established in amounts that are sufficient, but do not exceed the minimum amounts necessary, to maintain a negative credit subsidy for the program under this section for insurance of loans, advances of credit, or purchases in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place such a home (or both), as determined based upon risk to the Federal Government under existing underwriting requirements.

''(D) The Secretary may increase the limitations on premium payments to percentages above those set forth in subparagraphs (A) and (B), but only if necessary, and not in excess of the minimum increase necessary, to maintain a negative credit subsidy as described in subparagraph (C).''.

SEC. 207. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS.

(a) DATES.—Subsection (a) of section 2 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''on and after July 1, 1939,'' each place such term appears; and

(2) by striking ''made after the effective date of the Housing Act of 1954''.

(b) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—Subsection (c) of section 2 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(c)) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) HANDLING AND DISPOSAL OF PROPERTY.—

''(1) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary may—

''(A) deal with, complete, rent, renovate, modernize, insure, or assign or sell at public or private sale, or otherwise dispose of, for cash or credit in the Secretary's discretion, and upon such terms and conditions and for such consideration as the Secretary shall determine to be reasonable, any real or personal property conveyed to or otherwise acquired by the Secretary, in connection with the payment of insurance heretofore or hereafter granted under this title, including any evidence of debt, contract, claim, personal property, or security assigned to or held by him in connection with the payment of insurance heretofore or hereafter granted under this section; and

''(B) pursue to final collection, by way of compromise or otherwise, all claims assigned to or held by the Secretary and all legal or equitable rights accruing to the Secretary in connection with the payment of such insurance, including unpaid insurance premiums owed in connection with insurance made available by this title.

''(2) ADVERTISEMENTS FOR PROPOSALS.—Section 3709 of the Revised Statutes shall not be construed to apply to any contract of hazard insurance or to any purchase or contract for services or supplies on account of such property if the amount thereof does not exceed $25,000.

''(3) DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY.—The power to convey and to execute in the name of the Secretary, deeds of conveyance, deeds of release, assignments and satisfactions of mortgages, and any other written instrument relating to real or personal property or any interest therein heretofore or hereafter acquired by the Secretary pursuant to the provisions of this title may be exercised by an officer appointed by the Secretary without the execution of any express delegation of power or power of attorney. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prevent the Secretary from delegating such power by order or by power of attorney, in the Secretary's discretion, to any officer or agent the Secretary may appoint.''.

SEC. 208. REVISION OF UNDERWRITING CRITERIA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 2 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(b)), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(10) FINANCIAL SOUNDNESS OF MANUFACTURED HOUSING PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish such underwriting criteria for loans and advances of credit in connection with a manufactured home or a lot on which to place a manufactured home (or both), including such loans and advances represented by obligations purchased by financial institutions, as may be necessary to ensure that the program under this title for insurance for financial institutions against losses from such loans, advances of credit, and purchases is financially sound.''.

(b) TIMING.—Not later than the expiration of the 6-month period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall revise the existing underwriting criteria for the program referred to in paragraph (10) of section 2(b) of the National Housing Act (as added by subsection (a) of this section) in accordance with the requirements of such paragraph.

SEC. 209. PROHIBITION AGAINST KICKBACKS AND UNEARNED FEES.

Title I of the National Housing Act is amended by adding at the end of section 9 the following new section:

''SEC. 10. PROHIBITION AGAINST KICKBACKS AND UNEARNED FEES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), the provisions of sections 3, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) shall apply to each sale of a manufactured home financed with an FHA-insured loan or extension of credit, as well as to services rendered in connection with such transactions.

''(b) AUTHORITY OF THE SECRETARY.—The Secretary is authorized to determine the manner and extent to which the provisions of sections 3, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) may reasonably be applied to the transactions described in subsection (a), and to grant such exemptions as may be necessary to achieve the purposes of this section.

''(c) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) the term 'federally related mortgage loan' as used in sections 3, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) shall include an FHA-insured loan or extension of credit made to a borrower for the purpose of purchasing a manufactured home that the borrower intends to occupy as a personal residence; and

''(2) the term 'real estate settlement service' as used in sections 3, 8, 16, 17, 18, and 19 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2601 et seq.) shall include any service rendered in connection with a loan or extension of credit insured by the Federal Housing Administration for the purchase of a manufactured home.

''(d) UNFAIR AND DECEPTIVE PRACTICES.—In connection with the purchase of a manufactured home financed with a loan or extension of credit insured by the Federal Housing Administration under this title, the Secretary shall prohibit acts or practices in connection with loans or extensions of credit that the Secretary finds to be unfair, deceptive, or otherwise not in the interests of the borrower.''.

SEC. 210. LEASEHOLD REQUIREMENTS.

Subsection (b) of section 2 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1703(b)), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(11) LEASEHOLD REQUIREMENTS.—No insurance shall be granted under this section to any such financial institution with respect to any obligation representing any such loan, advance of credit, or purchase by it, made for the purposes of financing a manufactured home which is intended to be situated in a manufactured home community pursuant to a lease, unless such lease—

''(A) expires not less than 3 years after the origination date of the obligation;

''(B) is renewable upon the expiration of the original 3 year term by successive 1 year terms; and

''(C) requires the lessor to provide the lessee written notice of termination of the lease not less than 180 days prior to the expiration of the current lease term in the event the lessee is required to move due to the closing of the manufactured home community, and further provides that failure to provide such notice to the mortgagor in a timely manner will cause the lease term, at its expiration, to automatically renew for an additional 1 year term.''.

By Mr. MCCONNELL (for himself and Mr. STEVENS):

S. 2340. A bill making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes; read the first time.

Mr. MCCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be placed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2340

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the following sums are appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

TITLE I

MILIARY PERSONNEL

MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Military Personnel, Army'', $6,158,778,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Military Personnel, Navy'', $395,839,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Military Personnel, Marine Corps'', $895,011,000.

MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Military Personnel, Air Force'', $707,945,000.

REVERSE PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Reserve Personnel, Army'', $115,150,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Reserve Personnel, Navy'', $35,000,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Reserve Personnel, Marine Corps'', $7,710,000.

RESERVE PERSONNEL, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Reserve Personnel, Air Force'', $1,500,000.

NATIONAL GUARD PERSONNEL, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''National Guard Personnel, Army'', $334,000,000.

TITLE II

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army'', $27,853,000,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY

(INCLUDING TRANSFERS OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy'', $2,664,000,000: *Provided,* That up to $98,000,000 shall be transferred to the Coast Guard ''Operating Expenses'' account.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps'', $2,649,807,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force'', $4,778,000,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Defense-Wide'', $1,836,318,000, of which up to $300,000,000, to remain available until expended, may be used for payments to reimburse Pakistan, Jordan, and other key cooperating nations, for logistical, military, and other support provided, or to be provided, to United States military operations, notwithstanding any other provision of law: *Provided,* That such payments may be made in such amounts as the Secretary of Defense, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, and in consultation with the Director of the Office of Management and Budget, may determine, in his discretion, based on documentation determined by the Secretary of Defense to adequately account for the support provided, and such determination is final and conclusive upon the accounting officers of the United States, and 15 days following notification to the appropriate congressional committees: *Provided further,* That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees on the use of funds provided in this paragraph.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army Reserve'', $77,736,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, NAVY RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Navy Reserve'', $41,657,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, MARINE CORPS RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Marine Corps Reserve'', $46,153,000.

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE, AIR FORCE RESERVE

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air Force Reserve'', $12,133,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Army National Guard'', $327,000,000.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

For an additional amount for ''Operation and Maintenance, Air National Guard'', $51,634,000.

IRAQ FREEDOM FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For an additional amount for ''Iraq Freedom Fund'', $3,747,327,000, to remain available for transfer until September 30, 2009, only to support operations in Iraq or Afghanistan: *Provided,* That the Secretary of Defense may transfer the funds provided herein to appropriations for military personnel; operation and maintenance; Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid; procurement; research, development, test and evaluation; and working capital funds: *Provided further,* That funds transferred shall be merged with and be available for the same purposes and for the same time period as the appropriation or fund to which transferred: *Provided further,* That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further,* That upon a determination that all or part of the funds transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further,* That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 5 days prior to making transfers from this appropriation, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further,* That the Secretary shall submit a report no later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter to the congressional defense committees summarizing the details of the transfer of funds from this appropriation.

AFGHANISTAN SECURITY FORCES FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the ''Afghanistan Security Forces Fund'', $1,350,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009: *Provided,* That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of allowing the Commander, Office of Security Cooperation–Afghanistan, or the Secretary's designee, to provide assistance, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to the security forces of Afghanistan, including the provision of equipment, supplies, services, training, facility and infrastructure repair, renovation, and construction, and funding: *Provided further,* That the authority to provide assistance under this heading is in addition to any other authority to provide assistance to foreign nations: *Provided further,* That the Secretary of Defense may transfer such funds to appropriations for military personnel; operation and maintenance; Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid; procurement; research, development, test and evaluation; and defense working capital funds to accomplish the purposes provided herein: *Provided further,* That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further,* That upon a determination that all or part of the funds so transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further,* That contributions of funds for the purposes provided herein from any person, foreign government, or international organization may be credited to this Fund, and used for such purposes: *Provided further,* That the Secretary shall notify the congressional defense committees in writing upon the receipt and upon the transfer of any contribution delineating the sources and amounts of the funds received and the specific use of such contributions: *Provided further,* That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than five days prior to making transfers from this appropriation account, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further,* That the Secretary shall submit a report no later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter to the congressional defense committees summarizing the details of the transfer of funds from this appropriation.

IRAQ SECURITY FORCES FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the ''Iraq Security Forces Fund'', $1,500,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2009: *Provided,* That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of allowing the Commander, Multi-National Security Transition Command–Iraq, or the Secretary's designee, to provide assistance, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, to the security forces of Iraq, including the provision of equipment, supplies, services, training, facility and infrastructure repair, renovation, and construction, and funding: *Provided further,* That the authority to provide assistance under this heading is in addition to any other authority to provide assistance to foreign nations: *Provided further,* That the Secretary of Defense may transfer such funds to appropriations for military personnel; operation and maintenance; Overseas Humanitarian, Disaster, and Civic Aid; procurement; research, development, test and evaluation; and defense working capital funds to accomplish the purposes provided herein: *Provided further,* That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further,* That upon a determination that all or part of the funds so transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purposes provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further,* That contributions of funds for the purposes provided herein from any person, foreign government, or international organization may be credited to this Fund, and used for such purposes: *Provided further,* That the Secretary shall notify the congressional defense committees in writing upon the receipt and upon the transfer of any contribution delineating the sources and amounts of the funds received and the specific use of such contributions: *Provided further,* That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than five days prior to making transfers from this appropriation account, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such transfer: *Provided further,* That the Secretary shall submit a report no later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter to the congressional defense committees summarizing the details of the transfer of funds from this appropriation.

JOINT IMPROVISED EXPLOSIVE DEVICE DEFEAT FUND

(INCLUDING TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

For the ''Joint Improvised Explosive Device Defeat Fund'', $2,264,500,000, to remain available until September 30, 2010: *Provided,* That such funds shall be available to the Secretary of Defense, notwithstanding any other provision of law, for the purpose of allowing the Director of the Joint Improvised

Explosive Device Defeat Organization to investigate, develop and provide equipment, supplies, services, training, facilities, personnel and funds to assist United States forces in the defeat of improvised explosive devices: *Provided further*, That within 60 days of the enactment of this Act, a plan for the intended management and use of the Fund is provided to the congressional defense committees: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall submit a report not later than 30 days after the end of each fiscal quarter to the congressional defense committees providing assessments of the evolving threats, individual service requirements to counter the threats, the current strategy for predeployment training of members of the Armed Forces on improvised explosive devices, and details on the execution of this Fund: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense may transfer funds provided herein to appropriations for military personnel; operation and maintenance; procurement; research, development, test and evaluation; and defense working capital funds to accomplish the purpose provided herein: *Provided further*, That this transfer authority is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense: *Provided further*, That upon determination that all or part of the funds so transferred from this appropriation are not necessary for the purpose provided herein, such amounts may be transferred back to this appropriation: *Provided further*, That the Secretary of Defense shall, not fewer than 5 days prior to making transfers from this appropriation, notify the congressional defense committees in writing of the details of any such transfer.

TITLE III

PROCUREMENT

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Aircraft Procurement, Army'', $1,300,503,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

MISSILE PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Missile Procurement, Army'', $133,621,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

PROCUREMENT OF WEAPONS AND TRACKED COMBAT VEHICLES, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Weapons and Tracked Combat Vehicles, Army'', $4,512,566,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Army'', $154,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, ARMY

For an additional amount for ''Other Procurement, Army'', $2,300,942,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Aircraft Procurement, Navy'', $45,900,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

WEAPONS PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Weapons Procurement, Navy'', $159,141,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Navy and Marine Corps'', $304,945,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, NAVY

For an additional amount for ''Other Procurement, Navy'', $140,061,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

PROCUREMENT, MARINE CORPS

For an additional amount for ''Procurement, Marine Corps'', $733,550,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

AIRCRAFT PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Aircraft Procurement, Air Force'', $133,500,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

PROCUREMENT OF AMMUNITION, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Procurement of Ammunition, Air Force'', $52,203,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

OTHER PROCUREMENT, AIR FORCE

For an additional amount for ''Other Procurement, Air Force'', $199,617,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

PROCUREMENT, DEFENSE-WIDE

For an additional amount for ''Procurement, Defense-Wide'', $274,743,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

TITLE IV

REVOLVING AND MANAGEMENT FUNDS

DEFENSE WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS

For an additional amount of ''Defense Working Capital Funds'', $1,000,000,000, to remain available for obligation until September 30, 2010.

TITLE V

OTHER DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PROGRAMS

DEFENSE HEALTH PROGRAM

For an additional amount for ''Defense Health Program'', $575,701,000 for Operation and maintenance.

DRUG INTERDICTION AND COUNTER-DRUG ACTIVITIES, DEFENSE

For an additional amount for ''Drug Interdiction and Counter-Drug Activities, Defense'', $128,809,000.

TITLE VI

GENERAL PROVISIONS

SEC. 601. Appropriations provided in this Act are available for obligation until September 30, 2008, unless otherwise so provided in this Act.

SEC. 602. Notwithstanding any other provision of law or of this Act, funds made available in this Act are in addition to amounts appropriated or otherwise made available for the Department of Defense for fiscal year 2008.

(TRANSFER OF FUNDS)

SEC. 603. Upon the determination of the Secretary of Defense that such action is necessary in the national interest, the Secretary may transfer between appropriations up to $3,000,000,000 of the funds made available to the Department of Defense in this Act: *Provided*, That the Secretary shall notify the Congress promptly of each transfer made pursuant to the authority in this section: *Provided further*, That the authority provided in this section is in addition to any other transfer authority available to the Department of Defense.

SEC. 604. Funds appropriated in this Act, or made available by the transfer of funds in or pursuant to this Act, for intelligence activities are deemed to be specifically authorized by the Congress for purposes of section 504 of the National Security Act of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 414).

SEC. 605. None of the funds provided in this Act may be used to finance programs or activities denied by Congress in fiscal years 2007 or 2008 appropriations to the Department of Defense or to initiate a procurement or research, development, test and evaluation new start program without prior written notification to the congressional defense committees.

SEC. 606. (a) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS FOR CERP.—From funds made available in this Act to the Department of Defense, not to exceed $500,000,000 may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to fund the Commander's Emergency Response Program, for the purpose of enabling military commanders in Iraq to respond to urgent humanitarian relief and reconstruction requirements within their areas of responsibility by carrying out programs that will immediately assist the Iraqi people, and to fund a similar program to assist the people of Afghanistan.

(b) QUARTERLY REPORTS.—Not later than 15 days after the end of each fiscal year quarter (beginning with the first quarter of fiscal year 2008), the Secretary of Defense shall submit to the congressional defense committees a report regarding the source of funds and the allocation and use of funds during that quarter that were made available pursuant to the authority provided in this section or under any other provision of law for the purposes of the programs under subsection (a).

SEC. 607. During the current fiscal year, funds available to the Department of Defense for operation and maintenance may be used, notwithstanding any other provision of law, to provide supplies, services, transportation, including airlift and sealift, and other logistical support to coalition forces supporting military and stability operations in Iraq and Afghanistan: *Provided*, That the Secretary of Defense shall provide quarterly reports to the congressional defense committees regarding support provided under this section.

SEC. 608. During fiscal year 2008, supervision and administration costs associated with projects carried out with funds appropriated to ''Afghanistan Security Forces Fund'' or ''Iraq Security Forces Fund'' in this Act may be obligated at the time a construction contract is awarded: *Provided*, That for the purpose of this section, supervision and administration costs include all in-house Government costs.

SEC. 609. (a) REPORTS ON PROGRESS TOWARD STABILITY IN IRAQ.—Not later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act and every 90 days thereafter through the end of fiscal year 2008, the Secretary of Defense shall set forth in a report to Congress a comprehensive set of performance indicators and measures for progress toward military and political stability in Iraq.

(b) SCOPE OF REPORTS.—Each report shall include performance standards and goals for security, economic, and security force training objectives in Iraq together with a notional timetable for achieving these goals.

(c) SPECIFIC ELEMENTS.—In specific, each report shall require, at a minimum, the following:

(1) With respect to stability and security in Iraq, the following:

(A) Key measures of political stability, including the important political milestones that must be achieved over the next several years.

(B) The primary indicators of a stable security environment in Iraq, such as number of engagements per day, numbers of trained Iraqi forces, and trends relating to numbers and types of ethnic and religious-based hostile encounters.

(C) An assessment of the estimated strength of the insurgency in Iraq and the

extent to which it is composed of non-Iraqi fighters.

(D) A description of all militias operating in Iraq, including the number, size, equipment strength, military effectiveness, sources of support, legal status, and efforts to disarm or reintegrate each militia.

(E) Key indicators of economic activity that should be considered the most important for determining the prospects of stability in Iraq, including—

(i) unemployment levels;

(ii) electricity, water, and oil production rates; and

(iii) hunger and poverty levels.

(F) The criteria the Administration will use to determine when it is safe to begin withdrawing United States forces from Iraq.

(2) With respect to the training and performance of security forces in Iraq, the following:

(A) The training provided Iraqi military and other Ministry of Defense forces and the equipment used by such forces.

(B) Key criteria for assessing the capabilities and readiness of the Iraqi military and other Ministry of Defense forces, goals for achieving certain capability and readiness levels (as well as for recruiting, training, and equipping these forces), and the milestones and notional timetable for achieving these goals.

(C) The operational readiness status of the Iraqi military forces, including the type, number, size, and organizational structure of Iraqi battalions that are—

(i) capable of conducting counter-insurgency operations independently;

(ii) capable of conducting counter-insurgency operations with the support of United States or coalition forces; or

(iii) not ready to conduct counter-insurgency operations.

(D) The rates of absenteeism in the Iraqi military forces and the extent to which insurgents have infiltrated such forces.

(E) The training provided Iraqi police and other Ministry of Interior forces and the equipment used by such forces.

(F) Key criteria for assessing the capabilities and readiness of the Iraqi police and other Ministry of Interior forces, goals for achieving certain capability and readiness levels (as well as for recruiting, training, and equipping), and the milestones and notional timetable for achieving these goals, including—

(i) the number of police recruits that have received classroom training and the duration of such instruction;

(ii) the number of veteran police officers who have received classroom instruction and the duration of such instruction;

(iii) the number of police candidates screened by the Iraqi Police Screening Service, the number of candidates derived from other entry procedures, and the success rates of those groups of candidates;

(iv) the number of Iraqi police forces who have received field training by international police trainers and the duration of such instruction; and

(v) attrition rates and measures of absenteeism and infiltration by insurgents.

(G) The estimated total number of Iraqi battalions needed for the Iraqi security forces to perform duties now being undertaken by coalition forces, including defending the borders of Iraq and providing adequate levels of law and order throughout Iraq.

(H) The effectiveness of the Iraqi military and police officer cadres and the chain of command.

(I) The number of United States and coalition advisors needed to support the Iraqi security forces and associated ministries.

(J) An assessment, in a classified annex if necessary, of United States military requirements, including planned force rotations, through the end of calendar year 2008.

SEC. 610. Each amount appropriated or otherwise made available in this Act is designated as an emergency requirement and necessary to meet emergency needs pursuant to subsections (a) and (b) of section 204 of S. Con. Res. 21 (110th Congress), the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2008.

SEC. 611. None of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be obligated or expended to provide award fees to any defense contractor for performance that does not meet the requirements of the contract.

SEC. 612. No funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act may be used by the Government of the United States to enter into an agreement with the Government of Iraq that would subject members of the Armed Forces of the United States to the jurisdiction of Iraq criminal courts or punishment under Iraq law.

SEC. 613. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Secretary of the Army may reimburse a member for expenses incurred by the member or family member when such expenses are otherwise not reimbursable under law: *Provided*, That such expenses must have been incurred in good faith as a direct consequence of reasonable preparation for, or execution of, military orders: *Provided further*, That reimbursement under this section shall be allowed only in situations wherein other authorities are insufficient to remedy a hardship determined by the Secretary, and only when the Secretary determines that reimbursement of the expense is in the best interest of the member and the United States.

SEC. 614. In this Act, the term ''congressional defense committees'' means—

(1) the Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the Senate; and

(2) the Committees on Armed Services and Appropriations of the House of Representatives.

SEC. 615. This Act may be cited as the ''Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act for Defense, 2008''.

By Mr. REID (for Mrs. CLINTON (for herself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, and Ms. LANDRIEU)):

S. 2341. A bill to provide Individual Development Accounts to support foster youths who are transitioning from the foster care system; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Mrs. CLINTON. Mr. President, youth aging out of foster care constitute one of our Nation's most vulnerable populations. Not only do these young people carry wih them histories of child abuse and neglect, but they are also often unsupported in their transition from foster care to independent living. Today, I am pleased to introduce the Focusing Investments and Resources for a Safe Transition Act or FIRST Act, a piece of legislation that will offer much needed financial assistance to young adults as they exit the child welfare system.

Research shows that youth aging out of foster care fare worse than their counterparts in the general population on a variety of social, educational, and health indicators. These youth report significantly lower levels of education and are more likely to be unemployed or homeless. Research also shows that, as they prepare to exit foster care, these young adults do not receive the independent living services necessary to support them through their transition. When it comes to guidance on educational opportunities and employment, money management and housing, resources for foster youth are simply inadequate.

These young people need our help, and they need it now. According to the most recent Federal data, over 20,000 youth age out of the foster care system each year. We must intervene in order to prevent them from experiencing the unfavorable outcomes described in the research. The FIRST Act meets this task head on by addressing the financial status of youth exiting foster care. Specifically, the legislation supports states in setting up Individual Development Accounts, or IDAs, for those preparing to age out of the child welfare system. The accounts will contain a Federal deposit on behalf of foster youth matched by public and private community partners.

Upon transitioning from foster care, and after completing money management training, the legislation permits youths to withdraw their savings to pay for necessities such as educational opportunities, vocational training, and housing—elements critical to achieving self-sufficiency. In short, with these funds, youth aging out of the child welfare system will have a financial base on which they can build self-sustaining, goal-oriented, independent lives.

A similar program is currently being piloted in my State of New York. This summer, Mayor Mike Bloomberg announced that 450 New York City foster youths will be provided IDAs through a program called Youth Financial Empowerment. Similarly, the Jim Casey Youth Opportunities Passport program has experienced success in offering IDAs to foster youth in several cities.

For years I have been encouraging Congress to take action regarding the needs of foster youth. In 2002 I introduced the Opportunity Passport Act, which, among other provisions, called for the establishment of IDAs for those aging out of the child welfare system. Since that time we have failed to make progress on this issue while youth continue to exit foster care without the resources they need. It is under these circumstances that I come forward again today to present the needs of this vulnerable group of young people. It is my hope that you will join me in putting foster youth FIRST and support this important legislation.

By Mr. REED:

S. 2343. A bill to amend the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act to require mortgage originators to make their fees more transparent; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. REED. Mr. President, today I introduce the Real Estate Transparency Act of 2007. This bill would amend the

Real Estate Settlement Practices Act of 1974 to improve the early loan disclosures given to those applying for a mortgage, ensure binding and transparent payment agreements between mortgage originators and borrowers, and require that a borrower be given a copy of their final settlement statement at least one business day before settlement so that it can be thoroughly examined before closing.

As we are all too aware, current Good Faith Estimates do not provide enough useful information to help borrowers truly make informed lending decisions. We have heard too many stories of borrowers not understanding the terms of their loan or not being told about unexpectedly high settlement fees until they are at the closing table. This lack of early and appropriate disclosures regarding the terms of a mortgage loan and the costs of closing on that loan hinders a family's ability to shop for the best loan product for the purchase of a home, and also has allowed families to be taken advantage of by unscrupulous brokers and lenders.

First and foremost, the Real Estate Transparency Act would replace the current Good Faith Estimate with an early written settlement statement of all of the costs to be charged to that person at or before settlement of the loan. It would require that this early settlement statement be in the same form as the final settlement statement, currently known as the HUD 1. The borrower would not be liable for any fees which are not disclosed on this early settlement statement, except for third party fees within 10 percent of the cost listed on the early settlement statement, or fees for bona fide and reasonable expenses not anticipated by the mortgage originator for an inspection, appraisal, survey, or flood certification. This early written settlement statement should allow consumers to compare the costs associated with different loan products from different mortgage originators and shop around for the best product for them early in the process.

Second, this legislation would require for the first time that the HUD 1 or final settlement statement be provided to the borrower at least one business day before settlement. If this final settlement statement is not provided to the borrower, then lenders will be subject to statutory damages.

Third, this bill would require mortgage originators to provide borrowers with a written agreement itemizing all of the fees they may charge the borrower, including any origination fees, underwriting fees, broker fees, or other fees to be charged at or before settlement of such loan to be paid to the lender, the broker, or affiliates of the lender or broker. In addition, this written agreement would have to set out and explain three possible methods of payment for such fees: payment in cash before or at settlement; adding such fees into the loan amount to be borrowed; and increasing the interest rate of the loan. The borrower also could choose to both pay in cash and incorporate some of the fees into the loan amount. This written agreement regarding mortgage origination fees would have to be provided to the borrower within three days of application and be signed before the borrower is obligated to pay any of these fees. Not only should this provide greater transparency regarding what fees are going to be charged by the mortgage originator, consumers also can decide not to sign on the dotted line if they do not like the costs associated with the loan.

Finally, the bill subjects mortgage originators to statutory damages for violations of these disclosure provisions equal to the sum of the borrower's actual damages plus $5,000 for each instance such instance of noncompliance.

Congress needs to take many steps to address the subprime mortgage crisis and to reinstate confidence among our nation's homeowners and those we hope will become homeowners. I believe that giving consumers the information they need regarding their loan costs is a vital part of improving this complicated and often overwhelming process. Borrowers need to better understand the financial ramifications of choosing a certain loan product from a certain mortgage originator early in this process, and before they actually consummate the loan. I hope my colleagues will join with me in supporting this legislation that I believe will greatly improve mortgage loan disclosures.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 2343

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Real Estate Transparency Act of 2007''.

SEC. 2. GREATER TRANSPARENCY OF SETTLEMENT FEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 4 of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2603) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), in the first sentence, by striking ''The Secretary,'' and inserting ''PROVISION OF SETTLEMENT STATEMENT.—The Secretary,'';

(2) in subsection (b)—

(A) in the first sentence—

(i) by striking ''The form'' and inserting ''ADVANCE INSPECTION OF SETTLEMENT STATEMENT.—The form''; and

(ii) by striking '', except'' and all that follows through ''available at such time''; and

(B) in the second sentence—

(i) by striking ''Upon the request of the borrower to inspect the form prescribed under this section during the'' and inserting ''At least 1'';

(ii) by striking ''shall permit the'' and inserting ''shall provide a completed, written copy of the settlement statement to the''; and

(iii) by striking ''to inspect those'' and all that follows through ''preceding day''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(c) AGREEMENT FOR ORIGINATOR FEES.—

''(1) NOTICE OF FEES.—Not later than 3 days after a person applies for a federally related mortgage loan, the mortgage originator of such loan shall provide to that person a written agreement itemizing all of the fees that person may be charged by the mortgage originator, including any origination fees, underwriting fees, broker fees, and any other fees to be charged at or before the settlement of such loan to be paid to the mortgage originator. Bona fide discount points payable by such person to reduce the interest rate of such loan need not be included on any originator fees agreement under this paragraph.

''(2) METHOD OF PAYMENT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Each originator fee agreement under paragraph (1) shall set out the following 3 methods for the payment of the fees described in any such agreement:

''(i) Payment in cash before or at settlement.

''(ii) Adding such fees into the total loan amount to be borrowed.

''(iii) Increasing the interest rate of the loan.

''(B) BORROWER'S CHOICE OF PAYMENT METHOD.—Each applicant for a federally related mortgage loan, in determining how to pay any of the fees described in an originator fees agreement under paragraph (1), shall choose one of the payment methods described under subparagraph (A), except that the applicant may choose to combine the payment methods described under clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A).

''(C) REQUIRED EXPLANATION.—

''(i) WRITTEN.—Each originator fee agreement under paragraph (1) shall include a written explanation of each of the payment options listed in subparagraph (A), along with a clear and concise illustration of the effect of each option on the amount borrowed, the interest rate, the payments required on the loan, and any other loan terms which might be affected by such option.

''(ii) ORAL.—Each mortgage originator of a federally related mortgage loan shall explain to each applicant for such a loan each of the payment options listed in subparagraph (A) before accepting any payment from that person.

''(D) REQUIRED SIGNATURE.—Before any applicant for a federally related mortgage loan is obligated to pay any of the fees described in the originator fees agreement under paragraph (1), the person shall have—

''(i) agreed to and signed the originator fees agreement described under paragraph (1); and

''(ii) exercised the option for determining the method of payment for such fees.

''(d) EARLY SETTLEMENT STATEMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 days after a person applies for a federally related mortgage loan, the mortgage originator of such loan shall provide to that person a written early settlement statement of all of the settlement costs to be charged to that person at or before settlement. The early settlement statement shall be in the same or a similar form as the statement of settlement costs provided to the person pursuant to subsection (a).

''(2) REQUIRED INCLUSIONS.—Each early settlement statement under this subsection shall include an itemization of the following:

''(A) All fees agreed to by the applicant of a federally related mortgage loan pursuant to the originator fees agreement described under subsection (c)(1).

''(B) All fees to be charged to that applicant by independent third parties, including government agencies at or before settlement of the loan, plus all escrows reserves which may be required of that person.

''(e) BORROWER LIABILITY FOR FEES.—No borrower shall be liable for any fees which are not disclosed on an early settlement statement, except that the borrower is liable for such fees if—

''(1) the total amount charged for fees imposed by independent third parties is—

''(A) not more than 10 percent greater than that stated in the early settlement statement; or

''(B) greater than that allowed under subparagraph (A) because bona fide and reasonable expenses were incurred by such third parties for unanticipated inspection, appraisal, survey, or flood certification of the home which was the subject of such loan;

''(2) the mortgage originator provides a reasonable explanation of the circumstances surrounding the settlement of the loan of the borrower which were different than anticipated by the mortgage originator when the statement was provided; and

''(3) the mortgage originator does not engage in a pattern or practice of providing early settlement statements which disclose individual fees of independent third parties in different amounts than actually charged at settlement.

''(f) LIABILITY FOR FAILURE TO COMPLY.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Whoever fails to comply with any provision of this section shall be liable to the borrower for an amount equal to the sum of—

''(A) any actual damages to the borrower as a result of the failure; and

''(B) $5,000 for each such instance of noncompliance.

''(2) COURT COSTS.—In addition to any amount under paragraph (1), in the case of any successful action brought by a borrower under this subsection, such borrower shall be reimbursed for the costs of the action, together with any attorneys fees incurred in connection with such action as the court may determine to be reasonable under the circumstances.

''(g) DEFINITION.—As used in this section, the term 'mortgage originator'—

''(1) means any person who, for direct or indirect compensation or gain, or in the expectation of direct or indirect compensation or gain—

''(A) takes a residential mortgage loan application; or

''(B) assists a consumer in obtaining or applying to obtain a residential mortgage loan; and

''(2) includes any person who makes loans directly or brokers loans for others.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5(c) of the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2604(c)) is hereby repealed.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 375—AMENDING SENATE RESOLUTION 400, 94TH CONGRESS, AND SENATE RESOLUTION 445, 108TH CONGRESS, TO IMPROVE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT OF THE INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES OF THE UNITED STATES, TO PROVIDE A STRONG, STABLE, AND CAPABLE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE STRUCTURE TO PROVIDE THE INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY APPROPRIATE OVERSIGHT, SUPPORT, AND LEADERSHIP, AND TO IMPLEMENT A KEY RECOMMENDATION OF THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON TERRORIST ATTACKS UPON THE UNITED STATES

Mr. BURR (for himself, Mr. BAYH, Mr. SUNUNU, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. MCCAIN, and Mr. HAGEL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Rules and Administration:

S. RES. 375

Whereas the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (referred to in this Resolution as the ''9/11 Commission'') conducted a lengthy review of the facts and circumstances relating to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, including those relating to the intelligence community, law enforcement agencies, and the role of congressional oversight and resource allocation;

Whereas in its final report, the 9/11 Commission found that congressional oversight of the intelligence activities of the United States is dysfunctional;

Whereas in its final report, the 9/11 Commission further found that under the rules of the Senate and the House of Representatives in effect at the time the report was completed, the committees of Congress charged with oversight of the intelligence activities lacked the power, influence, and sustained capability to meet the daunting challenges faced by the intelligence community of the United States;

Whereas in its final report, the 9/11 Commission further found that as long as such oversight is governed by such rules of the Senate and the House of Representatives, the people of the United States will not get the security they want and need;

Whereas in its final report, the 9/11 Commission further found that a strong, stable, and capable congressional committee structure is needed to give the intelligence community of the United States appropriate oversight, support, and leadership;

Whereas in its final report, the 9/11 Commission further found that the reforms recommended by the 9/11 Commission in its final report will not succeed if congressional oversight of the intelligence community in the United States is not changed;

Whereas the 9/11 Commission recommended structural changes to Congress to improve the oversight of intelligence activities;

Whereas the 9/11 Commission recommended that the authorizing authorities and appropriating authorities with respect to intelligence activities in each house of Congress be combined into a single committee in each house of Congress;

Whereas Congress has enacted some of the recommendations made by the 9/11 Commission and is considering implementing additional recommendations of the 9/11 Commission; and

Whereas the Senate adopted Senate Resolution 445 in the 108th Congress to address some of the intelligence oversight recommendations of the 9/11 Commission by abolishing term limits for the members of the Select Committee on Intelligence, clarifying jurisdiction for intelligence-related nominations, and streamlining procedures for the referral of intelligence-related legislation, but other aspects of the 9/11 Commission recommendations regarding intelligence oversight have not been implemented: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved,

SECTION 1. PURPOSES.

The purposes of this resolution are—

(1) to improve congressional oversight of the intelligence activities of the United States;

(2) to provide a strong, stable, and capable congressional committee structure to provide the intelligence community appropriate oversight, support, and leadership;

(3) to implement a key recommendation of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (the ''9/11 Commission'') that structural changes be made to Congress to improve the oversight of intelligence activities; and

(4) to provide vigilant legislative oversight over the intelligence activities of the United States to assure that such activities are in conformity with the Constitution and laws of the United States.

SEC. 2. INTELLIGENCE OVERSIGHT.

(a) AUTHORITY OF THE SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE.—Paragraph (5) of section 3(a) of Senate Resolution 400, 94th Congress, agreed to May 19, 1976, is amended in that matter preceding subparagraph (A) by striking the comma following ''authorizations for appropriations'' and inserting ''and appropriations,''.

(b) ABOLISHMENT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE.—Senate Resolution 445, 108th Congress, agreed to October 9, 2004, is amended by striking section 402.

SENATE RESOLUTION 376—PROVIDING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE SHOULD DECLARE A COMMERCIAL FISHERY FAILURE FOR THE GROUNDFISH FISHERY FOR MASSACHUSETS, MAINE, NEW HAMPSHIRE, AND RHODE ISLAND AND IMMEDIATELY PROPOSE REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT SECTION 312(a) OF THE MAGNUSON-STEVENS FISHERY CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT ACT

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. REED, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:

S. RES. 376

Whereas the Secretary of Commerce may provide fishery disaster assistance under section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861a(a)) if the Secretary determines that there is a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster as a result of natural causes, man-made causes beyond the control of fishery managers to mitigate through conservation and management measures, including regulatory restrictions

imposed to protect human health or the marine environment, or undetermined causes;

Whereas the Secretary of Commerce has not proposed or promulgated regulations to implement such section 312(a);

Whereas during 2007, the Governors of each of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the State of Maine, and the State of Rhode Island requested that the Secretary of Commerce declare a commercial fishery failure for the groundfish fishery under such section 312(a) and the Governor of the State of New Hampshire has indicated his intention of submitting a similar request;

Whereas since 1996, the Secretary of Commerce has had regulations in place that require significant restrictions and reductions on the catch and days-at-sea of New England fishermen in the groundfish fishery;

Whereas New England fishermen in the groundfish fishery have endured additional restrictions and reductions under Framework 42, which has resulted in many fishermen having just 24 days to fish during a season;

Whereas Framework 42 and other Federal fishing restrictions have had a great impact on small-boat fishermen, many of whom cannot safely fish beyond the inshore areas;

Whereas, as of the date of the enactment of this Act, each day-at-sea a fisherman spends in an inshore area reduces that fisherman's number of available days-at-sea by 2 days;

Whereas the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has provided information to the Secretary of Commerce demonstrating that between 1994 and 2006, overall conditions of groundfish stocks have not improved and that spawning stock biomass is near record lows for most major groundfish stocks;

Whereas the Commonwealth of Maine has provided additional information to the Secretary that between 2005 and 2006, total Massachusetts commercial groundfish vessel revenues (landings) decreased by 18 percent and there was a loss for related industries and communities estimated at $22,000,000;

Whereas the State of Maine has provided information to the Secretary of Commerce indicating that since 1994, the impact of groundfish regulations have eliminated 50 percent of Maine's groundfish fleet, leaving just 110 active groundfish fishermen;

Whereas the State of Maine has provided additional information to the Secretary indicating that between 1996 and 2006, there was a 58 percent drop in groundfish landings in Maine and a 45 percent drop in groundfish revenue from approximately $27,000,000 to $15,000,000 and that between 2005 and 2006, groundfish revenues decreased 25 percent;

Whereas the State of Rhode Island has provided information to the Secretary of Commerce indicating that, since 1994, there has been a 66 percent drop in Rhode Island's groundfish fishery landings and, between 1995 and 2007, groundfish revenue decreased 20 percent from approximately $7,500,000 to $6,000,000;

Whereas the Secretary of Commerce rejected requests from Massachusetts, Maine, and Rhode Island to declare a commercial fishery failure prior to establishing any appropriate standard to implement section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act; and

Whereas for centuries, growth in New England's commercial fishing industry has been intertwined with the history and economic growth of the New England States and has created thousands of jobs in both fishing and fishing-related industries for generations of New England residents: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the Secretary of Commerce should—

(1) reconsider the October 22, 2007 decision to deny the requests of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the State of Maine, and the State of Rhode Island for a groundfish fishery failure declaration;

(2) look favorably upon the request of the State of New Hampshire for a groundfish fishery failure declaration; and

(3) immediately propose regulations to implement section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861a(a)).

SENATE RESOLUTION 377—RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF OKLAHOMA STATEHOOD.

Mr. INHOFE (for himself and Mr. COBURN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 377

Whereas, on November 16, 1907, Oklahoma officially became the 46th State of the Union;

Whereas the State of Oklahoma is known as the Sooner State;

Whereas the State of Oklahoma has become a national leader in agriculture, natural resource industries, technology, and manufacturing;

Whereas the people of Oklahoma have harvested the natural abundance of the State to produce a wealth which has enabled the building of cities, educational institutions, an unhurried pace of life, and a rich culture, while maintaining the pristine ecology;

Whereas the beautiful mountains, rivers, lakes, trees, plains, and fields of the State of Oklahoma are appreciated and preserved, and the quality of life is unsurpassed; and

Whereas, on November 16, 2007, the State of Oklahoma will begin a new century of statehood: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes and celebrates the centennial of Oklahoma statehood.

AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED AND PROPOSED

SA 3597. Mr. LOTT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3598. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3599. Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. SANDERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3600. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3601. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 901, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

SA 3602. Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CONRAD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3603. Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3604. Mr. KERRY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3605. Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3606. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3607. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3608. Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, Mr . LIEBERMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3609. Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3610. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3611. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3612. Mr. BOND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3613. Mr. STEVENS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3614. Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. THUNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3615. Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3616. Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3617. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3618. Mr. BUNNING submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3619. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3620. Mr. LOTT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3621. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3622. Mr. SALAZAR (for himself and Mr. ALLARD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3623. Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. SMITH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. MARTINEZ, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3624. Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3625. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3626. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3627. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3628. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3629. Mrs. DOLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3630. Mrs. DOLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3631. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. KOHL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3632. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3633. Ms. MIKULSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3634. Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3635. Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3636. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3637. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3638. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3639. Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3640. Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. ALLARD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3641. Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. SALAZAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3642. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3643. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. GREGG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3644. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3645. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3646. Mr. INOUYE (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3647. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3648. Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. KOHL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3649. Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. REED, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3650. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3651. Mr. CORKER (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3652. Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mrs. DOLE, and Mr. SMITH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

SA 3653. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, supra; which was ordered to lie on the table.

TEXT OF AMENDMENTS

SA 3597. Mr. LOTT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of chapter 4 of subtitle D of title II, add the following:

SEC. 2399A. MISSISSIPPI RIVER/GULF OF MEXICO NUTRIENT TASK FORCE ACTION PLAN FOR REDUCING, MITIGATING, AND CONTROLLING HYPOXIA IN THE NORTHERN GULF OF MEXICO WATERSHED.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the Secretary shall ensure that, for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, the amount spent for the fiscal year in accordance with this Act to implement the action plan of the Mississippi River/Gulf of Mexico Nutrient Task Force for reducing, mitigating, and controlling hypoxia in the Northern Gulf of Mexico watershed is an amount equal to 10 percent more than the amount spent to implement the action plan during the preceding fiscal year.

SA 3598. Mr. BAUCUS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 245, between lines 22 and 23, insert the following:

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—Section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465) is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting the following:

''(e) PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The State plan shall identify the lead agency charged with the responsibility for carrying out the plan and indicate how the grant funds will be used to enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops.

''(2) REPRESENTATION OF CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.—To the maximum extent practicable and appropriate, the State plan shall be developed taking into consideration the opinions and expertise of beginning farmers or ranchers (as defined in section 343(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)) and socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers (as defined in section 355(e) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2003(e))).''.

(c) AUDIT AND PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—Section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465) is amended by striking subsection (h) and inserting the following:

''(h) AUDIT AND PLAN REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For each year that a State receives a grant under this section, the State shall conduct an audit of the expenditures of grant funds by the State.

''(2) SUBMISSION OF AUDIT AND DESCRIPTION.—Not later than 30 days after the date of completion of an audit under paragraph (1), the State shall submit to the Secretary of Agriculture—

''(A) a copy of the audit;

''(B) a description of the ways in which the State is complying with the requirement under subsection (e); and

''(C) such additional information as the Secretary may request to ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that the State is complying with that requirement.''.

On page 245, line 23, strike ''(b)'' and insert ''(d)''.

On page 246, line 11, strike ''(c)'' and insert ''(e)''.

On page 247, line 11, strike ''(d)'' and insert ''(f)''.

On page 247, line 19, strike ''(e)'' and insert ''(g)''.

SA 3599. Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. SANDERS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XI, insert the following:

SEC. 11_____. OFFICE OF SMALL FARMS AND BEGINNING FARMERS AND RANCHERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B of title II of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (as amended by section 11059(a)) is amended by inserting after section 226B the following:

''SEC. 226C. OFFICE OF SMALL FARMS AND BEGINNING FARMERS AND RANCHERS.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not less than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall establish and maintain within the executive operations of the Department an office, to be known as the 'Office of Small Farms and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers' (referred to in this section as the 'Office').

''(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of the Office are—

''(1) to ensure coordination across all agencies of the Department—

''(A) to improve use of the programs and services of the Department; and

''(B) to enhance the viability of small, beginning, and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and others, as the Secretary determines to be necessary;

''(2) to ensure small, beginning, and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers access to, and equitable participation in, commodity, credit, risk management and disaster protection, conservation, marketing, nutrition, value-added, rural development, and other programs and services of the Department;

''(3) to ensure that the number and economic contributions of small, limited-resource, beginning, and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers are accurately reflected in the Census of Agriculture and in other reports; and

''(4) to assess and enhance the effectiveness of outreach and programs of the Department—

''(A) to reduce barriers to program participation;

''(B) to improve service provided through programs of the Department to small, beginning, and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers; and

''(C) by suggesting to the Secretary new initiatives and programs to better serve the needs of small, socially disadvantaged, and beginning farmers and ranchers.

''(c) DIRECTOR.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall be headed by a Director.

''(2) ASSUMPTION OF DUTIES.—Effective on the date of establishment of the Office under subsection (a), the Director shall assume the duties and personnel of the Director of Small Farms Coordination, as in existence on the day before the date of enactment of this section.

''(d) DUTIES.—The Office shall—

''(1) in collaboration with such other agencies and offices of the Department as the Secretary determines to be necessary, develop and implement a plan to coordinate the activities established under Departmental Regulation 9700–1 (August 3, 2006), including activities of the Small and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Council and services provided by the Department to small farms and beginning farmers and ranchers;

''(2) coordinate with the Office of Outreach to provide consultation, training, and liaison activities with eligible entities (as defined in section 2501(e) of the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990 7 U.S.C. 2279(e));

''(3) cooperate with, and monitor, agencies and offices of the Department to ensure that the Department is meeting the needs of small farms and of beginning farmers and ranchers;

''(4) establish cross-cutting and strategic departmental goals and objectives for small farms and beginning farmers and ranchers and for each associated program;

''(5) provide input to agencies and offices of the Department on program and policy decisions to ensure that the interests of small farms and of beginning farmers and ranchers are represented;

''(6) measure outcomes of all small farm programs and beginning farmer and rancher programs and track progress made in achieving the goals of the programs;

''(7) supervise data collection by agencies and offices of the Department regarding characteristics of small farms and beginning farmers and ranchers to ensure that the goals and objectives, and measures carried out to achieve those goals and objectives, can be measured and evaluated; and

''(8) carry out any other related duties that the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

''(e) OUTREACH.—The Office shall establish and maintain an Internet website—

''(1) to share information with interested producers; and

''(2) to collect and respond to comments from small and beginning farmers and ranchers, including comments of the Small and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Council.

''(f) RESOURCES.—Using funds made available to the Secretary in appropriations Acts, the Secretary shall provide to the Office such human and capital resources as are sufficient to allow the Office to carry out the duties of the Office under this section in a timely and efficient manner.

''(g) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate annual reports that describe actions taken by the Office during the preceding calendar year to advance the interests of small farms and beginning farmers and ranchers.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 296(b) of the Department of Agriculture Reorganization Act of 1994 (7 U.S.C. 7014(b)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (6) (as added by section 7401(c)(1)), by striking ''or'' at the end;

(2) in paragraph (7) (as added by section 11059(b)), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; or''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) the authority of the Secretary to establish in the Department the Office of Small Farms and Beginning Farmers and Ranchers in accordance with section 226C.''.

SA 3600. Mr. ALLARD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1362, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

SEC. 110_____. USDA PROGRAM GOALS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 120 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes—

(1) each program of the Department of Agriculture that has received a Program Assessment Rating Tool (referred to in this section as ''PART'') score of ''results not demonstrated''; and

(2) for each such program, the steps being taken by the Secretary to develop acceptable and quantifiable performance goals to determine whether the program is performing as Congress intended.

(b) ANNUAL BUDGET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall include in the annual submission to Congress of the budget for the Department of Agriculture a report that identifies each program within the Department of Agriculture that has, as of the date of the report, a PART score of ''results not demonstrated'' or ''ineffective''.

(2) FUNDING.—If a program of the Department of Agriculture receives a PART score described in paragraph (1) for 2 or more consecutive years, the amount made available to the Secretary to carry out the program for each subsequent fiscal year shall be not more than the amount made available to carry out the program for the preceding fiscal year until such time as the program receives a PART score of at least ''adequate''.

(c) REDUCTION OF DEBT.—For each fiscal year for which a program of the Department

of Agriculture receives funding as described in subsection (b)(2), an amount equal to the amount of funding withheld from the Department of Agriculture for that program shall be deposited in the account established under section 3113(d) of title 31, United States Code, for use in reducing the Federal debt.

SA 3601. Ms. MURKOWSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill S. 901, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions; as follows:

At the appropriate place in section 2, insert the following:

SEC. ___. GRANTS TO EXPAND MEDICAL RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAMS AND INCREASE PROVIDER RETENTION RATES IN RURAL AND UNDERSERVED AREAS.

Title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 241 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 340G the following:

"Subpart XI—Medical Residency Training Programs and Provider Retention

"SEC. 340H. GRANTS TO EXPAND MEDICAL RESIDENCY TRAINING PROGRAMS AND INCREASE PROVIDER RETENTION RATES IN RURAL AND UNDERSERVED AREAS.

''(a) PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may make grants to community health centers—

''(1) to establish, at the centers, new or alternative-campus accredited medical residency training programs affiliated with a hospital or other health care facility; or

''(2) to fund new residency positions within existing accredited medical residency training programs at the centers and their affiliated partners.

''(b) USE OF FUNDS.—Amounts from a grant under this section shall be used to cover the costs of establishing or expanding a medical residency training program described in subsection (a), including costs associated with—

''(1) curriculum development;

''(2) equipment acquisition;

''(3) recruitment, training, and retention of residents and faculty; and

''(4) residency stipends.

''(c) APPLICATIONS.—A community health center seeking a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

''(d) PREFERENCE.—In selecting recipients for a grant under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to funding medical residency training programs focusing on primary health care.

''(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) The term 'accredited', as applied to a new or alternative-campus medical residency training program, means a program that is accredited by a recognized body or bodies approved for such purpose by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, except that a new medical residency training program that, by reason of an insufficient period of operation, is not eligible for accreditation on or before the date of submission of an application under subsection (c) shall be deemed accredited if the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education finds, after consultation with the appropriate accreditation body or bodies, that there is substantial assurance that the program will meet the accreditation standards of such body or bodies prior to the date of graduation of the first entering class in that program.

''(2) The term 'community health center' means a health center as defined in section 330.''.

SA 3602. Mr. DORGAN (for himself, Mr. ENZI, Mr. CONRAD, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. JOHNSON, Mr. TESTER, Mr. BARRASSO, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle D of title X, add the following:

SEC. 103___. DISAPPROVAL OF RULE.

Congress disapproves the rule submitted by the Secretary relating to bovine spongiform encephalopathy, minimal-risk regions, and importation of live bovines and products derived from bovines (72 Fed. Reg. 53314 (2007)), and such rule shall have no force or effect.

SA 3603. Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 392, strike line 25 and insert the following:

as determined by the Secretary.

''(i) AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Under the environmental quality section of the program established under this chapter, the Secretary shall promote air quality by providing cost-share payments and incentive payments to individual producers for use in addressing air quality concerns associated with agriculture.

''(2) ELIGIBLE PRACTICES, COST-SHARE.—

''(A) REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS OF AIR POLLUTANTS AND PRECURSORS OF AIR POLLUTANTS.—In addition to practices eligible for cost-share payments under the environmental quality section of the program established under this chapter, the Secretary shall provide cost-share payments to producers under this section for mobile or stationary equipment (including engines) used in an agricultural operation that would reduce emissions and precursors of air pollutants.

''(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In evaluating applications for cost-share assistance for equipment described in subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall prioritize assistance for equipment that—

''(i) is the most cost-effective in addressing air quality concerns; and

''(ii) would assist producers in meeting Federal, State, or local regulatory requirements relating to air quality.

''(3) LOCATIONS.—To receive a payment for a project under this subsection, a producer shall carry out the project in a county—

''(A) that is in nonattainment with respect to ambient air quality standards;

''(B) in which there is air quality degradation, recognized by a State or local agency, to which agricultural emissions significantly contribute; or

''(C) in which the Secretary determines that pesticide drift is a priority concern.

''(4) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority to projects that—

''(A) involve multiple producers implementing eligible conservation activities in a coordinated manner to promote air quality; or

''(B) are designed to encourage broad adoption of innovative approaches, including approaches involving the use of innovative technologies and integrated pest management, on the condition that the technologies do not have the unintended consequence of compromising other environmental goals.''.

SA 3604. Mr. KERRY (for himself, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1362, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

Subtitle C—Disaster Loan Program

SEC. 11101. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Small Business Disaster Response and Loan Improvements Act of 2007''.

SEC. 11102. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle—

(1) the terms ''Administration'' and ''Administrator'' mean the Small Business Administration and the Administrator thereof, respectively;

(2) the term ''catastrophic national disaster'' means a catastrophic national disaster declared under section 7(b)(11) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)), as added by this Act;

(3) the term ''declared disaster'' means a major disaster or a catastrophic national disaster;

(4) the term ''disaster area'' means an area affected by a natural or other disaster, as determined for purposes of paragraph (1) or (2) of section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)), during the period of such declaration;

(5) the term ''disaster loan program of the Administration'' means assistance under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b));

(6) the term ''disaster update period'' means the period beginning on the date on which the President declares a major disaster or a catastrophic national disaster and ending on the date on which such declaration terminates;

(7) the term ''major disaster'' has the meaning given that term in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122);

(8) the term ''small business concern'' has the same meaning as in section 3 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632); and

(9) the term ''State'' means any State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, and any territory or possession of the United States.

PART I—DISASTER PLANNING AND RESPONSE

SEC. 11121. DISASTER LOANS TO NONPROFITS.

Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended by inserting immediately after paragraph (3) the following:

''(4) LOANS TO NONPROFITS.—In addition to any other loan authorized by this subsection, the Administrator may make such loans (either directly or in cooperation with banks or other lending institutions through agreements to participate on an immediate or deferred basis) as the Administrator determines appropriate to a nonprofit organization located or operating in an area affected by a natural or other disaster, as determined

under paragraph (1) or (2), or providing services to persons who have evacuated from any such area.''.

SEC. 11122. DISASTER LOAN AMOUNTS.

(a) INCREASED LOAN CAPS.—Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended by inserting immediately after paragraph (4), as added by this Act, the following:

''(5) INCREASED LOAN CAPS.—

''(A) AGGREGATE LOAN AMOUNTS.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the aggregate loan amount outstanding and committed to a borrower under this subsection may not exceed $2,000,000.

''(B) WAIVER AUTHORITY.—The Administrator may, at the discretion of the Administrator, increase the aggregate loan amount under subparagraph (A) for loans relating to a disaster to a level established by the Administrator, based on appropriate economic indicators for the region in which that disaster occurred.''.

(b) DISASTER MITIGATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(b)(1)(A) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)(1)(A)) is amended by inserting ''of the aggregate costs of such damage or destruction (whether or not compensated for by insurance or otherwise)'' after ''20 per centum''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by paragraph (1) shall apply with respect to a loan or guarantee made after the date of enactment of this Act.

(c) TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.—Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking ''the, Administration'' and inserting ''the Administration'';

(2) in paragraph (2)(A), by striking ''Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act'' and inserting ''Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.) (in this subsection referred to as a 'major disaster')''; and

(3) in the undesignated matter at the end—

(A) by striking '', (2), and (4)'' and inserting ''and (2)''; and

(B) by striking '', (2), or (4)'' and inserting ''(2)''.

SEC. 11123. SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER PORTABILITY GRANTS.

Section 21(a)(4)(C)(viii) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(a)(4)(C)(viii)) is amended—

(1) in the first sentence, by striking ''as a result of a business or government facility down sizing or closing, which has resulted in the loss of jobs or small business instability'' and inserting ''due to events that have resulted or will result in, business or government facility downsizing or closing''; and

(2) by adding at the end ''At the discretion of the Administrator, the Administrator may make an award greater than $100,000 to a recipient to accommodate extraordinary occurrences having a catastrophic impact on the small business concerns in a community.''.

SEC. 11124. ASSISTANCE TO OUT-OF-STATE BUSINESSES.

Section 21(b)(3) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 648(b)(3)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''At the discretion'' and inserting the following: ''SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—At the discretion''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) DURING DISASTERS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—At the discretion of the Administrator, the Administrator may authorize a small business development center to provide such assistance to small business concerns located outside of the State, without regard to geographic proximity, if the small business concerns are located in a disaster area declared under section 7(b)(2)(A).

''(ii) CONTINUITY OF SERVICES.—A small business development center that provides counselors to an area described in clause (i) shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure continuity of services in any State in which such small business development center otherwise provides services.

''(iii) ACCESS TO DISASTER RECOVERY FACILITIES.—For purposes of providing disaster recovery assistance under this subparagraph, the Administrator shall, to the maximum extent practicable, permit small business development center personnel to use any site or facility designated by the Administrator for use to provide disaster recovery assistance.''.

SEC. 11125. OUTREACH PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the declaration of a disaster area, the Administrator may establish a contracting outreach and technical assistance program for small business concerns which have had a primary place of business in, or other significant presence in, such disaster area.

(b) ADMINISTRATOR ACTION.—The Administrator may carry out subsection (a) by acting through—

(1) the Administration;

(2) the Federal agency small business officials designated under section 15(k)(1) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(k)(1)); or

(3) any Federal, State, or local government entity, higher education institution, procurement technical assistance center, or private nonprofit organization that the Administrator may determine appropriate, upon conclusion of a memorandum of understanding or assistance agreement, as appropriate, with the Administrator.

SEC. 11126. SMALL BUSINESS BONDING THRESHOLD.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b), and notwithstanding any other provision of law, for any procurement related to a major disaster, the Administrator may, upon such terms and conditions as the Administrator may prescribe, guarantee and enter into commitments to guarantee any surety against loss resulting from a breach of the terms of a bid bond, payment bond, performance bond, or bonds ancillary thereto, by a principal on any total work order or contract amount at the time of bond execution that does not exceed $5,000,000.

(b) INCREASE OF AMOUNT.—Upon request of the head of any Federal agency other than the Administration involved in reconstruction efforts in response to a major disaster, the Administrator may guarantee and enter into a commitment to guarantee any security against loss under subsection (a) on any total work order or contract amount at the time of bond execution that does not exceed $10,000,000.

SEC. 11127. TERMINATION OF PROGRAM.

Section 711(c) of the Small Business Competitive Demonstration Program Act of 1988 (15 U.S.C. 644 note) is amended by inserting after ''January 1, 1989'' the following: '', and shall terminate on the date of enactment of the Small Business Disaster Response and Loan Improvements Act of 2007''.

SEC. 11128. INCREASING COLLATERAL REQUIREMENTS.

Section 7(c)(6) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(c)(6)) is amended by striking ''$10,000 or less'' and inserting ''$14,000 or less (or such higher amount as the Administrator determines appropriate in the event of a catastrophic national disaster declared under subsection (b)(11))''.

SEC. 11129. PUBLIC AWARENESS OF DISASTER DECLARATION AND APPLICATION PERIODS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended by inserting immediately after paragraph (5), as added by this Act, the following:

''(6) COORDINATION WITH FEMA.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, for any disaster (including a catastrophic national disaster) declared under this subsection or major disaster, the Administrator, in consultation with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall ensure, to the maximum extent practicable, that all application periods for disaster relief under this Act correspond with application deadlines established under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5121 et seq.), or as extended by the President.

''(B) DEADLINES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, not later than 10 days before the closing date of an application period for a major disaster (including a catastrophic national disaster), the Administrator, in consultation with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report that includes—

''(i) the deadline for submitting applications for assistance under this Act relating to that major disaster;

''(ii) information regarding the number of loan applications and disbursements processed by the Administrator relating to that major disaster for each day during the period beginning on the date on which that major disaster was declared and ending on the date of that report; and

''(iii) an estimate of the number of potential applicants that have not submitted an application relating to that major disaster.

''(7) PUBLIC AWARENESS OF DISASTERS.—If a disaster (including a catastrophic national disaster) is declared under this subsection, the Administrator shall make every effort to communicate through radio, television, print, and web-based outlets, all relevant information needed by disaster loan applicants, including—

''(A) the date of such declaration;

''(B) cities and towns within the area of such declaration;

''(C) loan application deadlines related to such disaster;

''(D) all relevant contact information for victim services available through the Administration (including links to small business development center websites);

''(E) links to relevant Federal and State disaster assistance websites, including links to websites providing information regarding assistance available from the Federal Emergency Management Agency;

''(F) information on eligibility criteria for Administration loan programs, including where such applications can be found; and

''(G) application materials that clearly state the function of the Administration as the Federal source of disaster loans for homeowners and renters.''.

(b) MARKETING AND OUTREACH.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall create a marketing and outreach plan that—

(1) encourages a proactive approach to the disaster relief efforts of the Administration;

(2) makes clear the services provided by the Administration, including contact information, application information, and timelines for submitting applications, the review of applications, and the disbursement of funds;

(3) describes the different disaster loan programs of the Administration, including how they are made available and the eligibility requirements for each loan program;

(4) provides for regional marketing, focusing on disasters occurring in each region before the date of enactment of this Act, and likely scenarios for disasters in each such region; and

(5) ensures that the marketing plan is made available at small business development centers and on the website of the Administration.

SEC. 11130. CONSISTENCY BETWEEN ADMINISTRATION REGULATIONS AND STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator shall, promptly following the date of enactment of this Act, conduct a study of whether the standard operating procedures of the Administration for loans offered under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) are consistent with the regulations of the Administration for administering the disaster loan program.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administration shall submit to Congress a report containing all findings and recommendations of the study conducted under subsection (a).

SEC. 11131. PROCESSING DISASTER LOANS.

(a) AUTHORITY FOR QUALIFIED PRIVATE CONTRACTORS TO PROCESS DISASTER LOANS.—Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended by inserting immediately after paragraph (7), as added by this Act, the following:

''(8) AUTHORITY FOR QUALIFIED PRIVATE CONTRACTORS.—

''(A) DISASTER LOAN PROCESSING.—The Administrator may enter into an agreement with a qualified private contractor, as determined by the Administrator, to process loans under this subsection in the event of a major disaster or a catastrophic national disaster declared under paragraph (11), under which the Administrator shall pay the contractor a fee for each loan processed.

''(B) LOAN LOSS VERIFICATION SERVICES.—The Administrator may enter into an agreement with a qualified lender or loss verification professional, as determined by the Administrator, to verify losses for loans under this subsection in the event of a major disaster or a catastrophic national disaster declared under paragraph (11), under which the Administrator shall pay the lender or verification professional a fee for each loan for which such lender or verification professional verifies losses.''.

(b) COORDINATION OF EFFORTS BETWEEN THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE TO EXPEDITE LOAN PROCESSING.—The Administrator and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue shall, to the maximum extent practicable, ensure that all relevant and allowable tax records for loan approval are shared with loan processors in an expedited manner, upon request by the Administrator.

SEC. 11132. DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MAJOR DISASTER RESPONSE PLAN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 3 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall—

(1) by rule, amend the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season disaster response plan of the Administration (in this section referred to as the ''disaster response plan'') to apply to major disasters; and

(2) submit a report to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives detailing the amendments to the disaster response plan.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required under subsection (a)(2) shall include—

(1) any updates or modifications made to the disaster response plan since the report regarding the disaster response plan submitted to Congress on July 14, 2006;

(2) a description of how the Administrator plans to utilize and integrate District Office personnel of the Administration in the response to a major disaster, including information on the utilization of personnel for loan processing and loan disbursement;

(3) a description of the disaster scalability model of the Administration and on what basis or function the plan is scaled;

(4) a description of how the agency-wide Disaster Oversight Council is structured, which offices comprise its membership, and whether the Associate Deputy Administrator for Entrepreneurial Development of the Administration is a member;

(5) a description of how the Administrator plans to coordinate the disaster efforts of the Administration with State and local government officials, including recommendations on how to better incorporate State initiatives or programs, such as State-administered bridge loan programs, into the disaster response of the Administration;

(6) recommendations, if any, on how the Administration can better coordinate its disaster response operations with the operations of other Federal, State, and local entities;

(7) any surge plan for the disaster loan program of the Administration in effect on or after August 29, 2005 (including surge plans for loss verification, loan processing, mailroom, customer service or call center operations, and a continuity of operations plan);

(8) the number of full-time equivalent employees and job descriptions for the planning and disaster response staff of the Administration;

(9) the in-service and preservice training procedures for disaster response staff of the Administration;

(10) information on the logistical support plans of the Administration (including equipment and staffing needs, and detailed information on how such plans will be scalable depending on the size and scope of the major disaster;

(11) a description of the findings and recommendations of the Administrator, if any, based on a review of the response of the Administration to Hurricane Katrina of 2005, Hurricane Rita of 2005, and Hurricane Wilma of 2005; and

(12) a plan for how the Administrator, in consultation with the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, will coordinate the provision of accommodations and necessary resources for disaster assistance personnel to effectively perform their responsibilities in the aftermath of a major disaster.

(c) EXERCISES.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the submission of the report under subsection (a)(2), the Administrator shall develop and execute simulation exercises to demonstrate the effectiveness of the amended disaster response plan required under this section.

SEC. 11133. DISASTER PLANNING RESPONSIBILITIES.

(a) ASSIGNMENT OF SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DISASTER PLANNING RESPONSIBILITIES.—The Administrator shall specifically assign the disaster planning responsibilities described in subsection (b) to an employee of the Administration who—

(1) is not an employee of the Office of Disaster Assistance of the Administration;

(2) shall report directly to the Administrator; and

(3) has a background and expertise demonstrating significant experience in the area of disaster planning.

(b) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities described in this subsection are—

(1) creating and maintaining the comprehensive disaster response plan of the Administration;

(2) ensuring in-service and pre-service training procedures for the disaster response staff of the Administration;

(3) coordinating and directing Administration training exercises, including mock disaster responses, with other Federal agencies; and

(4) other responsibilities, as determined by the Administrator.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report containing—

(1) a description of the actions of the Administrator to assign an employee under subsection (a);

(2) information detailing the background and expertise of the employee assigned under subsection (a); and

(3) information on the status of the implementation of the responsibilities described in subsection (b).

SEC. 11134. ADDITIONAL AUTHORITY FOR DISTRICT OFFICES OF THE ADMINISTRATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended by inserting immediately after paragraph (8), as added by this Act, the following:

''(9) USE OF DISTRICT OFFICES.—In the event of a major disaster, the Administrator may authorize a district office of the Administration to process loans under paragraph (1) or (2).''.

(b) DESIGNATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may designate an employee in each district office of the Administration to act as a disaster loan liaison between the disaster processing center and applicants under the disaster loan program of the Administration.

(2) RESPONSIBILITIES.—Each employee designated under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) be responsible for coordinating and facilitating communications between applicants under the disaster loan program of the Administration and disaster loan processing staff regarding documentation and information required for completion of an application; and

(B) provide information to applicants under the disaster loan program of the Administration regarding additional services and benefits that may be available to such applicants to assist with recovery.

(3) OUTREACH.—In providing outreach to disaster victims following a declared disaster, the Administrator shall make disaster victims aware of—

(A) any relevant employee designated under paragraph (1); and

(B) how to contact that employee.

SEC. 11135. ASSIGNMENT OF EMPLOYEES OF THE OFFICE OF DISASTER ASSISTANCE AND DISASTER CADRE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended by inserting immediately after paragraph (9), as added by this Act, the following:

''(10) DISASTER ASSISTANCE EMPLOYEES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this section, the Administrator may, where practicable, ensure that the number of full-time equivalent employees—

''(i) in the Office of the Disaster Assistance is not fewer than 800; and

''(ii) in the Disaster Cadre of the Administration is not fewer than 750.

''(B) REPORT.—In carrying out this subsection, if the number of full-time employees for either the Office of Disaster Assistance or the Disaster Cadre of the Administration is

below the level described in subparagraph (A) for that office, not later than 21 days after the date on which that staffing level decreased below the level described in subparagraph (A), the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on Appropriations and the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Appropriations and Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives, a report—

''(i) detailing staffing levels on that date;

''(ii) requesting, if practicable and determined appropriate by the Administrator, additional funds for additional employees; and

''(iii) containing such additional information, as determined appropriate by the Administrator.''.

PART II—DISASTER LENDING

SEC. 11141. CATASTROPHIC NATIONAL DISASTER DECLARATION.

Section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)) is amended by inserting immediately after paragraph (10), as added by this Act, the following:

''(11) CATASTROPHIC NATIONAL DISASTERS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The President may make a catastrophic national disaster declaration in accordance with this paragraph.

''(B) PROMULGATION OF RULES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Administrator, with the concurrence of the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, shall promulgate regulations establishing a threshold for a catastrophic national disaster declaration.

''(ii) CONSIDERATIONS.—In promulgating the regulations required under clause (i), the Administrator shall establish a threshold that—

''(I) is similar in size and scope to the events relating to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, and Hurricane Katrina of 2005;

''(II) requires that the President declares a major disaster before making a catastrophic national disaster declaration under this paragraph;

''(III) requires consideration of—

''(aa) the dollar amount per capita of damage to the State, its political subdivisions, or a region;

''(bb) the number of small business concerns damaged, physically or economically, as a direct result of the event;

''(cc) the number of individuals and households displaced from their predisaster residences by the event;

''(dd) the severity of the impact on employment rates in the State, its political subdivisions, or a region;

''(ee) the anticipated length and difficulty of the recovery process;

''(ff) whether the events leading to the relevant major disaster declaration are of an unusually large and calamitous nature that is orders of magnitude larger than for an average major disaster; and

''(gg) any other factor determined relevant by the Administrator.

''(C) AUTHORIZATION.—If the President makes a catastrophic national disaster declaration under this paragraph, the Administrator may make such loans under this paragraph (either directly or in cooperation with banks or other lending institutions through agreements to participate on an immediate or deferred basis) as the Administrator determines appropriate to small business concerns located anywhere in the United States that are economically adversely impacted as a result of that catastrophic national disaster.

''(D) LOAN TERMS.—A loan under this paragraph shall be made on the same terms as a loan under paragraph (2).''.

SEC. 11142. PRIVATE DISASTER LOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subsections (c) and (d) as subsections (d) and (e), respectively; and

(2) by inserting after subsection (b) the following:

''(c) PRIVATE DISASTER LOANS.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection—

''(A) the term 'disaster area' means any area for which the President declared a major disaster (as that term is defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)) that subsequently results in the President making a catastrophic national disaster declaration under subsection (b)(11);

''(B) the term 'eligible small business concern' means a business concern that is—

''(i) a small business concern, as defined in this Act; or

''(ii) a small business concern, as defined in section 103 of the Small Business Investment Act of 1958; and

''(C) the term 'qualified private lender' means any privately-owned bank or other lending institution that the Administrator determines meets the criteria established under paragraph (9).

''(2) AUTHORIZATION.—The Administrator may guarantee timely payment of principal and interest, as scheduled on any loan issued by a qualified private lender to an eligible small business concern located in a disaster area.

''(3) USE OF LOANS.—A loan guaranteed by the Administrator under this subsection may be used for any purpose authorized under subsection (b).

''(4) ONLINE APPLICATIONS.—

''(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Administrator may establish, directly or through an agreement with another entity, an online application process for loans guaranteed under this subsection.

''(B) OTHER FEDERAL ASSISTANCE.—The Administrator may coordinate with the head of any other appropriate Federal agency so that any application submitted through an online application process established under this paragraph may be considered for any other Federal assistance program for disaster relief.

''(C) CONSULTATION.—In establishing an online application process under this paragraph, the Administrator shall consult with appropriate persons from the public and private sectors, including private lenders.

''(5) MAXIMUM AMOUNTS.—

''(A) GUARANTEE PERCENTAGE.—The Administrator may guarantee not more than 85 percent of a loan under this subsection.

''(B) LOAN AMOUNTS.—The maximum amount of a loan guaranteed under this subsection shall be $2,000,000.

''(6) LOAN TERM.—The longest term of a loan for a loan guaranteed under this subsection shall be—

''(A) 15 years for any loan that is issued without collateral; and

''(B) 25 years for any loan that is issued with collateral.

''(7) FEES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may not collect a guarantee fee under this subsection.

''(B) ORIGINATION FEE.—The Administrator may pay a qualified private lender an origination fee for a loan guaranteed under this subsection in an amount agreed upon in advance between the qualified private lender and the Administrator.

''(8) DOCUMENTATION.—A qualified private lender may use its own loan documentation for a loan guaranteed by the Administrator, to the extent authorized by the Administrator. The ability of a lender to use its own loan documentation for a loan guaranteed under this subsection shall not be considered part of the criteria for becoming a qualified private lender under the regulations promulgated under paragraph (9).

''(9) IMPLEMENTATION REGULATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of the Small Business Disaster Response and Loan Improvements Act of 2007, the Administrator shall issue final regulations establishing permanent criteria for qualified private lenders.

''(B) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of the Small Business Disaster Response and Loan Improvements Act of 2007, the Administrator shall submit a report on the progress of the regulations required by subparagraph (A) to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives.

''(10) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Amounts necessary to carry out this subsection shall be made available from amounts appropriated to the Administration to carry out subsection (b).

''(B) AUTHORITY TO REDUCE INTEREST RATES.—Funds appropriated to the Administration to carry out this subsection, may be used by the Administrator, to the extent available, to reduce the rate of interest for any loan guaranteed under this subsection by not more than 3 percentage points.

''(11) PURCHASE OF LOANS.—The Administrator may enter into an agreement with a qualified private lender to purchase any loan issued under this subsection.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to disasters declared under section 7(b)(2) of the Small Business Act (631 U.S.C. 636(b)(2)) before, on, or after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 11143. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

The Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 631 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 4(c)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking ''7(c)(2)'' and inserting ''7(d)(2)''; and

(B) in paragraph (2)—

(i) by striking ''7(c)(2)'' and inserting ''7(d)(2)''; and

(ii) by striking ''7(e),''; and

(2) in section 7(b), in the undesignated matter following paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''That the provisions of paragraph (1) of subsection (c)'' and inserting ''That the provisions of paragraph (1) of subsection (d)''; and

(B) by striking ''Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law the interest rate on the Administration's share of any loan made under subsection (b) except as provided in subsection (c),'' and inserting ''Notwithstanding any other provision of law, and except as provided in subsection (d), the interest rate on the Administration's share of any loan made under subsection (b)''.

SEC. 11144. EXPEDITED DISASTER ASSISTANCE LOAN PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section—

(1) the term ''immediate disaster assistance'' means assistance provided during the period beginning on the date on which the President makes a catastrophic disaster declaration under paragraph (11) of section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)), as added by this Act, and ending on the date that an impacted small business concern is able to secure funding through insurance claims, Federal assistance programs, or other sources; and

(2) the term ''program'' means the expedited disaster assistance business loan program established under subsection (b).

(b) CREATION OF PROGRAM.—The Administrator shall take such administrative action

as is necessary to establish and implement an expedited disaster assistance business loan program to provide small business concerns with immediate disaster assistance under paragraph (11) of section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)), as added by this Act.

(c) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—In establishing the program, the Administrator shall consult with—

(1) appropriate personnel of the Administration (including District Office personnel of the Administration);

(2) appropriate technical assistance providers (including small business development centers);

(3) appropriate lenders and credit unions;

(4) the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate; and

(5) the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives.

(d) RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall issue rules in final form establishing and implementing the program in accordance with this section. Such rules shall apply as provided for in this section, beginning 90 days after their issuance in final form.

(2) CONTENTS.—The rules promulgated under paragraph (1) shall—

(A) identify whether appropriate uses of funds under the program may include—

(i) paying employees;

(ii) paying bills and other financial obligations;

(iii) making repairs;

(iv) purchasing inventory;

(v) restarting or operating a small business concern in the community in which it was conducting operations prior to the declared disaster, or to a neighboring area, county, or parish in the disaster area; or

(vi) covering additional costs until the small business concern is able to obtain funding through insurance claims, Federal assistance programs, or other sources; and

(B) set the terms and conditions of any loan made under the program, subject to paragraph (3).

(3) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—A loan made by the Administration under this section—

(A) shall be for not more than $150,000;

(B) shall be a short-term loan, not to exceed 180 days, except that the Administrator may extend such term as the Administrator determines necessary or appropriate on a case-by-case basis;

(C) shall have an interest rate not to exceed 1 percentage point above the prime rate of interest that a private lender may charge;

(D) shall have no prepayment penalty;

(E) may only be made to a borrower that meets the requirements for a loan under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b));

(F) may be refinanced as part of any subsequent disaster assistance provided under section 7(b) of the Small Business Act;

(G) may receive expedited loss verification and loan processing, if the applicant is—

(i) a major source of employment in the disaster area (which shall be determined in the same manner as under section 7(b)(3)(B) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(b)(3)(B))); or

(ii) vital to recovery efforts in the region (including providing debris removal services, manufactured housing, or building materials); and

(H) shall be subject to such additional terms as the Administrator determines necessary or appropriate.

(e) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 5 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall report to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives on the progress of the Administrator in establishing the program.

(f) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Administrator such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 11145. HUBZONES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 3(p) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(p)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (D), by striking ''or'';

(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the period at the end and inserting a semicolon; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(F) areas in which the President has declared a major disaster (as that term is defined in section 102 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5122)) as a result of Hurricane Katrina of August 2005 or Hurricane Rita of September 2005, during the time period described in paragraph (8); or

''(G) catastrophic national disaster areas.'';

(2) in paragraph (4), by adding at the end the following:

''(E) CATASTROPHIC NATIONAL DISASTER AREA.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'catastrophic national disaster area' means an area—

''(I) affected by a catastrophic national disaster declared under section 7(b)(11), during the time period described in clause (ii); and

''(II) for which the Administrator determines that designation as a HUBZone would substantially contribute to the reconstruction and recovery effort in that area.

''(ii) TIME PERIOD.—The time period for the purposes of clause (i)—

''(I) shall be the 2-year period beginning on the date that the applicable catastrophic national disaster was declared under section 7(b)(11); and

''(II) may, at the discretion of the Administrator, be extended to be the 3-year period beginning on the date described in subclause (I).''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(8) TIME PERIOD.—The time period for the purposes of paragraph (1)(F)—

''(A) shall be the 2-year period beginning on the later of the date of enactment of this paragraph and August 29, 2007; and

''(B) may, at the discretion of the Administrator, be extended to be the 3-year period beginning on the later of the date of enactment of this paragraph and August 29, 2007.''.

(b) TOLLING OF GRADUATION.—Section 7(j)(10)(C) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636(j)(10)(C)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(iii)(I) For purposes of this subparagraph, if the Administrator designates an area as a HUBZone under section 3(p)(4)(E)(i)(II), the Administrator shall not count the time period described in subclause (II) of this clause for any small business concern—

''(aa) that is participating in any program, activity, or contract under section 8(a); and

''(bb) the principal place of business of which is located in that area.

''(II) The time period for purposes of subclause (I)—

''(aa) shall be the 2-year period beginning on the date that the applicable catastrophic national disaster was declared under section 7(b)(11); and

''(bb) may, at the discretion of the Administrator, be extended to be the 3-year period beginning on the date described in item (aa).''.

(c) STUDY OF HUBZONE DISASTER AREAS.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit a report to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives evaluating the designation by the Administrator of catastrophic national disaster areas, as that term is defined in section 3(p)(4)(E) of the Small Business Act (as added by this Act), as HUBZones.

PART III—DISASTER ASSISTANCE OVERSIGHT

SEC. 11161. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT.

(a) MONTHLY ACCOUNTING REPORT TO CONGRESS.—

(1) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Not later than the fifth business day of each month during the applicable period for a major disaster, the Administrator shall provide to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship and the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate and to the Committee on Small Business and the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives a report on the operation of the disaster loan program authorized under section 7 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 636) for that major disaster during the preceding month.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each report under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) the daily average lending volume, in number of loans and dollars, and the percent by which each category has increased or decreased since the previous report under paragraph (1);

(B) the weekly average lending volume, in number of loans and dollars, and the percent by which each category has increased or decreased since the previous report under paragraph (1);

(C) the amount of funding spent over the month for loans, both in appropriations and program level, and the percent by which each category has increased or decreased since the previous report under paragraph (1);

(D) the amount of funding available for loans, both in appropriations and program level, and the percent by which each category has increased or decreased since the previous report under paragraph (1), noting the source of any additional funding;

(E) an estimate of how long the available funding for such loans will last, based on the spending rate;

(F) the amount of funding spent over the month for staff, along with the number of staff, and the percent by which each category has increased or decreased since the previous report under paragraph (1);

(G) the amount of funding spent over the month for administrative costs, and the percent by which such spending has increased or decreased since the previous report under paragraph (1);

(H) the amount of funding available for salaries and expenses combined, and the percent by which such funding has increased or decreased since the previous report under paragraph (1), noting the source of any additional funding; and

(I) an estimate of how long the available funding for salaries and expenses will last, based on the spending rate.

(b) DAILY DISASTER UPDATES TO CONGRESS FOR PRESIDENTIALLY DECLARED DISASTERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Each day during a disaster update period, excluding Federal holidays and weekends, the Administration shall provide to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives a report on the operation of the disaster loan program of the Administration for the area in which the President declared a major disaster.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each report under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) the number of Administration staff performing loan processing, field inspection, and other duties for the declared disaster, and the allocations of such staff in the disaster field offices, disaster recovery centers, workshops, and other Administration offices nationwide;

(B) the daily number of applications received from applicants in the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(C) the daily number of applications pending application entry from applicants in the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(D) the daily number of applications withdrawn by applicants in the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(E) the daily number of applications summarily declined by the Administration from applicants in the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(F) the daily number of applications declined by the Administration from applicants in the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(G) the daily number of applications in process from applicants in the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(H) the daily number of applications approved by the Administration from applicants in the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(I) the daily dollar amount of applications approved by the Administration from applicants in the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(J) the daily amount of loans dispersed, both partially and fully, by the Administration to applicants in the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(K) the daily dollar amount of loans disbursed, both partially and fully, from the relevant area, as well as a breakdown of such figures by State;

(L) the number of applications approved, including dollar amount approved, as well as applications partially and fully disbursed, including dollar amounts, since the last report under paragraph (1); and

(M) the declaration date, physical damage closing date, economic injury closing date, and number of counties included in the declaration of a major disaster.

(c) NOTICE OF THE NEED FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDS.—On the same date that the Administrator notifies any committee of the Senate or the House of Representatives that supplemental funding is necessary for the disaster loan program of the Administration in any fiscal year, the Administrator shall notify in writing the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives regarding the need for supplemental funds for that loan program.

(d) REPORT ON CONTRACTING.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date on which the President declares a major disaster, and every 6 months thereafter until the date that is 18 months after the date on which the major disaster was declared, the Administrator shall submit a report to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and to the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives regarding Federal contracts awarded as a result of that major disaster.

(2) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) the total number of contracts awarded as a result of that major disaster;

(B) the total number of contracts awarded to small business concerns as a result of that major disaster;

(C) the total number of contracts awarded to women and minority-owned businesses as a result of that major disaster; and

(D) the total number of contracts awarded to local businesses as a result of that major disaster.

(e) REPORT ON LOAN APPROVAL RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Administrator shall submit a report to the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship of the Senate and the Committee on Small Business of the House of Representatives detailing how the Administration can improve the processing of applications under the disaster loan program of the Administration.

(2) CONTENTS.—The report submitted under paragraph (1) shall include—

(A) recommendations, if any, regarding—

(i) staffing levels during a major disaster;

(ii) how to improve the process for processing, approving, and disbursing loans under the disaster loan program of the Administration, to ensure that the maximum assistance is provided to victims in a timely manner;

(iii) the viability of using alternative methods for assessing the ability of an applicant to repay a loan, including the credit score of the applicant on the day before the date on which the disaster for which the applicant is seeking assistance was declared;

(iv) methods, if any, for the Administration to expedite loss verification and loan processing of disaster loans during a major disaster for businesses affected by, and located in the area for which the President declared, the major disaster that are a major source of employment in the area or are vital to recovery efforts in the region (including providing debris removal services, manufactured housing, or building materials);

(v) legislative changes, if any, needed to implement findings from the Accelerated Disaster Response Initiative of the Administration; and

(vi) a description of how the Administration plans to integrate and coordinate the response to a major disaster with the technical assistance programs of the Administration; and

(B) the plans of the Administrator for implementing any recommendation made under subparagraph (A).

SA 3605. Mr. SMITH (for himself and Mr. ROCKEFELLER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. 12____. CLASSIFICATION OF AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds that—

(1) the publication of the original study and comprehensive list of recommendations in America Burning, written in 1974, requesting advances in fire prevention through the installation of automatic sprinkler systems in existing buildings have yet to be fully implemented;

(2) fire departments responded to approximately 1,600,000 fires in 2005;

(3) there were 3,675 non-terrorist related deaths in the United States and almost 17,925 civilian injuries resulting from fire in 2005;

(4) 87 firefighters were killed in 2005;

(5) fire caused $10,672,000,000 in direct property damage in 2005, and sprinklers are responsible for a 70 percent reduction in property damage from fires in public assembly, educational, residential, commercial, industrial and manufacturing buildings;

(6) fire departments respond to a fire every 20 seconds, a fire breaks out in a structure every 61 seconds and in a residential structure every 79 seconds in the United States;

(7) the Station Nightclub in West Warwick, Rhode Island, did not contain an automated sprinkler system and burned down, killing 99 people on February 20, 2003;

(8) due to an automated sprinkler system, not a single person was injured from a fire beginning in the Fine Line Music Café in Minneapolis after the use of pyrotechnics on February 17, 2003;

(9) the National Fire Protection Association has no record of a fire killing more than 2 people in a completely sprinklered public assembly, educational, institutional or residential building where the system was properly installed and fully operational;

(10) sprinkler systems dramatically improve the chances of survival of those who cannot save themselves, specifically older adults, young children and people with disabilities;

(11) the financial cost of upgrading fire counter measures in buildings built prior to fire safety codes is prohibitive for most property owners;

(12) many State and local governments lack any requirements for older structures to contain automatic sprinkler systems;

(13) under the present straight-line method of depreciation, there is a disincentive for building safety improvements due to an extremely low rate of return on investment; and

(14) the Nation is in need of incentives for the voluntary installation and retrofitting of buildings with automated sprinkler systems to save the lives of countless individuals and responding firefighters as well as drastically reduce the costs from property damage.

(b) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 168(e)(3) (relating to 5-year property), as amended by this Act, is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of clause (vi), by striking the period at the end of clause (vii) and inserting '', and'', and by inserting after clause (vii) the following:

''(viii) any automatic fire sprinkler system placed in service after the date of the enactment of this clause in a building structure which was placed in service before such date of enactment.''.

(c) ALTERNATIVE SYSTEM.—The table contained in section 168(g)(3)(B) (relating to special rule for certain property assigned to classes), as amended by this Act, is amended by inserting after the item relating to subparagraph (B)(vii) the following:

''(B)(vii) ..... 7''.

(d) DEFINITION OF AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM.—Subsection (i) of section 168 is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(18) AUTOMATED FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM.—The term 'automated fire sprinkler system' means those sprinkler systems classified under one or more of the following publications of the National Fire Protection Association—

''(A) NFPA 13, Installation of Sprinkler Systems,

''(B) NFPA 13 D, Installation of Sprinkler Systems in One and Two Family Dwellings and Manufactured Homes, and

''(C) NFPA 13 R, Installation of Sprinkler Systems in Residential Occupancies up to and Including Four Stories in Height.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SA 3606. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to

amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 994, strike lines 7 through 17 and insert the following:

SEC. 7312. NATIONAL ARBORETUM.

The Act of March 4, 1927 (20 U.S.C. 191 et seq.), is amended by adding at the end the following:

"SEC. 7. CONSTRUCTION OF A CHINESE GARDEN AT NATIONAL ARBORETUM.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—A Chinese Garden may be constructed at the National Arboretum established under this Act with—

''(1) funds accepted under section 5; and

''(2) authorities provided to the Secretary of Agriculture under section 6.

''(b) REPORT.—Each year the Secretary of Agriculture shall submit to Congress, and post on the public website of the National Arboretum, an itemized budget that shall describe, for the preceding year—

''(1) the total costs of the National Arboretum;

''(2) the costs of—

''(A) operation and maintenance;

''(B) horticulture and grounds;

''(C) visitor services; and

''(D) supplies and materials;

''(3) indirect costs of the Agricultural Research Service relating to the National Arboretum; and

''(4) the total number of visitors to the National Arboretum.

''(c) LIMITATION.—No Federal funds shall be used for the construction of the Chinese Garden authorized under subsection (a).''.

SA 3607. Mr. MENENDEZ submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1362, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

SEC. 110___. STUDY OF IMPACTS OF LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS AND COMMERCE.

(a) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study on the impacts of local food systems and commerce that shall, at a minimum—

(1) develop a working definition of local food systems and commerce; and

(2) identify indicators, and include an assessment of—

(A) the market share of local food systems and commerce throughout the United States and by region;

(B) the potential community, economic, health and nutrition, environmental, food safety, and food security impacts of advancing local food systems and commerce;

(C) the potential energy, transportation, water resource, and climate change impacts of local food systems and commerce;

(D) the structure of agricultural considerations and impacts throughout the United States and by region;

(E) the interest of agricultural producers in diversifying to access local markets and the barriers and opportunities confronted by agricultural producers in the process of diversification;

(F) the current availability and present and future need of independent processing plants that cater to local food commerce, including difficulty in meeting regulatory requirements;

(G) the key gaps in food processing, distribution, marketing, and economic development, including regional differences in infrastructure gaps and other barriers;

(H) the role of public and private institutions and institutional and governmental buying systems and procurement policies in purchasing products through local food systems;

(I) the benefits and challenges for children and families in the most vulnerable rural and urban sectors of the United States; and

(J) the challenges that prevent local foods from comprising a larger share of the per capita food consumption in the United States, and existing and potential strategies, policies, and programs to address those challenges.

(b) COLLABORATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall appoint a collaborative study team to oversee and conduct the research necessary to conduct the study described in subsection (a) and the case studies described in subsection (c).

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The study team shall include representatives of—

(A) the Economic Research Service, Agricultural Marketing Service, and other appropriate agencies of the Department of Agriculture or other Federal agencies;

(B) the Environmental Protection Agency;

(C) institutions of higher education, including at least 1 institution of higher education representative from each of the regions studied;

(D) small farmers;

(E) nongovernmental organizations with appropriate expertise; and

(F) State and local governments.

(c) CASE STUDIES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The study team appointed by the Secretary under subsection (b) shall carry out case studies in representative production and marketing regions in the United States to address the issues being studied under subsection (a).

(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In carrying out case studies, the study team shall—

(A) identify opportunities for primary research; and

(B) to the maximum extent practicable, use existing surveys, data, and research.

(3) COMPONENTS.—Each case study shall—

(A) identify and, to the maximum extent practicable, evaluate the success of relevant Federal, State, and local policies that are intended to induce local food purchasing and commerce;

(B) examine the agricultural structure in each region to account for the impact of farm size and type of production on local economies and barriers to accessing local markets;

(C) determine regional market trends and the share of the market supplied by current agricultural producers in the region; and

(D) assess the potential for local food system value chains and supply networks and map the supply chain factors in each region involved in agricultural production, processing, and distribution of locally grown produce, meat, dairy, and other products.

(d) REPORTS.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and thereafter as the Secretary considers appropriate, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

(1) describes the results of the study conducted under subsection (a) and the case studies under subsection (c); and

(2) includes such recommendations for legislative action as the Secretary considers appropriate.

SA 3608. Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself, Mr. REED, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. KERRY, Mr. DODD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. LAUTENBERG, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 774, strike line 10 and all that follows through page 776, line 19, and insert the following:

(a) RURAL AREA.—

(1) DEFINITION.—Section 343(a)(13) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1991(a)(13)) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The terms 'rural' and 'rural area' mean—

''(i) any area other than a city or town that has a population of greater than 50,000 inhabitants, except that, for all activities under programs in the rural development mission area within the areas of the County of Honolulu, Hawaii, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, the Secretary may designate any portion of the areas as a rural area or eligible rural community that the Secretary determines is not urban in character, other than any area included in the Honolulu Census Designated Place or the San Juan Census Designated Place; and

''(ii) any urbanized area contiguous and adjacent to such a city or town.''.

(2) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that—

(A) assesses the various definitions of the term ''rural'' that are used with respect to programs administered by the Secretary;

(B) describes the effects that the variations in those definitions have on those programs; and

(C) makes recommendations for ways to better target funds provided through rural development programs.

SA 3609. Mr. CASEY (for himself and Mr. CARDIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 272, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

SEC. 19___. ENTERPRISE AND WHOLE FARM UNITS.

Section 508(e) of Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(e)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(6) ENTERPRISE AND WHOLE FARM UNITS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Corporation may carry out a pilot program under which the Corporation pays a portion of the premiums for plans or policies of insurance for which the insurable unit is defined on a whole farm

or enterprise unit basis that is higher than would otherwise be paid in accordance with paragraph (2) for policyholders that convert from a plan or policy of insurance for which the insurable unit is defined on optional or basic unit basis.

''(B) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in a pilot program established under this paragraph, a policyholder shall—

''(i) have purchased additional coverage for the 2005 crop on an optional or basic unit basis for at least 90 percent of the acreage to be covered by enterprise or whole farm unit policy for the current crop; and

''(ii) purchase the enterprise or whole farm unit policy at not less than the highest coverage level that was purchased for the acreage for the 2005 crop.

''(C) AMOUNT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The amount of the premium per acre paid by the Corporation to a policyholder for a policy with an enterprise and whole farm unit under this paragraph shall be, the maximum extent practicable, equal to the average dollar amount of subsidy per acre paid by the Corporation under paragraph (2) for a basic or optional unit.

''(ii) LIMITATION.—The amount of the premium paid by the Corporation under this paragraph may not exceed the total premium for the enterprise or whole farm unit policy.

''(D) CONVERSION OF PILOT TO A PERMANENT PROGRAM.—Not earlier than 180 days after the date of enactment of this paragraph, the Corporation may convert the pilot program described in this paragraph to a permanent program if the Corporation has—

''(i) carried out the pilot program;

''(ii) analyzed the results of the pilot program; and

''(iii) submitted to Congress a report describing the results of the analysis.''.

SA 3610. Mr. CASEY submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 2371 and insert the following:

SEC. 2371. FARM AND RANCHLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM.

Subchapter B of chapter 2 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3838h et seq.) is amended to read as follows:

''Subchapter B—Farm and Ranchland Protection Program

''SEC. 1238H. DEFINITIONS.

''In this subchapter:

''(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means any of the following:

''(A) An agency of a State or local government or an Indian tribe (including a farmland protection board or land resource council established under State law).

''(B) An organization that is organized for, and at all times since the formation of the organization has been operated principally for, 1 or more of the conservation purposes specified in clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv) of section 170(h)(4)(A) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(C) An organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of that Code.

''(D) An organization described in section 509(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

''(E) An organization described in section 509(a)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is controlled by an organization described in section 509(a)(2), of that Code.

''(2) ELIGIBLE LAND.—The term 'eligible land' means land on a farm or ranch that—

''(A) is cropland;

''(B) is rangeland;

''(C) is grassland;

''(D) is pasture land;

''(E) is forest land that is an incidental part of an agricultural operation, as determined by the Secretary; or

''(F) contains historical or archaeological resources.

''(3) INDIAN TRIBE.—The term 'Indian tribe' has the meaning given the term in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450b).

''(4) PROGRAM.—The term 'program' means the farm and ranchland protection program established under section 1238I(a).

''(5) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

''SEC. 1238I. FARM AND RANCHLAND PROTECTION PROGRAM.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) ESTABLISHMENT AND PURPOSE.—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a farm and ranchland protection program under which the Secretary shall facilitate and provide funding for the purchase of conservation easements or other interests in eligible land that is subject to a pending offer from a certified State or eligible entity for the purpose of protecting the agricultural use and related conservation values of the land by limiting incompatible nonagricultural uses of the land.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall give the highest priority—

''(A) to protecting farm and ranchland with prime, unique or other productive soils that are at risk of non-agricultural development; or

''(B) to projects that further a State or local policy consistent with the purposes of the program.

''(b) GRANTS TO CERTIFIED STATES.—The Secretary shall make grants to States certified by the Secretary under subsection (c). Such grants shall be made based on demonstrated need for farm and ranch land protection. Grants may be made for multiple transactions so long as all funds provided under the program are used to purchase conservation easements or other interests in land in a timely and effective manner. A State receiving a grant under this subsection may use up to 10 percent of the grant funds for reasonable costs of purchasing and enforcing conservation easements.

''(c) CERTIFICATION OF STATES FOR GRANTS.—

''(1) CERTIFICATION PROCESS.—The Secretary shall implement a process, to be published in the Federal Register, for certifying States as eligible to participate in the program. The Secretary may provide a reasonable transitional period, not to extend past September 30, 2008, in order to allow continued operation of the program for such time as needed for the Secretary to implement the certification process.

''(2) CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS.—To be certified under the process implemented under paragraph (1), a State shall demonstrate, at a minimum, the following:

''(A) A legislative or organizational purpose consistent with the purposes of the program.

''(B) The necessary authority and the resources and technical ability to monitor and enforce the terms of conservation easements or other interests in land or to require the holder of such easements or other interests in land acquired with the use of funding under the program to monitor and enforce the terms of such easements or other interests in land.

''(C) The capacity to provide the necessary matching funds from non-Federal sources for projects undertaken under the program and to use program funds in a timely and effective manner.

''(D) Policies and procedures to ensure that, on average, the purchase price of conservation easements or other interests in land purchased with program funds do not exceed the fair market value of the easements or other interests in land.

''(E) Policies and procedures that ensure that conservation easements or other interests in land purchased with program funds will continue to protect the agricultural use and related conservation values of the land.

''(F) Provision for continued stewardship of the conservation easements or other interest in land purchased with program funds in the event the State loses its certification under the program.

''(G) A determination of its own criteria and priorities for purchasing conservation easements and other interests in land under the program.

''(d) AGREEMENTS WITH ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—

''(1) AGREEMENTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary may enter into an agreement with an eligible entity, under which the entity may purchase conservation easements using a combination of its own funds and funds distributed by the Secretary under the program.

''(2) TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—An agreement under this subsection shall stipulate the terms and conditions under which the eligible entity shall use funds provided by the Secretary under the program. The eligible entity shall be authorized to use its own terms and conditions for conservation easements and other purchases of interests in land, so long as—

''(A) such terms and conditions are consistent with the purposes of the program and permit effective enforcement of the conservation purposes of such easements or other interests;

''(B) the eligible entity has in place a requirement consistent with agricultural activities regarding the impervious surfaces to be allowed for any conservation easement or other interest in land purchased using grant funds provided under the program; and

''(C) the eligible entity requires use of a conservation plan for any highly erodible cropland for which a conservation easement or other interest in land has been purchased using grant funds provided under the program.

''(e) FEDERAL CONTINGENT RIGHT OF ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary may require the inclusion of a Federal contingent right of enforcement or executory limitation in a conservation easement or other interest in land for conservation purposes purchased with Federal funds provided under the program, in order to preserve the easement as a party of last resort. The inclusion of such a right or interest shall not be considered to be the Federal acquisition of real property and the Federal standards and procedures for land acquisition shall not apply to the inclusion of the right or interest

''(f) REVIEW; REVOCATION.—

''(1) REVIEW.—Every 3 years, the Secretary shall review the certification of States under subsection (c) and the performance of eligible entities in meeting the terms and conditions of an agreement under subsection (d).

''(2) REVOCATION.—If, in the determination of the Secretary, a State no longer meets the qualifications described in subsection (c)(2) or an eligible entity is not meeting the terms and conditions of an agreement under subsection (d), the Secretary may—

''(A) revoke the certification of the State or terminate the agreement with the eligible entity; or

''(B) allow the State or eligible entity a specified period of time in which to take such actions as may be necessary to retain its certification or to meet the terms and conditions of the agreement, as the case may be.

''(g) CONSERVATION PLAN.—Any highly erodible cropland for which a conservation easement or other interest is purchased under this subchapter shall be subject to the requirements of a conservation plan. In the case of an easement or other interest in land that is perpetual in duration, the Secretary may not require the conversion of the cropland to less intensive uses if, under such plan, soil erosion can be reduced to 'T' or below.

''(h) COST SHARING.—The share of the cost provided under this section for purchasing a conservation easement or other interest in land shall not exceed 50 percent of the appraised fair market value of the conservation easement or other interest in eligible land. Fair market value shall be determined on the basis of an appraisal of the conservation easement or other interest in eligible land using an industry-approved methodology determined by the entity.''.

SA 3611. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 182, between lines 16 and 17, insert the following:

SEC. 1610. ADDITIONAL MANDATORY DAIRY REPORTING.

Subsection (b) of section 273 of the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1637b) (as redesignated by section 1609(2)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking ''shall take such actions'' and inserting ''shall—

''(A) take such actions'';

(B) in subparagraph (A) (as designated by subparagraph (A)), by striking the period at the end and inserting ''; and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(B) include regular audits and comparisons with other related dairy market statistics collected by other Federal agencies or private entities on at least a monthly basis.''; and

(2) in paragraph (4)(A)—

(A) by striking ''subtitle to willfully fail'' and inserting ''subtitle—

''(i) to willfully fail'';

(B) in clause (i) (as designated by subparagraph (A)), by striking the period at the end and inserting '', including provision or reporting of erroneous prices (including prices for sales covered by fixed price contracts with terms of more than 30 days); and''; and

(C) by adding at the end the following:

''(ii) to manipulate spot market prices or other markets to provide a false price signal to the market and influence prices reported under this subtitle.''.

On page 1243, between lines 13 and 14, insert the following:

SEC. 10309. COORDINATION OF DAIRY OVERSIGHT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall select an official within the Department of Agriculture to coordinate the sharing of information on oversight of the dairy industry to ensure fair competition.

(b) DUTIES.—The official selected under subsection (a) shall—

(1) serve as a liaison among the Agricultural Marketing Service, Farm Service Agency, and National Agricultural Statistics Service;

(2) coordinate with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Trade Commission, as appropriate;

(3) maintain informal communication among the Federal agencies specified in paragraphs (1) and (2) and other Federal agencies, as necessary;

(4) hold at least 1 formal annual meeting during each calendar year; and

(5) submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, and make available to the public, an annual report that describes issues of concern in the dairy industry, including—

(A) concentration among cooperatives or processors;

(B) the farm-retail price spread (including flat pricing);

(C) an examination of the competition implications of cooperative and processor joint ventures; and

(D) statistics on volumes of dairy products traded on dairy markets and reported through mandatory price reporting relative to the overall market.

SA 3612. Mr. BOND submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 973, strike lines 21 through 24 and inset the following:

(a) FUNDING.—

(1) MANDATORY FUNDING.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 401(b) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (1) and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, on October 1, 2008, and each October 1 thereafter through October 1, 2011, out of any funds in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the Secretary of the Treasury shall transfer to the Account the amount that the Secretary estimates will be made available for the applicable fiscal year as a result of the enactment of section 7201(a)(1)(B) of that Act.''.

(B) OFFSET.—Notwithstanding title I or any amendment made by title I, a person or legal entity shall not be eligible for, and the Secretary shall not make to any person or legal entity, any individual payment under subtitles A through E of title I or an amendment made by those titles in an amount that is less than $25.

(2) DISCRETIONARY FUNDING.—Section 401(b) of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998 (7 U.S.C. 7621(b)) is amended by striking paragraph (3) and inserting the following:

SA 3613. Mr. STEVENS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 883, line 2, strike the closing quotation marks and the semicolon.

On page 883, between lines 2 and 3, insert the following:

''(6) ONLINE SAFETY REQUIREMENT FOR SCHOOLS.—An elementary or secondary school may not receive assistance under paragraph (1)(E) for computers with Internet access unless the school, school board, local educational agency, or other authority with responsibility for administration of the school certifies to the Administrator that the school has an Internet safety policy that includes educating minors about age-appropriate online behavior, including interaction with other individuals on social net-working websites and in chat rooms, and cyber-bullying awareness and response.''.

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

TITLE —PROTECTING CHILDREN IN THE 21ST CENTURY

SEC. —001. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This title may be cited as the ''Protecting Children in the 21st Century Act''.

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this title is as follows:

Sec. —001. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—PROMOTING A SAFE INTERNET FOR CHILDREN

Sec. —101. Internet safety.
Sec. —102. Public awareness campaign.
Sec. —103. Annual reports.
Sec. —104. Authorization of appropriations.
Sec. —105. Online safety and technology working group.
Sec. —106. Promoting online safety in schools.
Sec. —107. Definitions.

TITLE II—ENHANCING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY ENFORCEMENT

Sec. —201. Child pornography prevention; forfeitures related to child pornography violations.
Sec. —202. Additional child pornography amendments.

TITLE I—PROMOTING A SAFE INTERNET FOR CHILDREN

SEC. 101. INTERNET SAFETY.

For the purposes of this subtitle, the issue of Internet safety includes issues regarding the use of the Internet in a manner that promotes safe online activity for children, protects children from cybercrimes, including crimes by online predators, and helps parents shield their children from material that is inappropriate for minors.

SEC. 102. PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.

The Federal Trade Commission shall carry out a nationwide program to increase public awareness and provide education regarding strategies to promote the safe use of the Internet by children. The program shall utilize existing resources and efforts of the Federal Government, State and local governments, nonprofit organizations, private technology and financial companies, Internet service providers, World Wide Web-based resources, and other appropriate entities, that includes—

(1) identifying, promoting, and encouraging best practices for Internet safety;

(2) establishing and carrying out a national outreach and education campaign regarding Internet safety utilizing various media and Internet-based resources;

(3) facilitating access to, and the exchange of, information regarding Internet safety to promote up-to-date knowledge regarding current issues; and

(4) facilitating access to Internet safety education and public awareness efforts the Commission considers appropriate by States, units of local government, schools, police departments, nonprofit organizations, and other appropriate entities.

SEC. 103. ANNUAL REPORTS.

The Commission shall submit a report to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation not later than March 31 of each year that describes the activities carried out under section —102 by the Commission during the preceding calendar year.

SEC. 104. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

For carrying out the public awareness campaign under section —102, there are authorized to be appropriated to the Commission $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 and 2009.

SEC. 105. ONLINE SAFETY AND TECHNOLOGY WORKING GROUP.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Within 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information shall establish an Online Safety and Technology working group comprised of representatives of relevant sectors of the business community, public interest groups, and other appropriate groups and Federal agencies to review and evaluate—

(1) the status of industry efforts to promote online safety through educational efforts, parental control technology, blocking and filtering software, age-appropriate labels for content or other technologies or initiatives designed to promote a safe online environment for children;

(2) the status of industry efforts to promote online safety among providers of electronic communications services and remote computing services by reporting apparent child pornography under section 227 of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13032), including amendments made by this subtitle with respect to the content of such reports and any obstacles to such reporting;

(3) the practices of electronic communications service providers and remote computing service providers related to record retention in connection with crimes against children; and

(4) the development of technologies to help parents shield their children from inappropriate material on the Internet.

(b) REPORT.—Within 1 year after the working group is first convened, it shall submit a report to the Assistant Secretary and the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation that—

(1) describes in detail its findings, including any information related to the effectiveness of such strategies and technologies and any information about the prevalence within industry of educational campaigns, parental control technologies, blocking and filtering software, labeling, or other technologies to assist parents; and

(2) includes recommendations as to what types of incentives could be used or developed to increase the effectiveness and implementation of such strategies and technologies.

(c) FACA NOT TO APPLY TO WORKING GROUP.—The Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.) shall not apply to the working group.

SEC. 106. PROMOTING ONLINE SAFETY IN SCHOOLS.

Section 254(h)(5)(B) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 254(h)(5)(b)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''and'' after the semicolon in clause (i);

(2) by striking ''minors.'' in clause (ii) and inserting ''minors; and''; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

''(iii) as part of its Internet safety policy is educating minors about appropriate online behavior, including interacting with other individuals on social networking websites and in chat rooms and cyberbullying awareness and response.''.

SEC. 107. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) COMMISSION.—The term ''Commission'' means the Federal Trade Commission.

(2) INTERNET.—The term ''Internet'' means collectively the myriad of computer and telecommunications facilities, including equipment and operating software, which comprise the interconnected world-wide network of networks that employ the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol, or any predecessor successor protocols to such protocol, to communicate information of all kinds by wire or radio.

TITLE II—ENHANCING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY ENFORCEMENT

SEC. 201. CHILD PORNOGRAPHY PREVENTION; FORFEITURES RELATED TO CHILD PORNOGRAPHY VIOLATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 503(b)(1) of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 503(b)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''or'' after the semicolon in subparagraph (C);

(2) by striking ''or 1464'' in subparagraph (D) and inserting ''1464, or 2252'';

(3) by inserting ''or'' after the semicolon in subparagraph (D); and

(4) by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following:

''(E) violated any provision of section 227 of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13032);''.

SEC. 202. ADDITIONAL CHILD PORNOGRAPHY AMENDMENTS.

(a) INCREASE IN FINE FOR FAILURE TO REPORT.—Section 227(b)(4) of the Crime Control Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13032(b)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''$50,000;'' in subparagraph (A) and inserting ''$150,000;''; and

(2) by striking ''$100,000.'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting ''$300,000.''.

(b) INTERNATIONAL INFORMATION SHARING.—Section 227 of the Victims of Child Abuse Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 13032) is amended—

(1) by striking ''a law enforcement agency or'' in subsection (b)(1) and inserting ''appropriate Federal, State, or foreign law enforcement agencies'';

(2) by inserting ''Federal, State, or foreign'' after ''designate the'' in subsection (b)(2);

(3) by striking ''law.'' in subsection (b)(3) and inserting ''law, or appropriate officials of foreign law enforcement agencies designated by the Attorney General for the purpose of enforcing State or Federal laws of the United States.'';

(4) by redesignating paragraphs (3) and (4) of subsection (b) as paragraphs (4) and (5), respectively, and inserting after paragraph (2) the following:

''(3) CONTENTS OF REPORT.—To the extent this information is reasonably available to an electronic communication service provider or a remote computing service provider, each report under paragraph (1) shall include—

''(A) information relating to the Internet identity of any individual who appears to have violated any section of title 18, United States Code, referenced in paragraph (1), including any relevant user ID or other online identifier, electronic mail addresses, website address, uniform resource locator, or other identifying information;

''(B) information relating to when any apparent child pornography was uploaded, transmitted, reported to, or discovered by the electronic communication service provider or a remote computing service provider, as the case may be, including a date and time stamp and time zone.

''(C) information relating to geographic location of the involved individual or reported content, including the hosting website, uniform resource locator, street address, zip code, area code, telephone number, or Internet Protocol address;

''(D) any image of any apparent child pornography relating to the incident, and any images commingled with images of apparent child pornography, such report is regarding; and

''(E) accurate contact information for the electronic communication service provider or remote computing service provider making the report, including the address, telephone number, facsimile number, electronic mail address of, and individual point of contact for such electronic communication service provider or remote computing service provider.'';

(5) by inserting ''section 404 of the Missing Children's Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5773),'' after ''section,'' in subsection (g)(1); and

(6) by adding at the end thereof the following:

''(h) USE OF INFORMATION TO COMBAT CHILD PORNOGRAPHY.—The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children is authorized to provide elements relating to any image1 or other relevant information reported to its Cyber Tip Line to an electronic communication service provider or a remote computing service provider for the sole and exclusive purpose of permitting that electronic communication service provider or remote computing service provider to stop the further transmission of images and develop anti-child pornography technologies and related industry best practices. Any electronic communication service provider or remote computing service provider that receives information from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children under this subsection may use such information only for the purposes described in this subsection.''.

SA 3614. Mr. DOMENICI (for himself and Mr. THUNE) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of title IX, add the following:

Subtitle B—Biofuels for Energy Security and Transportation

SEC. 9101. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Biofuels for Energy Security and Transportation Act of 2007''.

SEC. 9102. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) ADVANCED BIOFUEL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''advanced biofuel'' means fuel derived from renewable biomass other than corn starch.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term ''advanced biofuel'' includes—

(i) ethanol derived from cellulose, hemicellulose, or lignin;

(ii) ethanol derived from sugar or starch, other than ethanol derived from corn starch;

(iii) ethanol derived from waste material, including crop residue, other vegetative waste material, animal waste, and food waste and yard waste;

(iv) diesel-equivalent fuel derived from renewable biomass, including vegetable oil and animal fat;

(v) biogas (including landfill gas and sewage waste treatment gas) produced through the conversion of organic matter from renewable biomass;

(vi) butanol or other alcohols produced through the conversion of organic matter from renewable biomass; and

(vii) other fuel derived from cellulosic biomass.

(2) CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ETHANOL.—The term ''cellulosic biomass ethanol'' means ethanol derived from any cellulose, hemicellulose, or lignin that is derived from renewable biomass.

(3) CONVENTIONAL BIOFUEL.—The term ''conventional biofuel'' means ethanol derived from corn starch.

(4) RENEWABLE BIOMASS.—The term ''renewable biomass'' means—

(A) nonmerchantable materials or precommercial thinnings that—

(i) are byproducts of preventive treatments, such as trees, wood, brush, thinnings, chips, and slash, that are removed—

(I) to reduce hazardous fuels;

(II) to reduce or contain disease or insect infestation; or

(III) to restore forest health;

(ii) would not otherwise be used for higher-value products; and

(iii) are harvested from National Forest System land or public land (as defined in section 103 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (43 U.S.C. 1702))—

(I) where permitted by law; and

(II) in accordance with—

(aa) applicable land management plans; and

(bb) the requirements for old-growth maintenance, restoration, and management direction of paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of subsection (e) and the requirements for large-tree retention of subsection (f) of section 102 of the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 (16 U.S.C. 6512); or

(B) any organic matter that is available on a renewable or recurring basis from non-Federal land or from land belonging to an Indian tribe, or an Indian individual, that is held in trust by the United States or subject to a restriction against alienation imposed by the United States, including—

(i) renewable plant material, including—

(I) feed grains;

(II) other agricultural commodities;

(III) other plants and trees; and

(IV) algae; and

(ii) waste material, including—

(I) crop residue;

(II) other vegetative waste material (including wood waste and wood residues);

(III) animal waste and byproducts (including fats, oils, greases, and manure); and

(IV) food waste and yard waste.

(5) RENEWABLE FUEL.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''renewable fuel'' means motor vehicle fuel or home heating fuel that is—

(i) produced from renewable biomass; and

(ii) used to replace or reduce the quantity of fossil fuel present in a fuel or fuel mixture used to operate a motor vehicle or furnace.

(B) INCLUSION.—The term ''renewable fuel'' includes—

(i) conventional biofuel; and

(ii) advanced biofuel.

(6) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Energy

(7) SMALL REFINERY.—The term ''small refinery'' means a refinery for which the average aggregate daily crude oil throughput for a calendar year (as determined by dividing the aggregate throughput for the calendar year by the number of days in the calendar year) does not exceed 75,000 barrels.

PART I—RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD

SEC. 9111. RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD.

(a) RENEWABLE FUEL PROGRAM.—

(1) REGULATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall promulgate regulations to ensure that motor vehicle fuel and home heating oil sold or introduced into commerce in the United States (except in noncontiguous States or territories), on an annual average basis, contains the applicable volume of renewable fuel determined in accordance with paragraph (2).

(B) PROVISIONS OF REGULATIONS.—Regardless of the date of promulgation, the regulations promulgated under subparagraph (A)—

(i) shall contain compliance provisions applicable to refineries, blenders, distributors, and importers, as appropriate, to ensure that—

(I) the requirements of this subsection are met; and

(II) renewable fuels produced from facilities that commence operations after the date of enactment of this Act achieve at least a 20 percent reduction in life cycle greenhouse gas emissions compared to gasoline; but

(ii) shall not—

(I) restrict geographic areas in the contiguous United States in which renewable fuel may be used; or

(II) impose any per-gallon obligation for the use of renewable fuel.

(C) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER REGULATIONS.—Regulations promulgated under this paragraph shall, to the maximum extent practicable, incorporate the program structure, compliance, and reporting requirements established under the final regulations promulgated to implement the renewable fuel program established by the amendment made by section 1501(a)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58; 119 Stat. 1067).

(2) APPLICABLE VOLUME.—

(A) CALENDAR YEARS 2008 THROUGH 2022.—

(i) RENEWABLE FUEL.—For the purpose of paragraph (1), subject to clause (ii), the applicable volume for any of calendar years 2008 through 2022 shall be determined in accordance with the following table:

Calendar year:	Applicable volume of renewable fuel (in billions of gallons):
2008	8.5
2009	10.5
2010	12.0
2011	12.6
2012	13.2
2013	13.8
2014	14.4
2015	15.0
2016	18.0
2017	21.0
2018	24.0
2019	27.0
2020	30.0
2021	33.0
2022	36.0.

(ii) ADVANCED BIOFUELS.—For the purpose of paragraph (1), of the volume of renewable fuel required under clause (i), the applicable volume for any of calendar years 2016 through 2022 for advanced biofuels shall be determined in accordance with the following table:

Calendar year:	Applicable volume of advanced biofuels (in billions of gallons):
2016	3.0
2017	6.0
2018	9.0
2019	12.0
2020	15.0
2021	18.0
2022	21.0.

(B) CALENDAR YEAR 2023 AND THEREAFTER.—Subject to subparagraph (C), for the purposes of paragraph (1), the applicable volume for calendar year 2023 and each calendar year thereafter shall be determined by the President, in coordination with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, based on a review of the implementation of the program during calendar years 2007 through 2022, including a review of—

(i) the impact of renewable fuels on the energy security of the United States;

(ii) the expected annual rate of future production of renewable fuels, including advanced biofuels;

(iii) the impact of renewable fuels on the infrastructure of the United States, including deliverability of materials, goods, and products other than renewable fuel, and the sufficiency of infrastructure to deliver renewable fuel; and

(iv) the impact of the use of renewable fuels on other factors, including job creation, the price and supply of agricultural commodities, rural economic development, and the environment.

(C) MINIMUM APPLICABLE VOLUME.—Subject to subparagraph (D), for the purpose of paragraph (1), the applicable volume for calendar year 2023 and each calendar year thereafter shall be equal to the product obtained by multiplying—

(i) the number of gallons of gasoline that the President estimates will be sold or introduced into commerce in the calendar year; and

(ii) the ratio that—

(I) 36,000,000,000 gallons of renewable fuel; bears to

(II) the number of gallons of gasoline sold or introduced into commerce in calendar year 2022.

(D) MINIMUM PERCENTAGE OF ADVANCED BIOFUEL.—For the purpose of paragraph (1) and subparagraph (C), at least 60 percent of the minimum applicable volume for calendar year 2023 and each calendar year thereafter shall be advanced biofuel.

(b) APPLICABLE PERCENTAGES.—

(1) PROVISION OF ESTIMATE OF VOLUMES OF GASOLINE SALES.—Not later than October 31 of each of calendar years 2008 through 2021, the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration shall provide to the President an estimate, with respect to the following calendar year, of the volumes of gasoline projected to be sold or introduced into commerce in the United States.

(2) DETERMINATION OF APPLICABLE PERCENTAGES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than November 30 of each of calendar years 2008 through 2022, based on the estimate provided under paragraph (1), the President shall determine and publish in the Federal Register, with respect to the following calendar year, the renewable fuel obligation that ensures that the requirements of subsection (a) are met.

(B) REQUIRED ELEMENTS.—The renewable fuel obligation determined for a calendar year under subparagraph (A) shall—

(i) be applicable to refineries, blenders, and importers, as appropriate;

(ii) be expressed in terms of a volume percentage of gasoline sold or introduced into commerce in the United States; and

(iii) subject to paragraph (3)(A), consist of a single applicable percentage that applies to all categories of persons specified in clause (i).

(3) ADJUSTMENTS.—In determining the applicable percentage for a calendar year, the President shall make adjustments—

(A) to prevent the imposition of redundant obligations on any person specified in paragraph (2)(B)(i); and

(B) to account for the use of renewable fuel during the previous calendar year by small refineries that are exempt under subsection (g).

(c) VOLUME CONVERSION FACTORS FOR RENEWABLE FUELS BASED ON ENERGY CONTENT OR REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—For the purpose of subsection (a), the President shall assign values to specific types of advanced biofuels for the purpose of satisfying the fuel volume requirements of subsection (a)(2) in accordance with this subsection.

(2) ENERGY CONTENT RELATIVE TO ETHANOL.—For advanced biofuel, 1 gallon of the advanced biofuel shall be considered to be the equivalent of 1 gallon of renewable fuel multiplied by the ratio that—

(A) the number of British thermal units of energy produced by the combustion of 1 gallon of the advanced biofuel (as measured under conditions determined by the Secretary); bears to

(B) the number of British thermal units of energy produced by the combustion of 1 gallon of pure ethanol (as measured under conditions determined by the Secretary to be comparable to conditions described in subparagraph (A)).

(3) TRANSITIONAL ENERGY-RELATED CONVERSION FACTORS FOR CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ETHANOL.—For any of calendar years 2008 through 2015, 1 gallon of cellulosic biomass ethanol shall be considered to be the equivalent of 2.5 gallons of renewable fuel.

(d) CREDIT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President, in consultation with the Secretary and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall implement a credit program to manage the renewable fuel requirement of this section in a manner consistent with the credit program established by the amendment made by section 1501(a)(2) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (Public Law 109–58; 119 Stat. 1067).

(2) MARKET TRANSPARENCY.—In carrying out the credit program under this subsection, the President shall facilitate price transparency in markets for the sale and trade of credits, with due regard for the public interest, the integrity of those markets, fair competition, and the protection of consumers and agricultural producers.

(e) SEASONAL VARIATIONS IN RENEWABLE FUEL USE.—

(1) STUDY.—For each of calendar years 2008 through 2022, the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration shall conduct a study of renewable fuel blending to determine whether there are excessive seasonal variations in the use of renewable fuel.

(2) REGULATION OF EXCESSIVE SEASONAL VARIATIONS.—If, for any calendar year, the Administrator of the Energy Information Administration, based on the study under paragraph (1), makes the determinations specified in paragraph (3), the President shall promulgate regulations to ensure that 25 percent or more of the quantity of renewable fuel necessary to meet the requirements of subsection (a) is used during each of the 2 periods specified in paragraph (4) of each subsequent calendar year.

(3) DETERMINATIONS.—The determinations referred to in paragraph (2) are that—

(A) less than 25 percent of the quantity of renewable fuel necessary to meet the requirements of subsection (a) has been used during 1 of the 2 periods specified in paragraph (4) of the calendar year;

(B) a pattern of excessive seasonal variation described in subparagraph (A) will continue in subsequent calendar years; and

(C) promulgating regulations or other requirements to impose a 25 percent or more seasonal use of renewable fuels will not significantly—

(i) increase the price of motor fuels to the consumer; or

(ii) prevent or interfere with the attainment of national ambient air quality standards.

(4) PERIODS.—The 2 periods referred to in this subsection are—

(A) April through September; and

(B) January through March and October through December.

(f) WAIVERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, may waive the requirements of subsection (a) in whole or in part on petition by one or more States by reducing the national quantity of renewable fuel required under subsection (a), based on a determination by the President (after public notice and opportunity for comment), that—

(A) implementation of the requirement would severely harm the economy or environment of a State, a region, or the United States; or

(B) extreme and unusual circumstances exist that prevent distribution of an adequate supply of domestically-produced renewable fuel to consumers in the United States.

(2) PETITIONS FOR WAIVERS.—The President, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall approve or disapprove a State petition for a waiver of the requirements of subsection (a) within 30 days after the date on which the petition is received by the President.

(3) TERMINATION OF WAIVERS.—A waiver granted under paragraph (1) shall terminate after 1 year, but may be renewed by the President after consultation with the Secretary of Energy, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

(g) SMALL REFINERIES.—

(1) TEMPORARY EXEMPTION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The requirements of subsection (a) shall not apply to—

(i) small refineries (other than a small refinery described in clause (ii)) until calendar year 2013; and

(ii) small refineries owned by a small business refiner (as defined in section 45H(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986) until calendar year 2015.

(B) EXTENSION OF EXEMPTION.—

(i) STUDY BY SECRETARY.—Not later than December 31, 2008, the Secretary shall submit to the President and Congress a report describing the results of a study to determine whether compliance with the requirements of subsection (a) would impose a disproportionate economic hardship on small refineries.

(ii) EXTENSION OF EXEMPTION.—In the case of a small refinery that the Secretary determines under clause (i) would be subject to a disproportionate economic hardship if required to comply with subsection (a), the President shall extend the exemption under subparagraph (A) for the small refinery for a period of not less than 2 additional years.

(2) PETITIONS BASED ON DISPROPORTIONATE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP.—

(A) EXTENSION OF EXEMPTION.—A small refinery may at any time petition the President for an extension of the exemption under paragraph (1) for the reason of disproportionate economic hardship.

(B) EVALUATION OF PETITIONS.—In evaluating a petition under subparagraph (A), the President, in consultation with the Secretary, shall consider the findings of the study under paragraph (1)(B) and other economic factors.

(C) DEADLINE FOR ACTION ON PETITIONS.—The President shall act on any petition submitted by a small refinery for a hardship exemption not later than 90 days after the date of receipt of the petition.

(3) OPT-IN FOR SMALL REFINERIES.—A small refinery shall be subject to the requirements of subsection (a) if the small refinery notifies the President that the small refinery waives the exemption under paragraph (1).

(h) PENALTIES AND ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) CIVIL PENALTIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Any person that violates a regulation promulgated under subsection (a), or that fails to furnish any information required under such a regulation, shall be liable to the United States for a civil penalty of not more than the total of—

(i) $25,000 for each day of the violation; and

(ii) the amount of economic benefit or savings received by the person resulting from the violation, as determined by the President.

(B) COLLECTION.—Civil penalties under subparagraph (A) shall be assessed by, and collected in a civil action brought by, the Secretary or such other officer of the United States as is designated by the President.

(2) INJUNCTIVE AUTHORITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The district courts of the United States shall have jurisdiction to—

(i) restrain a violation of a regulation promulgated under subsection (a);

(ii) award other appropriate relief; and

(iii) compel the furnishing of information required under the regulation.

(B) ACTIONS.—An action to restrain such violations and compel such actions shall be brought by and in the name of the United States.

(C) SUBPOENAS.—In the action, a subpoena for a witness who is required to attend a district court in any district may apply in any other district.

(i) VOLUNTARY LABELING PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall establish criteria for a system of voluntary labeling of renewable fuels based on life cycle greenhouse gas emissions.

(2) CONSUMER EDUCATION.—The President shall ensure that the labeling system under this subsection provides useful information to consumers making fuel purchases.

(3) FLEXIBILITY.—In carrying out this subsection, the President may establish more than 1 label, as appropriate.

(j) STUDY OF IMPACT OF RENEWABLE FUEL STANDARD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall enter into an arrangement with the National Academy of Sciences under which the Academy shall conduct a study to assess the impact of the requirements described in subsection (a)(2) on each industry relating to the production of feed grains, livestock, food, and energy.

(2) PARTICIPATION.—In conducting the study under paragraph (1), the National Academy of Sciences shall seek the participation, and consider the input, of—

(A) producers of feed grains;

(B) producers of livestock, poultry, and pork products;

(C) producers of food and food products;

(D) producers of energy;

(E) individuals and entities interested in issues relating to conservation, the environment, and nutrition; and

(F) users of renewable fuels.

(3) CONSIDERATIONS.—In conducting the study, the National Academy of Sciences shall consider—

(A) the likely impact on domestic animal agriculture feedstocks that, in any crop year, are significantly below current projections; and

(B) policy options to alleviate the impact on domestic animal agriculture feedstocks

that are significantly below current projections.

(4) COMPONENTS.—The study shall include—

(A) a description of the conditions under which the requirements described in subsection (a)(2) should be suspended or reduced to prevent adverse impacts to domestic animal agriculture feedstocks described in paragraph (3)(B); and

(B) recommendations for the means by which the Federal Government could prevent or minimize adverse economic hardships and impacts.

(5) DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION OF STUDY.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that describes the results of the study.

(6) PERIODIC REVIEWS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—To allow for the appropriate adjustment of the requirements described in subsection (a)(2), the Secretary shall conduct periodic reviews of—

(i) existing technologies;

(ii) the feasibility of achieving compliance with the requirements; and

(iii) the impacts of the requirements described in subsection (a)(2) on each individual and entity described in paragraph (2).

(k) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Except as otherwise specifically provided in this section, this section takes effect on the date on which the National Academies of Science completes the study under subsection (j).

SEC. 9112. PRODUCTION OF RENEWABLE FUEL USING RENEWABLE ENERGY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FACILITY.—The term ''facility'' means a facility used for the production of renewable fuel.

(2) RENEWABLE ENERGY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''renewable energy'' has the meaning given the term in section 203(b) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15852(b)).

(B) INCLUSION.—The term ''renewable energy'' includes biogas produced through the conversion of organic matter from renewable biomass.

(b) ADDITIONAL CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The President shall provide a credit under the program established under section 9111(d) to the owner of a facility that uses renewable energy to displace more than 90 percent of the fossil fuel normally used in the production of renewable fuel.

(2) CREDIT AMOUNT.—The President may provide the credit in a quantity that is not more than the equivalent of 1.5 gallons of renewable fuel for each gallon of renewable fuel produced in a facility described in paragraph (1).

SEC. 9113. SENSE OF CONGRESS RELATING TO THE USE OF RENEWABLE RESOURCES TO GENERATE ENERGY.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

(1) the United States has a quantity of renewable energy resources that is sufficient to supply a significant portion of the energy needs of the United States;

(2) the agricultural, forestry, and working land of the United States can help ensure a sustainable domestic energy system;

(3) accelerated development and use of renewable energy technologies provide numerous benefits to the United States, including improved national security, improved balance of payments, healthier rural economies, improved environmental quality, and abundant, reliable, and affordable energy for all citizens of the United States;

(4) the production of transportation fuels from renewable energy would help the United States meet rapidly growing domestic and global energy demands, reduce the dependence of the United States on energy imported from volatile regions of the world that are politically unstable, stabilize the cost and availability of energy, and safeguard the economy and security of the United States;

(5) increased energy production from domestic renewable resources would attract substantial new investments in energy infrastructure, create economic growth, develop new jobs for the citizens of the United States, and increase the income for farm, ranch, and forestry jobs in the rural regions of the United States;

(6) increased use of renewable energy is practical and can be cost effective with the implementation of supportive policies and proper incentives to stimulate markets and infrastructure; and

(7) public policies aimed at enhancing renewable energy production and accelerating technological improvements will further reduce energy costs over time and increase market demand.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that it is the goal of the United States that, not later than January 1, 2025, the agricultural, forestry, and working land of the United States should—

(1) provide from renewable resources not less than 25 percent of the total energy consumed in the United States; and

(2) continue to produce safe, abundant, and affordable food, feed, and fiber.

PART II—RENEWABLE FUELS INFRASTRUCTURE

SEC. 9121. INFRASTRUCTURE PILOT PROGRAM FOR RENEWABLE FUELS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall establish a competitive grant pilot program (referred to in this section as the ''pilot program''), to be administered through the Vehicle Technology Deployment Program of the Department of Energy, to provide not more than 10 geographically-dispersed project grants to State governments, Indian tribal governments, local governments, metropolitan transportation authorities, or partnerships of those entities to carry out 1 or more projects for the purposes described in subsection (b).

(b) GRANT PURPOSES.—A grant under this section shall be used for the establishment of refueling infrastructure corridors, as designated by the Secretary, for gasoline blends that contain not less than 11 percent, and not more than 85 percent, renewable fuel or diesel fuel that contains at least 10 percent renewable fuel, including—

(1) installation of infrastructure and equipment necessary to ensure adequate distribution of renewable fuels within the corridor;

(2) installation of infrastructure and equipment necessary to directly support vehicles powered by renewable fuels; and

(3) operation and maintenance of infrastructure and equipment installed as part of a project funded by the grant.

(c) APPLICATIONS.—

(1) REQUIREMENTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue requirements for use in applying for grants under the pilot program.

(B) MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS.—At a minimum, the Secretary shall require that an application for a grant under this section—

(i) be submitted by—

(I) the head of a State, tribal, or local government or a metropolitan transportation authority, or any combination of those entities; and

(II) a registered participant in the Vehicle Technology Deployment Program of the Department of Energy; and

(ii) include—

(I) a description of the project proposed in the application, including the ways in which the project meets the requirements of this section;

(II) an estimate of the degree of use of the project, including the estimated size of fleet of vehicles operated with renewable fuel available within the geographic region of the corridor, measured as a total quantity and a percentage;

(III) an estimate of the potential petroleum displaced as a result of the project (measured as a total quantity and a percentage), and a plan to collect and disseminate petroleum displacement and other relevant data relating to the project to be funded under the grant, over the expected life of the project;

(IV) a description of the means by which the project will be sustainable without Federal assistance after the completion of the term of the grant;

(V) a complete description of the costs of the project, including acquisition, construction, operation, and maintenance costs over the expected life of the project; and

(VI) a description of which costs of the project will be supported by Federal assistance under this subsection.

(2) PARTNERS.—An applicant under paragraph (1) may carry out a project under the pilot program in partnership with public and private entities.

(d) SELECTION CRITERIA.—In evaluating applications under the pilot program, the Secretary shall—

(1) consider the experience of each applicant with previous, similar projects; and

(2) give priority consideration to applications that—

(A) are most likely to maximize displacement of petroleum consumption, measured as a total quantity and a percentage;

(B) are best able to incorporate existing infrastructure while maximizing, to the extent practicable, the use of advanced biofuels;

(C) demonstrate the greatest commitment on the part of the applicant to ensure funding for the proposed project and the greatest likelihood that the project will be maintained or expanded after Federal assistance under this subsection is completed;

(D) represent a partnership of public and private entities; and

(E) exceed the minimum requirements of subsection (c)(1)(B).

(e) PILOT PROJECT REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The Secretary shall provide not more than $20,000,000 in Federal assistance under the pilot program to any applicant.

(2) COST SHARING.—The non-Federal share of the cost of any activity relating to renewable fuel infrastructure development carried out using funds from a grant under this section shall be not less than 20 percent.

(3) MAXIMUM PERIOD OF GRANTS.—The Secretary shall not provide funds to any applicant under the pilot program for more than 2 years.

(4) DEPLOYMENT AND DISTRIBUTION.—The Secretary shall seek, to the maximum extent practicable, to ensure a broad geographic distribution of project sites funded by grants under this section.

(5) TRANSFER OF INFORMATION AND KNOWLEDGE.—The Secretary shall establish mechanisms to ensure that the information and knowledge gained by participants in the pilot program are transferred among the pilot program participants and to other interested parties, including other applicants that submitted applications.

(f) SCHEDULE.—

(1) INITIAL GRANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the

Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register, Commerce Business Daily, and such other publications as the Secretary considers to be appropriate, a notice and request for applications to carry out projects under the pilot program.

(B) DEADLINE.—An application described in subparagraph (A) shall be submitted to the Secretary by not later than 180 days after the date of publication of the notice under that subparagraph.

(C) INITIAL SELECTION.—Not later than 90 days after the date by which applications for grants are due under subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall select by competitive, peer-reviewed proposal up to 5 applications for projects to be awarded a grant under the pilot program.

(2) ADDITIONAL GRANTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall publish in the Federal Register, Commerce Business Daily, and such other publications as the Secretary considers to be appropriate, a notice and request for additional applications to carry out projects under the pilot program that incorporate the information and knowledge obtained through the implementation of the first round of projects authorized under the pilot program.

(B) DEADLINE.—An application described in subparagraph (A) shall be submitted to the Secretary by not later than 180 days after the date of publication of the notice under that subparagraph.

(C) INITIAL SELECTION.—Not later than 90 days after the date by which applications for grants are due under subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall select by competitive, peer-reviewed proposal such additional applications for projects to be awarded a grant under the pilot program as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(g) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—

(1) INITIAL REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date on which grants are awarded under this section, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing—

(A) an identification of the grant recipients and a description of the projects to be funded under the pilot program;

(B) an identification of other applicants that submitted applications for the pilot program but to which funding was not provided; and

(C) a description of the mechanisms used by the Secretary to ensure that the information and knowledge gained by participants in the pilot program are transferred among the pilot program participants and to other interested parties, including other applicants that submitted applications.

(2) EVALUATION.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter until the termination of the pilot program, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report containing an evaluation of the effectiveness of the pilot program, including an assessment of the petroleum displacement and benefits to the environment derived from the projects included in the pilot program.

(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this section $200,000,000, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 9122. BIOENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

Section 931(c) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16231(c)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (2), by striking ''$251,000,000'' and inserting ''$377,000,000''; and

(2) in paragraph (3), by striking ''$274,000,000'' and inserting ''$398,000,000''.

SEC. 9123. BIORESEARCH CENTERS FOR SYSTEMS BIOLOGY PROGRAM.

Section 977(a)(1) of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16317(a)(1)) is amended by inserting before the period at the end the following: '', including the establishment of at least 11 bioresearch centers of varying sizes, as appropriate, that focus on biofuels, of which at least 2 centers shall be located in each of the 4 Petroleum Administration for Defense Districts with no subdistricts and 1 center shall be located in each of the subdistricts of the Petroleum Administration for Defense District with subdistricts''.

SEC. 9124. GRANTS FOR RENEWABLE FUEL PRODUCTION RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN CERTAIN STATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide grants to eligible entities to conduct research into, and develop and implement, renewable fuel production technologies in States with low rates of ethanol production, including low rates of production of cellulosic biomass ethanol, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive a grant under the section, an entity shall—

(1)(A) be an institution of higher education (as defined in section 2 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 15801)) located in a State described in subsection (a);

(B) be an institution—

(i) referred to in section 532 of the Equity in Educational Land-Grant Status Act of 1994 (Public Law 103–382; 7 U.S.C. 301 note);

(ii) that is eligible for a grant under the Tribally Controlled College or University Assistance Act of 1978 (25 U.S.C. 1801 et seq.), including Diné College; or

(iii) that is eligible for a grant under the Navajo Community College Act (25 U.S.C. 640a et seq.); or

(C) be a consortium of such institutions of higher education, industry, State agencies, Indian tribal agencies, or local government agencies located in the State; and

(2) have proven experience and capabilities with relevant technologies.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2010.

SEC. 9125. GRANTS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE FOR TRANSPORTATION OF BIOMASS TO LOCAL BIOREFINERIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a program under which the Secretary shall provide grants to Indian tribal and local governments and other eligible entities (as determined by the Secretary) (referred to in this section as ''eligible entities'') to promote the development of infrastructure to support the separation, production, processing, and transportation of biomass to local biorefineries, including by portable processing equipment.

(b) PHASES.—The Secretary shall conduct the program in the following phases:

(1) DEVELOPMENT.—In the first phase of the program, the Secretary shall make grants to eligible entities to assist the eligible entities in the development of local projects to promote the development of infrastructure to support the separation, production, processing, and transportation of biomass to local biorefineries, including by portable processing equipment.

(2) IMPLEMENTATION.—In the second phase of the program, the Secretary shall make competitive grants to eligible entities to implement projects developed under paragraph (1).

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 9126. BIOREFINERY INFORMATION CENTER.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Secretary of Agriculture, shall establish a biorefinery information center to make available to interested parties information on—

(1) renewable fuel resources, including information on programs and incentives for renewable fuels;

(2) renewable fuel producers;

(3) renewable fuel users; and

(4) potential renewable fuel users.

(b) ADMINISTRATION.—In administering the biorefinery information center, the Secretary shall—

(1) continually update information provided by the center;

(2) make information available to interested parties on the process for establishing a biorefinery; and

(3) make information and assistance provided by the center available through a toll-free telephone number and website.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section.

SEC. 9127. ALTERNATIVE FUEL DATABASE AND MATERIALS.

The Secretary and the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology shall jointly establish and make available to the public—

(1) a database that describes the physical properties of different types of alternative fuel; and

(2) standard reference materials for different types of alternative fuel.

SEC. 9128. FUEL TANK CAP LABELING REQUIREMENT.

Section 406(a) of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13232(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The Federal Trade Commission'' and inserting the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Federal Trade Commission''; and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

''(2) FUEL TANK CAP LABELING REQUIREMENT.—Beginning with model year 2010, the fuel tank cap of each alternative fueled vehicle manufactured for sale in the United States shall be clearly labeled to inform consumers that such vehicle can operate on alternative fuel.''.

SEC. 9129. BIODIESEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report on any research and development challenges inherent in increasing to 5 percent the proportion of diesel fuel sold in the United States that is biodiesel (as defined in section 757 of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 (42 U.S.C. 16105)).

(b) REGULATIONS.—The President shall promulgate regulations providing for the uniform labeling of biodiesel blends that are certified to meet applicable standards published by the American Society for Testing and Materials.

(c) NATIONAL BIODIESEL FUEL QUALITY STANDARD.—

(1) QUALITY REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall promulgate regulations to ensure that each diesel-equivalent fuel derived from renewable biomass and introduced into interstate commerce is tested and certified to comply with applicable standards of the American Society for Testing and Materials.

(2) ENFORCEMENT.—The President shall ensure that all biodiesel entering interstate commerce meets the requirements of paragraph (1).

(3) FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the President to carry out this section:

(A) $3,000,000 for fiscal year 2008.

(B) $3,000,000 for fiscal year 2009.

(C) $3,000,000 for fiscal year 2010.

SEC. 9130. TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS WHO PLANT DEDICATED ENERGY CROPS FOR A LOCAL CELLULOSIC REFINERY.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) CELLULOSIC CROP.—The term ''cellulosic crop'' means a tree or grass that is grown specifically—

(A) to provide raw materials (including feedstocks) for conversion to liquid transportation fuels or chemicals through biochemical or thermochemical processes; or

(B) for energy generation through combustion, pyrolysis, or cofiring.

(2) CELLULOSIC REFINER.—The term ''cellulosic refiner'' means the owner or operator of a cellulosic refinery.

(3) CELLULOSIC REFINERY.—The term ''cellulosic refinery'' means a refinery that processes a cellulosic crop.

(4) QUALIFIED CELLULOSIC CROP.—The term ''qualified cellulosic crop'' means, with respect to an agricultural producer, a cellulosic crop that is—

(A) the subject of a contract or memorandum of understanding between the producer and a cellulosic refiner, under which the producer is obligated to sell the crop to the cellulosic refiner by a certain date; and

(B) produced not more than 70 miles from a cellulosic refinery owned or operated by the cellulosic refiner.

(5) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

(b) TRANSITIONAL ASSISTANCE PAYMENTS.—The Secretary shall make transitional assistance payments to an agricultural producer during the first year in which the producer devotes land to the production of a qualified cellulosic crop.

(c) AMOUNT OF PAYMENT.—

(1) DETERMINED BY FORMULA.—Subject to paragraph (2), the Secretary shall devise a formula to be used to calculate the amount of a payment to be made to an agricultural producer under this section, based on the opportunity cost (as determined in accordance with such standard as the Secretary may establish, taking into consideration land rental rates and other applicable costs) incurred by the producer during the first year in which the producer devotes land to the production of the qualified cellulosic crop.

(2) LIMITATION.—The total of the amount paid to a producer under this section shall not exceed an amount equal to 25 percent of the amounts made available under subsection (e) for the applicable fiscal year.

(d) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall promulgate such regulations as the Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out this section.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $4,088,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.

SEC. 9131. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN SUPPORT OF LOW-CARBON FUELS.

(a) DECLARATION OF POLICY.—Congress declares that, in order to achieve maximum reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, enhance national security, and ensure the protection of wildlife habitat, biodiversity, water quality, air quality, and rural and regional economies throughout the lifecycle of each low-carbon fuel, it is necessary and desirable to undertake a combination of basic and applied research, as well as technology development and demonstration, involving the colleges and universities of the United States, in partnership with the Federal Government, State governments, and the private sector.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of this section is to provide for research support to facilitate the development of sustainable markets and technologies to produce and use woody biomass and other low-carbon fuels for the production of thermal and electric energy, biofuels, and bioproducts.

(c) DEFINITION OF FUEL EMISSION BASELINE.—In this section, the term ''fuel emission baseline'' means the average lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions per unit of energy of the fossil fuel component of conventional transportation fuels in commerce in the United States in calendar year 2008, as determined by the President.

(d) GRANT PROGRAM.—The President shall establish a program to provide to eligible entities (as identified by the President) grants for use in—

(1) providing financial support for not more than 4 nor less than 6 demonstration facilities that—

(A) use woody biomass to deploy advanced technologies for production of thermal and electric energy, biofuels, and bioproducts; and

(B) are targeted at regional feedstocks and markets;

(2) conducting targeted research for the development of cellulosic ethanol and other liquid fuels from woody or other biomass that may be used in transportation or stationary applications, such as industrial processes or industrial, commercial, and residential heating;

(3) conducting research into the best scientifically-based and periodically-updated methods of assessing and certifying the impacts of each low-carbon fuel with respect to—

(A) the reduction in lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions of each fuel as compared to—

(i) the fuel emission baseline; and

(ii) the greenhouse gas emissions of other sectors, such as the agricultural, industrial, and manufacturing sectors;

(B) the contribution of the fuel toward enhancing the energy security of the United States by displacing imported petroleum and petroleum products;

(C) any impacts of the fuel on wildlife habitat, biodiversity, water quality, and air quality; and

(D) any effect of the fuel with respect to rural and regional economies;

(4) conducting research to determine to what extent the use of low-carbon fuels in the transportation sector would impact greenhouse gas emissions in other sectors, such as the agricultural, industrial, and manufacturing sectors;

(5) conducting research for the development of the supply infrastructure that may provide renewable biomass feedstocks in a consistent, predictable, and environmentally-sustainable manner;

(6) conducting research for the development of supply infrastructure that may provide renewable low-carbon fuels in a consistent, predictable, and environmentally-sustainable manner; and

(7) conducting policy research on the global movement of low-carbon fuels in a consistent, predictable, and environmentally-sustainable manner.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—Of the funding authorized under section 9122, there are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

(1) $45,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;
(2) $50,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;
(3) $55,000,000 for fiscal year 2011;
(4) $60,000,000 for fiscal year 2012; and
(5) $65,000,000 for fiscal year 2013.

PART III—STUDIES

SEC. 9141. STUDY OF ADVANCED BIOFUELS TECHNOLOGIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 2012, the Secretary shall offer to enter into a contract with the National Academy of Sciences under which the Academy shall conduct a study of technologies relating to the production, transportation, and distribution of advanced biofuels.

(b) SCOPE.—In conducting the study, the Academy shall—

(1) include an assessment of the maturity of advanced biofuels technologies;

(2) consider whether the rate of development of those technologies will be sufficient to meet the advanced biofuel standards required under section 9111;

(3) consider the effectiveness of the research and development programs and activities of the Department of Energy relating to advanced biofuel technologies; and

(4) make policy recommendations to accelerate the development of those technologies to commercial viability, as appropriate.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than November 30, 2014, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report describing the results of the study conducted under this section.

SEC. 9142. STUDY OF INCREASED CONSUMPTION OF ETHANOL-BLENDED GASOLINE WITH HIGHER LEVELS OF ETHANOL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in cooperation with the Secretary of Agriculture, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Secretary of Transportation, and after providing notice and an opportunity for public comment, shall conduct a study of the feasibility of increasing consumption in the United States of ethanol-blended gasoline with levels of ethanol that are not less than 10 percent and not more than 40 percent.

(b) STUDY.—The study under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a review of production and infrastructure constraints on increasing consumption of ethanol;

(2) an evaluation of the economic, market, and energy-related impacts of State and regional differences in ethanol blends;

(3) an evaluation of the economic, market, and energy-related impacts on gasoline retailers and consumers of separate and distinctly labeled fuel storage facilities and dispensers;

(4) an evaluation of the environmental impacts of mid-level ethanol blends on evaporative and exhaust emissions from on-road, off-road, and marine engines, recreational boats, vehicles, and equipment;

(5) an evaluation of the impacts of mid-level ethanol blends on the operation, durability, and performance of on-road, off-road, and marine engines, recreational boats, vehicles, and equipment; and

(6) an evaluation of the safety impacts of mid-level ethanol blends on consumers that own and operate off-road and marine engines, recreational boats, vehicles, or equipment.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing the results of the study conducted under this section.

SEC. 9143. PIPELINE FEASIBILITY STUDY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in coordination with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Secretary of Transportation, shall conduct a study of the feasibility of the construction of dedicated ethanol pipelines.

(b) FACTORS.—In conducting the study, the Secretary shall consider—

(1) the quantity of ethanol production that would make dedicated pipelines economically viable;

(2) existing or potential barriers to dedicated ethanol pipelines, including technical, siting, financing, and regulatory barriers;

(3) market risk (including throughput risk) and means of mitigating the risk;

(4) regulatory, financing, and siting options that would mitigate risk in those areas and help ensure the construction of 1 or more dedicated ethanol pipelines;

(5) financial incentives that may be necessary for the construction of dedicated ethanol pipelines, including the return on equity that sponsors of the initial dedicated ethanol pipelines will require to invest in the pipelines;

(6) technical factors that may compromise the safe transportation of ethanol in pipelines, identifying remedial and preventative measures to ensure pipeline integrity; and

(7) such other factors as the Secretary considers appropriate.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 15 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing the results of the study conducted under this section.

SEC. 9144. STUDY OF OPTIMIZATION OF FLEXIBLE FUELED VEHICLES TO USE E–85 FUEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall conduct a study of methods of increasing the fuel efficiency of flexible fueled vehicles by optimizing flexible fueled vehicles to operate using E–85 fuel.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Natural Resources of the House of Representatives a report that describes the results of the study, including any recommendations of the Secretary.

SEC. 9145. STUDY OF CREDITS FOR USE OF RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY IN ELECTRIC VEHICLES.

(a) DEFINITION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE.—In this section, the term ''electric vehicle'' means an electric motor vehicle (as defined in section 601 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (42 U.S.C. 13271)) for which the rechargeable storage battery—

(1) receives a charge directly from a source of electric current that is external to the vehicle; and

(2) provides a minimum of 80 percent of the motive power of the vehicle.

(b) STUDY.—The Secretary shall conduct a study on the feasibility of issuing credits under the program established under section 9111(d) to electric vehicles powered by electricity produced from renewable energy sources.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that describes the results of the study, including a description of—

(1) existing programs and studies on the use of renewable electricity as a means of powering electric vehicles; and

(2) alternatives for—

(A) designing a pilot program to determine the feasibility of using renewable electricity to power electric vehicles as an adjunct to a renewable fuels mandate;

(B) allowing the use, under the pilot program designed under subparagraph (A), of electricity generated from nuclear energy as an additional source of supply;

(C) identifying the source of electricity used to power electric vehicles; and

(D) equating specific quantities of electricity to quantities of renewable fuel under section 9111(d).

SEC. 9146. STUDY OF ENGINE DURABILITY ASSOCIATED WITH THE USE OF BIODIESEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall initiate a study on the effects of the use of biodiesel on engine durability.

(b) COMPONENTS.—The study under this section shall include—

(1) an assessment of whether the use of biodiesel in conventional diesel engines lessens engine durability; and

(2) an assessment of the effects referred to in subsection (a) with respect to biodiesel blends at varying concentrations, including—

(A) B5;

(B) B10;

(C) B20; and

(D) B30.

SEC. 9147. STUDY OF INCENTIVES FOR RENEWABLE FUELS.

(a) STUDY.—The President shall conduct a study of the renewable fuels industry and markets in the United States, including—

(1) the costs to produce conventional and advanced biofuels;

(2) the factors affecting the future market prices for those biofuels, including world oil prices; and

(3) the financial incentives necessary to enhance, to the maximum extent practicable, the biofuels industry of the United States to reduce the dependence of the United States on foreign oil during calendar years 2011 through 2030.

(b) GOALS.—The study shall include an analysis of the options for financial incentives and the advantage and disadvantages of each option.

(c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the President shall submit to Congress a report that describes the results of the study.

SEC. 9148. STUDY OF STREAMLINED LIFECYCLE ANALYSIS TOOLS FOR THE EVALUATION OF RENEWABLE CARBON CONTENT OF BIOFUELS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Agriculture and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall conduct a study of—

(1) published methods for evaluating the lifecycle fossil and renewable carbon content of fuels, including conventional and advanced biofuels; and

(2) methods for performing simplified, streamlined lifecycle analyses of the fossil and renewable carbon content of biofuels.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that describes the results of the study under subsection (a), including recommendations for a method for performing a simplified, streamlined lifecycle analysis of the fossil and renewable carbon content of biofuels that includes—

(1) carbon inputs to feedstock production; and

(2) carbon inputs to the biofuel production process, including the carbon associated with electrical and thermal energy inputs.

SEC. 9149. STUDY OF EFFECTS OF ETHANOL-BLENDED GASOLINE ON OFF-ROAD VEHICLES.

(a) STUDY.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall conduct a study to determine the effects of ethanol-blended gasoline on off-road vehicles and recreational boats.

(2) EVALUATION.—The study shall include an evaluation of the operational, safety, durability, and environmental impacts of ethanol-blended gasoline on off-road and marine engines, recreational boats, and related equipment.

(b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report describing the results of the study.

SEC. 9150. STUDY OF OFFSHORE WIND RESOURCES.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION.—The term ''eligible institution'' means a college or university that—

(A) as of the date of enactment of this Act, has an offshore wind power research program; and

(B) is located in a region of the United States that is in reasonable proximity to the eastern outer Continental Shelf, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) SECRETARY.—The term ''Secretary'' means the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the Director of the Minerals Management Service.

(b) STUDY.—The Secretary, in cooperation with an eligible institution, as selected by the Secretary, shall conduct a study to assess each offshore wind resource located in the region of the eastern outer Continental Shelf.

(c) REPORT.—Upon completion of the study under subsection (b), the Secretary shall submit to Congress a report that includes—

(1) a description of—

(A) the locations and total power generation resources of the best offshore wind resources located in the region of the eastern outer Continental Shelf, as determined by the Secretary;

(B) based on conflicting zones relating to any infrastructure that, as of the date of enactment of this Act, is located in close proximity to any offshore wind resource, the likely exclusion zones of each offshore wind resource described in subparagraph (A);

(C) the relationship of the temporal variation of each offshore wind resource described in subparagraph (A) with—

(i) any other offshore wind resource; and

(ii) with loads and corresponding system operator markets;

(D) the geological compatibility of each offshore wind resource described in subparagraph (A) with any potential technology relating to sea floor towers; and

(E) with respect to each area in which an offshore wind resource described in subparagraph (A) is located, the relationship of the authority under any coastal management plan of the State in which the area is located with the Federal Government; and

(2) recommendations on the manner by which to handle offshore wind intermittence.

(d) INCORPORATION OF STUDY.—Effective beginning on the date on which the Secretary completes the study under subsection (b), the Secretary shall incorporate the findings included in the report under subsection (c) into the planning process documents for any wind energy lease sale—

(1) relating to any offshore wind resource located in any appropriate area of the outer Continental Shelf, as determined by the Secretary; and

(2) that is completed on or after the date of enactment of this Act.

(e) EFFECT.—Nothing in this section—

(1) delays any final regulation to be promulgated by the Secretary of the Interior to carry out section 8(p) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (43 U.S.C. 1337(p)); or

(2) limits the authority of the Secretary to lease any offshore wind resource located in any appropriate area of the outer Continental Shelf, as determined by the Secretary.

(f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $5,000,000, to remain available until expended.

PART IV—ENVIRONMENTAL SAFEGUARDS

SEC. 9161. GRANTS FOR PRODUCTION OF ADVANCED BIOFUELS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a grant program to encourage the production of advanced biofuels.

(b) REQUIREMENTS AND PRIORITY.—In making grants under this section, the Secretary—

(1) shall make awards to the proposals for advanced biofuels with the greatest reduction in lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions compared to the comparable motor vehicle fuel lifecycle emissions during calendar year 2007; and

(2) shall not make an award to a project that does not achieve at least a 50-percent reduction in such lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section $500,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2008 through 2015.

SEC. 9162. STUDIES OF EFFECTS OF RENEWABLE FUEL USE.

Section 211 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(t) STUDIES OF EFFECTS OF RENEWABLE FUEL USE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subsection, the Administrator shall offer to enter into appropriate arrangements with the National Academy of Sciences and any other independent research institute determined to be appropriate by the Administrator, in consultation with appropriate Federal agencies, to conduct 2 studies on the effects of increased domestic use of renewable fuels under the Renewable Fuels, Consumer Protection, and Energy Efficiency Act of 2007.

''(2) MATTERS TO BE STUDIED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The studies under this subsection shall assess, quantify, and recommend analytical methodologies in relation to environmental changes associated with the increased domestic use of renewable fuels under the Renewable Fuels, Consumer Protection, and Energy Efficiency Act of 2007, including production, handling, transportation, and use of the fuels.

''(B) SPECIFIC MATTERS.—The studies shall include an assessment and quantification, to the maximum extent practicable, of significant changes—

''(i) in air and water quality and the quality of other natural resources;

''(ii) in land use patterns;

''(iii) in the rate of deforestation in the United States and globally;

''(iv) to greenhouse gas emissions;

''(v) to significant geographic areas and habitats with high biodiversity values (including species richness, the presence of species that are exclusively native to a place, or the presence of endangered species); or

''(vi) in the long-term capacity of the United States to produce biomass feedstocks.

''(C) BASELINE COMPARISON.—In making an assessment or quantifying effects of increased use of renewable fuels, the studies shall use an appropriate baseline involving increased use of the conventional transportation fuels, if displacement by use of renewable fuels had not occurred.

''(3) REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—The Administrator shall submit to Congress a report summarizing the assessments and findings of—

''(A) the first study, along with any recommendations by the Administrator to mitigate adverse effects identified by the study, not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of this subsection; and

''(B) the second study, along with any recommendations by the Administrator to mitigate adverse effects identified by the study, not later December 31, 2015.''.

SEC. 9163. INTEGRATED CONSIDERATION OF WATER QUALITY IN DETERMINATIONS ON FUELS AND FUEL ADDITIVES.

Section 211(c)(1) of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) by striking ''nonroad vehicle (A) if in the judgment of the Administrator'' and inserting ''nonroad vehicle—

''(A) if, in the judgment of the Administrator, any fuel or fuel additive or'';

(2) in subparagraph (A), by striking ''air pollution which'' and inserting ''air pollution or water pollution (including any degradation in the quality of groundwater) that''; and

(3) by striking '', or (B) if'' and inserting the following: ''; or

''(B) if''.

SEC. 9164. ANTI-BACKSLIDING.

Section 211 of the Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. 7545) (as amended by section 9162) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(u) PREVENTION OF AIR QUALITY DETERIORATION.—

''(1) STUDY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of the Renewable Fuels, Consumer Protection, and Energy Efficiency Act of 2007, the Administrator shall complete a study to determine whether the renewable fuel volumes required by that Act will adversely impact air quality as a result of changes in vehicle and engine emissions of air pollutants regulated under this Act.

''(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—The study shall include consideration of—

''(i) different blend levels, types of renewable fuels, and available vehicle technologies; and

''(ii) appropriate national, regional, and local air quality control measures.

''(2) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 3 years after the date of enactment of the Renewable Fuels, Consumer Protection, and Energy Efficiency Act of 2007, the Administrator shall—

''(A) promulgate regulations to implement appropriate measures to mitigate, to the greatest extent achievable, considering the results of the study under paragraph (1), any adverse impacts on air quality, as the result of the renewable volumes required by that Act; or

''(B) make a determination that no such measures are necessary.

''(3) OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in the Renewable Fuels, Consumer Protection, and Energy Efficiency Act of 2007 supercedes or otherwise affects any Federal or State requirement under any other provision of law that is more stringent than any requirement of this title.''.

SA 3615. Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in title XI, insert the following:

Subtitle ____—Public Safety Officers

SEC. _____1. SHORT TITLE.

This subtitle may be cited as the ''Public Safety Employer-Employee Cooperation Act of 2007''.

SEC. _____2. DECLARATION OF PURPOSE AND POLICY.

The Congress declares that the following is the policy of the United States:

(1) Labor-management relationships and partnerships are based on trust, mutual respect, open communication, bilateral consensual problem solving, and shared accountability. Labor-management cooperation fully utilizes the strengths of both parties to best serve the interests of the public, operating as a team, to carry out the public safety mission in a quality work environment. In many public safety agencies it is the union that provides the institutional stability as elected leaders and appointees come and go.

(2) State and local public safety officers play an essential role in the efforts of the United States to detect, prevent, and respond to terrorist attacks, and to respond to natural disasters, hazardous materials, and other mass casualty incidents. State and local public safety officers, as first responders, are a component of our Nation's National Incident Management System, developed by the Department of Homeland Security to coordinate response to and recovery from terrorism, major natural disasters, and other major emergencies. Public safety employer-employee cooperation is essential in meeting these needs and is, therefore, in the National interest.

(3) The Federal Government needs to encourage conciliation, mediation, and voluntary arbitration to aid and encourage employers and the representatives of their employees to reach and maintain agreements concerning rates of pay, hours, and working conditions, and to make all reasonable efforts through negotiations to settle their differences by mutual agreement reached through collective bargaining or by such methods as may be provided for in any applicable agreement for the settlement of disputes.

(4) The absence of adequate cooperation between public safety employers and employees has implications for the security of employees and can affect interstate and intrastate commerce. The lack of such labor-management cooperation can detrimentally impact the upgrading of police and fire services of local communities, the health and well-being of public safety officers, and the morale of the fire and police departments. Additionally, these factors could have significant commercial repercussions. Moreover, providing minimal standards for collective bargaining negotiations in the public safety sector can prevent industrial strife between labor and management that interferes with the normal flow of commerce.

SEC. _____3. DEFINITIONS.

In this subtitle:

(1) AUTHORITY.—The term ''Authority'' means the Federal Labor Relations Authority.

(2) EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PERSONNEL.—The term ''emergency medical services personnel'' means an individual who provides out-of-hospital emergency medical care, including an emergency medical technician, paramedic, or first responder.

(3) EMPLOYER; PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY.—The terms ''employer'' and ''public safety agency'' mean any State, or political subdivision of a State, that employs public safety officers.

(4) FIREFIGHTER.—The term ''firefighter'' has the meaning given the term ''employee engaged in fire protection activities'' in section 3(y) of the Fair Labor Standards Act (29 U.S.C. 203(y)).

(5) LABOR ORGANIZATION.—The term ''labor organization'' means an organization composed in whole or in part of employees, in which employees participate, and which represents such employees before public safety

agencies concerning grievances, conditions of employment, and related matters.

(6) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.—The term ''law enforcement officer'' has the meaning given such term in section 1204 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796b).

(7) MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEE.—The term ''management employee'' has the meaning given such term under applicable State law in effect on the date of enactment of this subtitle. If no such State law is in effect, the term means an individual employed by a public safety employer in a position that requires or authorizes the individual to formulate, determine, or influence the policies of the employer.

(8) PERSON.—The term ''person'' means an individual or a labor organization.

(9) PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER.—The term ''public safety officer''—

(A) means an employee of a public safety agency who is a law enforcement officer, a firefighter, or an emergency medical services personnel;

(B) includes an individual who is temporarily transferred to a supervisory or management position; and

(C) does not include a permanent supervisory or management employee.

(10) STATE.—The term ''State'' means each of the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, and any territory or possession of the United States.

(11) SUBSTANTIALLY PROVIDES.—The term ''substantially provides'' means compliance with the essential requirements of this subtitle, specifically, the right to form and join a labor organization, the right to bargain over wages, hours, and conditions of employment, the right to sign an enforceable contract, and availability of some form of mechanism to break an impasse, such as arbitration, mediation, or fact-finding.

(12) SUPERVISORY EMPLOYEE.—The term ''supervisory employee'' has the meaning given such term under applicable State law in effect on the date of enactment of this subtitle. If no such State law is in effect, the term means an individual, employed by a public safety employer, who—

(A) has the authority in the interest of the employer to hire, direct, assign, promote, reward, transfer, furlough, lay off, recall, suspend, discipline, or remove public safety officers, to adjust their grievances, or to effectively recommend such action, if the exercise of the authority is not merely routine or clerical in nature but requires the consistent exercise of independent judgment; and

(B) devotes a majority of time at work exercising such authority.

SEC. _____4. DETERMINATION OF RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

(a) DETERMINATION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this subtitle, the Authority shall make a determination as to whether a State substantially provides for the rights and responsibilities described in subsection (b). In making such determinations, the Authority shall consider and give weight, to the maximum extent practicable, to the opinion of affected parties.

(2) SUBSEQUENT DETERMINATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—A determination made pursuant to paragraph (1) shall remain in effect unless and until the Authority issues a subsequent determination, in accordance with the procedures set forth in subparagraph (B).

(B) PROCEDURES FOR SUBSEQUENT DETERMINATIONS.—Upon establishing that a material change in State law or its interpretation has occurred, an employer or a labor organization may submit a written request for a subsequent determination. If satisfied that a material change in State law or its interpretation has occurred, the Authority shall issue a subsequent determination not later than 30 days after receipt of such request.

(3) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—Any person or employer aggrieved by a determination of the Authority under this section may, during the 60-day period beginning on the date on which the determination was made, petition any United States Court of Appeals in the circuit in which the person or employer resides or transacts business or in the District of Columbia circuit, for judicial review. In any judicial review of a determination by the Authority, the procedures contained in subsections (c) and (d) of section 7123 of title 5, United States Code, shall be followed.

(b) RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.—In making a determination described in subsection (a), the Authority shall consider whether State law provides rights and responsibilities comparable to or greater than the following:

(1) Granting public safety officers the right to form and join a labor organization, which may exclude management employees and supervisory employees, that is, or seeks to be, recognized as the exclusive bargaining representative of such employees.

(2) Requiring public safety employers to recognize the employees' labor organization (freely chosen by a majority of the employees), to agree to bargain with the labor organization, and to commit any agreements to writing in a contract or memorandum of understanding.

(3) Permitting bargaining over hours, wages, and terms and conditions of employment.

(4) Making available an interest impasse resolution mechanism, such as fact-finding, mediation, arbitration, or comparable procedures.

(5) Requiring enforcement through State courts of—

(A) all rights, responsibilities, and protections provided by State law and enumerated in this section; and

(B) any written contract or memorandum of understanding.

(c) FAILURE TO MEET REQUIREMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Authority determines, acting pursuant to its authority under subsection (a), that a State does not substantially provide for the rights and responsibilities described in subsection (b), such State shall be subject to the regulations and procedures described in section _____5.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraph (1) shall take effect on the date that is 2 years after the date of enactment of this subtitle.

SEC. _____5. ROLE OF FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this subtitle, the Authority shall issue regulations in accordance with the rights and responsibilities described in section _____4(b) establishing collective bargaining procedures for employers and public safety officers in States which the Authority has determined, acting pursuant to section _____4(a), do not substantially provide for such rights and responsibilities.

(b) ROLE OF THE FEDERAL LABOR RELATIONS AUTHORITY.—The Authority, to the extent provided in this subtitle and in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Authority, shall—

(1) determine the appropriateness of units for labor organization representation;

(2) supervise or conduct elections to determine whether a labor organization has been selected as an exclusive representative by a voting majority of the employees in an appropriate unit;

(3) resolve issues relating to the duty to bargain in good faith;

(4) conduct hearings and resolve complaints of unfair labor practices;

(5) resolve exceptions to the awards of arbitrators;

(6) protect the right of each employee to form, join, or assist any labor organization, or to refrain from any such activity, freely and without fear of penalty or reprisal, and protect each employee in the exercise of such right; and

(7) take such other actions as are necessary and appropriate to effectively administer this subtitle, including issuing subpoenas requiring the attendance and testimony of witnesses and the production of documentary or other evidence from any place in the United States, and administering oaths, taking or ordering the taking of depositions, ordering responses to written interrogatories, and receiving and examining witnesses.

(c) ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) AUTHORITY TO PETITION COURT.—The Authority may petition any United States Court of Appeals with jurisdiction over the parties, or the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, to enforce any final orders under this section, and for appropriate temporary relief or a restraining order. Any petition under this section shall be conducted in accordance with subsections (c) and (d) of section 7123 of title 5, United States Code.

(2) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—Unless the Authority has filed a petition for enforcement as provided in paragraph (1), any party has the right to file suit in a State court of competent jurisdiction to enforce compliance with the regulations issued by the Authority pursuant to subsection (b), and to enforce compliance with any order issued by the Authority pursuant to this section. The right provided by this subsection to bring a suit to enforce compliance with any order issued by the Authority pursuant to this section shall terminate upon the filing of a petition seeking the same relief by the Authority.

SEC. _____6. STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS PROHIBITED.

(a) PROHIBITION.—An employer, public safety officer, or labor organization may not engage in a lockout, sickout, work slowdown, strike, or any other action that will measurably disrupt the delivery of emergency services and is designed to compel an employer, public safety officer, or labor organization to agree to the terms of a proposed contract.

(b) MANDATORY TERMS AND CONDITIONS.—It shall not be a violation of subsection (a) for a public safety officer or labor organization to refuse to carry out services that are not required under the mandatory terms and conditions of employment applicable to the public safety officer or labor organization.

SEC. _____7. EXISTING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNITS AND AGREEMENTS.

A certification, recognition, election-held, collective bargaining agreement or memorandum of understanding which has been issued, approved, or ratified by any public employee relations board or commission or by any State or political subdivision or its agents (management officials) and is in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this subtitle shall not be invalidated by the enactment of this subtitle.

SEC. _____8. CONSTRUCTION AND COMPLIANCE.

(a) CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed—

(1) to preempt or limit the remedies, rights, and procedures of any law of any State or political subdivision of any State or jurisdiction that provides greater or comparable rights and responsibilities than the rights and responsibilities described in section _____4(b);

(2) to prevent a State from enforcing a right-to-work law that prohibits employers

and labor organizations from negotiating provisions in a labor agreement that require union membership or payment of union fees as a condition of employment;

(3) to preempt or limit any State law in effect on the date of enactment of this subtitle that provides for the rights and responsibilities described in section _____4(b) solely because such State law permits an employee to appear on the employee's own behalf with respect to the employee's employment relations with the public safety agency involved;

(4) to preempt or limit any State law in effect on the date of enactment of this subtitle that provides for the rights and responsibilities described in section _____4(b) solely because such State law excludes from its coverage employees of a State militia or national guard;

(5) to permit parties in States subject to the regulations and procedures described in section _____5 to negotiate provisions that would prohibit an employee from engaging in part-time employment or volunteer activities during off-duty hours;

(6) to prohibit a State from exempting from coverage under this subtitle a political subdivision of the State that has a population of less than 5,000 or that employs less than 25 full-time employees; or

(7) to preempt or limit the laws or ordinances of any State or political subdivision of a State that provide for the rights and responsibilities described in section _____4(b) solely because such law does not require bargaining with respect to pension, retirement, or health benefits.

For purposes of paragraph (6), the term ''employee'' includes each and every individual employed by the political subdivision except any individual elected by popular vote or appointed to serve on a board or commission.

(b) COMPLIANCE.—

(1) ACTIONS OF STATES.—Nothing in this subtitle or the regulations promulgated under this subtitle shall be construed to require a State to rescind or preempt the laws or ordinances of any of its political subdivisions if such laws provide rights and responsibilities for public safety officers that are comparable to or greater than the rights and responsibilities described in section _____4(b).

(2) ACTIONS OF THE AUTHORITY.—Nothing in this subtitle or the regulations promulgated under this subtitle shall be construed to preempt—

(A) the laws or ordinances of any State or political subdivision of a State, if such laws provide collective bargaining rights for public safety officers that are comparable to or greater than the rights enumerated in section _____4(b);

(B) the laws or ordinance of any State or political subdivision of a State that provide for the rights and responsibilities described in section _____4(b) with respect to certain categories of public safety officers covered by this subtitle solely because such rights and responsibilities have not been extended to other categories of public safety officers covered by this subtitle; or

(C) the laws or ordinances of any State or political subdivision of a State that provides for the rights and responsibilities described in section _____4(b), solely because such laws or ordinances provide that a contract or memorandum of understanding between a public safety employer and a labor organization must be presented to a legislative body as part of the process for approving such contract or memorandum of understanding.

(3) LIMITED ENFORCEMENT POWER.—In the case of a law described in paragraph (2)(B), the Authority shall only exercise the powers provided in section _____5 with respect to those categories of public safety officers who have not been afforded the rights and responsibilities described in section _____4(b).

(4) EXCLUSIVE ENFORCEMENT PROVISION.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this subtitle, and in the absence of a waiver of a State's sovereign immunity, the Authority shall have the exclusive power to enforce the provisions of this subtitle with respect to employees of a State or political subdivision of a State.

SEC. _____9. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this subtitle.

SA 3616. Mr. SALAZAR (for himself, Mr. KERRY, Ms. STABENOW, and Mr. SCHUMER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 1472, line 1, strike all through page 1480, line 3, and insert the following:

PART II—ALCOHOL AND OTHER FUELS

SEC. 12311. EXPANSION OF SPECIAL ALLOWANCE TO CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PLANT PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 168(l) (relating to special allowance for cellulosic biomass ethanol plant property) is amended to read as follows:

''(3) CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'cellulosic biofuel' means any alcohol, ether, ester, or hydrocarbon produced from any lignocellulosic or hemicellulosic matter that is available on a renewable or recurring basis.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (l) of section 168 is amended by striking ''cellulosic biomass ethanol'' each place it appears and inserting ''cellulosic biofuel''.

(2) The heading of section 168(l) is amended by striking ''CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ETHANOL'' and inserting ''CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL''.

(3) The heading of paragraph (2) of section 168(l) is amended by striking ''CELLULOSIC BIOMASS ETHANOL'' and inserting ''CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after the date of the enactment of this Act, in taxable years ending after such date.

SEC. 12312. CREDIT FOR PRODUCTION OF CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) of section 40 (relating to alcohol used as fuel) is amended by striking ''plus'' at the end of paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end of paragraph (3) and inserting '', plus'', and by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) the small cellulosic biofuel producer credit.''.

(b) SMALL CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PRODUCER CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 40 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) SMALL CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PRODUCER CREDIT.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In addition to any other credit allowed under this section, there shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to the applicable amount for each gallon of not more than 60,000,000 gallons of qualified cellulosic biofuel production.

''(B) APPLICABLE AMOUNT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the applicable amount means the excess of—

''(i) $1.28, over

''(ii) the sum of—

''(I) the amount of the credit in effect for alcohol which is ethanol under subsection (b)(1) (without regard to subsection (b)(3)) at the time of the qualified cellulosic biofuel production, plus

''(II) the amount of the credit in effect under subsection (b)(4) at the time of such production.

''(C) QUALIFIED CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PRODUCTION.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified cellulosic biofuel production' means any cellulosic biofuel which is produced by an eligible small cellulosic biofuel producer and which during the taxable year—

''(i) is sold by the taxpayer to another person—

''(I) for use by such other person in the production of a qualified cellulosic biofuel mixture in such other person's trade or business (other than casual off-farm production),

''(II) for use by such other person as a fuel in a trade or business, or

''(III) who sells such cellulosic biofuel at retail to another person and places such cellulosic biofuel in the fuel tank of such other person, or

''(ii) is used or sold by the taxpayer for any purpose described in clause (i).

''(D) QUALIFIED CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL MIXTURE.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'qualified cellulosic biofuel mixture' means a mixture of cellulosic biofuel and any petroleum fuel product which—

''(i) is sold by the person producing such mixture to any person for use as a fuel, or

''(ii) is used as a fuel by the person producing such mixture.

''(E) ADDITIONAL DISTILLATION EXCLUDED.—The qualified cellulosic biofuel production of any taxpayer for any taxable year shall not include any alcohol which is purchased by the taxpayer and with respect to which such producer increases the proof of the alcohol by additional distillation.

''(F) APPLICATION OF PARAGRAPH.—This paragraph shall apply with respect to qualified cellulosic biofuel production after December 31, 2007, and before April 1, 2015.''.

(2) TERMINATION DATE NOT TO APPLY.—Subsection (e) of section 40 (relating to termination) is amended—

(A) by inserting ''or subsection (b)(6)(E)'' after ''by reason of paragraph (1)'' in paragraph (2), and

(B) by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(3) EXCEPTION FOR SMALL CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PRODUCER CREDIT.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to the portion of the credit allowed under this section by reason of subsection (a)(4).''.

(c) ELIGIBLE SMALL CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PRODUCER.—Section 40 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES FOR SMALL CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PRODUCER.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'eligible small cellulosic biofuel producer' means a person, who at all times during the taxable year, has a productive capacity for cellulosic biofuel not in excess of 60,000,000 gallons.

''(2) CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'cellulosic biofuel' has the meaning given such term under section 168(l)(3), but does not include any alcohol with a proof of less than 150.

''(B) DETERMINATION OF PROOF.—The determination of the proof of any alcohol shall be made without regard to any added denaturants.

''(3) AGGREGATION RULE.—For purposes of the 60,000,000 gallon limitation under paragraph (1) and subsection (b)(6)(A), all members of the same controlled group of corporations (within the meaning of section 267(f)) and all persons under common control (within the meaning of section 52(b) but determined by treating an interest of more than 50 percent as a controlling interest) shall be treated as 1 person.

''(4) PARTNERSHIP, S CORPORATIONS, AND OTHER PASS-THRU ENTITIES.—In the case of a partnership, trust, S corporation, or other pass-thru entity, the limitation contained in paragraph (1) shall be applied at the entity level and at the partner or similar level.

''(5) ALLOCATION.—For purposes of this subsection, in the case of a facility in which more than 1 person has an interest, productive capacity shall be allocated among such persons in such manner as the Secretary may prescribe.

''(6) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations as may be necessary to prevent the credit provided for in subsection (a)(4) from directly or indirectly benefitting any person with a direct or indirect productive capacity of more than 60,000,000 gallons of cellulosic biofuel during the taxable year.

''(7) ALLOCATION OF SMALL CELLULOSIC PRODUCER CREDIT TO PATRONS OF COOPERATIVE.—Rules similar to the rules under subsection (g)(6) shall apply for purposes of this subsection.''.

(d) CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL NOT USED AS A FUEL, ETC.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 40(d) is amended by redesignating subparagraph (D) as subparagraph (E) and by inserting after subparagraph (C) the following new subparagraph:

''(D) SMALL CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PRODUCER CREDIT.—If—

''(i) any credit is allowed under subsection (a)(4), and

''(ii) any person does not use such fuel for a purpose described in subsection (b)(6)(C),

then there is hereby imposed on such person a tax equal to the applicable amount for each gallon of such cellulosic biofuel.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Subparagraph (C) of section 40(d)(3) is amended by striking ''PRODUCER'' in the heading and inserting ''SMALL ETHANOL PRODUCER''.

(B) Subparagraph (E) of section 40(d)(3), as redesignated by paragraph (1), is amended by striking ''or (C)'' and inserting ''(C), or (D)''.

(e) BIOFUEL PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES.—Section 40(d), as amended by this section, is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(6) SPECIAL RULE FOR SMALL CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PRODUCERS.—No small cellulosic biofuel producer credit shall be determined under subsection (a) with respect to any biofuel unless such biofuel is produced in the United States.''.

(f) WAIVER OF CREDIT LIMIT FOR CELLULOSIC BIOFUEL PRODUCTION BY SMALL ETHANOL PRODUCERS.—Section 40(b)(4)(C) is amended by inserting ''(determined without regard to any qualified cellulosic biofuel production'' after ''15,000,000 gallons''.

(g) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to fuel produced after December 31, 2007.

SA 3617. Mr. SESSIONS submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 750, line 21, insert before the period at the end the following: '', of which not less than $25,000,000 shall be for use at hospitals in rural areas with not more than 50 acute beds''.

SA 3618. Mr. BUNNING submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 1363, strike line 7 and all that follows through page 1395, line 19.

Beginning on page 1564, strike line 16 and all that follows through page 1565, line 6.

SA 3619. Mr. DURBIN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title III, add the following:

SEC. 32___. IMPORTATION OF LIVE DOGS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Animal Welfare Act is amended by adding after section 17 (7 U.S.C. 2147) the following:

''SEC. 18. IMPORTATION OF LIVE DOGS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) IMPORTER.—The term 'importer' means any person who, for purposes of resale, transports into the United States puppies from a foreign country.

''(2) RESALE.—The term 'resale' includes any transfer of ownership or control of an imported dog of less than 6 months of age to another person, for more than de minimis consideration.

''(b) REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), no person shall import a dog into the United States for purposes of resale unless, as determined by the Secretary, the dog—

''(A) is in good health;

''(B) has received all necessary vaccinations; and

''(C) is at least 6 months of age, if imported for resale.

''(2) EXCEPTION.—The Secretary, by regulation, shall provide an exception to any requirement under paragraph (1) in any case in which a dog is imported for—

''(A) research purposes; or

''(B) veterinary treatment.

''(c) IMPLEMENTATION AND REGULATIONS.—The Secretary, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Secretary of Commerce, and the Secretary of Homeland Security shall promulgate such regulations as the Secretaries determine to be necessary to implement and enforce this section.

''(d) ENFORCEMENT.—An importer that fails to comply with this section shall—

''(1) be subject to penalties under section 19; and

''(2) provide for the care (including appropriate veterinary care), forfeiture, and adoption of each applicable dog, at the expense of the importer.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) takes effect on the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 3620. Mr. LOTT submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1587, after line 18, add the following:

Subtitle G—Repeal of Individual AMT

SEC. 12701. REPEAL OF INDIVIDUAL ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 55(a) (relating to alternative minimum tax imposed) is amended by adding at the end the following new flush sentence:

''For purposes of this title, the tentative minimum tax on any taxpayer other than a corporation for any taxable year beginning after December 31, 2006, shall be zero.''.

(b) MODIFICATION OF LIMITATION ON USE OF CREDIT FOR PRIOR YEAR MINIMUM TAX LIABILITY.—Subsection (c) of section 53 (relating to credit for prior year minimum tax liability) is amended to read as follows:

''(c) LIMITATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the credit allowable under subsection (a) for any taxable year shall not exceed the excess (if any) of—

''(A) the regular tax liability of the taxpayer for such taxable year reduced by the sum of the credits allowable under subparts A, B, D, E, and F of this part, over

''(B) the tentative minimum tax for the taxable year.

''(2) TAXABLE YEARS BEGINNING AFTER 2006.—In the case of any taxable year beginning after 2006, the credit allowable under subsection (a) to a taxpayer other than a corporation for any taxable year shall not exceed 90 percent of the regular tax liability of the taxpayer for such taxable year reduced by the sum of the credits allowable under subparts A, B, D, E, and F of this part.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

Subtitle H—One-Year Extenders

SEC. 12801. RESEARCH CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 41(h)(1) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (D) of section 45C(b)(1) (relating to qualified clinical testing expenses) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12802. INDIAN EMPLOYMENT CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 45A (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12803. NEW MARKETS TAX CREDIT.

Subparagraph (D) of section 45D(f)(1) (relating to national limitation on amount of investments designated) is amended by striking ''and 2008'' and inserting ''2008, and 2009''.

SEC. 12804. RAILROAD TRACK MAINTENANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 45G (relating to application of section) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to expenditures paid or incurred during taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12805. MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUMS TREATED AS INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subclause (I) of section 163(h)(3)(E)(iv) (relating to termination) is

amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or accrued after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12806. DEDUCTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL SALES TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (I) of section 164(b)(5) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12807. FIFTEEN-YEAR STRAIGHT-LINE COST RECOVERY FOR QUALIFIED LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS AND QUALIFIED RESTAURANT PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clauses (iv) and (v) of section 168(e)(3)(E) (relating to 15-year property) are each amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12808. SEVEN-YEAR COST RECOVERY PERIOD FOR MOTORSPORTS RACING TRACK FACILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 168(i)(15) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12809. ACCELERATED DEPRECIATION FOR BUSINESS PROPERTY ON INDIAN RESERVATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (8) of section 168(j) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12810. EXPENSING OF ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION COSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (h) of section 198 (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to expenditures paid or incurred after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12811. DEDUCTION ALLOWABLE WITH RESPECT TO INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO DOMESTIC PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES IN PUERTO RICO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 199(d)(8) (relating to termination) is amended—

(1) by striking ''first 2 taxable years'' and inserting ''first 3 taxable years'', and

(2) by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12812. DEDUCTION OF QUALIFIED TUITION AND RELATED EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 222 (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12813. MODIFICATION OF TAX TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PAYMENTS TO CONTROLLING EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 512(b)(13)(E) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to payments received or accrued after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12814. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DIVIDENDS OF REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

(a) INTEREST-RELATED DIVIDENDS.—Subparagraph (C) of section 871(k)(1) (defining interest-related dividend) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) SHORT-TERM CAPITAL GAIN DIVIDENDS.—Subparagraph (C) of section 871(k)(2) (defining short-term capital gain dividend) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to dividends with respect to taxable years of regulated investment companies beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12815. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF CREDIT TO HOLDERS OF QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY BONDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 1397E (relating to limitation on amount of bonds designated) is amended by striking ''1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007'' and inserting ''each of calendar years 1998 through 2008''.

(b) MODIFICATION OF ARBITRAGE RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (g) of section 1397E (relating to special rules relating to arbitrage) is amended to read as follows:

''(g) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO ARBITRAGE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An issue shall be treated as meeting the requirements of this subsection if the issuer satisfies the requirements of section 148 with respect to the proceeds of the issue.

''(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR INVESTMENTS DURING EXPENDITURE PERIOD.—An issue shall not be treated as failing to meet the requirements of paragraph (1) by reason of any investment of available project proceeds during the 5-year period described in subsection (f)(1)(A) (including any extension of such period under subsection (f)(2)).

''(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR RESERVE FUNDS.—An issue shall not be treated as failing to meet the requirements of paragraph (1) by reason of any fund which is expected to be used to repay such issue if—

''(A) such fund is funded at a rate not more rapid than equal annual installments,

''(B) such fund is funded in a manner that such fund will not exceed the amount necessary to repay the issue if invested at the maximum rate permitted under subparagraph (C), and

''(C) the yield on such fund is not greater than the discount rate determined under subsection (d)(3) with respect to the issue.''.

(2) APPLICATION OF AVAILABLE PROJECT PROCEEDS TO OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Subsections (d)(1)(A), (d)(2)(A), (f)(1)(A), (f)(1)(B), (f)(1)(C), and (f)(3) of section 1397E are each amended by striking ''proceeds'' and inserting ''available project proceeds''

(3) AVAILABLE PROJECT PROCEEDS DEFINED.—Subsection (i) of section 1397E (relating to definitions) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) AVAILABLE PROJECT PROCEEDS.—The term 'available project proceeds' means—

''(A) the excess of—

''(i) the proceeds from the sale of an issue, over

''(ii) the issuance costs financed by the issue (to the extent that such costs do not exceed 2 percent of such proceeds), and

''(B) the proceeds from any investment of the excess described in subparagraph (A).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) EXTENSION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to obligations issued after December 31, 2007.

(2) MODIFICATION OF ARBITRAGE RULES.—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall apply to obligations issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12816. TAX INCENTIVES FOR INVESTMENT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

(a) DESIGNATION OF ZONE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 1400 is amended by striking ''2007'' both places it appears and inserting ''2008''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to periods beginning after December 31, 2007.

(b) TAX-EXEMPT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BONDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 1400A is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2008''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to bonds issued after December 31, 2007.

(c) ZERO PERCENT CAPITAL GAINS RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 1400B is amended by striking ''2008'' each place it appears and inserting ''2009''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 1400B(e)(2) is amended—

(i) by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2013'', and

(ii) by striking ''2012'' in the heading thereof and inserting ''2013''.

(B) Section 1400B(g)(2) is amended by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2013''.

(C) Section 1400F(d) is amended by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2013''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(A) EXTENSION.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall apply to acquisitions after December 31, 2007.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by paragraph (2) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (i) of section 1400C is amended by striking ''2008'' and inserting ''2009''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to property purchased after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12817. DISCLOSURE FOR COMBINED EMPLOYMENT TAX REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 6103(d)(5) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to disclosures after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12818. DISCLOSURE OF RETURN INFORMATION TO APPRISE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 6103(i)(3)(C) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to disclosures after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12819. DISCLOSURE UPON REQUEST OF INFORMATION RELATING TO TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (E) of section 6103(i)(7) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to disclosures after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12820. DISCLOSURE OF RETURN INFORMATION TO CARRY OUT INCOME CONTINGENT REPAYMENT OF STUDENT LOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 6103(l)(13) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to requests made after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12821. AUTHORITY FOR UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (6) of section 7608(c) (relating to application of section) is

amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' each place it appears and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2008.

SEC. 12822. INCREASE IN LIMIT ON COVER OVER OF RUM EXCISE TAX TO PUERTO RICO AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 7652(f) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to distilled spirits brought into the United States after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12823. PARITY IN THE APPLICATION OF CERTAIN LIMITS TO MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 9812(f) (relating to application of section) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to benefits for services furnished after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12824. EXTENSION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CREDIT FOR AMERICAN SAMOA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 119 of division A of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 is amended—

(1) by striking ''first two taxable years'' and inserting ''first 3 taxable years'', and

(2) by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12825. QUALIFIED CONSERVATION CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (vi) of section 170(b)(1)(E) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12826. ENHANCED CHARITABLE DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS OF FOOD INVENTORY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 170(e)(3)(C) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12827. ENHANCED CHARITABLE DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS OF BOOK INVENTORY TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 170(e)(3)(D) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12828. ENHANCED DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED COMPUTER CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (G) of section 170(e)(6) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made during taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12829. TAX-FREE DISTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT PLANS FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (F) of section 408(d)(8) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to distributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12830. BASIS ADJUSTMENT TO STOCK OF S CORPORATIONS MAKING CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The last sentence of section 1367(a)(2) (relating to decreases in basis) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 1203 OF THE PENSION PROTECTION ACT OF 2006.—Subsection (d) of section 1366 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) APPLICATION OF LIMITATION ON CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.—In the case of any charitable contribution of property to which the second sentence of section 1367(a)(2) applies, paragraph (1) shall not apply to the extent of the excess (if any) of—

''(A) the shareholder's pro rata share of such contribution, over

''(B) the shareholder's pro rata share of the adjusted basis of such property.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The amendment made by subsection (b)shall take effect as if included in the provision of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 to which it relates.

SEC. 12831. DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN EXPENSES OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 62(a)(2) (relating to certain expenses of elementary and secondary school teachers) is amended by striking ''or 2007'' and inserting ''2007, or 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12832. ELECTION TO INCLUDE COMBAT PAY AS EARNED INCOME FOR PURPOSES OF EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subclause (II) of section 32(c)(2)(B)(vi) (defining earned income) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12833. MODIFICATION OF MORTGAGE REVENUE BONDS FOR VETERANS.

(a) QUALIFIED MORTGAGE BONDS USED TO FINANCE RESIDENCES FOR VETERANS WITHOUT REGARD TO FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER REQUIREMENT.—Subparagraph (D) of section 143(d)(2) (relating to exceptions) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to bonds issued after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12834. DISTRIBUTIONS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS TO INDIVIDUALS CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 72(t)(2)(G) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to individuals ordered or called to active duty on or after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12835. STOCK IN RIC FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING ESTATES OF NONRESIDENTS NOT CITIZENS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 2105(d) (relating to stock in a RIC) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to decedents dying after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12836. QUALIFIED INVESTMENT ENTITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (ii) of section 897(h)(4)(A) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1, 2008.

SEC. 12837. DISCLOSURE OF RETURN INFORMATION FOR CERTAIN VETERANS PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The last sentence of paragraph (7) of section 6103(l) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2008'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to requests made after September 30, 2008.

SA 3621. Mr. COLEMAN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 210, line 25, strike ''crop year'' and insert ''crop or fiscal year, as appropriate,''.

On page 211, line 12, strike ''crop years'' and insert ''crop or fiscal years, as appropriate,''.

On page 211, line 23, strike ''crop year'' and insert ''fiscal year''.

On page 212, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

''(iv) A payment under the environmental quality incentives program established under chapter 4 of subtitle D of title XII.

On page 212, line 23, insert ''(other than the environmental quality incentives program)'' before the semicolon at the end.

SA 3622. Mr. SALAZAR (for himself and Mr. ALLARD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle C of title VIII, add the following:

SEC. 8203. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2001.

Section 331 of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2001 (114 Stat. 996; 118 Stat. 3102), is amended by striking subsection (e).

SA 3623. Mrs. BOXER (for herself, Mr. SMITH, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. MARTINEZ, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 471, strike line 22 and insert the following:

''(iv) IDENTIFICATION OF WATER QUALITY AND WATER QUANTITY PRIORITY AREAS.—

''(I) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subclause (II), the Secretary shall identify areas in which protecting or improving water quality or water quantity is a priority.

''(II) MANDATORY INCLUSIONS.—The Secretary shall include in any identification of areas under subclause (I)—

''(aa) the Chesapeake Bay;

''(bb) the Upper Mississippi River basin;

''(cc) the greater Everglades ecosystem;

''(dd) the Klamath River basin;

''(ee) the Sacramento/San Joaquin River watershed; and

''(ff) the Mobile River Basin.

''(III) FUNDING.—The Secretary shall reserve for use in areas identified under this clause not more than 50 percent of amounts made available for regional water enhancement activities under this paragraph.

''(v) DURATION.—

SA 3624. Mrs. BOXER (for herself and Mrs. FEINSTEIN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 408, strike line 17 and insert the following: through 2012.

''SEC. 1240L. AIR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Under the environmental quality incentives program established under this chapter, the Secretary shall promote air quality by providing cost-share payments and incentive payments to individual producers for use in addressing air quality concerns associated with agriculture.

''(b) ELIGIBLE PRACTICES, COST-SHARE.—

''(1) REDUCTION OF EMISSIONS OF AIR POLLUTANTS AND PRECURSORS OF AIR POLLUTANTS.—In addition to practices eligible for cost-share payments under the environmental quality incentives program established under this chapter, the Secretary shall provide cost-share payments to producers under this section for mobile or stationary equipment (including engines) used in an agricultural operation that would reduce emissions and precursors of air pollutants.

''(2) CONSIDERATIONS.—In evaluating applications for cost-share assistance for equipment described in paragraph (1), the Secretary shall prioritize assistance for equipment that—

''(A) is the most cost-effective in addressing air quality concerns; and

''(B) would assist producers in meeting Federal, State, or local regulatory requirements relating to air quality.

''(c) LOCATIONS.—To receive a payment for a project under this section, a producer shall carry out the project in a county—

''(1) that is in nonattainment with respect to ambient air quality standards; or

''(2) in which there is air quality degradation, recognized by a State or local agency, to which agricultural emissions significantly contribute.

''(d) PRIORITY.—The Secretary shall give priority to projects that—

''(1) involve multiple producers implementing eligible conservation activities in a coordinated manner to promote air quality; or

''(2) are designed to encourage broad adoption of innovative approaches, including approaches involving the use of innovative technologies and integrated pest management, on the condition that the technologies do not have the unintended consequence of compromising other environmental goals.''.

SA 3625. Mr. PRYOR submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ———. BROADBAND PILOT PROGRAM FOR RURAL, LOW-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish a pilot program, to be known as the ''Improving Broadband in Rural America for the Nation's Children'' or the ''iBRANCH program'', that will provide grants on a competitive basis to eligible entities for the purpose of assisting low-income student households in eligible rural communities overcome barriers related to the use of broadband services in the home, including barriers related to—

(1) computer and broadband literacy;

(2) computer and software ownership; and

(3) access to affordable broadband service.

(b) GRANT REQUIREMENTS.—To be eligible for a grant under this program, an eligible entity shall demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Secretary that it—

(1) has the managerial and technical skills to carry out the project successfully;

(2) will provide support to low income student households on a portable and competitively neutral basis;

(3) will utilize an acceptable approach to preparing low-income students and households to improve the student educational experience with broadband and to providing Internet safety awareness; and

(4) meets any other necessary or appropriate conditions, standards, or requirements imposed by the Secretary.

(c) MAXIMUM AMOUNT.—The Secretary may not provide more than $1,000,000 in Federal assistance under the pilot program to any applicant per fiscal year.

(d) COST SHARING.—The Secretary may not provide more than 50 percent of the cost, incurred during the period of the grant, of any project funded under the pilot program.

(e) DISTRIBUTION OF GRANTS.—The Secretary shall seek to ensure a broad geographic distribution of project sites to the maximum extent practicable.

(f) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—The recipient of a grant awarded under this section may not use more than 5 percent of the grant amount to pay administrative costs associated with activities funded by the grant. The Secretary shall use no more than 5 percent of the amount available for grants under this Act in any fiscal year for administrative costs of the program.

(g) FCC ASSISTANCE.—The Federal Communications Commission may provide such assistance in carrying out the provisions of this section as may be requested by the Secretary. The Secretary shall provide for close coordination with the Commission in the administration of the Secretary's functions under this section which are of interest to or affect the functions of the Commission.

(h) ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS.—

(1) ANNUAL SUMMARY AND EVALUATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary shall require that the recipient of a grant under this section submit a summary and evaluation of the results of the project funded by such a grant at least annually for each year in which funds are received under this section.

(2) BOOKS AND RECORDS.—Each recipient of assistance under this section shall keep such records as may be reasonably necessary to enable the Secretary to carry out the Secretary's functions under this section, including records which fully disclose the amount and the disposition by such recipient of the proceeds of such assistance, the total cost of the project or undertaking in connection with which such assistance is given or used, the amount and nature of that portion of the cost of the project or undertaking supplied by other sources, and such other records as will facilitate an effective audit.

(3) AUDIT AND EXAMINATION.—The Secretary and the Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives, shall have access for the purposes of audit and examination to any books, documents, papers, and records of the recipient that are pertinent to assistance received under this section.

(i) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may make such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out this section, including regulations relating to the order of priority in approving applications for projects under this section or to determining the amounts of grants for such projects.

(j) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term 'eligible entity' means a nonprofit organization that is designated by a State to work in partnership with State agencies, representatives of the eligible rural community, and other interested parties in administering grant funds.

(2) ELIGIBLE RURAL COMMUNITY.—The term 'eligible rural community' means any county (or other appropriate political subdivision where no counties exist) with a population of 20,000 or less.

(3) LOW-INCOME STUDENT HOUSEHOLD.—The term 'low-income student household' means any residential household—

(A) with a student enrolled in grades 6 through 10 during the first school year following the date of the grant award; and

(B) that is eligible for the Federal free lunch program.

(4) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term 'nonprofit organization' means an organization—

(A) described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code;

(B) no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any member, founder, contributor, or individual;

(C) that has an established competency and proven record of working with public and private sectors; and

(D) that has a board of directors a majority of whom are not employed by a broadband service provider or any company in which a broadband service provider owns a controlling or attributable interest.

(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary $10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012 to carry out this section.

SA 3626. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes, which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1362, between lines 19 and 20, insert the following:

SEC. 11072. SOUTHWEST REGIONAL DAIRY, ENVIRONMENT, AND PRIVATE LAND PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term ''eligible institution of higher education'' means an institution of higher education that—

(A) is located in—

(i) the State of Arizona;

(ii) the State of Colorado;

(iii) the State of New Mexico;

(iv) the State of Oklahoma; and

(v) the State of Texas;

(B) has facilities that are necessary for the facilitation of research on issues relating to the dairy industry in a practical setting;

(C) has a dairy research program and an institution for applied environmental research;

(D) has a university laboratory that is—

(i) located on the campus of the institution of higher education; and

(ii) accredited by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Council to ensure the quality of any proposed research activities;

(E) has the capability to enter into a partnership with representatives of the dairy industry and other public and private entities and institutions of higher education;

(F) has experience in conducting watershed modeling (including the conduct of cost-benefit analyses, policy applications, and long-term watershed monitoring); and

(G) works with—

(i) producer-run advocacy groups (including Industry-Led Solutions); and

(ii) private land coalitions.

(2) PROGRAM.—The term ''program'' means the Southwest regional dairy, environment, and private land program established under subsection (b).

(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall establish a Southwest regional dairy, environment, and private land program.

(2) REQUIRED ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall—

(A) identify challenges and develop solutions to enhance the economic and environmental sustainability, growth, and expansion of the dairy industry in the Southwest region of the United States;

(B) research, develop, and implement programs—

(i) to recover energy and other useful products from dairy waste;

(ii) to identify best management practices; and

(iii) to assist the dairy industry in ensuring that animal waste emissions and discharges of the dairy industry are maintained at levels below applicable regulatory standards;

(C) offer technical assistance (including research activities conducted by a university laboratory that is accredited by the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Council), training, applied research, and watershed water quality programs monitoring to applicable entities;

(D) develop—

(i) watershed modeling through the development of innovative modeling tools and data mining to develop cost-efficient and environmentally effective programs in the dairy industry; and

(ii) an international modeling application clearinghouse to coordinate watershed modeling tools in the United States and in other countries, to be carried out by the Secretary; and

(E) collaborate with a private land coalition to use input gathered from landowners in the United States through a program of industry led solutions to work with the Federal Government (including Federal agencies) in the development of conservation, environmental credit trading, and watershed programs to help private landowners and agricultural producers meet applicable water quality standards.

(c) CONTRACTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary shall offer to enter into contracts with eligible institutions of higher education.

(2) APPLICATION.—

(A) SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION.—To enter into a contract with the Secretary under paragraph (1), an eligible institution of higher education shall submit to the Secretary an application at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

(B) GUIDELINES.—As soon as practicable after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall promulgate guidelines describing each requirement of the Secretary with respect to the application requirements described in subparagraph (A).

(d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.

SA 3627. Mrs. HUTCHINSON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 920, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

SEC. 70___. INDIRECT COST RECOVERY.

Section 1473A of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C. 3319a) is amended in the second sentence by striking ''not exceeding 10 percent of the direct cost'' and inserting ''not exceeding the amount permitted under the Negotiated Indirect Cost Recovery Agreement established by the Office of Management and Budget Circular A-21''.

SA 3628. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 408, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

SEC. 2362. RIO GRANDE BASIN MANAGEMENT PROJECT.

The Food Security Act of 1985 is amended by inserting after section 1240K (as added by section 2361) the following:

''SEC. 1240L. RIO GRANDE BASIN MANAGEMENT PROJECT.

''(a) DEFINITION OF RIO GRANDE BASIN.—In this section, the term 'Rio Grande Basin' includes all tributaries, backwaters, and side channels (including watersheds) of the United States that drain into the Rio Grande River.

''(b) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary, in conjunction with partnerships of institutions of higher education working with farmers, ranchers, and other rural landowners, shall establish a program under which the Secretary shall provide grants to the partnerships to benefit the Rio Grande Basin by—

''(1) restoring water flow and the riparian habitat;

''(2) improving usage;

''(3) addressing demand for drinking water;

''(4) providing technical assistance to agricultural and municipal water systems; and

''(5) reducing biological and chemical hazards through alternative treatment of water and wastewater.

''(c) USE OF FUNDS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A grant provided under this section may be used by a partnership for the costs of carrying out an activity described in subsection (b), including the costs of—

''(A) direct labor;

''(B) appropriate travel;

''(C) equipment;

''(D) instrumentation;

''(E) analytical laboratory work;

''(F) subcontracting;

''(G) cooperative research agreements; and

''(H) similar related expenses and costs.

''(2) LIMITATION.—A grant provided under this section shall not be used to purchase or construct any building.

''(d) REPORTS.—A partnership that receives a grant under this subsection shall submit to the Secretary annual reports describing—

''(1) the expenses of the partnership during the preceding calendar year; and

''(2) such other financial information as the Secretary may require.

''(e) FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.''.

SA 3629. Mrs. DOLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. CREDIT FOR TRANSPORTATION OF FOOD FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 30G. CREDIT FOR TRANSPORTATION OF FOOD FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

''(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—There shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to 25 cents for each mile for which the taxpayer uses a qualified truck for a qualified charitable purpose during the taxable year.

''(b) QUALIFIED CHARITABLE PURPOSE.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified charitable purpose' means the transportation of food in connection with the hunger relief efforts of an organization which is described in section 501(c)(3) and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) (other than a private foundation, as defined in section 509(a), which is not an operating foundation, as defined in section 4942(j)(3)).

''(c) QUALIFIED TRUCK.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified truck' means a truck which—

''(1) has a capacity of not less than 1,760 cubic square feet,

''(2) is owned, leased, or operated by the taxpayer, and

''(3) is ordinarily used for hauling property in the course of a business.

''(d) OTHER RULES.—

''(1) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—No credit shall be allowed under this section with respect to any amount for which a deduction is allowed under any other provision of this chapter.

''(2) NO CREDIT WHERE TAXPAYER IS COMPENSATED.—No credit shall be allowed under this section if the taxpayer receives compensation in connection with the use of the

qualified truck for the qualified charitable purpose.

''(3) CAPACITY REQUIREMENT.—No credit shall be allowed under this section unless at least 50 percent of the hauling capacity of the qualified truck (measured in cubic square feet) is used for the qualified charitable purpose.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 30G. Credit for transportation of food for charitable purposes.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after December 31, 2007.

(d) OFFSET.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2) and notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or an amendment made by this Act, for the period beginning on October 1, 2007, and ending on September 30, 2011—

(A) each amount provided to carry out a program under subtitle D of title I or an amendment made by that subtitle is reduced by an amount necessary to achieve a total reduction of $25,000,000; and

(B) the Secretary shall adjust the amount of each payment, loan, gain, or other assistance provided under each program described in subparagraph (A) by such amount as is necessary to achieve the reduction required under that subparagraph, as determined by the Secretary.

(2) APPLICATION.—This section does not apply to a payment, loan, gain, or other assistance provided under a contract entered into by the Secretary before the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 3630. Mrs. DOLE submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. CREDIT FOR TRANSPORTATION OF FOOD FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 30G. CREDIT FOR TRANSPORTATION OF FOOD FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

''(a) ALLOWANCE OF CREDIT.—There shall be allowed as a credit against the tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year an amount equal to 25 cents for each mile for which the taxpayer uses a qualified truck for a qualified charitable purpose during the taxable year.

''(b) QUALIFIED CHARITABLE PURPOSE.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified charitable purpose' means the transportation of food in connection with the hunger relief efforts of an organization which is described in section 501(c)(3) and is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) (other than a private foundation, as defined in section 509(a), which is not an operating foundation, as defined in section 4942(j)(3)).

''(c) QUALIFIED TRUCK.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified truck' means a truck which—

''(1) has a capacity of not less than 1,760 cubic square feet,

''(2) is owned, leased, or operated by the taxpayer, and

''(3) is ordinarily used for hauling property in the course of a business.

''(d) OTHER RULES.—

''(1) DENIAL OF DOUBLE BENEFIT.—No credit shall be allowed under this section with respect to any amount for which a deduction is allowed under any other provision of this chapter.

''(2) NO CREDIT WHERE TAXPAYER IS COMPENSATED.—No credit shall be allowed under this section if the taxpayer receives compensation in connection with the use of the qualified truck for the qualified charitable purpose.

''(3) CAPACITY REQUIREMENT.—No credit shall be allowed under this section unless at least 50 percent of the hauling capacity of the qualified truck (measured in cubic square feet) is used for the qualified charitable purpose.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part IV of subchapter A of chapter 1, as amended by this Act, is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 30G. Credit for transportation of food for charitable purposes.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after December 31, 2007.

SA 3631. Mr. GRASSLEY (for himself and Mr. KOHL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes, which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Strike section 10201 and insert the following:

SEC. 10201. SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—The term ''agricultural commodity''—

(A) has the meaning given that term in section 102 of the Agricultural Trade Act of 1978 (7 U.S.C. 5602); and

(B) does not include biofuels.

(2) AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE.—The term ''agricultural cooperative'' means an association of persons that meets the requirements of the Capper-Volstead Act (7 U.S.C. 291 et seq.).

(3) AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRY.—The term ''agricultural industry''—

(A) means any dealer, processor, commission merchant, or broker involved in the buying or selling of agricultural commodities; and

(B) does not include sale or marketing at the retail level.

(4) ANTITRUST LAWS.—The term ''antitrust laws'' has the meaning given that term in the first section of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 12).

(5) ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The term ''Assistant Attorney General'' means the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice.

(6) BIOFUEL.—The term ''biofuel'' has the meaning given that term in section 9001 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002, as amended by section 9001 of this Act.

(7) BROKER.—The term ''broker'' means any person (excluding an agricultural cooperative) engaged in the business of negotiating sales and purchases of any agricultural commodity in commerce for or on behalf of the vendor or the purchaser.

(8) CHAIRMAN.—The term ''Chairman'' means the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission.

(9) COMMISSION MERCHANT.—The term ''commission merchant'' means any person (excluding an agricultural cooperative) engaged in the business of receiving in commerce any agricultural commodity for sale, on commission, or for or on behalf of another.

(10) DEALER.—The term ''dealer'' means any person (excluding an agricultural cooperative) engaged in the business of buying, selling, or marketing agricultural commodities in commerce, except that no person shall be considered a dealer with respect to sales or marketing of any agricultural commodity produced by that person.

(11) PROCESSOR.—The term ''processor'' means any person (excluding an agricultural cooperative) engaged in the business of handling, preparing, or manufacturing (including slaughtering) an agricultural commodity, or the products of such agricultural commodity, for sale or marketing in commerce for human consumption (excluding sale or marketing at the retail level).

(12) SPECIAL COUNSEL.—The term ''Special Counsel'' means the Special Counsel for Agricultural Competition of the Department of Agriculture established under section 11 of the Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921, as added by this Act.

(13) TASK FORCE.—The term ''Task Force'' means the Agriculture Competition Task Force established under subsection (c).

(b) DEPUTY ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR AGRICULTURAL ANTITRUST MATTERS.—There is in the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice a Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Agricultural Antitrust Matters, who shall—

(1) be responsible for oversight and coordination of antitrust and related matters which affect agriculture, directly or indirectly; and

(2) work in coordination with the Task Force and the Department of Agriculture on all agricultural competition matters.

(c) AGRICULTURE COMPETITION TASK FORCE.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established, under the authority of the Attorney General, the Agriculture Competition Task Force, to examine problems in agricultural competition.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The Task Force shall consist of—

(A) the Deputy Assistant Attorney General for Agricultural Antitrust Matters, who shall serve as chairperson of the Task Force;

(B) the Special Counsel;

(C) a representative from the Federal Trade Commission;

(D) a representative from the Department of Agriculture, Office of Packers and Stockyards;

(E) 1 representative selected jointly by the attorneys general of States desiring to participate in the Task Force;

(F) 1 representative selected jointly by the heads of the departments of agriculture (or similar such agency) of States desiring to participate in the Task Force;

(G) 8 individuals who represent the interests of small family farmers, ranchers, independent producers, packers, processors, and other components of the agricultural industry—

(i) 2 of whom shall be selected by the Majority Leader of the Senate;

(ii) 2 of whom shall be selected by the Minority Leader of the Senate;

(iii) 2 of whom shall be selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(iv) 2 of whom shall be selected by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives; and

(H) 4 academics or other independent experts working in the field of agriculture, agricultural law, antitrust law, or economics—

(i) 1 of whom shall be selected by the Majority Leader of the Senate;

(ii) 1 of whom shall be selected by the Minority Leader of the Senate;

(iii) 1 of whom shall be selected by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and

(iv) 1 of whom shall be selected by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives.

(3) DUTIES.—The Task Force shall—

(A) study problems in competition in the agricultural industry;

(B) define and focus the national public interest in preserving an independent family farm and ranch sector;

(C) coordinate Federal and State activities to address unfair and deceptive practices and concentration in the agricultural industry;

(D) work with representatives from agriculture and rural communities to identify abusive practices in the agricultural industry;

(E) submit to Congress such reports as the Task Force determines appropriate on the state of family farmers and ranchers, and the impact of agricultural concentration and unfair business practices on rural communities in the United States; and

(F) make such recommendations to Congress as the Task Force determines appropriate on agricultural competition issues, which shall include any additional or dissenting views of the members of the Task Force.

(4) WORKING GROUP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Task Force shall establish a working group on buyer power to—

(i) study the effects of concentration, monopsony, and oligopsony in agriculture, make recommendations to the Assistant Attorney General and the Chairman, and assist the Assistant Attorney General and the Chairman in drafting agricultural guidelines under subsection (e)(2); and

(ii) select certain agricultural mergers and acquisitions that were consummated during the 10-year period ending on the date of enactment of this Act, review the effects of such mergers and acquisitions on competition in agricultural commodities markets, and make recommendations to the Assistant Attorney General, the Chairman, and the Secretary.

(B) MEMBERS.—The working group shall include any member of the Task Force selected under paragraph (2)(H).

(5) MEETINGS.—

(A) FIRST MEETING.—The Task Force shall hold its initial meeting not later than the later of—

(i) 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(ii) 30 days after the date of enactment of an Act making appropriations to carry out this subsection.

(B) MINIMUM NUMBER.—The Task Force shall meet not less than once each year, at the call of the chairperson.

(6) COMPENSATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The members of the Task Force shall serve without compensation.

(B) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Members of the Task Force shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with subchapter I of chapter 57 of title 5, United States Code.

(7) STAFF OF TASK FORCE; EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—

(A) STAFF.—

(i) APPOINTMENT.—The chairperson of the Task Force may, without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 of title 5, United States Code (relating to appointments in the competitive service), appoint and terminate an executive director and such other staff as are necessary to enable the Task Force to perform its duties. The appointment of an executive director shall be subject to approval by the Task Force.

(ii) COMPENSATION.—The chairperson of the Task Force may fix the compensation of the executive director and other staff without regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chapter 53 of title 5, United States Code (relating to classification of positions and General Schedule pay rates), except that the rate of pay for the executive director and other staff may not exceed the rate of basic pay payable for level V of the Executive Schedule under section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, as in effect from time to time.

(B) EXPERTS AND CONSULTANTS.—The Task Force may procure temporary and intermittent services of experts and consultants in accordance with section 3109(b) of title 5, United States Code.

(8) POWERS OF THE TASK FORCE.—

(A) HEARINGS AND MEETINGS.—The Task Force, or a member of the Task Force if authorized by the Task Force, may hold such hearings, sit and act at such time and places, take such testimony, receive such evidence, and administer such oaths or affirmations as the Task Force considers to be appropriate.

(B) OFFICIAL DATA.—The Task Force may obtain directly from any executive agency (as defined in section 105 of title 5, United States Code) or court information necessary to enable it to carry out its duties under this subsection. On the request of the chairperson of the Task Force, and consistent with any other law, the head of an executive agency or of a Federal court shall provide such information to the Task Force.

(C) FACILITIES AND SUPPORT SERVICES.—The Administrator of General Services shall provide to the Task Force on a reimbursable basis such facilities and support services as the Task Force may request. On request of the Task Force, the head of an executive agency may make any of the facilities or services of such agency available to the Task Force, on a reimbursable or nonreimbursable basis, to assist the Task Force in carrying out its duties under this subsection.

(D) EXPENDITURES AND CONTRACTS.—The Task Force or, on authorization of the Task Force, a member of the Task Force may make expenditures and enter into contracts for the procurement of such supplies, services, and property as the Task Force or such member considers to be appropriate for the purpose of carrying out the duties of the Task Force. Such expenditures and contracts may be made only to such extent or in such amounts as are provided in advance in appropriation Acts.

(E) MAILS.—The Task Force may use the United States mails in the same manner and under the same conditions as other departments and agencies of the United States.

(F) GIFTS, BEQUESTS, AND DEVISES.—The Task Force may accept, use, and dispose of gifts, bequests, or devises of services or property, both real and personal, for the purpose of aiding or facilitating the work of the Task Force. Gifts, bequests, or devises of money and proceeds from sales of other property received as gifts, bequests, or devises shall be deposited in the Treasury and shall be available for disbursement upon order of the Task Force.

(9) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this subsection $1,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008, 2009, and 2010.

(d) AUTHORIZATION FOR ADDITIONAL STAFF AND FUNDING.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to hire additional employees (including agricultural law and economics experts) for the Transportation, Energy, and Agriculture Section of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, to enhance the review of agricultural transactions and monitor, investigate, and prosecute unfair and deceptive practices in the agricultural industry.

(e) ENSURING FULL AND FREE COMPETITION IN AGRICULTURE.—

(1) BURDEN OF PROOF.—Section 7 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 18) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''In this paragraph, the term 'covered civil action' means a civil action brought against any person for violating this section in which the plaintiff alleges that the effect of a merger, acquisition, or other transaction affecting commerce may be to substantially lessen competition, or to tend to create a monopoly, in the business of procuring agricultural products from, or selling products to, agricultural producers in one or more geographic areas, and establishes that a merger, acquisition, or other transaction affecting commerce is between or involves persons competing in the business of procuring agricultural products from, or selling products to, agricultural producers. In any covered civil action—

''(A) if the plaintiff is the Federal Government or a State government, the burden of proof shall be on the defendant or defendants to establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the merger, acquisition, or transaction at issue will not—

''(i) substantially lessen competition; or

''(ii) tend to create a monopoly in 1 or more geographic markets; and

''(B) for any other plaintiff, if the plaintiff demonstrates that the parties to the merger, acquisition, or other transaction have a combined market share of not less than 20 percent in any relevant market, the burden of proof shall be on the defendant or defendants to establish by a preponderance of the evidence that the merger, acquisition, or transaction at issue will not—

''(i) substantially lessen competition; or

''(ii) tend to create a monopoly in 1 or more geographic markets.''.

(2) AGRICULTURAL GUIDELINES.—

(A) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(i) The effective enforcement of the antitrust laws in agriculture requires that the antitrust enforcement agencies have guidelines with respect to mergers and other anticompetitive conduct that are properly adapted to the special circumstances of agricultural commodity markets.

(ii) There has been a substantial increase in concentration in the markets in which agricultural commodities are sold, with the result that buyers of agricultural commodities often possess regional dominance in the form of oligopsony or monopsony relative to sellers of such commodities. A substantial part of this increase in market concentration is the direct result of mergers and acquisitions that the antitrust enforcement agencies did not challenge, in large part because of the lack of appropriate guidelines identifying particular structural characteristics in the agricultural industry and the adverse competitive effects that such acquisitions and mergers would create.

(iii) The cost of transportation, impact on quality, and delay in sales of agricultural commodities if they are to be transported to more distant buyers result in narrow geographic markets with respect to buyer power.

(iv) Buyers have no economic incentive to bid up the price of agricultural commodities in the absence of effective competition. Further, the nature of buying makes it feasible for larger numbers of buyers to engage in tacit or overt collusion to restrain price competition.

(v) Buyers with oligopsonistic or monopsonistic power have incentives to engage in unfair, exploitive, discriminatory,

and exclusionary acts that cause producers of agricultural commodities to receive less than a competitive price for their goods, transfer economic risks to sellers without reasonable compensation, and exclude sellers from access to the market.

(vi) Markets for agricultural commodities often involve contexts in which many producers have relatively limited information and no bargaining power with respect to the sale of their commodities. These conditions invite buyers with significant oligopsonistic or monopsonistic power to exercise that power in ways that involve discrimination, exploitation, and undue differentiation among sellers.

(vii) Some Federal courts have incorrectly required a plaintiff to show harm to competition generally, in addition to harm to the producer of agricultural commodities when making a determination that an unfair, unjustly discriminatory, deceptive, or preferential act exists. Those same courts have also incorrectly held that it is a complete defense if a defendant can show any nonharmful justification for an act or practice, even though such conduct was not essential to the business activities of the defendant or there were less harmful ways to achieve a reasonably comparable result with respect to the legitimate and necessary interests of the defendant.

(B) ISSUANCE OF GUIDELINES.—The Assistant Attorney General and the Chairman, in consultation with the Special Counsel, shall issue agricultural guidelines informed and guided by the findings under subparagraph (A) that—

(i) facilitate a fair, open, accessible, transparent, and efficient market system for agricultural products;

(ii) reflect the national public interest in preserving a substantial and diverse family farm and ranch sector;

(iii) recognize that increasing competition in the purchase of agricultural products by highly concentrated firms from a sector in perfect competition is entirely consistent with the objective of the antitrust laws to protect consumers and enhance consumer benefits from competition; and

(iv) prevent any merger or acquisition in the agricultural industry, if the effect of that merger or acquisition may be to substantially lessen competition or tend to create a monopoly.

(C) CONTENTS.—The agricultural guidelines issued under subparagraph (B) shall consist of merger guidelines relating to existing and potential competition and vertical integration that—

(i) establish appropriate methodologies for determining the geographic and product markets for mergers affecting agricultural commodity markets;

(ii) establish thresholds of increased concentration that raise a presumption that the merger will have an adverse effect on competition in the affected agricultural commodities markets;

(iii) identify potential adverse competitive effects of mergers in agricultural commodities markets in a nonexclusive manner; and

(iv) identify the factors that would permit an enforcement agency to determine when a merger in the agricultural commodities market might avoid liability because it is not likely to have an adverse effect on competition.

(3) AGRICULTURE COMPETITION TASK FORCE WORKING GROUP ON BUYING POWER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—In issuing agricultural guidelines under this subsection, the Chairman and the Assistant Attorney General shall consult with the working group on buyer power of the Task Force established under subsection (c)(4) and may incorporate and implement the recommendations of that working group.

(B) EXPLANATION.—If the Chairman and the Assistant Attorney General do not incorporate any recommendation of the working group on buyer power of the Task Force established under subsection (c)(4) in the agricultural guidelines issued under this subsection, the Chairman and the Assistant Attorney General shall submit to Congress a report regarding the reasons for not adopting that recommendation.

(4) COMPLETION.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Chairman and the Assistant Attorney General shall—

(A) issue agricultural guidelines under this subsection; and

(B) submit to Congress the agricultural guidelines issued under this subsection.

(5) REPORT.—Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Chairman and the Assistant Attorney General shall jointly submit a report to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representatives regarding the issuing of agricultural guidelines under this subsection.

(f) POST-MERGER REVIEW OF AGRICULTURAL TRANSACTIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 5 years after the date of a covered merger or acquisition, the Assistant Attorney General or the Chairman, as the case may be, shall conduct a post-merger review to determine whether the effect of that covered merger or acquisition tended to substantially reduce competition in the agricultural industry.

(2) SHARING OF RESULTS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Attorney General and the Chairman shall each submit to Congress an annual report regarding the results of any post-merger review under paragraph (1), for its consideration in examining problems in agricultural competition.

(B) PROTECTION OF INFORMATION.—The Assistant Attorney General or the Chairman, as the case may be, shall ensure that confidential or proprietary information is adequately protected in submitting each report required under subparagraph (A).

(3) DEFINITION.—In this subsection, the term ''covered merger or acquisition'' means a merger or acquisition—

(A) in the agricultural industry;

(B) that is subject to the notification requirements under section 7A of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 18a);

(C) for which the Assistant Attorney General or the Chairman, as the case may be, required the submission of additional information or documentary material under section 7A(e)(1)(A) of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 18a(e)(1)(A)); and

(D) for which, after review under that section, the Assistant Attorney General or the Chairman, as the case may be—

(i) did not institute a proceeding or action under the antitrust laws; or

(ii) instituted a proceeding or action under the antitrust laws that was resolved through a settlement agreement or consent decree.

(g) SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Packers and Stockyards Act, 1921 (7 U.S.C. 181 et seq.) is amended—

(A) by striking the title I heading and all that follows through ''This Act'' and inserting the following:

"TITLE I—GENERAL PROVISIONS

"Subtitle A—Definitions

"SEC. 1. SHORT TITLE.

''This Act''; and

(B) by inserting after section 2 (7 U.S.C. 183) the following:

"Subtitle B—Special Counsel for Agricultural Competition

"SEC. 11. SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION.

''(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There is established within the Department of Agriculture an office to be known as the 'Office of Special Counsel for Agricultural Competition' (referred to in this section as the 'Office').

''(2) DUTIES.—The Office shall—

''(A) have responsibility for all duties and functions of the Packers and Stockyards programs of the Department of Agriculture;

''(B) investigate and prosecute violations of this Act and the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

''(C) analyze mergers within the food and agricultural sectors, in consultation with the Chief Economist of the Department of Agriculture, the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Antitrust Division of the Department of Justice, and the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission, as required under section 10201(h) of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007;

''(D) serve as a liaison between, and act in consultation with, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Justice, and the Federal Trade Commission with respect to competition and trade practices in the food and agricultural sector; and

''(E) maintain sufficient employees (including antitrust and litigation attorneys, economists, investigators, and other professionals with the appropriate expertise) to appropriately carry out the responsibilities of the Office.

''(b) SPECIAL COUNSEL FOR AGRICULTURAL COMPETITION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall be headed by the Special Counsel for Agricultural Competition (referred to in this section as the 'Special Counsel'), who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate.

''(2) INDEPENDENCE OF SPECIAL AUTHORITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Special Counsel shall report to and be under the general supervision of the Secretary.

''(B) DIRECTION, CONTROL, AND SUPPORT.—The Special Counsel shall be free from the direction and control of any person in the Department of Agriculture other than the Secretary.

''(C) PROHIBITION ON DELEGATION.—The Secretary may not delegate any duty described in subsection (a)(2) to any other officer or employee of the Department other than the Special Counsel.

''(D) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Twice each year, the Special Counsel shall submit to the Committee on Agriculture of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate a report that shall include, for the relevant reporting period, a description of—

''(I) the number of complaints that the Special Counsel has received and closed;

''(II)(aa) the number of investigations and civil and administrative actions that the Special Counsel has initiated, carried out, and completed, including the number of notices given to regulated entities for violations of this Act or the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.);

''(bb) the number and types of decisions agreed to; and

''(cc) the number of stipulation agreements; and

''(III) the number of investigations and civil and administrative actions that the Secretary objected to or prohibited from being carried out, and the stated purpose of the Secretary for each objection or prohibition.

''(ii) REQUIREMENT.—The basis for each complaint, investigation, or civil or administrative action described in a report under clause (i) shall—

''(I) be organized by species; and

''(II) indicate if the complaint, investigation, or civil or administration action was for anti-competitive, unfair, or deceptive practices under this Act or was a violation of the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

''(E) REMOVAL.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The Special Counsel may be removed from office by the President.

''(ii) COMMUNICATION.—The President shall communicate the reasons for any such removal to both Houses of Congress.

''(3) PROSECUTORIAL AUTHORITY.—Subject to paragraph (4), the Special Counsel may commence, defend, or intervene in, and supervise the litigation of, any civil or administrative action authorized under this Act or the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.).

''(4) PROCEDURE FOR EXERCISE OF AUTHORITY TO LITIGATE OR APPEAL.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Prior to commencing, defending, or intervening in any civil action under this Act or the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), the Special Counsel shall give written notification to, and attempt to consult with, the Attorney General with respect to the proposed action.

''(B) FAILURE TO RESPOND.—If, not later than 45 days after the date of provision of notification under subparagraph (A), the Attorney General has failed to commence, defend, or intervene in the proposed action, the Special Counsel may commence, defend, or intervene in, and supervise the litigation of, the action and any appeal of the action in the name of the Special Counsel.

''(C) AUTHORITY OF ATTORNEY GENERAL TO INTERVENE.—Nothing in this paragraph precludes the Attorney General from intervening on behalf of the United States in any civil action under this Act or the Agricultural Fair Practices Act of 1967 (7 U.S.C. 2301 et seq.), or in any appeal of such action, as may be otherwise provided by law.

''(c) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER PROVISIONS.—Nothing in this section modifies or otherwise effects subsections (a) and (b) of section 406.

''(d) AUTHORIZATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out subsection (a)(2)(E).''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 5315 of title 5, United States Code, is amended by adding at the end the following:

''Special Counsel for Agricultural Competition.''.

(h) AGRIBUSINESS MERGER REVIEW AND ENFORCEMENT BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.—

(1) NOTICE.—The Assistant Attorney General or the Commissioner, as appropriate, shall notify the Secretary of any filing under section 7A of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 18a) involving a merger or acquisition in the agricultural industry, and shall give the Secretary the opportunity to participate in the review proceedings.

(2) REVIEW.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—After receiving notice of a merger or acquisition under paragraph (1), the Secretary may submit to the Assistant Attorney General or the Commissioner, as appropriate, and publish the comments of the Secretary regarding that merger or acquisition, including a determination regarding whether the merger or acquisition may have a substantial adverse impact on rural communities or the family farm and ranch sector, such that further review by the Assistant Attorney General or the Commissioner, as appropriate, is warranted.

(B) SECOND REQUESTS.—For any merger or acquisition described in paragraph (1), if the Assistant Attorney General or the Chairman, as the case may be, requires the submission of additional information or documentary material under section 7A(e)(1)(A) of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. 18a(e)(1)(A))—

(i) copies of any materials provided in response to such a request shall be made available to the Secretary; and

(ii) the Secretary—

(I) shall submit to the Assistant Attorney General or the Chairman such additional comments as the Secretary determines appropriate; and

(II) shall publish a summary of any comments submitted under subclause (I).

(3) REPORT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall submit an annual report to Congress regarding the review of mergers and acquisitions described in paragraph (1).

(B) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted under subparagraph (A) shall provide a description of each merger or acquisition described in paragraph (1) that was reviewed by the Secretary during the year before the date that report is submitted, including—

(i) the name and total resources of each entity involved in that merger or acquisition;

(ii) a statement of the views of the Secretary regarding the competitive effects of that merger or acquisition on—

(I) agricultural markets; and

(II) rural communities and small, independent producers; and

(iii) a statement indicating whether the Assistant Attorney General or the Chairman, as the case may be, instituted a proceeding or action under the antitrust laws, and if so, the status of that proceeding or action.

(i) AUTHORIZATION FOR ADDITIONAL STAFF AND FUNDING FOR THE GRAIN INSPECTION, PACKERS, AND STOCKYARDS ADMINISTRATION.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to enhance the capability of the Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration to monitor, investigate, and pursue the competitive implications of structural changes in the meat packing and poultry industries by hiring litigating attorneys to allow the Grain Inspection, Packers, and Stockyards Administration to more comprehensively and effectively pursue its enforcement activities.

SA 3632. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 394, after line 25, add the following:

(d) INCOME REQUIREMENT.—Section 1240B of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3839aa–2) (as amended by subsection (c)) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''(i) INCOME REQUIREMENT.—A producer shall not be eligible to receive any payment under this section unless not less than 66.66 percent of the average adjusted gross income of the producer is derived from farming, ranching, or forestry operations, as determined by the Secretary.''.

SA 3633. Ms. MIKULSKI submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ____. H–2B NONIMMIGRANTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the ''Save Our Small and Seasonal Businesses Act of 2007''.

(b) EXTENSION OF RETURNING WORKER EXEMPTION TO H–2B NUMERICAL LIMITATION.—Section 214(g)(9)(A) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1184(g)(9)(A) is amended, by striking ''an alien who has already been counted toward the numerical limitation of paragraph (1)(B) during fiscal year 2004, 2005, or 2006 shall not again be counted toward such limitation during fiscal year 2007.'' and inserting ''an alien who has been present in the United States as an H–2B nonimmigrant during any 1 of the 3 fiscal years immediately preceding the fiscal year of the approved start date of a petition for a nonimmigrant worker described in section 101(a)(15)(H)(ii)(b) shall not be counted toward such limitation for the fiscal year in which the petition is approved.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall be effective during the 5-year period beginning on October 1, 2007.

SA 3634. Ms. CANTWELL (for herself, Mrs. MURRAY, Mr. WYDEN, Ms. STABENOW, Mr. CRAIG, and Mr. CASEY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 1378, strike line 17 and all that follows through page 1380, line 14, and insert the following:

''(e) TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.—

''(1) DEFINITIONS.—In this subsection:

''(A) ELIGIBLE ORCHARDIST.—The term 'eligible orchardist' means a person that produces annual crops from trees for commercial purposes.

''(B) NATURAL DISASTER.—The term 'natural disaster' means plant disease, insect infestation, drought, fire, freeze, flood, earthquake, lightning, or other occurrence, as determined by the Secretary.

''(C) NURSERY TREE GROWER.—The term 'nursery tree grower' means a person who produces nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut, or Christmas trees for commercial sale, as determined by the Secretary.

''(D) TREE.—The term 'tree' includes a tree, bush, and vine.

''(2) ELIGIBILITY.—

''(A) LOSS.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Secretary shall provide assistance under paragraph (3) to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers that planted trees for commercial purposes but lost the trees as a result of a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary.

''(B) LIMITATION.—An eligible orchardist shall qualify for assistance under subparagraph (A) only if the tree mortality of the eligible orchardist or nursery tree grower, as a result of damaging weather or related condition, exceeds 15 percent (adjusted for normal mortality).

''(3) ASSISTANCE.—Subject to paragraph (4), the assistance provided by the Secretary to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers for losses described in paragraph (2) shall consist of—

''(A)(i) reimbursement of 75 percent of the cost of replanting trees lost due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, in excess of 15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality); or

''(ii) at the option of the Secretary, sufficient seedlings to reestablish a stand; and

''(B) reimbursement of 50 percent of the cost of pruning, removal, and other costs incurred by an eligible orchardist or nursery tree grower to salvage existing trees or, in the case of tree mortality, to prepare the land to replant trees as a result of damage or tree mortality due to a natural disaster, as determined by the Secretary, in excess of 15 percent damage or mortality (adjusted for normal tree damage and mortality).

''(4) LIMITATIONS ON ASSISTANCE.—

''(A) AMOUNT.—The total amount of payments that a person shall be entitled to receive under this subsection may not exceed $100,000 per year, or an equivalent value in tree seedlings.

''(B) ACRES.—The total quantity of acres planted to trees or tree seedlings for which a person shall be entitled to receive payments under this subsection may not exceed 500 acres.

''(C) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall promulgate —

''(i) regulations defining the term 'person' for the purposes of this subsection, which shall conform, to the maximum extent practicable, to the regulations defining the term 'person' promulgated under section 1001 of the Food Security Act of 1985 (7 U.S.C. 1308); and

''(ii) such regulations as the Secretary determines necessary to ensure a fair and reasonable application of the limitation established under this paragraph.''.

On page 1390, between lines 9 and 10, insert the following:

''(5) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) does not apply to eligible orchardists and nursery tree growers described in subsection (e).''.

On page 1391, line 11, before the period at the end insert ''(other than subsection (e))''.

SA 3635. Ms. CANTWELL (for herself and Mrs. MURRAY) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Section 1841 is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting the following:

(b) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—Section 101 of the Specialty Crops Competitiveness Act of 2004 (7 U.S.C. 1621 note; Public Law 108–465) is amended by striking subsection (i) and inserting the following:

''(i) FUNDING.—Of the funds of the Commodity Credit Corporation, the Secretary of Agriculture shall make grants under this section, using—

''(1) $85,000,000 for fiscal year 2008;

''(2) $90,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

''(3) $95,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

''(4) $95,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

''(5) $0 for fiscal year 2012.''.

At the end of title I, add the following:

Subtitle H—Reduction in Funds

SEC. 19___. REDUCTION IN FUNDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection (b) and notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or an amendment made by this Act, for the period beginning on October 1, 2007, and ending on September 30, 2011—

(1) each amount provided to carry out administration for a program under this Act or an amendment made by this Act is reduced by an amount necessary to achieve a total reduction of $95,000,000; and

(2) the Secretary shall adjust the amount of each payment, loan, gain, or other assistance provided under each program described in paragraph (1) by such amount as is necessary to achieve the reduction required under that paragraph, as determined by the Secretary.

(b) APPLICATION.—This section does not apply to a payment, loan, gain, or other assistance provided under a contract entered into by the Secretary before the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 3636. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself, Ms. CANTWELL, Mr. SCHUMER, and Mr. WYDEN) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 243, strike lines 2 through 12 and insert the following:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall make available to carry out the program under this section—

''(A) $9,000,000 of funds of, or an equal value of commodities owned by, the Commodity Credit Corporation for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2011; and

''(B) $2,000,000 of funds of, or an equal value of commodities owned by, the Commodity Credit Corporation for fiscal year 2012 and each subsequent fiscal year.''.

On page 299, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

Subtitle H—Reduction in Funds

SEC. 19___. REDUCTION IN FUNDS.

Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act or an amendment made by this Act, for the period beginning on October 1, 2007, and ending on September 30, 2011, each amount provided to carry out administration for a program under this Act or an amendment made by this Act is reduced by an amount necessary to achieve a total reduction of $8,800,000.

SA 3637. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After section 2613, insert the following:

SEC. 26___. COMPREHENSIVE CONSERVATION PLANNING FOR PUGET SOUND AREA.

(a) GRANT PROGRAM.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall carry out a competitive grant program for the Puget Sound area to provide comprehensive conservation planning to address water quality.

(2) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS.—The Secretary shall enter into cooperative agreements with State and local governments, Indian tribes, or nongovernmental entities with a history of working with agricultural producers to carry out projects under the program.

(b) ASSISTANCE.—In carrying out the program, the Secretary may—

(1) provide project demonstration grants and technical assistance and carry out information and education programs to improve water quality in the Puget Sound area by reducing soil erosion and improving sediment control; and

(2) provide a priority for projects and activities that directly reduce soil erosion or improve water quality.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary $5,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012 to carry out the program.

SA 3638. Mrs. MURRAY (for herself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by her to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 309, strike lines 7 through 22 and insert the following:

''(D) EXCEPTIONS.—The Secretary may exceed the limitations limitation in subparagraph (A) if the Secretary determines that—

''(i)(I) the action would not adversely affect the local economy of a county; and

''(II) operators in the county are having difficulties complying with conservation plans implemented under section 1212;

''(ii)(I) the acreage to be enrolled could not be used for an agricultural purpose as a result of a State or local law, order, or regulation prohibiting water use for agricultural production; and

''(II) enrollment in the program would benefit the acreage enrolled or land adjacent to the acreage enrolled; or

''(iii)(I) the acreage to be enrolled is considered to be essential by Federal or State plans for a sustainable wildlife habitat; and

''(II) enrollment in the program would assist the producer in meeting environmental goals in the Federal or State plans.''.

SA 3639. Mr. HARKIN (for himself and Ms. MURKOWSKI) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

After section 4402, insert the following:

SEC. ___. NUTRITION STANDARDS FOR FOODS AND BEVERAGES SOLD IN SCHOOLS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 10 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1779) is amended to read as follows:

''SEC. 10. NUTRITION STANDARDS FOR FOODS AND BEVERAGES SOLD IN SCHOOLS.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) APPLICABLE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'applicable' means, with respect to a food or beverage, a food or beverage that is offered for sale—

''(i) on the school campus; and

''(ii) at any time during the extended school day, when events are primarily under the control of the school or a third party on behalf of the school.

''(B) EXCLUSIONS.—The term 'applicable' does not include, with respect to a food or beverage, a food or beverage when the food or beverage is sold as a part of a meal or meal supplement that is eligible for reimbursement under this Act or the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.).

''(2) EXTENDED SCHOOL DAY.—The term 'extended school day' means—

''(A) the official school day; and

''(B) the time before and after the official school day that includes activities, such as clubs, yearbook, band and choir practice, student government, drama, and childcare or latchkey programs.

''(b) REQUIREMENT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraphs (2) and (3), each applicable food and beverage that is offered for sale in an elementary school, middle school, or high school during the extended school day shall meet the requirements established under this section with respect to each serving or package as offered for sale.

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to or affect—

''(A) a food or beverage that is sold for the purpose of a school-sponsored or school-related bona fide fundraising activity that does not take place—

''(i) on school grounds; or

''(ii) in transit to or from school;

''(B) a food or beverage that is sold at, or immediately before or after, a school-related event at which parents and other adults comprise a significant part of an audience; or

''(C) a fundraiser (other than fundraising through vending machines, school stores, snack bars, a la carte sales, and any other exclusions determined by the Secretary), if the fundraiser is—

''(i) approved by the school; and

''(ii) infrequent within the school.

''(3) A LA CARTE MAIN DISH ITEMS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall promulgate regulations establishing nutrition standards for main dish items covered by paragraph (1) that are offered for sale a la carte.

''(B) CONSIDERATIONS.—In establishing the standards, the Secretary shall consider both the positive and negative contribution of nutrients, ingredients, and foods in a la carte items (including calories, portion size, saturated fat, trans fat, sodium, added sugars, and under-consumed food groups and nutrients) to the diets of children and adolescents.

''(C) REGULATIONS.—Regulations promulgated under this paragraph shall be—

''(i) in accordance with rulemaking under section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and

''(ii) subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget.

''(4) STATEWIDE NUTRITION STANDARDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), any State that participates in a food-service program under this Act or the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) may not establish or continue in effect any statewide nutrition standards relating to applicable foods and beverages that are different than the standards established under this section.

''(B) EXCEPTION.—Subparagraph (A) does not apply to or affect—

''(i) any Federal or State law relating to consumer protection, unfair or deceptive practices, unfair competition, or marketing;

''(ii) any additional nutrition standard relating to applicable foods and beverages that is established by any political subdivision of a State; or

''(iii) any additional nutrition standard for an a la carte main dish item that is established by any State or political subdivision.

''(c) APPLICABLE BEVERAGES.—

''(1) ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS.—

''(A) PACKAGE SIZES.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B)(ii), the package of any applicable beverage that is offered for sale in an elementary school or middle school shall be not more than 8 fluid ounces.

''(B) WATER.—Water offered for sale in an elementary school or middle school may—

''(i) only be water without flavoring, sweeteners, or carbonation; and

''(ii) be sold in a package size of more than 8 fluid ounces.

''(C) MILK.—Milk offered for sale in an elementary school or middle school—

''(i) shall be low-fat or non-fat; and

''(ii) shall contain not more than 170 calories per 8 fluid ounce serving.

''(D) FLUID MILK SUBSTITUTES.—An elementary or middle school may offer for sale a fluid milk substitute that—

''(i) is consistent with the nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes that are established by the Secretary for use under this Act or the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.); and

''(ii) contains not more than 170 calories per 8 fluid ounce serving.

''(E) JUICE.—Juice offered for sale in an elementary school or middle school may contain—

''(i) only juice, with or without added micronutrients or natural flavors—

''(I) with no added sweeteners; and

''(II) with or without water or carbonated water; and

''(ii) not more than 170 calories per 8 fluid ounce serving.

''(2) HIGH SCHOOLS.—

''(A) PACKAGE SIZES.—Except as provided in subparagraphs (B)(ii) and (F)(iii), the package of any applicable beverage offered for sale in a high school shall be not more than 12 fluid ounces.

''(B) WATER.—Water offered for sale in a high school may—

''(i) be water with or without flavoring, noncaloric sweeteners, or carbonation; and

''(ii) be sold in a package size of more than 12 ounces.

''(C) MILK.—Milk offered for sale in a high school shall—

''(i) be low-fat or nonfat; and

''(ii) contain not more than 170 calories per 8 fluid ounce serving.

''(D) FLUID MILK SUBSTITUTES.—A high school may offer for sale a fluid milk substitute that—

''(i) is consistent with the nutrition standards for fluid milk substitutes that are established by the Secretary for use under this Act or the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.); and

''(ii) contains not more than 170 calories per 8 fluid ounce serving.

''(E) JUICE.—Juice offered for sale in a high school may only contain juice, with or without added micronutrients or natural flavors—

''(i)(I) with no added sweeteners; or

''(II) with or without water or carbonated water with no added caloric sweeteners; and

''(ii) that contains not more than 170 calories per 8 fluid ounce serving.

''(F) OTHER BEVERAGES.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii), any beverage offered for sale in a high school other than a beverage identified in subparagraph (B), (C), (D), or (E), shall contain—

''(I) during the period beginning on the effective date described in subsection (j) and ending on June 30, 2013, not more than 66 calories per 8 fluid ounce serving; and

''(II) effective beginning on July 1, 2013, not more than 25 calories per 8 fluid ounce serving.

''(ii) EXCEPTION.—Effective beginning on July 1, 2013, beverages that are mixtures of water, carbohydrates, and electrolytes (with or without other ingredients) that are useful for providing energy and hydration for sustained and vigorous physical activity with not more than 66 calories per 8 fluid ounces may be offered for sale in packages of not more than 12 fluid ounces in or immediately adjacent to an area of the high school in which students participate in a school-sponsored sport or other vigorous and sustained physical activity, subject to the requirement that such an adjacent area shall not be within the general movement of students between classes or into or out of the school campus.

''(iii) VERY LOW CALORIE EXCEPTION.—Any beverage that contains between 0 and 10 calories per 8 fluid ounce serving may be offered for sale in a high school in a package of not more than 20 fluid ounces.

''(d) APPLICABLE FOOD.—

''(1) STANDARDS.—

''(A) FATS.—An applicable food shall contain—

''(i) not more than 35 percent of total calories from fat, except for—

''(I) seeds, nuts, nut butters, and nut-based products containing 40 percent or more nuts by weight; and

''(II) reduced-fat and part skim cheese packaged for individual sale;

''(ii) not more than 10 percent of total calories from saturated fat, except for reduced-fat and part skim cheese packaged for individual sale; and

''(iii) less than 0.5 grams of trans fats.

''(B) SUGARS.—An applicable food shall consist of not more than 35 percent sugars by weight, excluding sugar from whole fruit.

''(C) SODIUM.—An applicable food shall contain, per package or serving as offered for sale—

''(i) in the case of chips, crackers, French fries, vegetables, baked goods, yogurt (including drinkable yogurt and yogurt smoothies), and other side dishes or snack items, not more than 230 milligrams of sodium per serving; and

''(ii) in the case of pastas that are side dishes, cereals, meats, and soups, not more than 480 milligrams of sodium per serving.

''(2) REQUIRED CONTENTS.—Each applicable food that is offered for sale in an elementary school, middle school, or high school shall contain 1 or more of the following:

''(A) 10 percent of the daily recommended value of 1 or more of the following:

''(i) Vitamin A, E, or C.

''(ii) Calcium.

''(iii) Magnesium.

''(iv) Potassium.

''(v) Fiber.

''(B) ¼ cup of a fruit or vegetable, as provided prior to processing.

''(C) 51 percent or more by weight whole grain ingredients or have a whole grain as the first ingredient.

''(3) CALORIES.—

''(A) ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS.—An applicable food that is offered for sale in an elementary school or middle school shall contain not more than 180 calories per package or serving as offered for sale.

''(B) HIGH SCHOOLS.—An applicable food that is offered for sale in a high school shall contain not more than 200 calories per package or serving as offered for sale.

''(e) SHARED SCHOOL FACILITIES.—Notwithstanding subsection (c)(1) or (d)(3)(A), if elementary school or middle school students have shared access to areas in common buildings with high school students, the local educational authority may elect whether to apply in those areas the applicable beverage provisions in paragraph (1) or (2) of subsection (c) or the applicable food provisions in subparagraph (A) or (B) of subsection (d)(3).

''(f) APPROVAL OF NEW PRODUCTS.—The Secretary may approve for sale in schools a new food or beverage that does not satisfy the applicable food and beverage requirements of this section if the Secretary (based on a rulemaking conducted under section 553 of title 5, United States Code, prior to approval)—

''(1) determines that the sale of the new food or beverage does not undermine the purposes of this section; and

''(2) provides scientific justification for the approval.

''(g) UPDATING STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—As soon as practicable after the date of publication by the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health and Human Services of a new edition of the Dietary Guidelines for Americans under section 301 of the National Nutrition Monitoring and Related Research Act of 1990

(7 U.S.C. 5341), beginning with the 2015 edition, the Secretary shall review and update as necessary the school nutrition standards and requirements established under this section.

''(2) REQUIREMENTS.—In reviewing or updating the nutrition standards and requirements under this section, the Secretary shall take into consideration—

''(A) the positive and negative contributions of nutrients, ingredients, and foods (including calories, vitamins, minerals, portion size, saturated fat, trans fat, sodium, added sugars, and underconsumed food groups and nutrients) to the diets of children and adolescents;

''(B) evidence concerning the relationship between consumption of certain nutrients, ingredients, and foods with respect to the prevention of overweight, obesity, and other chronic illnesses;

''(C) recommendations made by authoritative scientific sources concerning—

''(i) appropriate nutrition standards for foods sold outside the reimbursable meal programs in schools; and

''(ii) the most effective manner in which to teach children and adolescents how to improve dietary habits; and

''(D) the practicality and feasibility of implementation of potential modifications to the nutrition standards and requirements.

''(3) LIMITATION ON AUTHORITY.—The Secretary may update or otherwise modify nutrition standards and requirements under this section only—

''(A) in accordance with rulemaking under section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and

''(B) subject to review by the Office of Management and Budget.

''(4) EFFECT OF UPDATED STANDARDS.—Updated school nutrition standards and requirements under this subsection shall supersede any other school nutrition standards or requirements in effect on the date on which the updated standards and requirements are implemented.

''(h) SCHOOL FOOD AND BEVERAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may establish an advisory committee, to be known as the 'School Food and Beverage Advisory Committee' (in this subsection referred to as the 'Advisory Committee'), to advise the Secretary on updating the school nutrition standards and requirements under this section.

''(2) MEMBERSHIP.—The members of the Advisory Committee shall be appointed by the Secretary and shall include—

''(A) registered dietitians and certified nutritionists;

''(B) school officials, such as school food service directors, principals, or school board members;

''(C) public health professionals, including physicians and dentists;

''(D) members of parent or consumer advocacy groups;

''(E) representatives of industry stakeholders that produce food and beverages offered for sale in schools; and

''(F) other individuals with relevant expertise in child health and nutrition.

''(3) DUTIES.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Committee shall provide advice, information, and recommendations to the Secretary on implementation of this section and on other child health and nutrition issues related to the provision of foods and beverages in schools, as requested by the Secretary.

''(B) SCIENTIFIC JUSTIFICATION.—The Advisory Committee shall provide—

''(i) scientific justification for any recommended modification to the provisions regarding applicable foods and beverages under this section; and

''(ii) anticipated nutrition and health benefits if the recommended modification is adopted.

''(i) GUIDANCE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall develop guidance to help local educational authorities and school food authorities identify beverage and food products that meet the nutrition standards established by this section.

''(2) LIST OF BEVERAGES.—In issuing guidance to carry out this section, and at any time not later than 60 days after receipt of an applicable request, the Secretary shall identify and maintain a list of beverages allowable under subsection (c)(2)(F)(ii).

''(j) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), nutrition standards and requirements established under this section take effect on the first day of the first school year beginning on or after July 1, 2011.

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Standards for a la carte main dish items established under subsection (b)(3) take effect on the later of—

''(A) the date on which final regulations under subsection (b)(3) are promulgated; or

''(B) July 1, 2011.''.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION, REGULATIONS, AND ENFORCEMENT.—

(1) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall implement section 10 of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (as amended by subsection (a)) (other than subsections (b)(3)(C) and (g) of that section) through the issuance of guidance, which shall be considered a ''significant guidance document'' under Executive Order 12866 (5 U.S.C. 601 note; relating to regulatory planning and review), as amended by Executive Order 13422 (72 Fed. Reg. 2763).

(2) REGULATIONS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall promulgate—

(i) regulations to eliminate any conflicting provisions regarding competitive foods and foods of minimal nutritional value; and

(ii) such other regulations as are necessary to carry out the amendment made by subsection (a).

(B) PROCEDURE.—The promulgation of the regulations under subparagraph (A) shall be made without regard to—

(i) the notice and comment provisions of section 553 of title 5, United States Code;

(ii) the Statement of Policy of the Secretary of Agriculture effective July 24, 1971 (36 Fed. Reg. 13804), relating to notices of proposed rulemaking and public participation in rulemaking; and

(iii) chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly known as the ''Paperwork Reduction Act'').

(C) CONGRESSIONAL REVIEW OF AGENCY RULEMAKING.—In carrying out this paragraph, the Secretary shall use the authority provided under section 808 of title 5, United States Code.

(3) ENFORCEMENT.—The Secretary shall enforce this section and the amendments made by this section (including regulations) in accordance with requirements established by the Secretary.

SA 3640. Mr. CRAIG (for himself, Mr. BROWNBACK, and Mr. ALLARD) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. ___. FARMLAND AND GRAZING LAND PRESERVATION.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) FARMLAND OR GRAZING LAND.—The term ''farmland or grazing land'' means—

(A) farmland (as defined in section 1540(c) of the Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 U.S.C. 4201(c)));

(B) land that is used for any part of the year as pasture land for the grazing of livestock;

(C) land that is assessed as agricultural land for purposes of State or local property taxes; and

(D) land that is enrolled in—

(i) the conservation reserve program established under subchapter B of chapter 1 of subtitle D of title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3831 et seq.); or

(ii) any other program authorized under—

(I) subtitle D of title XII of that Act; or

(II) the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007.

(2) FEDERAL FUNDS OR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE.—The term ''Federal funds or financial assistance'' means—

(A) Federal financial assistance (as defined in section 101 of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4601)); and

(B) any other Federal funds that are appropriated through an Act of Congress or otherwise expended from the Treasury.

(3) PROHIBITED CONDUCT.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''prohibited conduct'' means the exercise of eminent domain authority to acquire real property that is farmland or grazing land for the purpose of a park, recreation, open space, conservation, preservation view, scenic vista, or similar purpose.

(B) EXCEPTIONS.—The term ''prohibited conduct'' does not include a transfer of farmland or grazing land for—

(i) use by a public utility;

(ii) a road or other right of way or means, open to the public or common carriers, for transportation;

(iii) an aqueduct, pipeline, or similar use;

(iv) a prison or hospital; or

(v) any use during and in relation to a national emergency or national disaster declared by the President under other law.

(4) RELEVANT ENTITY.—The term ''relevant entity'' means—

(A) a State or unit of local government that engages in prohibited conduct;

(B) a State or unit of local government that gives authority for an entity to engage in prohibited conduct; and

(C) in the case of extraterritorial prohibited conduct—

(i) the entity that engages in prohibited conduct; and

(ii) the State or unit of local government that allows the prohibited conduct to take place within the jurisdiction of the State or local government.

(5) STATE.—The term ''State'' means—

(A) each of the several States of the United States;

(B) the District of Columbia;

(C) the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

(D) Guam;

(E) American Samoa;

(F) the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands;

(G) the Federated States of Micronesia;

(H) the Republic of the Marshall Islands;

(I) the Republic of Palau; and

(J) the United States Virgin Islands.

(b) PROHIBITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—If a relevant entity engages in prohibited conduct, no officer or employee of the Federal Government with responsibility over Federal funds or financial assistance may make the Federal funds or assistance available to the relevant entity during the period described in paragraph (2).

(2) DURATION OF PROHIBITION.—The period referred to in paragraph (1) is the period that

begins on the date that an officer or employee of the Federal Government determines that a relevant entity has engaged in prohibited conduct and ends on the earlier of—

(A) the date that is 5 years after the date on which the period began; or

(B) the date on which the farmland or grazing land is returned to the person from whom the property was acquired, in the same condition in which the property was originally acquired.

(3) FEDERAL PROHIBITION.—No agency of the Federal Government may engage in prohibited conduct.

(c) PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—The owner of any real property acquired by prohibited conduct that results in the prohibition under this section of Federal funds or financial assistance may, in a civil action, obtain injunctive and declaratory relief to enforce that prohibition.

(d) APPLICABILITY.—This section applies to any prohibited conduct—

(1) that takes place on or after the date of enactment of this section; or

(2)(A) that is in process on the date of enactment of this section; and

(B) for which title has not yet passed to the relevant entity.

SA 3641. Mr. ALLARD (for himself and Mr. SALAZAR) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1055, strike lines 6 through 8 and insert the following:

''(A) incorporates any forest management plan of the State in existence on the date of enactment of this section (including community wildfire protection plans);

SA 3642. Mr. KYL submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1587, after line 18, add the following:

Subtitle G—AMT Relief

SEC. 12701. EXTENSION OF ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX RELIEF FOR NONREFUNDABLE PERSONAL CREDITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 26(a) (relating to special rule for taxable years 2000 through 2006) is amended—

(1) by striking ''or 2006'' and inserting ''2006, or 2007'', and

(2) by striking ''2006'' in the heading thereof and inserting ''2007''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

SEC. 12702. EXTENSION OF INCREASED ALTERNATIVE MINIMUM TAX EXEMPTION AMOUNT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 55(d) (relating to exemption amount) is amended—

(1) by striking ''($62,550 in the case of taxable years beginning in 2006)'' in subparagraph (A) and inserting ''($66,250 in the case of taxable years beginning in 2007)'', and

(2) by striking ''($42,500 in the case of taxable years beginning in 2006)'' in subparagraph (B) and inserting ''($44,350 in the case of taxable years beginning in 2007)''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

SEC. 12703. INCREASE OF AMT REFUNDABLE CREDIT AMOUNT FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH LONG-TERM UNUSED CREDITS FOR PRIOR YEAR MINIMUM TAX LIABILITY, ETC.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 53(e) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended to read as follows:

''(2) AMT REFUNDABLE CREDIT AMOUNT.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'AMT refundable credit amount' means, with respect to any taxable year, the amount (not in excess of the long-term unused minimum tax credit for such taxable year) equal to the greater of—

''(A) 50 percent of the long-term unused minimum tax credit for such taxable year, or

''(B) the amount (if any) of the AMT refundable credit amount determined under this paragraph for the taxpayer's preceding taxable year.''.

(b) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN UNDERPAYMENTS, INTEREST, AND PENALTIES ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE TREATMENT OF INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS.—Section 53 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(f) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN UNDERPAYMENTS, INTEREST, AND PENALTIES ATTRIBUTABLE TO THE TREATMENT OF INCENTIVE STOCK OPTIONS.—

''(1) ABATEMENT.—Any underpayment of tax outstanding on the date of the enactment of this subsection which is attributable to the application of section 56(b)(3) for any taxable year ending before January 1, 2007 (and any interest or penalty with respect to such underpayment which is outstanding on such date of enactment), is hereby abated. No credit shall be allowed under this section with respect to any amount abated under this paragraph.

''(2) INCREASE IN CREDIT FOR CERTAIN INTEREST AND PENALTIES ALREADY PAID.—Any interest or penalty paid before the date of the enactment of this subsection which would (but for such payment) have been abated under paragraph (1) shall be treated for purposes of this section as an amount of adjusted net minimum tax imposed for the taxable year of the underpayment to which such interest or penalty relates.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2006.

(2) ABATEMENT.—Section 53(f)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by subsection (b), shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle H—Additional Individual Tax Relief

SEC. 12751. REFUNDABLE CHILD CREDIT.

(a) MODIFICATION OF THRESHOLD AMOUNT.—Clause (i) of section 24(d)(1)(B) is amended by inserting ''($8,500 in the case of taxable years beginning in 2008)'' after ''$10,000''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12752. ADDITIONAL STANDARD DEDUCTION FOR REAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR NONITEMIZERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 63(c)(1) (defining standard deduction) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (A), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (B) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) in the case of any taxable year beginning in 2008, the real property tax deduction.''.

(b) DEFINITION.—Section 63(c) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) REAL PROPERTY TAX DEDUCTION.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the real property tax deduction is so much of the amount of State and local real property taxes (within the meaning of section 164) paid or accrued by the taxpayer during the taxable year which do not exceed $350 ($700 in the case of a joint return).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

Subtitle I—One-Year Extenders

PART I—EXTENDERS PRIMARILY AFFECTING INDIVIDUALS

SEC. 12801. DEDUCTION FOR STATE AND LOCAL SALES TAXES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (I) of section 164(b)(5) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12802. DEDUCTION OF QUALIFIED TUITION AND RELATED EXPENSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 222 (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12803. TREATMENT OF CERTAIN DIVIDENDS OF REGULATED INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

(a) INTEREST-RELATED DIVIDENDS.—Subparagraph (C) of section 871(k)(1) (defining interest-related dividend) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) SHORT-TERM CAPITAL GAIN DIVIDENDS.—Subparagraph (C) of section 871(k)(2) (defining short-term capital gain dividend) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to dividends with respect to taxable years of regulated investment companies beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12804. PARITY IN THE APPLICATION OF CERTAIN LIMITS TO MENTAL HEALTH BENEFITS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 9812(f) (relating to application of section) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to benefits for services furnished after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12805. QUALIFIED CONSERVATION CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (vi) of section 170(b)(1)(E) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12806. TAX-FREE DISTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT PLANS FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (F) of section 408(d)(8) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to distributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12807. DEDUCTION FOR CERTAIN EXPENSES OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOL TEACHERS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 62(a)(2) (relating to certain expenses of elementary and secondary school teachers) is amended by striking ''or 2007'' and inserting ''2007, or 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12808. ELECTION TO INCLUDE COMBAT PAY AS EARNED INCOME FOR PURPOSES OF EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subclause (II) of section 32(c)(2)(B)(vi) (defining earned income) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12809. MODIFICATION OF MORTGAGE REVENUE BONDS FOR VETERANS.

(a) QUALIFIED MORTGAGE BONDS USED TO FINANCE RESIDENCES FOR VETERANS WITHOUT REGARD TO FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER REQUIREMENT.—Subparagraph (D) of section 143(d)(2) (relating to exceptions) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to bonds issued after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12810. DISTRIBUTIONS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS TO INDIVIDUALS CALLED TO ACTIVE DUTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 72(t)(2)(G) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to individuals ordered or called to active duty on or after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12811. STOCK IN RIC FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING ESTATES OF NONRESIDENTS NOT CITIZENS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (3) of section 2105(d) (relating to stock in a RIC) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to decedents dying after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12812. QUALIFIED INVESTMENT ENTITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (ii) of section 897(h)(4)(A) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on January 1, 2008.

SEC. 12813. STATE LEGISLATORS' TRAVEL EXPENSES AWAY FROM HOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (2) of section 162(h) (relating to legislative days) is amended by adding at the end the following flush sentence: ''In the case of taxable years beginning in 2008, a legislature shall be treated for purposes of this paragraph as in session on any day in which it is formally called into session without regard to whether legislation was considered on such day.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

PART II—EXTENDERS PRIMARILY AFFECTING BUSINESSES

SEC. 12821. RESEARCH CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 41(h)(1) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subparagraph (D) of section 45C(b)(1) (relating to qualified clinical testing expenses) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts paid or incurred after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12822. INDIAN EMPLOYMENT CREDIT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 45A (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12823. NEW MARKETS TAX CREDIT.

Subparagraph (D) of section 45D(f)(1) (relating to national limitation on amount of investments designated) is amended by striking ''and 2008'' and inserting ''2008, and 2009''.

SEC. 12824. RAILROAD TRACK MAINTENANCE.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 45G (relating to application of section) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to expenditures paid or incurred during taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12825. FIFTEEN-YEAR STRAIGHT-LINE COST RECOVERY FOR QUALIFIED LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS AND QUALIFIED RESTAURANT PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clauses (iv) and (v) of section 168(e)(3)(E) (relating to 15-year property) are each amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12826. SEVEN-YEAR COST RECOVERY PERIOD FOR MOTORSPORTS RACING TRACK FACILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 168(i)(15) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12827. ACCELERATED DEPRECIATION FOR BUSINESS PROPERTY ON INDIAN RESERVATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (8) of section 168(j) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to property placed in service after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12828. EXPENSING OF ENVIRONMENTAL REMEDIATION COSTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (h) of section 198 (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to expenditures paid or incurred after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12829. DEDUCTION ALLOWABLE WITH RESPECT TO INCOME ATTRIBUTABLE TO DOMESTIC PRODUCTION ACTIVITIES IN PUERTO RICO.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (C) of section 199(d)(8) (relating to termination) is amended—

(1) by striking ''first 2 taxable years'' and inserting ''first 3 taxable years'', and

(2) by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12830. MODIFICATION OF TAX TREATMENT OF CERTAIN PAYMENTS TO CONTROLLING EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 512(b)(13)(E) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to payments received or accrued after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12831. EXTENSION AND MODIFICATION OF CREDIT TO HOLDERS OF QUALIFIED ZONE ACADEMY BONDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (e) of section 1397E (relating to limitation on amount of bonds designated) is amended by striking ''1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007'' and inserting ''each of calendar years 1998 through 2008''.

(b) MODIFICATION OF ARBITRAGE RULES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (g) of section 1397E (relating to special rules relating to arbitrage) is amended to read as follows:

''(g) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO ARBITRAGE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—An issue shall be treated as meeting the requirements of this subsection if the issuer satisfies the requirements of section 148 with respect to the proceeds of the issue.

''(2) SPECIAL RULE FOR INVESTMENTS DURING EXPENDITURE PERIOD.—An issue shall not be treated as failing to meet the requirements of paragraph (1) by reason of any investment of available project proceeds during the 5-year period described in subsection (f)(1)(A) (including any extension of such period under subsection (f)(2)).

''(3) SPECIAL RULE FOR RESERVE FUNDS.—An issue shall not be treated as failing to meet the requirements of paragraph (1) by reason of any fund which is expected to be used to repay such issue if—

''(A) such fund is funded at a rate not more rapid than equal annual installments,

''(B) such fund is funded in a manner that such fund will not exceed the amount necessary to repay the issue if invested at the maximum rate permitted under subparagraph (C), and

''(C) the yield on such fund is not greater than the discount rate determined under subsection (d)(3) with respect to the issue.''.

(2) APPLICATION OF AVAILABLE PROJECT PROCEEDS TO OTHER REQUIREMENTS.—Subsections (d)(1)(A), (d)(2)(A), (f)(1)(A), (f)(1)(B), (f)(1)(C), and (f)(3) of section 1397E are each amended by striking ''proceeds'' and inserting ''available project proceeds''.

(3) AVAILABLE PROJECT PROCEEDS DEFINED.—Subsection (i) of section 1397E (relating to definitions) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) AVAILABLE PROJECT PROCEEDS.—The term 'available project proceeds' means—

''(A) the excess of—

''(i) the proceeds from the sale of an issue, over

''(ii) the issuance costs financed by the issue (to the extent that such costs do not exceed 2 percent of such proceeds), and

''(B) the proceeds from any investment of the excess described in subparagraph (A).''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) EXTENSION.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to obligations issued after December 31, 2007.

(2) MODIFICATION OF ARBITRAGE RULES.—The amendments made by subsection (b) shall apply to obligations issued after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12832. TAX INCENTIVES FOR INVESTMENT IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

(a) DESIGNATION OF ZONE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (f) of section 1400 is amended by striking ''2007'' both places it appears and inserting ''2008''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this subsection shall apply to periods beginning after December 31, 2007.

(b) TAX-EXEMPT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BONDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 1400A is amended by striking ''2007'' and inserting ''2008''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to bonds issued after December 31, 2007.

(c) ZERO PERCENT CAPITAL GAINS RATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 1400B is amended by striking ''2008'' each place it appears and inserting ''2009''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Section 1400B(e)(2) is amended—

(i) by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2013'', and

(ii) by striking ''2012'' in the heading thereof and inserting ''2013''.

(B) Section 1400B(g)(2) is amended by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2013''.

(C) Section 1400F(d) is amended by striking ''2012'' and inserting ''2013''.

(3) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

(A) EXTENSION.—The amendments made by paragraph (1) shall apply to acquisitions after December 31, 2007.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—The amendments made by paragraph (2) shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(d) FIRST-TIME HOMEBUYER CREDIT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (i) of section 1400C is amended by striking ''2008'' and inserting ''2009''.

(2) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this subsection shall apply to property purchased after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12833. EXTENSION OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CREDIT FOR AMERICAN SAMOA.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (d) of section 119 of division A of the Tax Relief and Health Care Act of 2006 is amended—

(1) by striking ''first two taxable years'' and inserting ''first 3 taxable years'', and

(2) by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12834. ENHANCED CHARITABLE DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS OF FOOD INVENTORY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 170(e)(3)(C) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12835. ENHANCED CHARITABLE DEDUCTION FOR CONTRIBUTIONS OF BOOK INVENTORY TO PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 170(e)(3)(D) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12836. ENHANCED DEDUCTION FOR QUALIFIED COMPUTER CONTRIBUTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (G) of section 170(e)(6) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to contributions made during taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12837. BASIS ADJUSTMENT TO STOCK OF S CORPORATIONS MAKING CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PROPERTY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The last sentence of section 1367(a)(2) (relating to decreases in basis) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT RELATED TO SECTION 1203 OF THE PENSION PROTECTION ACT OF 2006.—Subsection (d) of section 1366 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) APPLICATION OF LIMITATION ON CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS.—In the case of any charitable contribution of property to which the second sentence of section 1367(a)(2) applies, paragraph (1) shall not apply to the extent of the excess (if any) of—

''(A) the shareholder's pro rata share of such contribution, over

''(B) the shareholder's pro rata share of the adjusted basis of such property.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to contributions made in taxable years beginning after December 31, 2007.

(2) TECHNICAL AMENDMENT.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall take effect as if included in the provision of the Pension Protection Act of 2006 to which it relates.

SEC. 12838. EXTENSION OF WORK OPPORTUNITY TAX CREDIT FOR HURRICANE KATRINA EMPLOYEES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 201(b) of the Katrina Emergency Tax Relief Act of 2005 is amended by striking ''2-year'' and inserting ''3-year''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to individuals hired after August 27, 2007.

PART III—OTHER EXTENDERS

SEC. 12841. DISCLOSURE FOR COMBINED EMPLOYMENT TAX REPORTING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (B) of section 6103(d)(5) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to disclosures after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12842. DISCLOSURE OF RETURN INFORMATION TO APPRISE APPROPRIATE OFFICIALS OF TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Clause (iv) of section 6103(i)(3)(C) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to disclosures after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12843. DISCLOSURE UPON REQUEST OF INFORMATION RELATING TO TERRORIST ACTIVITIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (E) of section 6103(i)(7) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to disclosures after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12844. DISCLOSURE OF RETURN INFORMATION TO CARRY OUT INCOME CONTINGENT REPAYMENT OF STUDENT LOANS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 6103(l)(13) (relating to termination) is amended by striking ''December 31, 2007'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to requests made after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12845. AUTHORITY FOR UNDERCOVER OPERATIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (6) of section 7608(c) (relating to application of section) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' each place it appears and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2008.

SEC. 12846. INCREASE IN LIMIT ON COVER OVER OF RUM EXCISE TAX TO PUERTO RICO AND THE VIRGIN ISLANDS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 7652(f) is amended by striking ''January 1, 2008'' and inserting ''January 1, 2009''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to distilled spirits brought into the United States after December 31, 2007.

SEC. 12847. DISCLOSURE OF RETURN INFORMATION FOR CERTAIN VETERANS PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The last sentence of paragraph (7) of section 6103(l) is amended by striking ''September 30, 2008'' and inserting ''December 31, 2008''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to requests made after September 30, 2008.

Subtitle J—Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief

SEC. 12851. DISCHARGES OF INDEBTEDNESS ON PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXCLUDED FROM GROSS INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) of section 108(a) is amended by striking ''or'' at the end of subparagraph (C), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (D) and inserting '', or'', and by inserting after subparagraph (D) the following new subparagraph:

''(E) the indebtedness discharged is qualified principal residence indebtedness.''.

(b) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO QUALIFIED PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE INDEBTEDNESS.—Section 108 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(h) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO QUALIFIED PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE INDEBTEDNESS.—

''(1) BASIS REDUCTION.—The amount excluded from gross income by reason of subsection (a)(1)(E) shall be applied to reduce (but not below zero) the basis of the principal residence of the taxpayer.

''(2) QUALIFIED PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE INDEBTEDNESS.—For purposes of this section, the term 'qualified principal residence indebtedness' means acquisition indebtedness (within the meaning of section 163(h)(3)(B), applied by substituting '$2,000,000 ($1,000,000' for '$1,000,000 ($500,000' in clause (ii) thereof) with respect to the principal residence of the taxpayer.

''(3) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN DISCHARGES NOT RELATED TO TAXPAYER'S FINANCIAL CONDITION.—Subsection (a)(1)(E) shall not apply to the discharge of a loan if the discharge is on account of services performed for the lender or any other factor not directly related to a decline in the value of the residence or to the financial condition of the taxpayer.

''(4) ORDERING RULE.—If any loan is discharged, in whole or in part, and only a portion of such loan is qualified principal residence indebtedness, subsection (a)(1)(E) shall apply only to so much of the amount discharged as exceeds the amount of the loan (as determined immediately before such discharge) which is not qualified principal residence indebtedness.

''(5) PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'principal residence' has the same meaning as when used in section 121.''.

(c) COORDINATION.—

(1) Subparagraph (A) of section 108(a)(2) is amended by striking ''and (D)'' and inserting ''(D), and (E)''.

(2) Paragraph (2) of section 108(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(C) PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE EXCLUSION TAKES PRECEDENCE OVER INSOLVENCY EXCLUSION UNLESS ELECTED OTHERWISE.—Paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply to a discharge to which paragraph (1)(E) applies unless the taxpayer elects to apply paragraph (1)(B) in lieu of paragraph (1)(E).''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to discharges of indebtedness on or after January 1, 2007.

SEC. 12852. LONG-TERM EXTENSION OF DEDUCTION FOR MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (E) of section 163(h)(3) (relating to mortgage insurance premiums treated as interest) is amended by striking clauses (iii) and (iv) and inserting the following new clause:

''(iii) APPLICATION.—Clause (i) shall not apply with respect to any mortgage insurance contract issued before January 1, 2007, or after December 31, 2014.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to contracts issued after December 31, 2006.

SEC. 12853. ALTERNATIVE TESTS FOR QUALIFYING AS COOPERATIVE HOUSING CORPORATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subparagraph (D) of section 216(b)(1) (defining cooperative housing corporation) is amended to read as follows:

''(D) meeting 1 or more of the following requirements for the taxable year in which the taxes and interest described in subsection (a) are paid or incurred:

''(i) 80 percent or more of the corporation's gross income for such taxable year is derived from tenant-stockholders.

''(ii) At all times during such taxable year, 80 percent or more of the total square footage of the corporation's property is used or available for use by the tenant-stockholders for residential purposes or purposes ancillary to such residential use.

''(iii) 90 percent or more of the expenditures of the corporation paid or incurred during such taxable year are paid or incurred for the acquisition, construction, management, maintenance, or care of the corporation's property for the benefit of the tenant-stockholders.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12854. GAIN FROM SALE OF PRINCIPAL RESIDENCE ALLOCATED TO NONQUALIFIED USE NOT EXCLUDED FROM INCOME.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 121 (relating to limitations) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(4) EXCLUSION OF GAIN ALLOCATED TO NONQUALIFIED USE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to so much of the gain from the sale or exchange of property as is allocated to periods of nonqualified use.

''(B) GAIN ALLOCATED TO PERIODS OF NONQUALIFIED USE.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), gain shall be allocated to periods of nonqualified use based on the ratio which—

''(i) the aggregate periods of nonqualified use during the period such property was owned by the taxpayer, bears to

''(ii) the period such property was owned by the taxpayer.

''(C) PERIOD OF NONQUALIFIED USE.—For purposes of this paragraph—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The term 'period of nonqualified use' means any period (other than the portion of any period preceding January 1, 2008) during which the property is not used as the principal residence of the taxpayer or the taxpayer's spouse or former spouse.

''(ii) EXCEPTIONS.—The term 'period of nonqualified use' does not include—

''(I) any portion of the 5-year period described in subsection (a) which is after the last date that such property is used as the principal residence of the taxpayer or the taxpayer's spouse,

''(II) any period (not to exceed an aggregate period of 10 years) during which the taxpayer or the taxpayer's spouse is serving on qualified official extended duty (as defined in subsection (d)(9)(C)) described in clause (i), (ii), or (iii) of subsection (d)(9)(A), and

''(III) any other period of temporary absence (not to exceed an aggregate period of 2 years) due to change of employment, health conditions, or such other unforeseen circumstances as may be specified by the Secretary.

''(D) COORDINATION WITH RECOGNITION OF GAIN ATTRIBUTABLE TO DEPRECIATION.—For purposes of this paragraph—

''(i) subparagraph (A) shall be applied after the application of subsection (d)(6), and

''(ii) subparagraph (B) shall be applied without regard to any gain to which subsection (d)(6) applies.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to sales and exchanges after December 31, 2007.

Subtitle K—Administrative Provisions

SEC. 12861. REPEAL OF AUTHORITY TO ENTER INTO PRIVATE DEBT COLLECTION CONTRACTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subchapter A of chapter 64 is amended by striking section 6306.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subchapter B of chapter 76 is amended by striking section 7433A.

(2) Section 7811 is amended by striking subsection (g).

(3) Section 1203 of the Internal Revenue Service Restructuring Act of 1998 is amended by striking subsection (e).

(4) The table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 64 is amended by striking the item relating to section 6306.

(5) The table of sections for subchapter B of chapter 76 is amended by striking the item relating to section 7433A.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) EXCEPTION FOR EXISTING CONTRACTS, ETC.—The amendments made by this section shall not apply to any contract which was entered into before July 18, 2007, and is not renewed or extended on or after such date.

(3) UNAUTHORIZED CONTRACTS AND EXTENSIONS TREATED AS VOID.—Any qualified tax collection contract (as defined in section 6306 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as in effect before its repeal) which is entered into on or after July 18, 2007, and any extension or renewal on or after such date of any qualified tax collection contract (as so defined) shall be void.

SEC. 12862. DELAY OF APPLICATION OF WITHHOLDING REQUIREMENT ON CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL PAYMENTS FOR GOODS AND SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 511 of the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005 is amended by striking ''December 31, 2010'' and inserting ''December 31, 2011''.

(b) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Treasury shall submit to the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Finance of the Senate a report with respect to the withholding requirements of section 3402(t) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, including a detailed analysis of—

(1) the problems, if any, which are anticipated in administering and complying with such requirements,

(2) the burdens, if any, that such requirements will place on governments and businesses (taking into account such mechanisms as may be necessary to administer such requirements), and

(3) the application of such requirements to small expenditures for services and goods by governments.

SEC. 12863. CLARIFICATION OF ENTITLEMENT OF VIRGIN ISLANDS RESIDENTS TO PROTECTIONS OF LIMITATIONS ON ASSESSMENT AND COLLECTION OF TAX.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 932 (relating to treatment of Virgin Islands residents) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(5) TREATMENT OF INCOME TAX RETURN FILED WITH VIRGIN ISLANDS.—An income tax return filed with the Virgin Islands by an individual claiming to be described in paragraph (1) for the taxable year shall be treated for purposes of subtitle F in the same manner as if such return were an income tax return filed with the United States for such taxable year. The preceding sentence shall not apply where such return is false or fraudulent with the intent to evade tax or otherwise is a willful attempt in any manner to defeat or evade tax.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after 1986.

SEC. 12864. REVISION OF TAX RULES ON EXPATRIATION.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart A of part II of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after section 877 the following new section:

''SEC. 877A. TAX RESPONSIBILITIES OF EXPATRIATION.

''(a) GENERAL RULES.—For purposes of this subtitle—

''(1) MARK TO MARKET.—All property of a covered expatriate shall be treated as sold on the day before the expatriation date for its fair market value.

''(2) RECOGNITION OF GAIN OR LOSS.—In the case of any sale under paragraph (1)—

''(A) notwithstanding any other provision of this title, any gain arising from such sale shall be taken into account for the taxable year of the sale, and

''(B) any loss arising from such sale shall be taken into account for the taxable year of the sale to the extent otherwise provided by this title, except that section 1091 shall not apply to any such loss.

Proper adjustment shall be made in the amount of any gain or loss subsequently realized for gain or loss taken into account under the preceding sentence, determined without regard to paragraph (3).

''(3) EXCLUSION FOR CERTAIN GAIN.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The amount which would (but for this paragraph) be includible in the gross income of any individual by reason of paragraph (1) shall be reduced (but not below zero) by $600,000.

''(B) ADJUSTMENT FOR INFLATION.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any taxable year beginning in a calendar year after 2008, the dollar amount in subparagraph (A) shall be increased by an amount equal to—

''(I) such dollar amount, multiplied by

''(II) the cost-of-living adjustment determined under section 1(f)(3) for the calendar year in which the taxable year begins, by substituting 'calendar year 2007' for 'calendar year 1992' in subparagraph (B) thereof.

''(ii) ROUNDING.—If any amount as adjusted under clause (i) is not a multiple of $1,000, such amount shall be rounded to the nearest multiple of $1,000.

''(b) ELECTION TO DEFER TAX.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the taxpayer elects the application of this subsection with respect to any property treated as sold by reason of subsection (a), the time for payment of the additional tax attributable to such property shall be extended until the due date of the return for the taxable year in which such property is disposed of (or, in the case of property disposed of in a transaction in which gain is not recognized in whole or in part, until such other date as the Secretary may prescribe).

''(2) DETERMINATION OF TAX WITH RESPECT TO PROPERTY.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the additional tax attributable to any property is an amount which bears the same ratio to the additional tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year solely by reason of subsection (a) as the gain taken into account under subsection (a) with respect to such property bears to the total gain taken into account under subsection (a) with respect to all property to which subsection (a) applies.

''(3) TERMINATION OF EXTENSION.—The due date for payment of tax may not be extended under this subsection later than the due date for the return of tax imposed by this chapter for the taxable year which includes the date of death of the expatriate (or, if earlier, the time that the security provided with respect to the property fails to meet the requirements of paragraph (4), unless the taxpayer corrects such failure within the time specified by the Secretary).

''(4) SECURITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—No election may be made under paragraph (1) with respect to any property unless adequate security is provided with respect to such property.

''(B) ADEQUATE SECURITY.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), security with respect to any property shall be treated as adequate security if—

''(i) it is a bond which is furnished to, and accepted by, the Secretary, which is conditioned on the payment of tax (and interest thereon), and which meets the requirements of section 6325, or

''(ii) it is another form of security for such payment (including letters of credit) that meets such requirements as the Secretary may prescribe.

''(5) WAIVER OF CERTAIN RIGHTS.—No election may be made under paragraph (1) unless the taxpayer makes an irrevocable waiver of any right under any treaty of the United States which would preclude assessment or collection of any tax imposed by reason of this section.

''(6) ELECTIONS.—An election under paragraph (1) shall only apply to property described in the election and, once made, is irrevocable.

''(7) INTEREST.—For purposes of section 6601, the last date for the payment of tax shall be determined without regard to the election under this subsection.

''(c) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY.—Subsection (a) shall not apply to—

''(1) any deferred compensation item (as defined in subsection (d)(4)),

''(2) any specified tax deferred account (as defined in subsection (e)(2)), and

''(3) any interest in a nongrantor trust (as defined in subsection (f)(3)).

''(d) TREATMENT OF DEFERRED COMPENSATION ITEMS.—

''(1) WITHHOLDING ON ELIGIBLE DEFERRED COMPENSATION ITEMS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any eligible deferred compensation item, the payor shall deduct and withhold from any taxable payment to a covered expatriate with respect to such item a tax equal to 30 percent thereof.

''(B) TAXABLE PAYMENT.—For purposes of subparagraph (A), the term 'taxable payment' means with respect to a covered expatriate any payment to the extent it would be includible in the gross income of the covered expatriate if such expatriate continued to be subject to tax as a citizen or resident of the United States. A deferred compensation item shall be taken into account as a payment under the preceding sentence when such item would be so includible.

''(2) OTHER DEFERRED COMPENSATION ITEMS.—In the case of any deferred compensation item which is not an eligible deferred compensation item—

''(A)(i) with respect to any deferred compensation item to which clause (ii) does not apply, an amount equal to the present value of the covered expatriate's accrued benefit shall be treated as having been received by such individual on the day before the expatriation date as a distribution under the plan, and

''(ii) with respect to any deferred compensation item referred to in paragraph (4)(D), the rights of the covered expatriate to such item shall be treated as becoming transferable and not subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture on the day before the expatriation date,

''(B) no early distribution tax shall apply by reason of such treatment, and

''(C) appropriate adjustments shall be made to subsequent distributions from the plan to reflect such treatment.

''(3) ELIGIBLE DEFERRED COMPENSATION ITEMS.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'eligible deferred compensation item' means any deferred compensation item with respect to which—

''(A) the payor of such item is—

''(i) a United States person, or

''(ii) a person who is not a United States person but who elects to be treated as a United States person for purposes of paragraph (1) and meets such requirements as the Secretary may provide to ensure that the payor will meet the requirements of paragraph (1), and

''(B) the covered expatriate—

''(i) notifies the payor of his status as a covered expatriate, and

''(ii) makes an irrevocable waiver of any right to claim any reduction under any treaty with the United States in withholding on such item.

''(4) DEFERRED COMPENSATION ITEM.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'deferred compensation item' means—

''(A) any interest in a plan or arrangement described in section 219(g)(5),

''(B) any interest in a foreign pension plan or similar retirement arrangement or program,

''(C) any item of deferred compensation, and

''(D) any property, or right to property, which the individual is entitled to receive in connection with the performance of services to the extent not previously taken into account under section 83 or in accordance with section 83.

''(5) EXCEPTION.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to any deferred compensation item which is attributable to services performed outside the United States while the covered expatriate was not a citizen or resident of the United States.

''(6) SPECIAL RULES.—

''(A) APPLICATION OF WITHHOLDING RULES.—Rules similar to the rules of subchapter B of chapter 3 shall apply for purposes of this subsection.

''(B) APPLICATION OF TAX.—Any item subject to the withholding tax imposed under paragraph (1) shall be subject to tax under section 871.

''(C) COORDINATION WITH OTHER WITHHOLDING REQUIREMENTS.—Any item subject to withholding under paragraph (1) shall not be subject to withholding under section 1441 or chapter 24.

''(e) TREATMENT OF SPECIFIED TAX DEFERRED ACCOUNTS.—

''(1) ACCOUNT TREATED AS DISTRIBUTED.—In the case of any interest in a specified tax deferred account held by a covered expatriate on the day before the expatriation date—

''(A) the covered expatriate shall be treated as receiving a distribution of his entire interest in such account on the day before the expatriation date,

''(B) no early distribution tax shall apply by reason of such treatment, and

''(C) appropriate adjustments shall be made to subsequent distributions from the account to reflect such treatment.

''(2) SPECIFIED TAX DEFERRED ACCOUNT.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the term 'specified tax deferred account' means an individual retirement plan (as defined in section 7701(a)(37)) other than any arrangement described in subsection (k) or (p) of section 408, a qualified tuition program (as defined in section 529), a Coverdell education savings account (as defined in section 530), a health savings account (as defined in section 223), and an Archer MSA (as defined in section 220).

''(f) SPECIAL RULES FOR NONGRANTOR TRUSTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a distribution (directly or indirectly) of any property from a nongrantor trust to a covered expatriate—

''(A) the trustee shall deduct and withhold from such distribution an amount equal to 30 percent of the taxable portion of the distribution, and

''(B) if the fair market value of such property exceeds its adjusted basis in the hands of the trust, gain shall be recognized to the trust as if such property were sold to the expatriate at its fair market value.

''(2) TAXABLE PORTION.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'taxable portion' means, with respect to any distribution, that portion of the distribution which would be includible in the gross income of the covered expatriate if such expatriate continued to be subject to tax as a citizen or resident of the United States.

''(3) NONGRANTOR TRUST.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'nongrantor trust' means the portion of any trust that the individual is not considered the owner of under subpart E of part I of subchapter J. The determination under the preceding sentence shall be made immediately before the expatriation date.

''(4) SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO WITHHOLDING.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) rules similar to the rules of subsection (d)(6) shall apply, and

''(B) the covered expatriate shall be treated as having waived any right to claim any reduction under any treaty with the United States in withholding on any distribution to which paragraph (1)(A) applies.

''(5) APPLICATION.—This subsection shall apply to a nongrantor trust only if the covered expatriate was a beneficiary of the trust on the day before the expatriation date.

''(g) DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES RELATING TO EXPATRIATION.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) COVERED EXPATRIATE.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'covered expatriate' means an expatriate who meets the requirements of subparagraph (A), (B), or (C) of section 877(a)(2).

''(B) EXCEPTIONS.—An individual shall not be treated as meeting the requirements of subparagraph (A) or (B) of section 877(a)(2) if—

''(i) the individual—

''(I) became at birth a citizen of the United States and a citizen of another country and, as of the expatriation date, continues to be a citizen of, and is taxed as a resident of, such other country, and

''(II) has been a resident of the United States (as defined in section 7701(b)(1)(A)(ii)) for not more than 10 taxable years during the 15-taxable year period ending with the taxable year during which the expatriation date occurs, or

''(ii)(I) the individual's relinquishment of United States citizenship occurs before such individual attains age 18½, and

''(II) the individual has been a resident of the United States (as so defined) for not more than 10 taxable years before the date of relinquishment.

''(C) COVERED EXPATRIATES ALSO SUBJECT TO TAX AS CITIZENS OR RESIDENTS.—In the case of any covered expatriate who is subject to tax as a citizen or resident of the United States for any period beginning after the expatriation date, such individual shall not be treated as a covered expatriate during such

period for purposes of subsections (d)(1) and (f) and section 2801.

''(2) EXPATRIATE.—The term 'expatriate' means—

''(A) any United States citizen who relinquishes his citizenship, and

''(B) any long-term resident of the United States who ceases to be a lawful permanent resident of the United States (within the meaning of section 7701(b)(6)).

''(3) EXPATRIATION DATE.—The term 'expatriation date' means—

''(A) the date an individual relinquishes United States citizenship, or

''(B) in the case of a long-term resident of the United States, the date on which the individual ceases to be a lawful permanent resident of the United States (within the meaning of section 7701(b)(6)).

''(4) RELINQUISHMENT OF CITIZENSHIP.—A citizen shall be treated as relinquishing his United States citizenship on the earliest of—

''(A) the date the individual renounces his United States nationality before a diplomatic or consular officer of the United States pursuant to paragraph (5) of section 349(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1481(a)(5)),

''(B) the date the individual furnishes to the United States Department of State a signed statement of voluntary relinquishment of United States nationality confirming the performance of an act of expatriation specified in paragraph (1), (2), (3), or (4) of section 349(a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1481(a)(1)–(4)),

''(C) the date the United States Department of State issues to the individual a certificate of loss of nationality, or

''(D) the date a court of the United States cancels a naturalized citizen's certificate of naturalization.

Subparagraph (A) or (B) shall not apply to any individual unless the renunciation or voluntary relinquishment is subsequently approved by the issuance to the individual of a certificate of loss of nationality by the United States Department of State.

''(5) LONG-TERM RESIDENT.—The term 'long-term resident' has the meaning given to such term by section 877(e)(2).

''(6) EARLY DISTRIBUTION TAX.—The term 'early distribution tax' means any increase in tax imposed under section 72(t), 220(e)(4), 223(f)(4), 409A(a)(1)(B), 529(c)(6), or 530(d)(4).

''(h) OTHER RULES.—

''(1) TERMINATION OF DEFERRALS, ETC.—In the case of any covered expatriate, notwithstanding any other provision of this title—

''(A) any time period for acquiring property which would result in the reduction in the amount of gain recognized with respect to property disposed of by the taxpayer shall terminate on the day before the expatriation date, and

''(B) any extension of time for payment of tax shall cease to apply on the day before the expatriation date and the unpaid portion of such tax shall be due and payable at the time and in the manner prescribed by the Secretary.

''(2) STEP-UP IN BASIS.—Solely for purposes of determining any tax imposed by reason of subsection (a), property which was held by an individual on the date the individual first became a resident of the United States (within the meaning of section 7701(b)) shall be treated as having a basis on such date of not less than the fair market value of such property on such date. The preceding sentence shall not apply if the individual elects not to have such sentence apply. Such an election, once made, shall be irrevocable.

''(3) COORDINATION WITH SECTION 684.—If the expatriation of any individual would result in the recognition of gain under section 684, this section shall be applied after the application of section 684.

''(i) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section.''.

(b) TAX ON GIFTS AND BEQUESTS RECEIVED BY UNITED STATES CITIZENS AND RESIDENTS FROM EXPATRIATES.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle B (relating to estate and gift taxes) is amended by inserting after chapter 14 the following new chapter:

''CHAPTER 15—GIFTS AND BEQUESTS FROM EXPATRIATES

''Sec. 2801. Imposition of tax.

''SEC. 2801. IMPOSITION OF TAX.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—If, during any calendar year, any United States citizen or resident receives any covered gift or bequest, there is hereby imposed a tax equal to the product of—

''(1) the highest rate of tax specified in the table contained in section 2001(c) as in effect on the date of such receipt (or, if greater, the highest rate of tax specified in the table applicable under section 2502(a) as in effect on the date), and

''(2) the value of such covered gift or bequest.

''(b) TAX TO BE PAID BY RECIPIENT.—The tax imposed by subsection (a) on any covered gift or bequest shall be paid by the person receiving such gift or bequest.

''(c) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN GIFTS.—Subsection (a) shall apply only to the extent that the value of covered gifts and bequests received by any person during the calendar year exceeds $10,000.

''(d) TAX REDUCED BY FOREIGN GIFT OR ESTATE TAX.—The tax imposed by subsection (a) on any covered gift or bequest shall be reduced by the amount of any gift or estate tax paid to a foreign country with respect to such covered gift or bequest.

''(e) COVERED GIFT OR BEQUEST.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—For purposes of this chapter, the term 'covered gift or bequest' means—

''(A) any property acquired by gift directly or indirectly from an individual who, at the time of such acquisition, is a covered expatriate, and

''(B) any property acquired directly or indirectly by reason of the death of an individual who, immediately before such death, was a covered expatriate.

''(2) EXCEPTIONS FOR TRANSFERS OTHERWISE SUBJECT TO ESTATE OR GIFT TAX.—Such term shall not include—

''(A) any property shown on a timely filed return of tax imposed by chapter 12 which is a taxable gift by the covered expatriate, and

''(B) any property included in the gross estate of the covered expatriate for purposes of chapter 11 and shown on a timely filed return of tax imposed by chapter 11 of the estate of the covered expatriate.

''(3) TRANSFERS IN TRUST.—

''(A) DOMESTIC TRUSTS.—In the case of a covered gift or bequest made to a domestic trust—

''(i) subsection (a) shall apply in the same manner as if such trust were a United States citizen, and

''(ii) the tax imposed by subsection (a) on such gift or bequest shall be paid by such trust.

''(B) FOREIGN TRUSTS.—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—In the case of a covered gift or bequest made to a foreign trust, subsection (a) shall apply to any distribution attributable to such gift or bequest from such trust (whether from income or corpus) to a United States citizen or resident in the same manner as if such distribution were a covered gift or bequest.

''(ii) DEDUCTION FOR TAX PAID BY RECIPIENT.—There shall be allowed as a deduction under section 164 the amount of tax imposed by this section which is paid or accrued by a United States citizen or resident by reason of a distribution from a foreign trust, but only to the extent such tax is imposed on the portion of such distribution which is included in the gross income of such citizen or resident.

''(iii) ELECTION TO BE TREATED AS DOMESTIC TRUST.—Solely for purposes of this section, a foreign trust may elect to be treated as a domestic trust. Such an election may be revoked with the consent of the Secretary.

''(f) COVERED EXPATRIATE.—For purposes of this section, the term 'covered expatriate' has the meaning given to such term by section 877A(g)(1).''.

(2) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of chapters for subtitle B is amended by inserting after the item relating to chapter 14 the following new item:

''CHAPTER 15. GIFTS AND BEQUESTS FROM EXPATRIATES.''.

(c) DEFINITION OF TERMINATION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 7701(a) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(50) TERMINATION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—An individual shall not cease to be treated as a United States citizen before the date on which the individual's citizenship is treated as relinquished under section 877A(g)(4).

''(B) DUAL CITIZENS.—Under regulations prescribed by the Secretary, subparagraph (A) shall not apply to an individual who became at birth a citizen of the United States and a citizen of another country.''.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(A) Paragraph (1) of section 877(e) is amended to read as follows:

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Any long-term resident of the United States who ceases to be a lawful permanent resident of the United States (within the meaning of section 7701(b)(6)) shall be treated for purposes of this section and sections 2107, 2501, and 6039G in the same manner as if such resident were a citizen of the United States who lost United States citizenship on the date of such cessation or commencement.''.

(B) Paragraph (6) of section 7701(b) is amended by adding at the end the following flush sentence:

''An individual shall cease to be treated as a lawful permanent resident of the United States if such individual commences to be treated as a resident of a foreign country under the provisions of a tax treaty between the United States and the foreign country, does not waive the benefits of such treaty applicable to residents of the foreign country, and notifies the Secretary of the commencement of such treatment.''.

(C) Section 7701 is amended by striking subsection (n) and by redesignating subsections (o) and (p) as subsections (n) and (o), respectively.

(d) INFORMATION RETURNS.—Section 6039G is amended—

(1) by inserting ''or 877A'' after ''section 877(b)'' in subsection (a), and

(2) by inserting ''or 877A'' after ''section 877(a)'' in subsection (d).

(e) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart A of part II of subchapter N of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 877 the following new item:

''Sec. 877A. Tax responsibilities of expatriation.''.

(f) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to expatriates (as defined in section 877A(g) of the Internal Revenue

Code of 1986, as added by this section) whose expatriation date (as so defined) is on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.—Chapter 15 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by subsection (b)) shall apply to covered gifts and bequests (as defined in section 2801 of such Code, as so added) received on or after the date of the enactment of this Act, regardless of when the transferor expatriated.

SEC. 12865. REPEAL OF SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN PENALTIES AND INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 6404 is amended by striking subsection (g) and by redesignating subsection (h) as subsection (g).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply to notices provided by the Secretary of the Treasury, or his delegate, after the date which is 6 months after the date of the enactment of the Small Business and Work Opportunity Tax Act of 2007.

SEC. 12866. UNUSED MERCHANDISE DRAWBACK.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 313(j)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1313(j)(2)) is amended by adding at the end the following: ''For purposes of subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, wine of the same color having a price variation not to exceed 50 percent between the imported wine and the exported wine shall be deemed to be commercially interchangeable.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to claims filed for drawback under section 313(j)(2) of the Tariff Act of 1930 on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Subtitle L—Revenue Provisions

PART I—NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION FROM CERTAIN TAX INDIFFERENT PARTIES

SEC. 12901. NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION FROM CERTAIN TAX INDIFFERENT PARTIES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part II of subchapter E of chapter 1 (relating to taxable year for which items of gross income included) is amended by inserting after section 457 the following new section:

''SEC. 457A. NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION FROM CERTAIN TAX INDIFFERENT PARTIES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—Any compensation which is deferred under a nonqualified deferred compensation plan of a nonqualified entity shall be taken into account for purposes of this chapter when there is no substantial risk of forfeiture of the rights to such compensation.

''(b) NONQUALIFIED ENTITY.—For purposes of this section, the term 'nonqualified entity' means—

''(1) any foreign corporation unless substantially all of such income is—

''(A) effectively connected with the conduct of a trade or business in the United States, or

''(B) subject to a comprehensive foreign income tax, and

''(2) any partnership unless substantially all of such income is allocated to persons other than—

''(A) foreign persons with respect to whom such income is not subject to a comprehensive foreign income tax, and

''(B) organizations which are exempt from tax under this title.

''(c) ASCERTAINABILITY OF AMOUNTS OF COMPENSATION.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If the amount of any compensation is not ascertainable at the time that such compensation is otherwise to be taken into account under subsection (a)—

''(A) such amount shall be so taken into account when ascertainable, and

''(B) the tax imposed under this chapter for the taxable year in which such compensation is taken into account under subparagraph (A) shall be increased by the sum of—

''(i) the amount of interest determined under paragraph (2), and

''(ii) an amount equal to 20 percent of the amount of such compensation.

''(2) INTEREST.—For purposes of paragraph (1)(B)(i), the interest determined under this paragraph for any taxable year is the amount of interest at the underpayment rate under section 6621 plus 1 percentage point on the underpayments that would have occurred had the deferred compensation been includible in gross income for the taxable year in which first deferred or, if later, the first taxable year in which such deferred compensation is not subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture.

''(d) OTHER DEFINITIONS AND SPECIAL RULES.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) SUBSTANTIAL RISK OF FORFEITURE.—The rights of a person to compensation shall be treated as subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture only if such person's rights to such compensation are conditioned upon the future performance of substantial services by any individual.

''(2) COMPREHENSIVE FOREIGN INCOME TAX.—The term 'comprehensive foreign income tax' means, with respect to any foreign person, the income tax of a foreign country if—

''(A) such person is eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive income tax treaty between such foreign country and the United States, or

''(B) such person demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Secretary that such foreign country has a comprehensive income tax.

Such term shall not include any tax unless such tax includes rules for the deductibility of deferred compensation which are similar to the rules of this title.

''(3) NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN.—The term 'nonqualified deferred compensation plan' has the meaning given such term under section 409A(d), except that such term shall include any plan that provides a right to compensation based on the appreciation in value of a specified number of equity units of the service recipient.

''(4) APPLICATION OF RULES.—Rules similar to the rules of paragraphs (5) and (6) of section 409A(d) shall apply.

''(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section, including regulations disregarding a substantial risk of forfeiture in cases where necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.''.

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 26(b)(2) is amended by striking ''and'' at the end of subparagraph (S), by striking the period at the end of subparagraph (T) and inserting '', and'', and by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(U) section 457A(c)(1)(B) (relating to ascertainability of amounts of compensation).''.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections of subpart B of part II of subchapter E of chapter 1 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 457 the following new item:

''Sec. 457A. Nonqualified deferred compensation from certain tax indifferent parties.''.

(d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to amounts deferred which are attributable to services performed after December 31, 2007.

(2) APPLICATION TO EXISTING DEFERRALS.—In the case of any amount deferred to which the amendments made by this section do not apply solely by reason of the fact that the amount is attributable to services performed before January 1, 2008, to the extent such amount is not includible in gross income in a taxable year beginning before 2017, such amounts shall be includible in gross income in the later of—

(A) the last taxable year beginning before 2017, or

(B) the taxable year in which there is no substantial risk of forfeiture of the rights to such compensation (determined in the same manner as determined for purposes of section 457A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by this section).

(3) ACCELERATED PAYMENTS.—No later than 60 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall issue guidance providing a limited period of time during which a nonqualified deferred compensation arrangement attributable to services performed on or before December 31, 2007, may, without violating the requirements of section 409A(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, be amended to conform the date of distribution to the date the amounts are required to be included in income.

PART II—PROVISIONS RELATED TO CERTAIN INVESTMENT PARTNERSHIPS

SEC. 12911. INCOME OF PARTNERS FOR PERFORMING INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES TREATED AS ORDINARY INCOME RECEIVED FOR PERFORMANCE OF SERVICES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter K of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 710. SPECIAL RULES FOR PARTNERS PROVIDING INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO PARTNERSHIP.

''(a) TREATMENT OF DISTRIBUTIVE SHARE OF PARTNERSHIP ITEMS.—For purposes of this title, in the case of an investment services partnership interest—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section 702(b)—

''(A) any net income with respect to such interest for any partnership taxable year shall be treated as ordinary income for the performance of services, and

''(B) any net loss with respect to such interest for such year, to the extent not disallowed under paragraph (2) for such year, shall be treated as an ordinary loss.

''(2) TREATMENT OF LOSSES.—

''(A) LIMITATION.—Any net loss with respect to such interest shall be allowed for any partnership taxable year only to the extent that such loss does not exceed the excess (if any) of—

''(i) the aggregate net income with respect to such interest for all prior partnership taxable years, over

''(ii) the aggregate net loss with respect to such interest not disallowed under this subparagraph for all prior partnership taxable years.

''(B) CARRYFORWARD.—Any net loss for any partnership taxable year which is not allowed by reason of subparagraph (A) shall be treated as an item of loss with respect to such partnership interest for the succeeding partnership taxable year.

''(C) BASIS ADJUSTMENT.—No adjustment to the basis of a partnership interest shall be made on account of any net loss which is not allowed by reason of subparagraph (A).

''(D) EXCEPTION FOR BASIS ATTRIBUTABLE TO PURCHASE OF A PARTNERSHIP INTEREST.—In the case of an investment services partnership interest acquired by purchase, paragraph (1)(B) shall not apply to so much of any net loss with respect to such interest for any taxable year as does not exceed the excess of—

''(i) the basis of such interest immediately after such purchase, over

''(ii) the aggregate net loss with respect to such interest to which paragraph (1)(B) did

not apply by reason of this subparagraph for all prior taxable years.

Any net loss to which paragraph (1)(B) does not apply by reason of this subparagraph shall not be taken into account under subparagraph (A).

''(E) PRIOR PARTNERSHIP YEARS.—Any reference in this paragraph to prior partnership taxable years shall only include prior partnership taxable years to which this section applies.

''(3) NET INCOME AND LOSS.—For purposes of this section—

''(A) NET INCOME.—The term 'net income' means, with respect to any investment services partnership interest, for any partnership taxable year, the excess (if any) of—

''(i) all items of income and gain taken into account by the holder of such interest under section 702 with respect to such interest for such year, over

''(ii) all items of deduction and loss so taken into account.

''(B) NET LOSS.—The term 'net loss' means with respect to such interest for such year, the excess (if any) of the amount described in subparagraph (A)(ii) over the amount described in subparagraph (A)(i).

''(b) DISPOSITIONS OF PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS.—

''(1) GAIN.—Any gain on the disposition of an investment services partnership interest shall be treated as ordinary income for the performance of services.

''(2) LOSS.—Any loss on the disposition of an investment services partnership interest shall be treated as an ordinary loss to the extent of the excess (if any) of—

''(A) the aggregate net income with respect to such interest for all partnership taxable years, over

''(B) the aggregate net loss with respect to such interest allowed under subsection (a)(2) for all partnership taxable years.

''(3) DISPOSITION OF PORTION OF INTEREST.—In the case of any disposition of an investment services partnership interest, the amount of net loss which otherwise would have (but for subsection (a)(2)(C)) applied to reduce the basis of such interest shall be disregarded for purposes of this section for all succeeding partnership taxable years.

''(4) DISTRIBUTIONS OF PARTNERSHIP PROPERTY.—In the case of any distribution of appreciated property by a partnership with respect to any investment services partnership interest, gain shall be recognized by the partnership in the same manner as if the partnership sold such property at fair market value at the time of the distribution. For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'appreciated property' means any property with respect to which gain would be determined if sold as described in the preceding sentence.

''(5) APPLICATION OF SECTION 751.—In applying section 751(a), an investment services partnership interest shall be treated as an inventory item.

''(c) INVESTMENT SERVICES PARTNERSHIP INTEREST.—For purposes of this section—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The term 'investment services partnership interest' means any interest in a partnership which is held by any person if such person provides (directly or indirectly) a substantial quantity of any of the following services with respect to the assets of the partnership in the conduct of the trade or business of providing such services:

''(A) Advising as to the advisability of investing in, purchasing, or selling any specified asset.

''(B) Managing, acquiring, or disposing of any specified asset.

''(C) Arranging financing with respect to acquiring specified assets.

''(D) Any activity in support of any service described in subparagraphs (A) through (C).

For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'specified asset' means securities (as defined in section 475(c)(2) without regard to the last sentence thereof), real estate, commodities (as defined in section 475(e)(2))), or options or derivative contracts with respect to securities (as so defined), real estate, or commodities (as so defined).

''(2) EXCEPTION FOR CERTAIN CAPITAL INTERESTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—If—

''(i) a portion of an investment services partnership interest is acquired on account of a contribution of invested capital, and

''(ii) the partnership makes a reasonable allocation of partnership items between the portion of the distributive share that is with respect to invested capital and the portion of such distributive share that is not with respect to invested capital,

then subsection (a) shall not apply to the portion of the distributive share that is with respect to invested capital. An allocation will not be treated as reasonable for purposes of this subparagraph if such allocation would result in the partnership allocating a greater portion of income to invested capital than any other partner not providing services would have been allocated with respect to the same amount of invested capital.

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR DISPOSITIONS.—In any case to which subparagraph (A) applies, subsection (b) shall not apply to any gain or loss allocable to invested capital. The portion of any gain or loss attributable to invested capital is the proportion of such gain or loss which is based on the distributive share of gain or loss that would have been allocable to invested capital under subparagraph (A) if the partnership sold all of its assets immediately before the disposition.

''(C) INVESTED CAPITAL.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'invested capital' means, the fair market value at the time of contribution of any money or other property contributed to the partnership.

''(D) TREATMENT OF CERTAIN LOANS.—

''(i) PROCEEDS OF PARTNERSHIP LOANS NOT TREATED AS INVESTED CAPITAL OF SERVICE PROVIDING PARTNERS.—For purposes of this paragraph, an investment services partnership interest shall not be treated as acquired on account of a contribution of invested capital to the extent that such capital is attributable to the proceeds of any loan or other advance made or guaranteed, directly or indirectly, by any partner or the partnership.

''(ii) LOANS FROM NONSERVICE PROVIDING PARTNERS TO THE PARTNERSHIP TREATED AS INVESTED CAPITAL.—For purposes of this paragraph, any loan or other advance to the partnership made or guaranteed, directly or indirectly, by a partner not providing services to the partnership shall be treated as invested capital of such partner and amounts of income and loss treated as allocable to invested capital shall be adjusted accordingly.

''(d) OTHER INCOME AND GAIN IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If—

''(A) a person performs (directly or indirectly) investment management services for any entity,

''(B) such person holds a disqualified interest with respect to such entity, and

''(C) the value of such interest (or payments thereunder) is substantially related to the amount of income or gain (whether or not realized) from the assets with respect to which the investment management services are performed,

any income or gain with respect to such interest shall be treated as ordinary income for the performance of services. Rules similar to the rules of subsection (c)(2) shall apply where such interest was acquired on account of invested capital in such entity.

''(2) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) DISQUALIFIED INTEREST.—The term 'disqualified interest' means, with respect to any entity—

''(i) any interest in such entity other than indebtedness,

''(ii) convertible or contingent debt of such entity,

''(iii) any option or other right to acquire property described in clause (i) or (ii), and

''(iv) any derivative instrument entered into (directly or indirectly) with such entity or any investor in such entity.

Such term shall not include a partnership interest and shall not include stock in a taxable corporation.

''(B) TAXABLE CORPORATION.—The term 'taxable corporation' means—

''(i) a domestic C corporation, or

''(ii) a foreign corporation subject to a comprehensive foreign income tax (as defined in section 457A(d)(4)).

''(C) INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—The term 'investment management services' means a substantial quantity of any of the services described in subsection (c)(1) which are provided in the conduct of the trade or business of providing such services.

''(e) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall prescribe such regulations as are necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this section, including regulations to—

''(1) prevent the avoidance of the purposes of this section, and

''(2) coordinate this section with the other provisions of this subchapter.

''(f) CROSS REFERENCE.—For 40 percent no fault penalty on certain underpayments due to the avoidance of this section, see section 6662.''.

(b) APPLICATION TO REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS.—Subsection (c) of section 856 is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(8) EXCEPTION FROM RECHARACTERIZATION OF INCOME FROM INVESTMENT SERVICES PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) shall be applied without regard to section 710 (relating to special rules for partners providing investment management services to partnership).

''(B) SPECIAL RULE FOR PARTNERSHIPS OWNED BY REITS.—Section 7704 shall be applied without regard to section 710 in the case of a partnership which meets each of the following requirements:

''(i) Such partnership is treated as publicly traded under section 7704 solely by reason of interests in such partnership being convertible into interests in a real estate investment trust which is publicly traded.

''(ii) 50 percent or more of the capital and profits interests of such partnership are owned, directly or indirectly, at all times during the taxable year by such real estate investment trust (determined with the application of section 267(c)).

''(iii) Such partnership meets the requirements of paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) (applied without regard to section 710).''.

(c) IMPOSITION OF PENALTY ON UNDERPAYMENTS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 6662 is amended by inserting after paragraph (5) the following new paragraph:

''(6) The application of subsection (d) of section 710 or the regulations prescribed under section 710(e) to prevent the avoidance of the purposes of section 710.''.

(2) AMOUNT OF PENALTY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Section 6662 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(i) INCREASE IN PENALTY IN CASE OF PROPERTY TRANSFERRED FOR INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—In the case of any portion of an underpayment to which this section applies by reason of subsection (b)(6), subsection (a) shall be applied with respect to such portion by substituting '40 percent' for '20 percent'.''.

(B) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—Subparagraph (B) of section 6662A(e)(2) is amended—

(i) by striking ''section 6662(h)'' and inserting ''subsection (h) or (i) of section 6662'', and

(ii) by striking ''GROSS VALUATION MISSTATEMENT PENALTY'' in the heading and inserting ''CERTAIN INCREASED UNDERPAYMENT PENALTIES''.

(3) REASONABLE CAUSE EXCEPTION NOT APPLICABLE.—Subsection (c) of section 6664 is amended—

(A) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively,

(B) by striking ''paragraph (2)'' in paragraph (4), as so redesignated, and inserting ''paragraph (3)'', and

(C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the following new paragraph:

''(2) EXCEPTION.—Paragraph (1) shall not apply to any portion of an underpayment to which this section applies by reason of subsection (b)(6).''.

(d) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—

(1) Subsection (d) of section 731 is amended by inserting ''section 710(b)(4) (relating to distributions of partnership property),'' before ''section 736''.

(2) Section 741 is amended by inserting ''or section 710 (relating to special rules for partners providing investment management services to partnership)'' before the period at the end.

(3) Paragraph (13) of section 1402(a) is amended—

(A) by striking ''other than guaranteed'' and inserting ''other than—

''(A) guaranteed'',

(B) by striking the semi-colon at the end and inserting '', and'', and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(B) any income treated as ordinary income under section 710 received by an individual who provides investment management services (as defined in section 710(d)(2));''.

(4) Paragraph (12) of section 211(a) of the Social Security Act is amended—

(A) by striking ''other than guaranteed'' and inserting ''other than—

''(A) guaranteed'',

(B) by striking the semi-colon at the end and inserting '', and'', and

(C) by adding at the end the following new subparagraph:

''(B) any income treated as ordinary income under section 710 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 received by an individual who provides investment management services (as defined in section 710(d)(2) of such Code);''.

(5) The table of sections for part I of subchapter K of chapter 1 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 710. Special rules for partners providing investment management services to partnership.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years ending after November 1, 2007.

(2) PARTNERSHIP TAXABLE YEARS WHICH INCLUDE EFFECTIVE DATE.—In applying section 710(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) in the case of any partnership taxable year which includes November 1, 2007, the amount of the net income referred to in such section shall be treated as being the lesser of the net income for the entire partnership taxable year or the net income determined by only taking into account items attributable to the portion of the partnership taxable year which is after such date.

(3) DISPOSITIONS OF PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS.—Section 710(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (as added by this section) shall apply to dispositions and distributions after November 1, 2007.

(4) OTHER INCOME AND GAIN IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICES.—Section 710(d) of such Code (as added by this section) shall take effect on November 1, 2007.

(5) PUBLICLY TRADED PARTNERSHIPS.—For purposes of applying section 7704, the amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2009.

SEC. 12912. INDEBTEDNESS INCURRED BY A PARTNERSHIP IN ACQUIRING SECURITIES AND COMMODITIES NOT TREATED AS ACQUISITION INDEBTEDNESS FOR ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ARE PARTNERS WITH LIMITED LIABILITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (c) of section 514 (relating to acquisition indebtedness) is amended by adding at the end the following new paragraph:

''(10) SECURITIES AND COMMODITIES ACQUIRED BY PARTNERSHIPS IN WHICH AN ORGANIZATION IS A PARTNER WITH LIMITED LIABILITY.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—In the case of any organization which is a partner with limited liability in a partnership, the term 'acquisition indebtedness' does not, for purposes of this section, include indebtedness incurred or continued by such partnership in purchasing or carrying any qualified security or commodity.

''(B) QUALIFIED SECURITY OR COMMODITY.—For purposes of this paragraph, the term 'qualified security or commodity' means any security (as defined in section 475(c)(2) without regard to the last sentence thereof), any commodity (as defined in section 475(e)(2)), or any option or derivative contract with respect to such a security or commodity.

''(C) APPLICATION TO TIERED PARTNERSHIPS AND OTHER PASS-THRU ENTITIES.—Rules similar to the rules of subparagraph (A) shall apply in the case of tiered partnerships and other pass-thru entities.

''(D) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary may prescribe such regulations as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the purposes of this paragraph, including regulations to prevent the abuse of this paragraph.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12913. APPLICATION TO PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS AND TAX SHARING AGREEMENTS OF RULE TREATING CERTAIN GAIN ON SALES BETWEEN RELATED PERSONS AS ORDINARY INCOME.

(a) PARTNERSHIP INTERESTS.—Subsection (a) of section 1239 is amended to read as follows:

''(a) TREATMENT OF GAIN AS ORDINARY INCOME.—In the case of a sale or exchange of property, directly or indirectly, between related persons, any gain recognized to the transferor shall be treated as ordinary income if—

''(1) such property is, in the hands of the transferee, of a character which is subject to the allowance for depreciation provided in section 167, or

''(2) such property is an interest in a partnership, but only to the extent of gain attributable to unrealized appreciation in property which is of a character subject to the allowance for depreciation provided in section 167.''.

(b) TAX SHARING AGREEMENTS.—Section 1239 (relating to gain from sale of depreciable property between certain related taxpayers) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(f) APPLICATION TO TAX SHARING AGREEMENTS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If there is a tax sharing agreement with respect to any sale or exchange, the transferee and the transferor shall be treated as related persons for purposes of this section.

''(2) TAX SHARING AGREEMENT.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'tax sharing agreement' means any agreement which provides for the payment to the transferor of any amount which is determined by reference to any portion of the tax benefit realized by the transferee with respect to the depreciation (or amortization) of the property transferred.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply to sales and exchanges after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) EXCEPTION FOR BINDING CONTRACTS.—The amendment made by subsection (b) shall not apply to any sale or exchange pursuant to a written binding contract which includes a tax sharing agreement and which is in effect on November 1, 2007, and not modified thereafter in any material respect.

PART III—OTHER PROVISIONS

SEC. 12921. DELAY IN APPLICATION OF WORLDWIDE ALLOCATION OF INTEREST.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Paragraphs (5)(D) and (6) of section 864(f) are each amended by striking ''December 31, 2008'' and inserting ''December 31, 2017''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2008.

SEC. 12922. BROKER REPORTING OF CUSTOMER'S BASIS IN SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—

(1) BROKER REPORTING FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS.—Section 6045 (relating to returns of brokers) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(g) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE CASE OF SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—If a broker is otherwise required to make a return under subsection (a) with respect to the gross proceeds of the sale of a covered security, the broker shall include in such return the information described in paragraph (2).

''(2) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The information required under paragraph (1) to be shown on a return with respect to a covered security of a customer shall include the customer's adjusted basis in such security and whether any gain or loss with respect to such security is long-term or short-term (within the meaning of section 1222).

''(B) DETERMINATION OF ADJUSTED BASIS.—For purposes of subparagraph (A)—

''(i) IN GENERAL.—The customer's adjusted basis shall be determined—

''(I) in the case of any stock (other than any stock in an open-end fund), in accordance with the first-in first-out method unless the customer notifies the broker by means of making an adequate identification of the stock sold or transferred,

''(II) in the case of any stock in an open-end fund acquired before January 1, 2011, in accordance with any acceptable method under section 1012 with respect to the account in which such interest is held,

''(III) in the case of any stock in an open-end fund acquired after December 31, 2010, in

accordance with the broker's default method unless the customer notifies the broker that he elects another acceptable method under section 1012 with respect to the account in which such interest is held, and

''(IV) in any other case, under the method for making such determination under section 1012.

''(ii) EXCEPTION FOR WASH SALES.—Except as otherwise provided by the Secretary, the customer's adjusted basis shall be determined without regard to section 1091 (relating to loss from wash sales of stock or securities) unless the transactions occur in the same account with respect to identical securities.

''(3) COVERED SECURITY.—For purposes of this subsection—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'covered security' means any specified security acquired on or after the applicable date if such security—

''(i) was acquired through a transaction in the account in which such security is held, or

''(ii) was transferred to such account from an account in which such security was a covered security, but only if the broker received a statement under section 6045A with respect to the transfer.

''(B) SPECIFIED SECURITY.—The term 'specified security' means—

''(i) any share of stock in a corporation,

''(ii) any note, bond, debenture, or other evidence of indebtedness,

''(iii) any commodity, or contract or derivative with respect to such commodity, if the Secretary determines that adjusted basis reporting is appropriate for purposes of this subsection, and

''(iv) any other financial instrument with respect to which the Secretary determines that adjusted basis reporting is appropriate for purposes of this subsection.

''(C) APPLICABLE DATE.—The term 'applicable date' means—

''(i) January 1, 2009, in the case of any specified security which is stock in a corporation, and

''(ii) January 1, 2011, or such later date determined by the Secretary in the case of any other specified security.

''(4) OPEN-END FUND.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'open-end fund' means a regulated investment company (as defined in section 851) which is offering for sale or has outstanding any redeemable security of which it is the issuer and the shares of which are not traded on an established securities exchange.''.

(2) BROKER INFORMATION REQUIRED WITH RESPECT TO OPTIONS.—Section 6045, as amended by subsection (a), is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(h) APPLICATION TO OPTIONS ON COVERED SECURITIES.—

''(1) EXERCISE OF OPTION.—For purposes of this section, in the case of any exercise of an option on a covered security where the taxpayer is the grantor of the option and the option was acquired in the same account as the covered security, the amount received for the grant of an option on a covered security shall be treated as an adjustment to gross proceeds or as an adjustment to basis, as the case may be. A similar rule shall apply in the case of the exercise of an option where the taxpayer is not the grantor of the option.

''(2) LAPSE OR CLOSING TRANSACTION.—For purposes of this section, in the case of the lapse (or closing transaction (as defined in section 1234(b)(2)(A))) of an option on a covered security where the taxpayer is the grantor of the option, this section shall apply as if the premium received for such option were gross proceeds received on the date of the lapse or closing transaction, and the cost (if any) of the closing transaction shall be taken into account as adjusted basis. A similar rule shall apply in the case of a lapse or closing transaction where the taxpayer is not the grantor of the option.

''(3) PROSPECTIVE APPLICATION.—Paragraphs (1) and (2) shall not apply to any option which is granted or acquired before January 1, 2011.

''(4) COVERED SECURITY.—For purposes of this subsection, the term 'covered security' shall have the meaning given such term in subsection (g)(3).''.

(3) EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR STATEMENTS SENT TO CUSTOMERS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subsection (b) of section 6045 is amended by striking ''January 31'' and inserting ''February 15''.

(B) STATEMENTS RELATED TO SUBSTITUTE PAYMENTS.—Subsection (d) of section 6045 is amended—

(i) by striking ''at such time and'', and

(ii) by inserting after ''other item.'' the following new sentence: ''The written statement required under the preceding sentence shall be furnished on or before February 15 of the year following the calendar year during which such payment was made.''.

(C) OTHER STATEMENTS.—Subsection (b) of section 6045 is amended by adding at the end the following: ''In the case of a consolidated reporting statement (as defined in regulations) with respect to any account which includes the statement required by this subsection, any statement which would otherwise be required to be furnished on or before January 31 under section 6042(c), 6049(c)(2)(A), or 6050N(b) with respect to any item in such account shall instead be required to be furnished on or before February 15 if furnished as part of such consolidated reporting statement.''.

(b) DETERMINATION OF BASIS OF CERTAIN SECURITIES ON ACCOUNT BY ACCOUNT METHOD.—Section 1012 (relating to basis of property–cost) is amended—

(1) by striking ''The basis of property'' and inserting the following:

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The basis of property'',

(2) by striking ''The cost of real property'' and inserting the following:

''(b) SPECIAL RULE FOR APPORTIONED REAL ESTATE TAXES.—The cost of real property'', and

(3) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(c) DETERMINATIONS BY ACCOUNT.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—In the case of the sale, exchange, or other disposition of a specified security on or after the applicable date, the conventions prescribed by regulations under this section shall be applied on an account by account basis.

''(2) APPLICATION TO OPEN-END FUNDS.—

''(A) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subparagraph (B), any stock in an open-end fund acquired before January 1, 2009, shall be treated as a separate account from any such stock acquired on or after such date.

''(B) ELECTION BY OPEN-END FUND FOR TREATMENT AS SINGLE ACCOUNT.—If an open-end fund elects (at such time and in such form and manner as the Secretary may prescribe) to have this subparagraph apply with respect to one or more of its stockholders—

''(i) subparagraph (A) shall not apply with respect to any stock in such fund held by such stockholders, and

''(ii) all stock in such fund which is held by such stockholders shall be treated as covered securities described in section 6045(g)(3) without regard to the date of the acquisition of such stock.

''(3) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of this section, the terms 'specified security', 'applicable date', and 'open-end fund' shall have the meaning given such terms in section 6045(g).''.

(c) INFORMATION BY TRANSFERORS TO AID BROKERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by inserting after section 6045 the following new section:

''SEC. 6045A. INFORMATION REQUIRED IN CONNECTION WITH TRANSFERS OF COVERED SECURITIES TO BROKERS.

''(a) FURNISHING OF INFORMATION.—Every applicable person which transfers to a broker (as defined in section 6045(c)(1)) a security which is a covered security (as defined in section 6045(g)(3)) in the hands of such applicable person shall furnish to such broker a written statement in such manner and setting forth such information as the Secretary may by regulations prescribe for purposes of enabling such broker to meet the requirements of section 6045(g).

''(b) APPLICABLE PERSON.—For purposes of subsection (a), the term 'applicable person' means—

''(1) any broker (as defined in section 6045(c)(1)), and

''(2) any other person as provided by the Secretary in regulations.

''(c) TIME FOR FURNISHING STATEMENT.—Any statement required by subsection (a) shall be furnished not later than the earlier of—

''(1) 45 days after the date of the transfer described in subsection (a), or

''(2) January 15 of the year following the calendar year during which such transfer occurred.''.

(2) ASSESSABLE PENALTIES.—Paragraph (2) of section 6724(d) (defining payee statement) is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (I) through (CC) as subparagraphs (J) through (DD), respectively, and by inserting after subparagraph (H) the following new subparagraph:

''(I) section 6045A (relating to information required in connection with transfers of covered securities to brokers).''.

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6045 the following new item:

''Sec. 6045A. Information required in connection with transfers of covered securities to brokers.''.

(d) ADDITIONAL ISSUER INFORMATION TO AID BROKERS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended by subsection (b), is amended by inserting after section 6045A the following new section:

''SEC. 6045B. RETURNS RELATING TO ACTIONS AFFECTING BASIS OF SPECIFIED SECURITIES.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—According to the forms or regulations prescribed by the Secretary, any issuer of a specified security shall make a return setting forth—

''(1) a description of any organizational action which affects the basis of such specified security of such issuer,

''(2) the quantitative effect on the basis of such specified security resulting from such action, and

''(3) such other information as the Secretary may prescribe.

''(b) TIME FOR FILING RETURN.—Any return required by subsection (a) shall be filed not later than the earlier of—

''(1) 45 days after the date of the action described in subsection (a), or

''(2) January 31 of the year following the calendar year during which such action occurred.

''(c) STATEMENTS TO BE FURNISHED TO HOLDERS OF SPECIFIED SECURITIES OR THEIR NOMINEES.—According to the forms or regulations prescribed by the Secretary, every

person required to make a return under subsection (a) with respect to a specified security shall furnish to the nominee with respect to the specified security (or certificate holder if there is no nominee) a written statement showing—

''(1) the name, address, and phone number of the information contact of the person required to make such return,

''(2) the information required to be shown on such return with respect to such security, and

''(3) such other information as the Secretary may prescribe.

The written statement required under the preceding sentence shall be furnished to the holder on or before January 31 of the year following the calendar year during which the action described in subsection (a) occurred.

''(d) SPECIFIED SECURITY.—For purposes of this section, the term 'specified security' has the meaning given such term by section 6045(g)(3)(B). No return shall be required under this section with respect to actions described in subsection (a) with respect to a specified security which occur before the applicable date (as defined in section 6045(g)(3)(C) with respect to such security.

''(e) PUBLIC REPORTING IN LIEU OF RETURN.—The Secretary may waive the requirements under subsections (a) and (c) with respect to a specified security, if the person required to make the return under subsection (a) makes publicly available, in such form and manner as the Secretary determines necessary to carry out the purposes of this section—

''(1) the name, address, phone number, and email address of the information contact of such person, and

''(2) the information described in paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).''.

(2) ASSESSABLE PENALTIES.—

(A) Subparagraph (B) of section 6724(d)(1) of such Code (defining information return) is amended by redesignating clauses (iv) through (xix) as clauses (v) through (xx), respectively, and by inserting after clause (iii) the following new clause:

''(iv) section 6045B(a) (relating to returns relating to actions affecting basis of specified securities),''.

(B) Paragraph (2) of section 6724(d) of such Code (defining payee statement), as amended by subsection (c)(2), is amended by redesignating subparagraphs (J) through (DD) as subparagraphs (K) through (EE), respectively, and by inserting after subparagraph (I) the following new subparagraph:

''(J) subsections (c) and (e) of section 6045B (relating to returns relating to actions affecting basis of specified securities).''.

(3) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for subpart B of part III of subchapter A of chapter 61 of such Code, as amended by subsection (b)(3), is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 6045A the following new item:

''Sec. 6045B. Returns relating to actions affecting basis of specified securities.''.

(e) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect on January 1, 2009.

SEC. 12923. MODIFICATION OF PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO FILE PARTNERSHIP RETURNS.

Section 6698 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(e) MODIFICATIONS.—In the case of any return required to be filed after the date of the enactment of this subsection—

''(1) the dollar amount in effect under subsection (b)(1) shall be increased by $25, and

''(2) the limitation on the number of months taken into account under subsection (a) shall not be less than 12 months.''.

SEC. 12924. PENALTY FOR FAILURE TO FILE S CORPORATION RETURNS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 (relating to assessable penalties) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

''SEC. 6699A. FAILURE TO FILE S CORPORATION RETURN.

''(a) GENERAL RULE.—In addition to the penalty imposed by section 7203 (relating to willful failure to file return, supply information, or pay tax), if any S corporation required to file a return under section 6037 for any taxable year—

''(1) fails to file such return at the time prescribed therefor (determined with regard to any extension of time for filing), or

''(2) files a return which fails to show the information required under section 6037,

such S corporation shall be liable for a penalty determined under subsection (b) for each month (or fraction thereof) during which such failure continues (but not to exceed 12 months), unless it is shown that such failure is due to reasonable cause.

''(b) AMOUNT PER MONTH.—For purposes of subsection (a), the amount determined under this subsection for any month is the product of—

''(1) $25, multiplied by

''(2) the number of persons who were shareholders in the S corporation during any part of the taxable year.

''(c) ASSESSMENT OF PENALTY.—The penalty imposed by subsection (a) shall be assessed against the S corporation.

''(d) DEFICIENCY PROCEDURES NOT TO APPLY.—Subchapter B of chapter 63 (relating to deficiency procedures for income, estate, gift, and certain excise taxes) shall not apply in respect of the assessment or collection of any penalty imposed by subsection (a).''.

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of sections for part I of subchapter B of chapter 68 is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

''Sec. 6699A. Failure to file S corporation return.''.

(c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall apply to returns required to be filed after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 12925. TIME FOR PAYMENT OF CORPORATE ESTIMATED TAXES.

Subparagraph (B) of section 401(1) of the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005 is amended by striking ''115 percent'' and inserting ''181 percent''.

SA 3643. Mr. CORNYN (for himself and Mr. GREGG) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1362, after line 19, insert the following:

SEC. ____. POINT OF ORDER AGAINST LEGISLATION THAT RAISES INCOME TAX RATES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—It shall not be in order in the Senate to consider any bill, resolution, amendment, amendment between Houses, motion, or conference report that includes a Federal income tax rate increase.

(b) FEDERAL INCOME TAX RATE DEFINED.—In this section, the term ''Federal income tax rate increase'' means any amendment to subsection (a), (b), (c), (d), or (e) of section 1, or to section 11(b) or 55(b), of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, that imposes a new percentage as a rate of tax and thereby increases the amount of tax imposed by any such section.

(c) SUPERMAJORITY WAIVER AND APPEAL.—

(1) WAIVER.—This section may be waived or suspended in the Senate only by an affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members, duly chosen and sworn.

(2) APPEAL.—An affirmative vote of three-fifths of the Members of the Senate, duly chosen and sworn, shall be required in the Senate to sustain an appeal of the ruling of the Chair on a point of order raised under this section.

SA 3644. Mr. CORNYN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 626, line 7, insert ''(including childhood obesity)'' after ''obesity''.

SA 3645. Mr. ENSIGN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 210, strike line 20 and all that follows through page 211, line 19, and insert the following:

''(1) PROGRAMS.—

''(A) COMMODITY PROGRAMS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an individual or entity shall not be eligible to receive any benefit described in paragraph (2)(A) during a crop year if the average adjusted gross income of the individual or entity exceeds $200,000.

''(B) CONSERVATION PROGRAMS.—Not-

On page 212, lines 6 and 7, strike ''Subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (1)'' and insert ''Paragraph (1)(A)''.

On page 212, line 21, strike ''(1)(C)'' and inserting ''(1)(B)''.

SA 3646. Mr. INOUYE (for himself, Mr. ROBERTS, Mr. LOTT, Mr. LAUTENBERG, Mr. SMITH, and Mr. VITTER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 525, strike lines 1 through 4 and insert the following: ''Chapter 9 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2292)''.

SEC. 3014. PILOT PROGRAM FOR LOCAL PURCHASE.

Chapter 9 of part I of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 (22 U.S.C. 2292 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

''SEC. 495L. PILOT PROGRAM FOR LOCAL PURCHASE OF ELIGIBLE COMMODITIES.

On page 525, between lines 5 and 6, insert the following:

''(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Administrator' means the Administrator of the Agency for International Development.

On page 525, lines 6 and 7, strike ''Notwithstanding section 402(2), the term'' and insert ''The term''.

On page 525, line 17, insert ''of the Food for Peace Act'' after ''section 202(d)''.

On page 526, lines 4 through 6, strike ''Notwithstanding section 407(c)(1)(A), the Administrator, in consultation with the Secretary'' and insert ''The Administrator''.

On page 527, lines 5 and 6, strike ''Subject to subsections (a), (b), (f), and (h) of section 403, eligible commodities'' and insert ''Eligible commodities''.

On page 529, strike lines 10 through 12.

On page 534, strike lines 1 through 11 and insert the following:

''(k) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated up to $25,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2011 to carry out this section.

''(2) AVAILABILITY.—Any amounts appropriated pursuant to paragraph (1) shall remain available until expended.''.

SA 3647. Mr. FEINGOLD submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 563, between lines 15 and 16, insert the following:

SEC. 320___. REPORT ON THE IMPORTATION OF HIGH PROTEIN FOOD INGREDIENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services (acting through the Commissioner of Food and Drugs), in consultation with the heads of other appropriate Federal agencies, shall jointly submit to Congress a report on imports of high protein food ingredients (including gluten, casein, and milk protein concentrate) into the United States during the 5-year period preceding the date of enactment of this Act.

(b) COMPONENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) a description of—

(A) the quantity of each high protein food ingredient imported into the United States; and

(B) the source of the high protein food ingredients being imported;

(2) an accounting of the percentage of imports in each category and subcategory of high protein food ingredients that were inspected, including whether the inspections were—

(A) basic or visual inspections; or

(B) more intensive inspections or laboratory analyses;

(3) an evaluation of—

(A) whether the laboratory tests conducted on high protein food ingredients were able to detect adulteration with other high nitrogen compounds, such as melamine; and

(B) if some of the laboratory tests were sensitive and others were not sensitive, the number and results for each sensitivity; and

(4) a survey of whether high protein food ingredients were imported for food uses or non-food uses, including an analysis of—

(A) whether the food uses were animal or human food uses; and

(B) whether any non-food or animal feed products could have entered the human food supply, including an analysis of any safeguards to prevent such products from entering the human food supply.

(c) AVAILABILITY.—As soon as practicable after the completion of the report under subsection (a), the Secretary and the Secretary of Health and Human Services shall make the report available to the public.

SA 3648. Mr. FEINGOLD (for himself and Mr. KOHL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1208, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

SEC. 10004. DISCLOSURE OF COUNTRY OF HARVEST FOR GINSENG.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 (7 U.S.C. 1621 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

"Subtitle E—Ginseng

"SEC. 291. DISCLOSURE OF COUNTRY OF HARVEST.

''(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

''(1) GINSENG.—The term 'ginseng' means a plant classified within the genus Panax.

''(2) RAW AGRICULTURAL COMMODITY.—The term 'raw agricultural commodity' has the meaning given the term in section 201 of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 321).

''(3) SECRETARY.—The term 'Secretary' means the Secretary of Agriculture.

''(b) DISCLOSURE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—A person that offers ginseng for sale as a raw agricultural commodity shall disclose to a potential purchaser the country of harvest of the ginseng.

''(2) IMPORTATION.—A person that imports ginseng as a raw agricultural commodity into the United States shall disclose at the point of entry into the United States, in accordance with section 304 of the Tariff Act of 1930 (19 U.S.C. 1304), the country in which the ginseng was harvested.

''(c) MANNER OF DISCLOSURE.—

''(1) IN GENERAL.—The disclosure required by subsection (b) shall be provided to a potential purchaser by means of a label, stamp, mark, placard, or other easily legible and visible sign on the ginseng or on the package, display, holding unit, or bin containing the ginseng.

''(2) RETAILERS.—A retailer of ginseng as a raw agricultural commodity shall—

''(A) retain the means of disclosure provided under subsection (b); and

''(B) provide the received means of disclosure to a consumer of ginseng.

''(3) REGULATIONS.—The Secretary shall by regulation prescribe with specificity the manner in which disclosure shall be made in a transaction at the wholesale or retail level (including a transaction by mail, telephone, internet, or in retail stores).

''(d) FINES.—The Secretary may, after providing notice and an opportunity for a hearing before the Secretary, fine a person subject to subsection (b), or a person supplying ginseng to such a person, in an amount of not more than $1,000 for each violation if the Secretary determines that the person—

''(1) has not made a good faith effort to comply with subsection (b); and

''(2) continues to willfully violate subsection (b).

''(e) INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall make information available to wholesalers, importers, retailers, trade associations, and other interested persons concerning the requirements of this section (including regulations promulgated to carry out this section).''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This section and the amendments made by this section take effect on the date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

SA 3649. Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. GREGG, Mr. SUNUNU, Mr. REED, and Ms. COLLINS) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by him to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following new section:

SEC. ___. FISHERY FAILURE OF THE NORTHEAST GROUNDFISH.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress makes the following findings:

(1) The Secretary of Commerce may provide fishery disaster assistance under section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861a(a)) if the Secretary determines that there is a commercial fishery failure due to a fishery resource disaster as a result of—

(A) natural causes;

(B) man-made causes beyond the control of fishery managers to mitigate through conservation and management measures, including regulatory restrictions imposed to protect human health or the marine environment; or

(C) undetermined causes.

(2) The Secretary of Commerce has not proposed or promulgated regulations to implement such section 312(a).

(3) During 2007, the Governors of each of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the State of Maine, and the State of Rhode Island requested that the Secretary of Commerce declare a commercial fishery failure for the groundfish fishery under such section 312(a) and the Governor of the State of New Hampshire has indicated his intention of submitting a similar request.

(4) Since 1996, the Secretary of Commerce has had regulations in place that require significant restrictions and reductions on the catch and days-at-sea of New England fishermen in the groundfish fishery.

(5) New England fishermen in the groundfish fishery have endured additional restrictions and reductions under Framework 42, which has resulted in many fishermen having just 24 days to fish during a season.

(6) Framework 42 and other Federal fishing restrictions have had a great impact on small-boat fishermen, many of whom cannot safely fish beyond the inshore areas. As of the date of the enactment of this Act, each day-at-sea a fisherman spends in an inshore area reduces that fisherman's number of available days-at-sea by 2 days.

(7) The Commonwealth of Massachusetts has provided information to the Secretary of Commerce demonstrating that—

(A) between 1994 and 2006, overall conditions of groundfish stocks have not improved and that spawning stock biomass is near record lows for most major groundfish stocks; and

(B) between 2005 and 2006, total Massachusetts commercial groundfish vessel revenues (landings) decreased by 18 percent and there was a loss for related industries and communities estimated at $22,000,000.

(8) The State of Maine has provided information to the Secretary of Commerce indicating that—

(A) since 1994, the impact of groundfish regulations has eliminated 50 percent of Maine's groundfish fleet, leaving just 110 active groundfish fishermen;

(B) between 1996 and 2006, there was a 58 percent decrease in groundfish landings in

Maine and a 45 percent decrease in groundfish revenue, from approximately $27,000,000 to $15,000,000; and

(C) between 2005 and 2006, groundfish revenues decreased 25 percent.

(9) The State of Rhode Island has provided information to the Secretary of Commerce indicating that—

(A) since 1994, there has been a 66 percent drop in Rhode Island's groundfish fishery landings; and

(B) between 1995 and 2007, groundfish revenue decreased 20 percent from approximately $7,500,000 to $6,000,000.

(10) The Secretary of Commerce rejected requests from Massachusetts, Maine, and Rhode Island to declare a commercial fishery failure prior to establishing any appropriate standard to implement section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

(11) For centuries, growth in New England's commercial fishing industry has been intertwined with the history and economic growth of the New England States and has created thousands of jobs in both fishing and fishing-related industries for generations of New England residents.

(b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Commerce should—

(1) reconsider the October 22, 2007 decision to deny the requests of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the State of Maine, and the State of Rhode Island for a groundfish fishery failure declaration;

(2) look favorably upon the request of the State of New Hampshire for a groundfish fishery failure declaration; and

(3) immediately propose regulations to implement section 312(a) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1861a(a)).

SA 3650. Mrs. HUTCHISON submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1192, strike line 13 and insert the following:

"SEC. 9023. RENEWABLE ENERGY INITIATIVE.

''(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Energy, shall provide competitive grants to consortia of institutions of higher education to assist the consortia with the conduct of—

''(1) studies on, and the development of engineering designs for, the production of advanced biofuel, biobutanol, and biodiesel from regional bioresources;

''(2) studies to develop systems for the commercial production of biofuel feedstocks from rice, other crops, and other agriculture residue;

''(3) pilot plant demonstration projects for advanced biofuel production and biodiesel production;

''(4) research on biofuel distribution systems; and

''(5) educational activities relating to renewable energy science and technology.

''(b) PROVISION OF GRANTS.—

''(1) APPLICATIONS.—The Secretary shall solicit from individual institutions of higher education and consortia of institutions of higher education applications for projects eligible for grants under this section.

''(2) PRIORITY.—In providing grants under this section, the Secretary shall give priority to individual institutions of higher education and consortia of institutions of higher education that have—

''(A) resources for, and expertise in, renewable energy research and production;

''(B) significant experience in working with agricultural producers;

''(C) access to land and biofeedstocks;

''(D) the ability to study methods for reducing lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions;

''(E) demonstrated a willingness to contribute significant in-kind resources; and

''(F) engineering and research knowledge and experience relating to biofuels or the production of inputs for biofuel production.

''(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012, to remain available until expended.

"SEC. 9024. FUTURE FARMSTEADS PROGRAM.

SA 3651. Mr. CORKER (for himself and Mr. ALEXANDER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 1500, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

PART V—COMPETITIVE CERTIFICATION AWARDS

SEC. 12701. COMPETITIVE CERTIFICATION AWARDS MODIFICATION AUTHORITY.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 48A (relating to qualifying advanced coal project credit) is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

''(h) COMPETITIVE CERTIFICATION AWARDS MODIFICATION AUTHORITY.—In implementing this section or section 48B, the Secretary is directed to modify the terms of any competitive certification award and any associated closing agreement where such modification—

''(1) is consistent with the objectives of such section, and

''(2) is requested by the recipient of the competitive certification award,

unless the Secretary determines that the dollar amount of tax credits available to the taxpayer under such section would increase, or that the net public benefits associated with the original application would be reduced, as a result of the modification. In considering any such modification, the Secretary shall consult with other relevant Federal agencies, including the Department of Energy.''.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by this section shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this Act and is applicable to all competitive certification awards entered into under section 48A or 48B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, whether such awards were issued before, on, or after such date of enactment.

SA 3652. Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mrs. DOLE, and Mr. SMITH) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 692, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

SEC. 49___. FOOD EMPLOYMENT EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—The term ''eligible entity'' means an entity that meets the requirements of subsection (b)(2).

(2) VULNERABLE SUBPOPULATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term ''vulnerable subpopulation'' means low-income individuals, unemployed individuals, and other subpopulations identified by the Secretary as being likely to experience special risks from hunger or a special need for job training.

(B) INCLUSIONS.—The term ''vulnerable subpopulation'' includes—

(i) addicts (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802));

(ii) at-risk youths (as defined in section 1432 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 6472));

(iii) individuals that are basic skills deficient (as defined in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801));

(iv) homeless individuals (as defined in section 17(b) of the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1786(b));

(v) homeless youths (as defined in section 387 of the Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42 U.S.C. 5732a));

(vi) individuals with disabilities (as defined in section 3 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12102));

(vii) low-income individuals (as defined in section 101 of the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (29 U.S.C. 2801)); and

(viii) older individuals (as defined in section 102 of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3002)).

(b) FOOD EMPLOYMENT EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a food employment empowerment and development program under which the Secretary shall make grants to eligible entities to encourage the effective use of community resources to combat hunger and the root causes of hunger by creating opportunity through food recovery and job training.

(2) ELIGIBLE ENTITIES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, an entity shall be a public agency, or private nonprofit institution, that conducts, or will conduct, 2 or more of the following activities as an integral part of the normal operation of the entity:

(A) Recovery of donated food from area restaurants, caterers, hotels, cafeterias, farms, or other food service businesses.

(B) Distribution of meals or recovered food to—

(i) nonprofit organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;

(ii) entities that feed vulnerable subpopulations; and

(iii) other agencies considered appropriate by the Secretary.

(C) Training of unemployed and underemployed adults for careers in the food service industry.

(D) Carrying out of a welfare-to-work job training program in combination with—

(i) production of school meals, such as school meals served under the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1751 et seq.) or the Child Nutrition Act of 1966 (42 U.S.C. 1771 et seq.); or

(ii) support for after-school programs, such as programs conducted by community learning centers (as defined in section 4201(b) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 7171(b))).

(3) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity may use a grant awarded under this section for—

(A) capital investments related to the operation of the eligible entity;

(B) support services for clients, including staff, of the eligible entity and individuals enrolled in job training programs;

(C) purchase of equipment and supplies related to the operation of the eligible entity or that improve or directly affect service delivery;

(D) building and kitchen renovations that improve or directly affect service delivery;

(E) educational material and services;

(F) administrative costs, in accordance with guidelines established by the Secretary; and

(G) additional activities determined appropriate by the Secretary.

(4) PREFERENCES.—In awarding grants under this section, the Secretary shall give preference to eligible entities that perform, or will perform, any of the following activities:

(A) Carrying out food recovery programs that are integrated with—

(i) culinary worker training programs, such as programs conducted by a food service management institute under section 21 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (42 U.S.C. 1769b–1);

(ii) school education programs; or

(iii) programs of service-learning (as defined in section 101 of the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12511)).

(B) Providing job skills training, life skills training, and case management support to vulnerable subpopulations.

(C) Integrating recovery and distribution of food with a job training program.

(D) Maximizing the use of an established school, community, or private food service facility or resource in meal preparation and culinary skills training.

(E) Providing job skills training, life skills training, and case management support to vulnerable subpopulations.

(5) ELIGIBILITY FOR JOB TRAINING.—To be eligible to receive job training assistance from an eligible entity using a grant made available under this section, an individual shall be a member of a vulnerable subpopulation.

(6) PERFORMANCE INDICATORS.—The Secretary shall establish, for each year of the program, performance indicators and expected levels of performance for meal and food distribution and job training for eligible entities to continue to receive and use grants under this section.

(7) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall provide technical assistance to eligible entities that receive grants under this section to assist the eligible entities in carrying out programs under this section using the grants.

(B) FORM.—Technical assistance for a program provided under this paragraph includes—

(i) maintenance of a website, newsletters, email communications, and other tools to promote shared communications, expertise, and best practices;

(ii) hosting of an annual meeting or other forums to provide education and outreach to all programs participants;

(iii) collection of data for each program to ensure that the performance indicators and purposes of the program are met or exceeded;

(iv) intervention (if necessary) to assist an eligible entity to carry out the program in a manner that meets or exceeds the performance indicators and purposes of the program;

(v) consultation and assistance to an eligible entity to assist the eligible entity in providing the best services practicable to the community served by the eligible entity, including consultation and assistance related to—

(I) strategic plans;

(II) board development;

(III) fund development;

(IV) mission development; and

(V) other activities considered appropriate by the Secretary;

(vi) assistance considered appropriate by the Secretary regarding—

(I) the status of program participants;

(II) the demographic characteristics of program participants that affect program services;

(III) any new idea that could be integrated into the program; and

(IV) the review of grant proposals; and

(vii) any other forms of technical assistance the Secretary considers appropriate.

(8) RELATIONSHIP TO OTHER LAW.—

(A) BILL EMERSON GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD DONATION ACT.—An action taken by an eligible entity using a grant provided under this section shall be covered by the Bill Emerson Good Samaritan Food Donation Act (42 U.S.C. 1791).

(B) FOOD HANDLING GUIDELINES.—In using a grant provided under this section, an eligible entity shall comply with any applicable food handling guideline established by a State or local authority.

(C) INSPECTIONS.—An eligible entity using a grant provided under this section shall be exempt from inspection under sections 303.1(d)(2)(iii) and 381.10(d)(2)(iii) of volume 9, Code of Federal Regulations (or a successor regulation), if the eligible entity—

(i) has a hazard analysis and critical control point (HACCP) plan;

(ii) has a sanitation standard operating procedure (SSOP); and

(iii) otherwise complies with the Federal Meat Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 601 et seq.) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (21 U.S.C. 451 et seq.).

(9) MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF GRANT.—The amount of a grant provided to an eligible entity for a fiscal year under this section shall not exceed $200,000.

(c) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as are necessary to carry out this section for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

(2) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE.—Of the amount of funds that are made available for a fiscal year under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall use to provide technical assistance under subsection (b)(7) not more than the greater of—

(A) 5 percent of the amount of funds that are made available for the fiscal year under paragraph (1); or

(B) $1,000,000.

SA 3653. Mr. COBURN submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 3500 proposed by Mr. HARKIN (for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY) to the bill H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

On page 266, between lines 10 and 11, insert the following:

SEC. 19___. ELIGIBILITY FOR DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 508(b)(7) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(b)(7)) is amended by striking subparagraph (A) and inserting the following:

''(A) IN GENERAL.—

''(i) REQUIREMENT TO PURCHASE CROP INSURANCE.—Effective for the spring-planted 2008 and subsequent crops (and fall-planted 2008 crops at the option of the Secretary), to be eligible for any benefit listed in clause (ii), a person shall obtain additional coverage under subsection (c), if available, for each crop of economic significance that—

''(I) covers at least 55 percent of loss in yield, on an individual or area yield basis, and that indemnifies at 100 percent of the expected market price; or

''(II) provides a level of coverage that is comparable to the coverage described in subclause (I), as determined by the Secretary.

''(ii) COVERED BENEFITS.—Benefits referred to in clause (i) are any type of price support, payment, loan, or other benefit, as determined by the Secretary—

''(I) described in section 371(b) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008f(b)); or

''(II) authorized under—

''(aa) title XII of the Food Security Act of 1985 (16 U.S.C. 3801 et seq.);

''(bb) title I of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (7 U.S.C. 7901 et seq.);

''(cc) title I of the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007;

''(dd) the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act (15 U.S.C. 714 et seq.);

''(ee) any law providing agricultural disaster assistance; or

''(ff) any other similar Act administered by the Secretary, as determined by the Secretary.''.

(b)PAYMENT OF PORTION OF PREMIUM BY CORPORATION.—Section 508(e)(2) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1508(e)(2)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (B)(i), by striking ''67 percent'' and inserting ''62 percent'';

(2) in subparagraph (C)(i), by striking ''64 percent'' and inserting ''59 percent'';

(3) in subparagraph (D)(i), by striking ''59 percent'' and inserting ''54 percent'';

(4) in subparagraph (E)(i), by striking ''55 percent'' and inserting ''53 percent'';

(5) in subparagraph (F)(i), by striking ''48 percent'' and inserting ''46 percent''; and

(6) in subparagraph (G)(i), by striking ''38 percent'' and inserting ''36 percent''.

(c) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 371(a) of the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act (7 U.S.C. 2008f(a)) is amended by striking ''at least catastrophic'' and all that follows through the end of the subsection and inserting ''insurance coverage pursuant to section 508(b)(7) of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C.1508(b)(7)).''.

AUTHORITY FOR COMMITTEES TO MEET

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., in room 253 of the Russell Senate Office Building, in order to conduct a hearing.

At this hearing, the Committee will examine the accuracy of the Federal Trade Commission's tar and nicotine cigarette rating system and the marketing claims of cigarette companies based on these ratings.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 2:30 p.m., in room

SD–366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building, in order to conduct a hearing entitled ''The Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977: Policy Issues Thirty Years Later.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Environment and Public Works be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 11 a.m. in room 406 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building in order to conduct a hearing entitled, ''Legislative Hearing on America's Climate Security Act of 2007, S. 2191.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Foreign Relations be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in order to conduct a hearing on climate change.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on the Judiciary be authorized to meet, during the session of the Senate, in order to conduct a hearing entitled ''Exploring the Scope of Public Performance Rights'' on Tuesday, November 13, 2007. The hearing will commence at 9:30 a.m. in room 226 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Witness list:

Lyle Lovett, Singer/Songwriter, Nashville, TN; Alice Peacock, Singer/Songwriter, Chicago, IL; Steven W. Newberry, President and CEO, Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation, Glasgow, KY; and Dan DeVany, Vice President and General Manager, WETA, Arlington, VA.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate in order to conduct a hearing entitled ''SBA Lender Oversight: Preventing Loan Fraud and Improving Regulation of Lenders,'' on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, beginning at 10 a.m., in room 428A of the Russell Senate Office Building.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Select Committee on Intelligence be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on November 13, 2007, at 2:30 p.m. in order to conduct an open hearing on Congressional oversight.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT, THE FEDERAL WORKFORCE, AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia be authorized to meet during the session of the Senate on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, at 10 a.m. in order to conduct a hearing entitled, ''Human Capital Needs of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection 'One Face at the Border' Initiative.''

The PRESIDING OFFICER. without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Karla Bromwell of my staff be granted floor privileges for the duration of today's session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Virginia Murphy, who is on detail from the Department of Agriculture to the office of Senator FEINSTEIN, be granted the privileges of the floor for the duration of debate and any vote on H.R. 2419.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to executive session to consider Calendar No. 335, the nomination of Henrietta Fore to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development; that the nomination be confirmed, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action, and the Senate then return to legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The nomination considered and confirmed is as follows:

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Henrietta Holsman Fore, of Nevada, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, the nomination of Henrietta Fore was a little controversial, but it worked out just fine. This good Nevadan will have a good job. She will do her best. I am confident it will be one that the country will be pleased with.

LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senate will now return to legislative session.

RECOGNIZING AND CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL OF OKLAHOMA STATEHOOD

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to the consideration of S. Res. 377.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 377) recognizing and celebrating the centennial of Oklahoma statehood.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the resolution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 377) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. RES. 377

Whereas, on November 16, 1907, Oklahoma officially became the 46th State of the Union;

Whereas the State of Oklahoma is known as the Sooner State;

Whereas the State of Oklahoma has become a national leader in agriculture, natural resource industries, technology, and manufacturing;

Whereas the people of Oklahoma have harvested the natural abundance of the State to produce a wealth which has enabled the building of cities, educational institutions, an unhurried pace of life, and a rich culture, while maintaining the pristine ecology;

Whereas the beautiful mountains, rivers, lakes, trees, plains, and fields of the State of Oklahoma are appreciated and preserved, and the quality of life is unsurpassed; and

Whereas, on November 16, 2007, the State of Oklahoma will begin a new century of statehood: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate recognizes and celebrates the centennial of Oklahoma statehood.

MEASURES READ THE FIRST TIME—S. 2334, S. 2340, S. 2346, S. 2348, AND H.R. 3996, EN BLOC

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I understand there are five bills at the desk and I ask for their first reading en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 2334) to withhold 10 percent of the Federal funding apportioned for highway construction and maintenance from States that issue driver's licenses to individuals without verifying the legal status of such individual.

A bill (S. 2340) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2346) to temporarily increase the portfolio caps applicable to Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae, to provide the necessary financing to curb foreclosures by facilitating the refinancing of at-risk subprime borrowers into safe, affordable loans, and for other purposes.

A bill (S. 2348) to ensure control over the United States border and to strengthen enforcement of the immigration laws.

A bill (H.R. 3996) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend certain expiring provisions and for other purposes.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask for their second reading en bloc, but I object to my own request en bloc.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I note the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia is recognized.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

FARM, NUTRITION, AND BIOENERGY ACT

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, we have been working very diligently on both sides of the aisle today to put together a list of amendments we could agree with each other would be the maximum number and substance of amendments that would be offered on the farm bill. Senator REID, Senator MCCONNELL, Senator HARKIN, Senator CONRAD, and myself have all been engaged in different conversations today about these amendments. At the end of the day, the lists we have come up with are very long on both sides. I think the total number exceeds 275.

As we all know, on bills of this magnitude, an overwhelming number of those amendments will ultimately disappear. We will dispose of them by either bringing them to the floor by accepting them or by the authors and proponents of those amendments agreeing at the end of the day that they simply don't want to do anything other than talk about their amendments.

We are not able to enter into a unanimous consent agreement on this right now. I understand the leadership is going to wait until in the morning to do that. But by starting first thing in the morning, I think we do have the opportunity to move through a significant number of these amendments, and I encourage the proponents of the amendments on both sides of the aisle to think seriously about whether you want to see a farm bill completed, and if you do, then come down, agree to a minimal amount of time we can use for debate and discussion on the amendments, and let's move through these amendments with as much haste as we possibly can.

I do regret that—we are here ready to agree to a unanimous consent that this will be the complete list and we will begin working and we look forward to being here tomorrow in that same frame of mind, to agree to the list of amendments as proposed on both sides of the aisle. We are not happy with some of their amendments and I understand they are not happy with some of the amendments coming from this side. Again, that is the way this body has always worked, and I hope in the morning we are ready to proceed and we can move toward debate, discussion, and voting on these various amendments, and that we can conclude this as soon as possible, whether that is before we leave this week—it may be impossible—but in any event, we will begin work on it tomorrow.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, while my friend is on the floor and my friend from South Dakota is on the floor, through the Chair to my friend from Georgia, looking at these two lists kind of puts a smile on your face, because it is quite a list. There is a multitude of tax issues and a lot of things totally not relevant to this farm bill.

But I would say through the Chair to my friend that I am going to take a look at this—I have had some good meetings with my staff and Senator HARKIN today—and make a decision about what we should do on this tomorrow. But the question I have of my friend from Georgia is how long do we have to work on this, work our way through these amendments? There are about 280 or 290 amendments. I sit here today and I say again, I have no doubt that the vast majority of the Democrats—with a significant majority of Democrats, with a handful of help from the Republicans, cloture would be invoked on this bill.

So I say to my friend, how long do you think we should play around with all of these amendments? Is there a magic number we need to have votes on some of them? When should I file cloture? If farm State Senators and if other Senators want a farm bill, time is wasting. We have a few more days left in this work period before Thanksgiving, and when we come back after Thanksgiving we have a very short 3 weeks to get all of the Federal Government's work done that has to be done before the calendar year ends. So I don't expect my friend to answer the question without talking to my counterpart on the other side, but I want him to think about how much longer do we do this little gesture we are going through here? We have wasted a lot of time. The question the Republicans have to make a decision on is do they want a farm bill? We want one. We want a farm bill. We will take the bill that came out of committee—the vast majority of us—but we know there are some amendments we need to do. I think it is important we do the Dorgan amendment. I think it is important we do the Lugar amendment. I do think the substitute and the payment limits are something we need to do, but I don't know how much more of this we should be concerned about.

I will have some meetings in the morning and we will report back to the ranking member of this very important committee.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Georgia is recognized.

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. President, I say to the majority leader I appreciate his comments. Obviously, I don't have the answer to the question as to how long we should consider the amendments before we file cloture. That is a decision for the majority leader to make on his own, hopefully in consultation with the leadership on this side. But what I would say is we started this process last week. There were procedural issues that had to be resolved last week. We sat around for a couple of days without being able to bring up amendments. Here we are again. We have sat around today, again, without having the opportunity to bring them up. After having served 8 years in the House, I have an appreciation of the Senate as I have never had before. It is a deliberative body that our forefathers decided it should be, and I have seen no better example of that deliberation than I have on this particular bill.

That being said, we won't know when it is the right time to file cloture until we begin the work, and if we begin the work on this tomorrow, I know from our side of the aisle—and I will make the commitment—we will move these amendments as quickly as possible. There is the great likelihood that a number of these amendments won't be called up, but we won't know until we get into the process.

My farmers and ranchers want a farm bill. They like the one we have, but this bill, in my opinion, improves ag policy for the next 5 years. If we should not be able to get a farm bill, then an extension of the current farm bill is one of the options that is out there.

I have said all along that I think we could improve that product and this farm bill does that. So I hope we can come here in the morning with the idea that we are going to take up these amendments and we will take the Grassley and Dorgan amendment as the first one. That is on payment limits. I am opposed to the amendment and I will have a lot to say about it during the debate, but we are ready to talk about it and we are ready to begin the process. I hope that with all of the counsel available to the majority leader, he will be prepared with us to begin the debate and vote on these amendments in the morning.

ORDER FOR STAR PRINT—S. 589

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that Calendar No. 474, S. 589, be star printed with the changes at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I say to my friend, I am going to close the Senate. Does he want to say something?

Mr. THUNE. No, Mr. President.

ORDERS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the when the Senate completes its business today, it stand adjourned until 9:30 a.m. tomorrow, Wednesday, November 14; that on Wednesday, following the prayer and the pledge, the Journal of proceedings be approved to date, the morning hour be deemed to have expired, the time for the two leaders be reserved for their use later in the day; that there then be a period of morning business for 60 minutes, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each, with the time equally divided and controlled, with the majority controlling the first half, and the Republicans controlling the final half; that at the close of morning business, the Senate resume consideration of H.R. 2419, the farm bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL 9:30 A.M. TOMORROW

Mr. REID. Mr. President, if there is no further business, I now ask unanimous consent that the Senate stand adjourned under the previous order.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 8:01 p.m., adjourned until Wednesday, November 14, 2007, at 9:30 a.m.

CONFIRMATIONS

Executive nominations confirmed by the Senate Tuesday, November 13, 2007:

UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

HENRIETTA HOLSMAN FORE, OF NEVADA, TO BE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE UNITED STATES AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT.

THE ABOVE NOMINATION WAS APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE NOMINEE'S COMMITMENT TO RESPOND TO REQUESTS TO APPEAR AND TESTIFY BEFORE ANY DULY CONSTITUTED COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE.

THE JUDICIARY

ROBERT M. DOW, JR., OF ILLINOIS, TO BE UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS.

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO CAROLE HAAS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Carole Haas for her service to our community.

When Carole Haas read a newspaper report about a young mother who left her baby in a dumpster, she vowed to make a difference. With four young children at home, she opened Bridgeway in 1986 to support young pregnant women.

The facility provides shelter, counseling, life skill classes and complete support for young women age 16 to 21 during and after pregnancy. The residents must either attend school or hold a job.

For the first 15 years, Ms. Haas managed all the residents herself. She now has the help of a staff. Carole Haas continues to dedicate herself to overseeing what has grown to be a thriving, sustainable non-profit that has assisted 525 young women.

As the founder and director of Bridgeway, Ms. Haas has devoted her life to providing compassion, love and support to young pregnant women during a highly vulnerable time in their lives.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3996, TEMPORARY TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to support the Temporary Tax Relief Act, a much-needed piece of legislation that will provide relief to millions of working families across the country.

The tax bill before us is a far cry from the irresponsible tax cuts my Republican colleagues have supported in the past. While their tax plan permitted hundreds of wealthy Americans to construct new wings for their summer homes and add new sports cars to their garages, our tax plan provides financial relief to millions of working-class Americans. The alternative minimum tax was never meant to harm the hard-working middle-class families of America, but unfortunately, years of wage inflation and economic change have placed an enormous burden on the shoulders of these families. While my Republican colleagues have spent the past decade providing the wealthiest Americans with new yachts, these middle-class families have been crying out for help, a cry that this Congress will finally address here today.

Without this legislation, 23 million working-class families will be subjugated to the Alternative Minimum Tax. My colleagues have made a proposal that will not only provide relief to these Americans, but will do it in a responsible manner. Unlike the reckless tax cuts that were brazenly supported by the President, this tax proposal will not burden our children and grandchildren with debt. This tax bill is completely revenue-neutral.

I urge my colleagues to stand before the American people and demonstrate where this Congress' priorities lie. Are we fighting for a handful of wealthy millionaires while the middle-class families languish with an incredible tax burden? Or are we with 23 million hard-working American families across the country, including more than 61,000 in Michigan's 15th Congressional District? I urge my colleagues to support the middle-class families and support this bill.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING LINDA MORROW AS THE 2007 OHIO PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Linda Morrow challenges and inspires her students and colleagues; and

Whereas, Linda Morrow has been a dedicated faculty member of Muskingum College since 1988; and

Whereas, Linda Morrow has been an outstanding instructor of education; and

Whereas, Linda Morrow is recognized for her contribution to the today's students; be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Linda Morrow for her service and dedication.

TRIBUTE TO DAWN GIFFORD ENGLE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Dawn Gifford Engle for her service to our community.

Eleven years ago, Dawn Gifford Engle and her husband cofounded PeaceJam, which coordinates educational programs to inspire young people to provide peaceful solutions to the root causes of violence and suffering in the world. So far, half a million young people from the United States to East Timor have created and implemented 300,000 community projects. Dawn is committed to increase the number of young people inspired by PeaceJam to one billion by the year 2016.

In 2006, the Arvada resident brought the world to Denver when the PeaceJam Foundation celebrated its 10th anniversary here. The Dalai Lama, Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other Nobel Peace Prize Laureates attended the program.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3996, TEMPORARY TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3996, the Temporary Tax Relief Act of 2007.

The Temporary Tax Relief Act will provide immediate tax relief for working families by preventing 23 million middle class families from paying higher taxes this April. Without this legislation, these 23 million families will be subjected to the alternative minimum tax, including almost 111,000 of my constituents.

When the AMT was enacted, it was meant to ensure the wealthiest among us paid their fair share of a tax that was never designed to hit the pocketbooks of middle-class families. While this is only a temporary fix, I want to be clear that I hope we can move forward in the near future to provide a long-term solution to this problem. I am proud that Chairman RANGEL has brought this fix to the floor today while still adhering to the pay-as-you-go promise this Democratic controlled Congress has promised the American people.

While fixing the AMT is of outmost importance, we cannot afford to mortgage our children's and grandchildren's future to pay for this tax relief. Our country is currently burdened with over $9 trillion of national debt, each American's share at nearly $30,000.

We simply cannot afford to keep adding to this. In addition to the AMT fix, this bill would increase the eligibility for the refundable child tax credit, it extends research and development tax credits to promote innovative and high-paying jobs, and we are providing tax relief to millions of homeowners suffering from the current subprime mortgage crisis.

One concern that I do have with this legislation is the potential that the change to the taxation of ''carried interest'' may have the unintended consequence of capturing certain real estate partnerships.

We should not treat capital gains in real estate partnerships as ordinary income. These partnerships invest their own capital and should continue to be taxed at the capital gains rate.

I have joined a group of my colleagues asking for report language to clarify this issue and I hope that this concern will be addressed before final implementation of this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, the Democrats in Congress are providing common sense tax relief for middle class American families and we are doing

it in a fiscally responsible way. I urge this bill's adoption.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JOHN DECKER FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, John Decker served in the United States Navy from 1952–1954; and

Whereas, he has served as a member of the color guard for military funerals; and

Whereas, John Decker is saluted for his bravery and service; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank John Decker for his contributions to his community and country.

TRIBUTE TO HANNAH HAYES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Hannah Hayes for her service to our community.

Hannah Hayes is deeply dedicated to helping people restore their lives to a healthy creative balance through oriental medicine. In 1993, she and her husband Donn started Oriental Herb Company, known as OHCO, in Evergreen. Cold Snap, Eye Ching and all their other products are created by Donn, who is an acupuncturist with extensive training in Chinese herbology. Ms. Hayes runs all facets of operating the business, from manufacturing to marketing and shipping.

Hannah Hayes enthusiastically teaches others about the benefits of listening to their bodies, evaluating their lifestyles, and exploring ways to live healthy balanced lives.

Ms. Hayes remarks, ''It's rewarding when a customer calls and has had some incredible insight about how to customize our general formulas into their own particular needs.''

Hannah Hayes teaches creative balance through Chamber of Commerce gatherings, presentations at health food stores, and a column in the local weekly.

TRIBUTE TO GERALDINE R. GENNET GENERAL COUNSEL TO THE HOUSE

HON. J. DENNIS HASTERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. HASTERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to say thank you to Geraldine R. Gennet who is resigning as House Counsel, after serving in that office for more than 12 years.

When I was Speaker, it was my privilege to oversee the institutional offices which help make the U.S. House of Representatives function on a daily basis. The house counsel, like the Parliamentarian, legislative counsel, and other institutional offices, serve the House behind the scenes but are essential to its operations. All these offices are non-partisan, and that tradition is important to maintain, so that no matter which party controls the House, its operations are viewed as professional and non-partisan.

Geraldine Gennet certainly carried on that tradition. She and her office gave the Speaker's office and the Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group advice that reflected the precedents and practices of those that went before us, but also the appropriate legal advice to address today's issues and problems. It was not legal advice calculated to advance a political goal or agenda. Rather, Geraldine's advice reflected her unbiased reading of the law and her best legal judgment. When the House's institutional interests were at stake, her advice was designed to further those institutional interests and protect the legislative branch's central place in our constitutional structure as envisioned by the Founding Fathers.

Geraldine and her staff were particularly helpful in the aftermath of the FBI's unprecedented raid on a congressional office last year. She was instrumental in negotiating with the executive branch in an effort to resolve the constitutional stand-off amicably. When those negotiations ultimately failed, she then assisted the House leadership in charting its course through the litigation that followed. We particularly relied on Geraldine and her office for advice on significant institutional issues of this nature, and they always did an excellent job. This House owes Geraldine and her staff a debt of gratitude.

I wish Geraldine well in her future endeavors and thank her for her service to the U.S. House of Representatives.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JACK EVERETT FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jack Everett served in the United States Army from 1967–1969; and

Whereas, he was inducted into the Military Hall of Fame; and

Whereas, Jack Everett has received two Purple Hearts; and

Whereas, he is the recipient of the Bronze Star; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Jack Everett for his contributions to his community and country.

HONORING MS. SYLVIA BROCKNER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Sylvia Brockner for her service to our community.

Wildlife, nature, and open spaces are the focus of Sylvia Brockner's community leadership. ''Anytime I help save land, I'm pleased,'' she states. ''It's a legacy for future generations.''

Sylvia Brockner brought with her the conservation and naturalist leadership expertise she honed as chairperson of the Western New York Chapter of The Nature Conservancy. She was instrumental in organizing the Mountain Area Land Trust, which she likens to a local Nature Conservancy. A lifelong bird watcher, she helped establish the annual Christmas Bird Count, and in 1978 she and her husband founded the local Audubon Society.

Sylvia successfully lobbied the Army Corps of Engineers to protect the wetlands at Evergreen Lake. She also helped convince JeffCo Open Space to preserve Lair O'The Bear Park in Bear Creek Canyon.

For 30 years, she has written and illustrated the Canyon Courier's weekly feature about nature, instilling her passion in her readers.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3996, TEMPORARY TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2007

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, although I have serious concerns with the underlying bill, H.R. 3996, there are several provisions of this bill that extend necessary business and individual tax relief set to expire this year.

One provision in H.R. 3996 would extend important tax relief for individuals who choose to make distributions from their Individual Retirement Accounts, IRAs, to charities. Charitable IRA rollovers greatly help the work of worthy charities, and it is important that this tool for giving remains available to taxpayers. I have introduced stand-alone legislation with Congressman EARL POMEROY of North Dakota, which has 90 cosponsors that would broaden the charitable IRA rollover rule to allow distributions to donor-advised funds and would strengthen other aspects of the present-law provision. I remain committed to the enactment of the improvements included in the Public Good IRA Rollover Act, H.R. 1419, that would work to encourage billions in new giving to those who need it most.

This legislation also includes a provision that extends the Research and Development Tax Credit for an additional year. Firms in California already conduct nearly one-quarter of all our Nation's R&D activities by dollar value, making this credit critical to California's leadership in high tech innovation. I am a strong supporter of this provision, and am a cosponsor of stand alone legislation that would make important improvements in the R&D credit and extend it permanently, H.R. 2138.

H.R. 3996 also includes a 1-year delay of the 3 percent withholding burden on contractors that work with governments, which is scheduled to take effect starting in 2011. Earlier this year I introduced legislation with Representative KENDRICK MEEK of Florida that would do away with this added withholding requirement before it starts. Together, we have

worked to inform other representatives about the potentially damaging effects of this new cost of doing business with governments, and our legislation has attracted over 230 cosponsors, H.R. 1023.

Despite my opposition to the overarching legislation, I sincerely hope members of both parties can continue to work in a bipartisan fashion—as we have done on these three issues to-date. It is important that we move ahead with this important individual and business tax relief through legislation members from both parties can support, and not in the context of controversial new tax increases on the American people.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE DEDICATION OF CAMP SHERMAN GATE POST

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Camp Sherman became a military camp for local soldiers on June 8, 1917; and

Whereas, the camp would come to serve over 40,000 soldiers; and

Whereas, Camp Sherman trained soldiers, nursed them back to health and instructed them on agricultural issues; and

Whereas, the gates at Camp Sherman are dedicated for those that have passed through them, for those men that have borne the battle; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I applaud Camp Sherman and honor the soldiers that have entered through the post.

TRIBUTE TO MS. DING-WEN HSU

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Ding-Wen Hsu for her service to our community.

Ms. Ding-Wen Hsu enriches both the economic and cultural well-being of our community. She is cofounder and majority shareholder of Pacific Western Technologies Ltd., one of the fastest growing companies in Colorado. She is also a founder of the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival and actively involved in her family foundation, the International Multi-Cultural Institute.

As a national fellow of the Asian Pacific American Women's Leadership Institute, she attended a training program that focused on self-discovery. ''I discovered that I need to lead and make a difference,'' Ding-Wen comments. ''I feel very fortunate that I got to live in two very different cultures. I felt I should use my gift.''

She does so primarily through her community endeavors. The Colorado Dragon Boat Festival, for example, offers a unique cultural experience that builds awareness, knowledge and understanding among the diverse Asian communities. The mission of the International Multi-Cultural Institute is to promote harmony, eliminate prejudice and discrimination, combat community deterioration, and defend human and civil rights.

HONORING COLUMBUS HOUSE, INCORPORATED AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join the New Haven community in celebrating the 25th anniversary of Columbus House, a shelter and service provider for the homeless of the greater New Haven region. Throughout their 25 years, Columbus House has given countless people the support they need to become self-reliant and productive members of the community, providing a path to recovery and the ability to attain their goals. The shelter was the brain child of Cynthia DeLouise, founding executive director, members of the Downtown Cooperative Ministry and the city of New Haven.

Columbus House opened in November 1982 and provided shelter for its first person in need—a 19-year-old woman who needed housing and food. In the first two years, Columbus House served more than 1,000 individuals. Most all of the beds were filled by men, but in the fall of 1984, Columbus House designated 16 beds specifically for women. It was New Haven's first shelter for homeless men and women. The original mission was to provide basic food and shelter services, however, the organization quickly learned it needed to understand and address the problems that lead to homelessness. Columbus House began to broaden its mission by providing case management services in the areas of mental health, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, and trauma/abuse. Columbus House has also been nationally recognized for its innovative programs. One such program is the 90-day length of stay program, in which the residents set goals for themselves and develop a timetable in which to achieve them. This program proved to be a powerful incentive tool to enroll clients into counseling and treatment services. Columbus House also charges residents a nominal fee for their stay, a practice which promotes the ultimate goal of self-reliance.

The dual mission of Columbus House is what makes it so unique, remarkable and valuable to the New Haven community. Providing emergency shelter is a critical community service. Columbus House is not only emergency shelter beds; its wide array of shelter services is extraordinary. Its outreach services include a mobile crisis van and outreach workers who try to link the mentally ill with the treatment and services they require. Columbus House also launched the Citizens Project in 1996, which trains formerly homeless individuals to participate on boards and committees of social service agencies. In 2002, it implemented the mentor project which trains people in early recovery to become mentors in social service agencies throughout the community. Columbus House strives to help residents become self-sufficient and able to maintain permanent housing.

In addition to providing counseling job training and medical care Columbus House aims to cultivate a sense of self-worth, self-dignity and self-reliance in those who feel that their lives are beyond their control. It is rebuilding the client's sense of self that is the key to the program's success. Columbus House gives residents the tools to handle life on their own and to effectively seek resolutions to their problems.

In September 2002, Columbus House literally broke new ground with the opening of its new facility, three times the size of the former shelter. This new shelter building has increased the capacity to 101 beds, doubling the amount of clients it is able to serve. This new building is clean, safe and accessible and provides a sense of pride and accomplishment for the staff, volunteers, and all of the clients.

It is unconscionable to know that homelessness remains a crisis in our communities and across the Nation; people are still hungry, seeking refuge under bridges, and living on our streets. The sad truth is that approximately 33,000 people are homeless in Connecticut, and approximately 2,000 are living in New Haven. Without the caring and compassionate work of the staff and volunteers at Columbus House, these numbers would be even more devastating. I would be remiss if I did not mention the incredible work and creative vision of Alison Cunningham, the executive director of Columbus House since 1998. It is also important to note that volunteers provide some of the most essential services of medical care, dental care, legal counseling, and spiritual guidance. Volunteers over the years have also brought gifts for holidays and have organized various fund-raising events. Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of folks such as these, whose energy, compassion, and commitment touches people's lives every day. I have tremendous admiration for community service and those who provide it.

The work of caring for the homeless has become increasingly difficult. Many people no longer care about the plight of the homeless and are frustrated by the complex issues that contribute to homelessness. I commend Columbus House for facing all of the issues that surround homelessness and continuing to work every day to resolve them for the past 25 years. Congratulations on this remarkable milestone and for all the lives in need that you have quietly touched every day. I thank you, and I am grateful for over two decades of service to the greater New Haven region.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING CHARLES DEAN DAVIS FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY, 40TH SIGNAL BATTALION

SPEECH OF

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 9, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Charles Dean Davis served in the United States Army from 1966–1968; and

Whereas, he served in Vietnam from 1966–1967; and

Whereas, Charles Dean Davis is the recipient of the Vietnam Service Medal; and

Whereas, he is the recipient of the National Defense Service Medal; and

Whereas, Charles Dean Davis is the recipient of the Vietnam Campaign Medal; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Charles Dean Davis for his contributions to his community and country.

TRIBUTE TO IRMA WYHS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Irma Wyhs for her service to our community.

For half a century, as a writer, historian and citizen advocate Irma Wyhs has been showing how deeply she cares about her community. She is admired for her adeptness at advising, encouraging, cajoling, and publicizing community leaders and their organizations. Clear Creek Living History Museum, which Irma founded, exemplifies her tenacious spirit.

Ms. Wyhs has left her imprint on many other establishments in our community, such as the Foothills Art Center where she was the first director and the Golden Pioneer Museum.

Irma Wyhs has written for numerous publications, including the history page of the Golden Transcript. Currently she is writing articles for the Fence Post about Zebulon Pike and his descendents to mark the 200th anniversary of his exploration of the Southwest.

IN RECOGNITION OF DELAWARE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S AFGHAN-IRAQ VETERANS COMMEMORATIVE TREE

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the planting and dedication of a memorial tree at Delaware County Community College in Media, Pennsylvania. This tree was given in grateful appreciation to Delaware County Community College students who have and will serve as members of the United States Armed Forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Since its founding in 1967, countless students from Delaware County Community College have answered the call to duty. These brave young men and women have proudly served our Nation in every conflict fought during the college's 40-year existence, including in the current conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq. To date, over 100 members of the student body, and at least 300 people who are part of the DCCC community, have served in Afghanistan or Iraq. In addition, many students who are in Reserve or National Guard units expect to be called to active duty in the near future.

The tree planted today honors those who have served. This tree will speak to future generations. It will be a living tribute to those who pass through the College now and in the future that our students, when called upon, proudly responded. The accompanying plaque will be a permanent reminder of the courage and character these students have shown through the service given and sacrifices made for their country.

I would like to acknowledge Dr. Jerry Parker, president of Delaware County College, and Professor Labron K. Shuman for their commitment to the conception, development, and establishment of this remembrance. Their desire to honor the students who have fought for freedom embodies the spirit of true patriotism.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the students, faculty, staff, administrators, and alumni of Delaware County Community College who have contributed to the creation of this memorial, and in honoring the veterans to whom the memorial is admirably dedicated.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE OHIO ARMY NATIONAL GUARD MCCONNELSVILLE-BASED 2ND BATTALION, 174TH AIR DEFENSE ARTILLERY REGIMENT'S HOMECOMING

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, the Ohio Army National Guard McConnelsville-based 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment will return home with great pride; and

Whereas, the following members of the 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment are recognized: Abella, Timothy John Apperson, Cory Allen Armstrong, Adam Reed Babcock, Brian Ray Jr. Baker, Dustin Michael Barnhart, Christopher Lee Boney, Dennis Todd Brookover, Kyle Lee Callahan, Darrick Allen Carr, Matthew Gabriel Cavendish, Jeffrey Brian Collinsworth, Larry Preston Crane, Michael Alan Daniels, Trent Lee Day, Richard Lee Dozer, Zachary Adam Dusenberry, Joshua Robert Eberts, Kevin Shane Elick, Ronald Eugene Eltringham, Alan Lynn Jr. Forrest, Michael Steven J. Franklin, Daniel Johnson French, Ryan Lee Gandee, Eric Michael German, Brandon Alan Gottke, Terry Lynn Graves, Garry Brent Grear, David Thomas Grove, Michael Edward Harden, Wesley Curtis Hardesty, Bryan David Harry, Gayle Wayne Jr. Hebb, Randall Lee Hire, Michael Dean Horn, Derek Kennedy Hoskinson, John Mark Hughes, Todd Michael Ickes, Benjamin Joseph Janey, Robert Matthew Johnson, Adam Ray Keiser, Robert Myron II Klass, Wayne Albert Kussmaul, Robert Glenn II Lambert, John Sherman Larrick, Bradley Ricky Lawrence, Luke Wendall Loader, Andrew Thomas Lytton, Robert Earl III McCarty, Jason Ryan McConnell, Matthew James McIntyre, Donald Gail Jr. McQuain, Joshua Ronald Meredith, Curtis David Meredith, Jeffrey Leonard Mettler, Kevin Lloyd Miles, Jason Allen Moore, Thomas Eugene II Nordine, Justin William Norman, Jason Thomas Payton, George William Pyle, Kathy Lynn Roe, Daren Will Russell, John David Schaad, Steven Paul Slifko, James Lewis III Smith, Adam Douglas Smith, April Dawn Spicer, Joseph Alan Stiltner, Aaron Scott Taylor, Michael Allen Taylor, Steven Russell Jr. Thomas, Joshua David Touvell, William Christopher Tracy, Adam Joshua Tracy, Dustin Jay Waggy, Jason Eric Wagstaff, Christopher Frank Wells, Michael Dean Jr. Williams, Shane Casey Wilson, Joel Alan and Yinger, Steven Mark.

Whereas, they have done an extraordinary job supporting Operation Noble Eagle in the National Capital Region; and

Whereas, they will reflect with great pride on achieving the highest average during training on the Norwegian Advanced Surface to Air Missile System; be it

Resolved that along with friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the Ohio Army National Guard McConnelsville-based 2nd Battalion, 174th Air Defense Artillery Regiment for their commitment, recognizing that all great achievements are a result of dedication. With great appreciation and respect, I wish you continued success.

TRIBUTE TO KATHERINE REDMOND

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Katherine Redmond for her service to our community.

Kathy Redmond was the first person to use Title IX as a remedy for rape by an athlete in a higher education institution. Her Title IX case against the University of Nebraska and the rape perpetrators was settled in 1997.

Shortly afterwards, she formed the National Coalition Against Violent Athletes. Kathy has forged herself as a national expert in athlete violence and response, and counseled more than 250 women affected by athlete violence. Intent upon eradicating the problem, she has started INTERCEPT, a 3-day violence prevention and response program for athletes.

Kathy volunteers for the First Judicial District attorney's office diversion program teaching victim empathy to men in the program. She has also authored and lobbied rape shield legislation.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO HONOR THEODOR CRIVEANU FOR SAVING ROMANIAN JEWS DURING THE HOLOCAUST

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to introduce legislation with my colleagues and friends Representatives DAN BURTON, CHRIS SMITH, and LINDA SÁNCHEZ that will properly recognize the selfless efforts to save innocent lives during the Holocaust of Theodor Criveanu and all other righteous individuals.

Non-Jews who sacrificed their lives in an effort to save Jews from their fate at the Nazi's hands are known to the world as the "Righteous Persons." The most renowned among these righteous persons is probably Oscar Schindler. Oscar Schindler should rightly be recognized as the altruistic and extraordinarily courageous non-Jew who saved more Jewish lives from the gas chambers than any other.

But many other brave individuals risked their lives by rescuing Jews during the Holocaust that have still yet to be recognized.

Thousands of these hero's stories have remain untold because the Nazis mercilessly ended their lives. For those that survived the Holocaust and for those that did not, I rise today to honor their heroism and their memory.

In 1963, Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Israel, initiated a worldwide project to grant the title of Righteous Among the Nations to individuals who were not Jewish and who risked their lives to rescue and protect Jews and others during the Holocaust. To date, more than 21,000 heroic individuals have been honored as Righteous Among the Nations.

Theodor Criveanu was one of such courageous righteous individuals.

When serving as a reserve officer in the Romanian military, he was assigned the task of presenting military authorities with a list of Jews who would be given work permits to work in the ghetto instead of being deported to Transnistria. Risking his life to defy Nazi orders, Mr. Criveanu secretly issued work permits in numbers that exceeded the work permit quota and to Jews who were not essential to the workforce, saving countless of innocent Jewish lives.

The brave efforts of Mr. Criveanu have not gone unnoticed. On August 8, 2007, Yad Vashem named Theodore Criveanu as Righteous Among the Nations, posthumously honoring him for his courageous work to block the deportation of Romanian Jews to Nazi death camps.

Today I rise to honor these individuals for their bravery and humanity. Mr. Criveanu and other such individuals deserve to be remembered and revered by the United States Congress.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF DOVER BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the dedicated people of the Dover Baptist Church celebrates the 90th anniversary with great joy; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate to us that love mixed with grace and trust will stand the test of time; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish of this body that you will continue to present this work as a beacon for hope to the destitute and maintain your stand as a symbol to this generation that our strength lies in our gracious commitment in unity to each other in the bonds of brotherhood; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the congregation for your unwavering commitment, recognizing that all great achievements come from great dedication. With great appreciation and respect, we recognize the tremendous impact this congregation has had in the community and in the lives of those people you have touched.

TRIBUTE TO CLARENE SHELLEY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Clarene Shelley for her service to our community.

When Lakewood's first mayor swore Clarene Shelley into the Lakewood Department of Public Safety in 1972, she became the department's first female agent. When she retired, she held the position of division chief of the city of Lakewood Police Department.

Upon graduation from the Denver Police Academy, Clarene Shelley was assigned to the Investigations Division, where she made her mark by working cases of family abuse, child abuse and juvenile crime. As a sergeant, she developed investigative procedures for child abuse cases that were adopted by all of the agencies in Jefferson County. In 1989, the American Association of University Women named her ''Police Woman of the Year,'' a title that she was awarded several times.

Ms. Shelley's leadership was instrumental in developing better methods of recruiting, hiring and training. She trained thousands of people in the academy, the FBI, hospitals and many other organizations. She also began Lakewood's first Youth Police Academy and headed the Jefferson County Officer Involved Shooting Investigations Team.

It's said Clarene Shelley was at her best when helping others: offering support, giving sound advice, and celebrating the successes of those she mentored.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING 186TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE QUINN CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, the dedicated people of the Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church of Chillicothe, Ohio celebrates the 186th anniversary of the Quinn Chapel A.M.E. Church with great joy; and

Whereas, this occasion is a time to look back at the origins of the church and appreciate how much it has grown from the first days; and

Whereas, occasions such as these illustrate to us that love mixed with grace and trust will stand the test of time; and

Whereas, it is the fond wish of this body that you will continue to present this work as a beacon for hope to the destitute and maintain your stand as a symbol to this generation that our strength lies in our gracious commitment in unity to each other in the bonds of brotherhood; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend the congregation for your unwavering commitment, recognizing that all great achievements come from great dedication. With great appreciation and respect, we recognize the tremendous impact this congregation has had in the community and in the lives of those people you have touched.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF TROY LEE JAMES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Troy Lee James, a former laborer and union member, and the longest serving Democrat in the Ohio House of Representatives.

Born in Texarkana, Texas, Troy was the youngest of 18 children. He joined relatives in Cleveland after serving in World War II, in which he earned a Purple Heart for the wounds he suffered while fighting with the U.S. Army in Belgium.

Troy represented Cleveland for 34 years in the Ohio House, leaving his seat only because term limits forced him to retire in 2000. He proudly served as chairman of the Economic Development and Small Business Committee as well as the Aging and Housing Committee. He served on the Rules Committee and was the Ranking Minority Member of the Housing and Urban Affairs Committee.

Troy was a beloved shopkeeper and champion of Cleveland's Central neighborhood, and he was a devoted member of Antioch Baptist Church for more than 50 years. In 2003, the Ohio General Assembly named interstate 490, the short highway running south of downtown Cleveland, the Troy Lee James Highway.

Troy is survived by his wife Alice, his Daughter Laura, two grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Troy Lee James, an enthusiastic member of the Cleveland community and dedicated servant of the Ohio government. May his commitment to Cleveland serve as an example to all of us.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DAVIS of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, on Friday, November 9, 2007, I was absent from the House in order to attend to an illness in my family.

THE TOUGHEST BEAT IN AMERICA

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, in September of this year, corrections officer Susan Canfield was murdered just outside of Huntsville, Texas by two inmates who had escaped a Huntsville prison facility.

In what some might call ironic timing, a report by the Dallas Morning News came out the following month that said assaults on prison guards have doubled over the last five years. Over 36 staff member were assaulted this year, up from 18 in 2003. To further compound this problem, turnover of staff is at a

record high with one in four leaving the department last year alone.

Officials believe these problems have been caused by low wages, staff shortages, and a tougher breed of criminals entering the prison system. Salaries for prison guards in Texas begin at $23,040 and top out at $33,948. This is one of the lowest pay scales nationally for prison guards. As a result, people are leaving the field or not entering it at all. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice workforce was down almost 4,000 employees in August. This means facilities are more vulnerable and employees are at increased danger for attacks.

This is unacceptable. We need to make sure our prison system is secure so that our prison guards and staff can go to work without fear of being assaulted and we need to make working conditions better for these people who have some of the toughest jobs in society, to protect our communities from dangerous criminals.

The toughest beat in America is the one assigned to our prison guards who watch those who have committed crimes against our people. We owe these guards our greatest appreciation.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO HIGHLANDS HIGH SCHOOL

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the academic achievements of Highlands High School in Ft. Thomas, KY. Recently, Highlands High School was announced by the U.S. Department of Education as a recipient of the 2007 Blue Ribbon Award.

The Blue Ribbon Award was presented to 287 distinguished schools nationwide and I am pleased that Highlands High School was one of four from Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District.

Highlands has worked hard in advancing its curriculum and performance of its students to ensure that they are some of the best and brightest in our Nation. This is an accomplishment that deserves great praise for the students, parents and teachers. In a world where we are facing competition from abroad and we frequently hear that our students are lagging behind, Kentucky's Blue Ribbon schools are forging ahead.

I would also like to highlight the fact that Highlands is ranked in the Top 1000 High Schools by U.S. News & World Report. Furthermore, Highlands' commitment to educational excellence shines through in its ''Cum Laude chapter'' that stresses not only academic, but civic and community involvement. The awards and accomplishments received by the high school are tremendous reflections of the dedication and commitment of the entire Highlands High School community.

INTRODUCTION OF AMERICAN BRAILLE FLAG MEMORIAL BILL

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, our Nation has over 1,000,000 blind and low-vision veterans, and those numbers continue to rise. The Department of Defense estimates that 16 percent of those injured in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom suffer from severe vision loss. An additional 10–12 million Americans have blind and low vision.

Prior to the creation of the Braille American flag, the American flag was not accessible to the blind. This flag, created by the Kansas Braille Transcription Institute in Wichita, Kansas, has been specially designed in a way that informs the blind of the full color of the American flag, 13 stripes, and 50 stars on the blue field. Additionally, this tactile flag bears the Pledge of Allegiance in both raised print and grade one braille.

Today, I am introducing legislation that calls for the Army to place a Braille American flag at Arlington National Cemetery. Arlington National Cemetery is a national place of remembrance and honor for our Nation's veterans and is visited by an estimated 4 million people annually. Placing the Braille American flag there would bring honor to our Nation's blind community and allow our blind veterans to ''see'' the American flag again.

Madam Speaker, I am honored this legislation has been endorsed by the Blind Veterans of America, and I look forward to quick action by the Congress on the bill. We owe a huge debt of gratitude towards those who have served, and this simple action will mean much to our patriotic blind veterans. I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting this effort in placing the Braille American flag at Arlington National Cemetery.

FREEDOM FOR DR. JOSE LUIS GARCÍA PANEQUE

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues about Dr. Jose Luis García Paneque, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Dr. García Paneque is a surgeon by training, an independent journalist and a member of the Cuban Independent Medical Association. As a director of the independent news agency Libertad, and administrator of the Carlos J. Finlay independent library in Las Tunas, Cuba, Dr. García Paneque has devoted his life efforts to exposing the truth about the horrors inflicted upon the Cuban people by the dictatorship in Havana.

Dr. García Paneque was arrested on March 18, 2003 as part of the tyrant's island wide crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists. On April 4, 2003, in a sham trial, Dr. García Paneque was sentenced to 24 years in totalitarian squalor for no reason other than that he is a supporter of freedom and democracy who has worked to expose the depraved horror that is the Cuban tyranny.

Since his initial incarceration in the subhuman conditions of the tyranny's totalitarian dungeons, Dr. García Paneque's weight has dropped from a healthy 190 pounds to an emaciated 110 pounds. Dr. García Paneque has been thrown in the hellish dungeons to languish in conditions so abhorrent that he has had to be hospitalized multiple times while incarcerated. Currently, he suffers from chronic diarrhea, severe abdominal pain, and poor intestinal absorption, resulting from what can only be described as a chronic malnutrition.

While imprisoned in the totalitarian dungeon, Dr. García Paneque has endured constant physical and psychological torture at the hands of regime thugs. Although he has not committed a crime, he is forced to live with common prisoners who have gone as far as to have made threats against his life, threats that the regime's thugs refuse to acknowledge as part of their constant effort to avoid having to take action to ensure his safety. After months of writhing in pain it was discovered that Dr. García Paneque had developed a 36 to 38-mm cyst on one of his kidneys. The prison doctors, who had previously ignored his cries for medical attention, claimed that surgery to remove the cyst would be required. Although his condition is perilous and there exists a serious risk that Dr. García Paneque may not survive the abdominal surgery, regime authorities refuse to grant him a consultation with doctors not affiliated with the prison, and he has yet to receive proper medical treatment for his condition.

Members of Dr. García Paneque's family, including his four children, have been repeatedly harassed. In August 2006, a regime mob of more than 50 people armed with sticks and stones surrounded the family's home, chanting insults and threatening to burn it down. In March of 2007, fearing for the life of her children who had already endured innumerous acts of psychological torture, Dr. García Paneque's wife, Yamilé Llanes Labrada, an active member of the Ladies in White, was forced to flee Cuba with her children. This is another tragic example of life under the totalitarian regime in Cuba.

On October 24, 2007, Dr. García Paneque's wife, and his daughter Shirlen, were received and honored by President George W. Bush at the White House, where the President publicly called upon the regime to release Dr. García Paneque forthwith. The President informed me personally after his meeting with Dr. García Paneque's family that he was deeply impressed and moved by their heroic examples of courage and patriotism.

Despite the gangster tactics and heinous threats against him, Dr. García Paneque continues to demand human rights and dignity for the people of Cuba. He is languishing in the squalor of the infernal gulag, at the whim of a merciless tyrant, simply because he believes in freedom, truth, democracy, and human rights for the people of Cuba.

Madam Speaker, it is unconscionable that journalists and physicians like Dr. García Paneque are locked in dungeons for writing the truth. My colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Jose Luis García Paneque and every political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

ST. JOSEPH CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize St. Joseph Christian School located in St. Joseph, MO. This school will be celebrating its 20th anniversary of service to the community on Thursday, November 15, 2007.

As a staple of the community throughout the years, the school has experienced growth and expansion with the community it serves. From humble beginnings, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Gregory founded the school with 10 teachers and 135 students enrolled. Since then, St. Joseph Christian School has become accredited with the Association of Christian Schools International and the Committee for Accredited Schools Non-public, through the University of Missouri at Columbia.

Currently, St. Joseph Christian School serves over 340 students, coming from 60 different churches in the community, and offers classes starting from preschool to 12th grade. This school's curriculum incorporates biblical and scholarly learning, in order to help students both achieve academic success and further their spiritual development.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the St. Joseph Christian School. The educational and spiritual services that they have provided over these 20 years have been fundamental to shaping student's lives. Let us use St. Joseph Christian School as a powerful example of the lasting commitment to education and faith.

TRIBUTE TO COVINGTON CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the academic achievements of Covington Catholic High School in Covington, Kentucky. Recently, Covington Catholic was announced by the U.S. Department of Education as a recipient of the 2007 Blue Ribbon Award.

The Blue Ribbon Award was presented to 287 distinguished schools nationwide and I am pleased that Covington Catholic was one of four from Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District.

Covington Catholic has worked hard in advancing its curriculum and performance of its students to ensure that they are some of the best and brightest in our Nation. This is an accomplishment that deserves great praise for the students, parents and teachers. In a world where we are facing competition from abroad and we frequently hear that our students are lagging behind, Covington Catholic is forging ahead.

I would especially like to acknowledge Covington Catholic's commitment to improving its students' well-being both in and out of the classroom. Covington Catholic encourages the young men attending the school to get involved and help make their community a better place. Covington Catholic also encourages moral and spiritual development in its students to ensure their successful transition from childhood into adulthood. In providing a well-rounded education for Kentucky's young men, Covington Catholic is helping to ensure the continued success of our Commonwealth. I applaud their dedication and thank the students, teachers and parents of the Covington Catholic Community for all that they do.

NBA GREAT ELVIN HAYES

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to recognize NBA great Elvin Hayes. The basketball star known as the ''Big E'', from Rayville, Louisiana, was one of the most talented power forwards to play the game. His notorious turnaround jump shot, aggressive defense, and outspoken demeanor were legendary and earned him a place in the NBA record books.

He first picked up a basketball in the eighth grade when a teacher put him on the school basketball team. Although he initially showed no proclivity for sports, he was determined to improve. He spent his summers practicing and developing his skills. By the time he attended Eula Britton High School in Rayville; he averaged 35 points per game and led his team to 54 straight wins.

Basketball became an opportunity for a better life for Hayes. He was recruited by more than 100 colleges, and chose the University of Houston, where he became one of the first African-American athletes. In college, he debuted on the national basketball scene and was able to hone his game, and establish a style that would eventually make him a feared NBA player.

Hayes became a three-time All-American, leading the Houston Cougars to an 81–12 record and two Final Four appearances. Basketball fans across the country watched this nationally televised college game as he and his University of Houston teammates defeated UCLA and Lew Alcindor, later known as Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, in ''the game of the century'' at the Astrodome. I was one of the 50,00 plus fans at the Astrodome watching the University of Houston defeat the #1 ranked and undefeated UCLA Bruins. In his college career, Hayes scored 2,884 points, 31 points per game, 1,602 rebounds, with 17 rebounds per game, and was named the 1968 college player of the year. Before retiring in 1984, he returned to the Houston Rockets for three seasons. Hayes' NBA accomplishments include leading the league in scoring in '69; All-NBA first team in '75, '77 & '79; All-NBA Defensive Team in '74 & '75; and twelve-time NBA All-Star from '69–80. He scored 27,313 points, averaging 21 points per game in 1,303 professional games; he grabbed 16,279 rebounds; played more minutes than any player in history; and ranked third all-time in games played and blocked shots. In 1990, he was inducted to the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame, and in 1996, he was named to the NBA 50th Anniversary All-Time Team, and was chosen as one of professional basketball's top five players during the NBA'S 50th anniversary celebration.

When I served on the bench as a Judge in Texas, I recruited Elvin Hayes to coach a team of probationers in a basketball match against a team from the Houston police department. He agreed to coach this goodwill game although the police department team won.

Life has definitely gone on after basketball for the ''BIG E.'' After his all-star college and NBA career, Hayes returned to the University of Houston to complete his college education, and became a successful businessman. Today, at age 60, he has set his sights on yet another challenge, one that fulfills a childhood dream. On October 16, he completed a nine-month peace officer training program and joined the Liberty County Texas Sheriff's Department as a reserve deputy sheriff. He admits that years ago, when he sat on one of my grand juries, the law enforcement seed was watered.

Legendary coach Al McGuire taught Hayes that a successful person is one who can do something great, go on to something else, and be successful in the next field too. That philosophy was branded in the ''Big E's'' mind. All of his college, NBA, and business accomplishments shaped and changed his life. Basketball taught him discipline, teamwork, and hard work, making him one of the NBA's 50 greatest basketball players. He took the lessons learned on the court to the business world when he opened a car dealership. From the business world, he learned a very important formula; integrity, commitment and a caring heart. He now uses that formula in law enforcement, where he is once again part of a team, where each member compliments the abilities of fellow law enforcement officers.

Hayes will be patrolling Liberty County as a reserve deputy sheriff, for 20 hours each month. Like everything else in his life, he is very committed to it. Accomplishing his childhood dream of becoming a police officer is one of the most gratifying and rewarding feelings he has ever had, even topping an NBA championship! The training process was more challenging than he expected. he had to learn countless codes, laws, and cases. You see, Texas has the highest standards of law enforcement than any other state, requiring 809 class work and physical training hours. In basketball, you have physical challenges, but training to be a peace officer was mentally and physically challenging. The ''Big E'' is a goal setter, and his goal now is to become one of the top law enforcement officers.

His first few weeks as a reserve deputy sheriff have been very quiet so far, but Hayes would never call it routine, since ''routine'' traffic stops in law enforcement can be some of the most dangerous. His 6′9″ frame usually helps deter people from making bad decisions, but he knows that some people will feel threatened by his height and want to prove themselves. Law enforcement officers prefer to use verbal means to communicate, instead of physical means, but Hayes has been trained and is prepared for whatever situations may unfold.

Hayes will deal with those who invite him into his life by breaking the law, but he will also work with kids to help them set and achieve positive goals, so they can be productive citizens. He is a law enforcer, but is definitely willing to be a mentor to today's youth. He will visit schools and talk to kids to counter the messages they hear in today's rap music.

He hopes to convey that those who desire a family unit can obtain one through positive means. Since there is a shortage of police officers, he encourages young people to consider a career in law enforcement, which allows individuals to focus on making their communities a positive place to live. There are more prisons being built in our country than schools; and Hayes would like to do his part to see that change, by keeping kids out of the criminal justice system.

Hayes encourages young people to be themselves. "Don't try to be like someone else, don't try to emulate what you hear in rap music; don't try to do what you see basketball players doing. Pick a goal and each and everyday, do something to try to accomplish that goal. Hard work, dedication, and sacrifice are the formula for success!"

The extremely popular basketball star, businessman, and reserve deputy sheriff believes that in life you should "continuously look for challenges." The reserve deputy position is another way for him to set a positive example for young people. Not everyone can be a professional athlete, a rapper, or actor, but everyone can give back to the community.

I am proud to recognize my friend, Elvin Hayes for his accomplishments on and off of the basketball court. He is a role model for us all, and a shining example of hard work, determination, and service to the community.

That's just the way it is.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3685, EMPLOYMENT NON-DISCRIMINATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 3685, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). H.R. 3685 would extend existing employment-discrimination provisions of Federal law, including those in Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, to establish "a comprehensive Federal prohibition of employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation."

Although I join with all my colleagues in abhorrence to bigotry and discrimination, this disingenuous and vaguely-constructed overhaul of labor law is inconsistent with the free exercise of religion and weaken the fundamental Defense of Marriage Act.

The right to the free exercise of religion found in the Constitution, and as codified by Congress in the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), must be firmly upheld. It is a cornerstone of our Nation's founding and our future. Our Government must not take any action that unduly burdens the free exercise of religion. Unfortunately, the ENDA does not live up to this constitutional standard. America's churches, synagogues, and religious non-profit organizations must maintain the right to employ those that share their particular religious or moral worldview. Although the sponsors of this act claim that the religious exemptions found in the legislation are adequate, they are simply not strong enough to pass constitutional muster or fulfill legislative intent in the RFRA.

Madam Speaker, ENDA would also weaken the landmark Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) by giving Federal statutory significance to same-sex marriage rights under State law. Federal law states that marriage is between one man and one woman. Maintaining DOMA is essential in defending the sanctity of marriage. However, the passage of ENDA will provide activist judges around the country the legal ammunition to undermine state and federal marriage laws. Courts in New Jersey, Vermont, and Massachusetts have all used state legislation similar to ENDA as a springboard for mandating same-sex marriage or civil unions. In 2005 Kansas overwhelmingly passed the Traditional Marriage Amendment by 70 percent. The people of Kansas have spoken. With the path is so clearly defined in history, it would be irresponsible for Congress to pass ENDA.

Madam Speaker, bigotry and discrimination is clearly wrong. However, tampering with such bedrock legal and constitutional standards such as the freedom of religion and DOMA is not the right solution. I urge my colleagues to join with me in opposing this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO WESTCHESTER ELEMENTARY AND TO CONWAY ELEMENTARY

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Westchester Elementary in the Kirkwood School District and Conway Elementary in the Ladue School District of St. Louis, Missouri. These two schools were recently awarded the prestigious title of No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Schools.

As many of my colleagues know, the No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private K–12 schools that are either academically superior in their states or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement.

In 2007, only 5 Missouri schools and 287 nationwide have earned the high honor of Blue Ribbon Schools.

It is the efforts and demand for excellence exemplified by Westchester and Conway Elementary that will pave the way for the successful futures of our Nation's children.

I applaud the dedication of teachers and staff at Westchester and Conway. I sincerely hope their high standards of teaching are emulated by other schools in Missouri.

I am pleased to be able to honor Westchester and Conway Elementary today. They are remarkable examples of the great teachers we have in Missouri and I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing them the best in their future endeavors as educators in Missouri.

TRIBUTE TO THE BLESSED SACRAMENT SCHOOL

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the academic achievements of Blessed Sacrament School in Ft. Mitchell, KY.

Recently, Blessed Sacrament was announced by the U.S. Department of Education as a recipient of the 2007 Blue Ribbon Award.

The Blue Ribbon Award was presented to 287 distinguished schools nationwide and I am pleased that Blessed Sacrament School was 1 of 4 from Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District.

Blessed Sacrament has worked hard in advancing its curriculum and performance of its students to ensure that they are some of the best and brightest in our Nation. This is an accomplishment that deserves great praise for the students, parents and teachers. In a world where we are facing competition from abroad and we frequently hear that our students are lagging behind, Kentucky's Blue Ribbon recipients are forging ahead.

I would like to acknowledge Blessed Sacrament's ardent dedication to developing a well-rounded learning environment for each of its students. There is no place more deserving of the motto "Where Kids Come First" than Blessed Sacrament School. Aside from an exceptional classroom learning experience, Blessed Sacrament also promotes spiritual growth in each of its students. Every day, the teachers and faculty at Blessed Sacrament strive to help its students achieve their goals in the hopes of giving them a bright future. The teachers, students and parents at Blessed Sacrament should be applauded for their hard work in becoming a Blue Ribbon recipient. In Blessed Sacrament, the Commonwealth of Kentucky has a fine educational institution that will serve our communities for years to come.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL KEY DEER REFUGE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, this year, members of the conservation community, Keys residents, and nature enthusiasts celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the National Key Deer Refuge. This federally protected area is home to the imperiled tropical hardwood hammock and 22 endangered and threatened species of plants and animals, five of which are found nowhere else on the planet.

As the Member of Congress representing all four of the Florida Keys National Wildlife Refuges, I am well aware of the vital role these refuges play in preserving our natural habitats, promoting scientific research and technology, and educating our communities as to the importance of conserving endangered and threatened fish, wildlife and plants.

Of the endangered and threatened species in the area, the Key Deer have tremendously

benefited from the creation of the Refuge. Thanks largely to the incredible efforts of local leaders, volunteers, and the dedicated Refuge staff—especially Jack Watson and Anne Morkill—the Key Deer population has been rescued from almost certain extinction.

While much has been accomplished in the last 50 years, a great task still lies ahead. The call to protect our natural habitats should be a responsibility shared by all members of our community. The Refuge's new administration building a structure rebuilt following the devastating storms of 2005—will play an important role in further educating the public as to the importance of this area to our Keys ecosystem but our global ecology, as well.

I look forward to working with you all to accomplish yet another successful 50 years of wildlife conservation on the National Key Deer Refuge. By working together, we can ensure that our Refuge remains a staple of Keys conservation efforts and an area for future generations to explore and enjoy.

OPPOSING THE PRESIDENT'S VETO OF THE LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS BILL

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I am disappointed that the President chose today to veto important funding for our domestic priorities. After seven years of unrestrained spending and a ballooning deficit, the President has, under the guise of fiscal responsibility, rejected a $6.2 billion funding increase for education, health care, and workforce development, even as he requests nearly $200 billion in unbudgeted, no strings attached funding to continue the Iraq War for another year. That is no way to balance America's checkbook.

Under the budget passed by the new Democratic Congress, we can take care of America at home—increase funding for our schools, offer more student assistance for college, invest in biomedical research at NIH, expand health care access, and help Americans compete in the global economy—and balance the budget by 2012. These priorities are America's priorities. It is time for Congress to come together, stand up for the American people and override this veto.

EDUCATION AND LABOR COMMITTEE STAFF DOES EXCELLENT JOB ON ENDA REPORT

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, during the debate on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, critics of the bill—both those who objected that it did too little and those who claimed that it did too much—made a number of arguments about the bill that were flatly wrong. Fortunately, under the leadership of the chairman of the committee, the gentleman from California Mr. MILLER, and the Chairman of the subcommittee, the gentleman from New Jersey Mr. ANDREWS, the staff of that committee did a first-rate report rebutting those inaccurate criticisms. Often, reports of this sort, while reflecting a great deal of work, are ignored. In this case, Professor Dale Carpenter, a law professor who has been an excellent source of accurate information about the true meaning of the legislation, called attention to the committee staffs work in a recent internet posting.

Madam Speaker, as Professor Carpenter points out, "This sort of legislative history does not dispose of controversies over the meaning of ENDA. But it does offer a reasonable and persuasive interpretation of the bill that will likely play a role in future litigation. The committee legal counsel who worked on this report anticipated many of the objections to ENDA from President Bush's advisors and from transgender and gay activists . . . They did an extraordinary job walking the fine line between an interpretation of ENDA that is unduly crabbed and one that is objectionably expansive."

Madam Speaker, in the interest of disseminating in the widest possible way the accurate interpretation of ENDA that is reflected in this report, the importance of which is underlined by Professor Carpenter, I ask that the part of Professor Carpenter's posting dealing with the report be printed here.

Excerpt from Professor Dale Carpenter's internet posting:

Little noticed in the run-up to the House vote was the Labor Committee report that accompanied the bill. The report was prepared by attorneys who work for the committee. Much of the report is devoted to recounting the history of the numerous attempts over the past 33 years—beginning with the first bill introduced by Bella Abzug in 1974—to get Congress to deal with anti-gay employment discrimination. That history tells a story of painfully slow political progress made in each session of Congress, with more co-sponsors backing an anti-discrimination bill in every session. Other parts of the report document the prevalence of anti-gay job discrimination, as well as the economic and psychological impact of such discrimination.

In the section-by-section analysis of the committee report, I noticed a couple of passages relevant to the recent controversy over adding "gender identity" to the bill. On p. 31, the report notes that ENDA forbids discrimination based on "actual or perceived sexual orientation." Thus, "ENDA creates a cause of action for any individual—whether actually homosexual or heterosexual—who is discriminated against because that individual is 'perceived' as homosexual due to the fact that the individual does not conform to the sex or gender stereotypes associated with the individual's sex." Obviously, this interpretation of ENDA offers some protection to those employees whose gender nonconformity leads others to assume they're gay or lesbian and then suffer discrimination on that basis. It doesn't protect transsexuals or crossdressers as fully as adding "gender identity" to the bill would have, but the bill moves in that direction.

Additionally, on p. 33, the report puts to rest any fears that stripping "gender identity" from the bill would lead federal courts to conclude that Congress meant to impliedly reverse Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins, a 1989 case in which the Supreme Court held that sex stereotyping violates Title VII. The report concludes that Section 15 of ENDA, entitled "Relationship to Other Laws":

Preserves provisions in other Federal, state, or local laws that currently provide protection from discrimination. For example, Congress does not intend to overrule, displace, or in any other way affect any U.S. Supreme Court or other federal court opinion that has interpreted Title VII in such a way that protects individuals who are discriminated against because they do not conform to sex or gender stereotypes. See, e.g., Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins, 490 U.S. 228 (1989) (female plaintiff brought successful Title VII claim after she was denied partnership in an accounting firm because she did not conform to female sex stereotype); Nichols v. Azteca Rest. Enters., 256 F.3d 864 (9th Cir. 2001) (male plaintiff brought successful Title VII claim after he was subjected to a hostile work environment because he failed to conform to a male stereotype)."

This sort of legislative history does not dispose of controversies over the meaning of ENDA. But it does offer a reasonable and persuasive interpretation of the bill that will likely play a role in future litigation. The committee legal counsel who worked on this report anticipated many of the objections to ENDA from President Bush's advisors and from transgender and gay activists disappointed that the bill isn't more comprehensive. They did an extraordinary job walking the fine line between an interpretation of ENDA that is unduly crabbed and one that is objectionably expansive.

ENDA is the product of decades of work by gay advocates whose efforts once seemed quixotic. In 1974, Abzug's bill had only four co-sponsors and was completely ignored by the House Judiciary Committee. Yesterday 235 members of the House backed the same basic idea.

TRIBUTE TO VILLA MADONNA ACADEMY

HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 13, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the academic achievements of Villa Madonna Academy Elementary and Junior High School in Villa Hills, KY.

Recently, Villa Madonna was announced by the U.S. Department of Education as a recipient of the 2007 Blue Ribbon Award.

The Blue Ribbon Award was presented to 287 distinguished schools nationwide and I am pleased that Villa Madonna Academy was one of four from Kentucky's Fourth Congressional District.

Villa Madonna has worked hard in advancing its curriculum and performance of its students to ensure that they are some of the best and brightest in our Nation. This is an accomplishment that deserves great praise for the students, parents, and teachers. In a world where we are facing competition from abroad and we frequently hear that our students are lagging behind, Villa Madonna is forging ahead.

I would especially like to acknowledge Villa Madonna's commitment to its enrichment program, which works to ensure its students have a diversified experience in art, music, physical education, and world cultures. This program, coupled with its academic excellence, is why the Villa Madonna Academy continues to exemplify greatness in Kentucky's schools.

CORRECTION

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S14237–S14351

Measures Introduced: Fifteen bills and four resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 2334–2348, S.J. Res. 24, and S. Res. 375–377. **Pages S14284–85**

Measures Reported:

S. 2338, to modernize and update the National Housing Act and enable the Federal Housing Administration to more effectively reach underserved borrowers. (S. Rept. No. 110–227)

S. 2345, to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and to extend the financing for the Airport and Airway Trust Fund. (S. Rept. No. 110–228) **Page S14284**

Measures Passed:

Oklahoma Statehood Centennial: Senate agreed to S. Res. 377, recognizing and celebrating the centennial of Oklahoma statehood. **Page S14349**

Measures Considered:

Farm Bill Extension Act: Senate resumed consideration of H.R. 2419, to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, taking action on the following amendments proposed thereto: **Pages S14254–73**

Pending:

Harkin Amendment No. 3500, in the nature of a substitute. **Page S14254**

Reid (for Dorgan/Grassley) Amendment No. 3508 (to Amendment No. 3500), to strengthen payment limitations and direct the savings to increased funding for certain programs. **Page S14254**

Reid Amendment No. 3509 (to Amendment No. 3508), to change the enactment date. **Page S14254**

Reid Amendment No. 3510 (to the language proposed to be stricken by Amendment No. 3500), to change the enactment date. **Page S14254**

Reid Amendment No. 3511 (to Amendment No. 3510), to change the enactment date. **Page S14254**

Motion to commit the bill to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with instructions to report back forthwith, with Reid Amendment No. 3512. **Page S14254**

Reid Amendment No. 3512 (to the instructions of the motion to commit to the Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, with instructions), to change the enactment date. **Page S14254**

Reid Amendment No. 3513 (to the instructions of the motion to recommit), to change the enactment date. **Page S14254**

Reid Amendment No. 3514 (to Amendment No. 3513), to change the enactment date. **Page S14254**

A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing for further consideration of the bill at approximately 10:30 a.m., on Wednesday, November 14, 2007. **Page S14351**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By unanimous vote of 86 yeas (Vote No. EX. 408), Robert M. Dow, Jr., of Illinois, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois.

Henrietta Holsman Fore, of Nevada, to be Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development. **Pages S14238–40, S14349, S14351**

Messages from the House: **Page S14282**

Measures Referred: **Page S14282**

Measures Placed on the Calendar: **Page S14282**

Measures Read the First Time: **Pages S14282–83**

Executive Communications: **Pages S14283–84**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages S14285–87**

Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: **Pages S14287–S14301**

Additional Statements: **Pages S14281–82**

Amendments Submitted: **Pages S14301–48**

Authorities for Committees to Meet: **Pages S14348–49**

Privileges of the Floor: **Page S14349**

Record Votes: One record vote was taken today. (Total—408) **Pages S14239–40**

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:01 p.m., until 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, November 14, 2007. (For Senate's program, see

the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S14351.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

FTC TAR AND NICOTINE CIGARETTE RATING SYSTEM

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the accuracy of the Federal Trade Commission on the tar and nicotine cigarette rating system, after receiving testimony from William E. Kovacic, Commissioner, Federal Trade Commission; Cathy Backinger, Acting Chief, Tobacco Control Research Branch, National Cancer Institute, National Institutes of Health, and David Ashley, Chief, Emergency Response and Air Toxicants Branch, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, both of the Department of Health and Human Services; Jonathan M. Samet, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health Department of Epidemiology, Baltimore, Maryland; Jack E. Henningfield, Pinney Associates, Bethesda, Maryland; Marvin E. Goldberg, Penn State University Smeal College of Business, University Park, Pennsylvania; and Stephen A. Sheller, Sheller, P.C., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

SURFACE MINING CONTROL AND RECLAMATION ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act (Public Law 95–87), focusing on policy issues thirty years after its enactment, after receiving testimony from Brent Wahlquist, Director, Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior; Gregory E. Conrad, Interstate Mining Compact Commission, Herndon, Virginia; Joanna Prukop, New Mexico Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Santa Fe; Arvin Trujillo, Najavo Nation, Window Rock, Arizona; Harold P. Quinn, Jr., National Mining Association, and Joan Mulhern, Earthjustice, both of Washington, D.C.; Bill Banig, United Mine Workers of America, Fairfax, Virginia; and Cindy Rank, West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, Rock Cave.

AMERICA'S CLIMATE SECURITY ACT

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee continued hearings to examine S. 2191, to direct the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to establish a program to decrease emissions of greenhouse gases, receiving testimony from David L. Greene, Corporate Fellow, Oak Ridge National Laboratory Engineering Science and Technology Division, Department of Energy; Robert C. Baugh, AFL–CIO Industrial Union Council and AFL–CIO Energy Task Force, David Hawkins, Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) Climate Center, and Andrew G. Sharkey, III, American Iron and Steel Institute, all of Washington, D.C.; and Donald R. Rowlett, Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company (OGE) Energy Corporation, Oklahoma City.

Hearings recessed until Thursday, November 15.

INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATIONS

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine international climate change negotiations, focusing on restoring United States leadership, after receiving testimony from Paula J. Dobriansky, Under Secretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs; former Senator Timothy E. Wirth, United Nations Foundation, and Jonathan Pershing, World Resources Institute, both of Washington, D.C.; and Richard Sandor, Chicago Climate Exchange, Chicago, Illinois.

U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia concluded a hearing to examine the human capital needs of a United States Customs and Border Protection initiative, focusing on border security, and progress and weaknesses in traveler inspections at our nation's ports of entry, after receiving testimony from Paul M. Morris, Executive Director, Admissibility and Passenger Programs, Office of Field Operations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security; Richard M. Stana, Director, Homeland Security and Justice Issues, Government Accountability Office; and Colleen M. Kelley, National Treasury Employees Union, Washington, D.C.

PUBLIC PERFORMANCE RIGHTS

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the scope of public performance rights, after receiving testimony from Lyle Lovett, musicFIRST Coalition, Nashville, Tennessee; Steven M. Newberry, Commonwealth Broadcasting Corporation, Glasgow, Kentucky, on behalf of the National Association of Broadcasters; Dan DeVany, WETA, Arlington, Virginia; and Alice Peacock, Chicago, Illinois.

SBA: LENDING AND INVESTMENT PROGRAMS

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine

the Small Business Administration (SBA), focusing on preventing loan fraud and improving regulation of lenders, after receiving testimony from Steven C. Preston, Administrator, and Eric M. Thorson, Inspector General, both of the Small Business Administration; Robert F. Tannenhauser, Business Loan Express, LLC., New York, New York; Anthony R. Wilkinson, National Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders, Stillwater, Oklahoma; and James Baird, Bay Area Development Company, Walnut Creek, California, on behalf of the National Association of Development Companies (NADCO).

CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee concluded a hearing to examine congressional oversight of the intelligence community, after receiving testimony from Lee H. Hamilton, former Vice Chair, and Timothy Roemer, former Member, both of the National Commission On Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States; James Saturno, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress; and Amy Zegart, University of California, Los Angeles.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 19 public bills, H.R. 4153–4171; and 10 resolutions, H.J. Res. 62–63; H. Con. Res. 254–257; and H. Res. 819–822 were introduced. **Pages H13858–60**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H13860–61**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 3403, to promote and enhance public safety by facilitating the rapid deployment of IP-enabled 911 and E–911 services, encouraging the nation's transition to a national IP-enabled emergency network and improve 911 and E–911 access to those with disabilities, with amendments (H. Rept. 110–442);

H.R. 3919, to provide for a comprehensive nationwide inventory of existing broadband service, with an amendment (H. Rept. 110–443);

H.R. 1534, to prohibit the sale, distribution, or transfer of mercury and to prohibit the export of mercury, with amendments (H. Rept. 110–444);

H.R. 3013, to provide appropriate protection to attorney-client privileged communications and attorney work product (H. Rept. 110–445); Conference report on H.R. 3074, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008 (H. Rept. 110–446);

H. Res. 817, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany the bill (H.R. 3074) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008 (H. Rept. 110–447); and H. Res. 818, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4156) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008 (H. Rept. 110–448). **Pages H13598–H13810, H13835–36, H13858**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Sires to act as Speaker Pro Tempore for today. **Page H13525**

Recess: The House recessed at 10:32 a.m. and reconvened at 12 noon. **Page H13525**

Suspensions: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measures:

Act Commemorating the LITE, or Lifetime Innovations of Thomas Edison: H.R. 2627, to establish the Thomas Edison National Historical Park in the State of New Jersey as the successor to the Edison National Historic Site; **Pages H13525–27**

Expressing the sense of the Congress that the United States should seek a review of compliance by all nations with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas' conservation and management recommendations: H. Con. Res. 229, amended, to express the sense of the Congress that the United States should seek a review of compliance by all nations with the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas' conservation and management recommendations for Atlantic bluefin tuna and other species, and should pursue strengthened conservation and management measures to facilitate the recovery of the Atlantic bluefin tuna; **Pages H13527–28**

Amending the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in certain water projects in California: H.R. 2614, to

amend the Reclamation Wastewater and Groundwater Study and Facilities Act to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to participate in certain water projects in California; **Pages H13528–29**

Providing that the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center shall be known as Emancipation Hall: H.R. 3315, to provide that the great hall of the Capitol Visitor Center shall be known as Emancipation Hall, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 398 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 1082; **Pages H13529–35, H13822–23**

Compacts of Free Association Amendments Act of 2007: H.R. 2705, amended, to amend the Compact of Free Association Amendments Act of 2003; **Pages H13535–38**

Amending section 5112(p)(1)(A) of title 31, United States Code, to allow an exception from the $1 coin dispensing capability requirement for certain vending machines: H.R. 3703, to amend section 5112(p)(1)(A) of title 31, United States Code, to allow an exception from the $1 coin dispensing capability requirement for certain vending machines; **Pages H13544–45**

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the President should declare lung cancer a public health priority and should implement a comprehensive interagency program to reduce the lung cancer mortality rate by at least 50 percent by 2015: H. Res. 335, amended, to express the sense of the House of Representatives that the President should declare lung cancer a public health priority and should implement a comprehensive interagency program to reduce the lung cancer mortality rate by at least 50 percent by 2015; **Pages H13545–46**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with respect to lung cancer as a public health priority and the recommendations of the Lung Cancer Progress Review Group of the National Cancer Institute.''. **Pages H13546**

Supporting the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month: H. Res. 760, amended, to support the goals and ideals of Children's Health Month; **Pages H13546–48**

Supporting the goal and mission of America Recycles Day: H. Con. Res. 122, amended, to supporting the goal and mission of America Recycles Day; **Pages H13548–49**

Mercury Export Ban Act of 2007: H.R. 1534, amended, to prohibit the sale, distribution, or transfer of mercury and to prohibit the export of mercury; **Pages H13549–54**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To prohibit certain sales, distributions, and transfers of elemental mercury, to prohibit the export of elemental mercury, and for other purposes.''. **Page H13554**

911 Modernization and Public Safety Act of 2007: H.R. 3403, amended, to promote and enhance public safety by facilitating the rapid deployment of IP-enabled 911 and E–911 services, encouraging the nation's transition to a national IP-enabled emergency network and improve 911 and E–911 access to those with disabilities, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 406 yeas to 1 nay, Roll No. 1084; **Pages H13554–57, H13824**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: ''To promote and enhance public safety by facilitating the rapid deployment of IP-enabled 911 and E–911 services, encourage the Nation's transition to a national IP-enabled emergency network, and improve 911 and E–911 access to those with disabilities.''. **Page H13830**

Broadband Census of America Act of 2007: H.R. 3919, amended, to provide for a comprehensive nationwide inventory of existing broadband service; **Pages H13557–61**

Safeguarding America's Families by Enhancing and Reorganizing New and Efficient Technologies Act of 2007: H.R. 3461, amended, to establish a public awareness campaign regarding Internet safety, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 398 yeas to 6 nays, Roll No. 1085; **Pages H13561–62, H13824–25**

Attorney-Client Privilege Protection Act of 2007: H.R. 3013, amended, to provide appropriate protection to attorney-client privileged communications and attorney work product; **Pages H13562–64**

Second Chance Act of 2007: H.R. 1593, amended, to reauthorize the grant program for reentry of offenders into the community in the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 and to improve reentry planning and implementation, by a 2/3 yea-and-nay vote of 347 yeas to 62 nays, Roll No. 1083; **Pages H13564–82, H13823–24**

Directing the Attorney General to provide grants for Internet crime prevention education programs: H.R. 4134, to direct the Attorney General to provide grants for Internet crime prevention education programs; **Pages H13593–94**

Congratulating Shawn Johnson on her victory in becoming the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastics Champion in women's gymnastics: H. Res. 684, to congratulate Shawn Johnson on her victory in becoming the 2007 World Artistic Gymnastics Champion in women's gymnastics; **Pages H13595–97**

Commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments: H. Res. 808, to commemorate the 50th Anniversary

of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments; **Pages H13596–98**

John Sidney "Sid" Flowers Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 3470, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 744 West Oglethorpe Highway in Hinesville, Georgia, as the "John Sidney 'Sid' Flowers Post Office Building"; **Pages H13810–11**

Beatrice E. Watson Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 3569, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16731 Santa Ana Avenue in Fontana, California, as the "Beatrice E. Watson Post Office Building"; **Pages H13811–12**

Marine Corps Corporal Steven P. Gill Post Office Building Designation Act: H.R. 3974, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 797 Sam Bass Road in Round Rock, Texas, as the "Marine Corps Corporal Steven P. Gill Post Office Building"; **Pages H13812–13**

Commending the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work in aiding children and families affected by child abuse, and designating November 2007 as National Courage Month: S. Con. Res. 45, to commend the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work in aiding children and families affected by child abuse, and designating November 2007 as National Courage Month; **Pages H13813–14**

Supporting the goals and ideals of World Diabetes Day: H. Con. Res. 211, to support the goals and ideals of World Diabetes Day; **Pages H13814–16**

Honoring San Jose State University for its 150 years of commitment to public higher education: H. Res. 365, amended, to honor San Jose State University for its 150 years of commitment to public higher education; **Pages H13816–18**

Agreed to amend the title so as to read: "Honoring San José State University for its 150 years of commitment to public higher education.". **Page H13818**

Honoring the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States: H.J. Res. 62, to honor the achievements and contributions of Native Americans to the United States; **Pages H13818–19**

Making certain technical corrections and transition amendments to the College Cost Reduction and Access Act: H.R. 4153, amended, to make certain technical corrections and transition amendments to the College Cost Reduction and Access Act; **Pages H13819–20**

Recognizing and honoring the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum on October 9, 2007: H. Res. 709, to recognize and honor the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum on October 9, 2007; and **Pages H13820–22**

Increasing the insurance limitations on Federal insurance for bonds issued by the designated bonding authority for Historically Black Colleges and Universities capital financing: H.R. 4154, to increase the insurance limitations on Federal insurance for bonds issued by the designated bonding authority for Historically Black Colleges and Universities capital financing. **Pages H13826–28**

Suspensions—Proceedings Postponed: The House debated the following measures under suspension of the rules. Further proceedings were postponed:

Expressing the sympathy and pledging the urgent support of the House of Representatives and the people of the United States for the victims of the devastating flooding in southern Mexico: H. Res. 812, amended, to express the sympathy and to pledge the urgent support of the House of Representatives and the people of the United States for the victims of the devastating flooding in southern Mexico; **Pages H13538–39**

Support for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews Act of 2007: H.R. 3320, to provide assistance for the Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw, Poland; **Pages H13539–42**

Condemning the November 6, 2007, terrorist bombing in Afghanistan and expressing condolences to the people of Afghanistan and the members of the Wolesi Jirga: H. Res. 811, to condemn the November 6, 2007, terrorist bombing in Afghanistan and expressing condolences to the people of Afghanistan and the members of the Wolesi Jirga; **Pages H13542–44**

PROTECT Our Children Act of 2007: H.R. 3845, amended, to establish a Special Counsel for Child Exploitation Prevention and Interdiction within the Office of the Deputy Attorney General, to improve the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, to increase resources for regional computer forensic labs, and to make other improvements to increase the ability of law enforcement agencies to investigate and prosecute child predators; **Pages H13582–89**

Keeping the Internet Devoid of Sexual Predators Act of 2007: H.R. 719, amended, to require convicted sex offenders to register online identifiers; **Pages H13589–91**

Effective Child Pornography Prosecution Act of 2007: H.R. 4120, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for more effective prosecution of cases involving child pornography; and

Pages H13591–93

Amending title 18 of the United States Code to clarify the scope of the child pornography laws: H.R. 4136, amended, to amend title 18 of the United States Code to clarify the scope of the child pornography laws. **Pages H13594–95**

Member Resignation: Read a letter from Representative Jindal, wherein he resigned as Representative for the 1st Congressional District of Louisiana, effective January 14, 2008. **Page H13825**

Presidential Veto Message—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008: Read a message from the President wherein he announced his veto of H.R. 3043, making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and explained his reasons therefor—ordered printed (H. Doc. 110–76). **Pages H13825–26**

Subsequently, the House agreed by unanimous consent to postpone further consideration of the veto message and bill until Thursday, November 15th.

Page H13826

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H13822–23, H13823, H13824, and H13824–25. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 10:30 a.m. and adjourned at 10:57 p.m.

Committee Meetings

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Committee on Education and Labor: Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Community held a hearing on LIHEAP: Overview and Current Issues. Testimony was heard from Guy Caruso, Administrator, Energy Information Administration, Department of Energy; and public witnesses.

FDA FOOD SUPPLY SAFETY

Committee on Energy and Commerce: Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations continued hearings entitled ''Diminished Capacity: Can the FDA Assure the Safety and Security of the Nation's Food Supply?—Part IV—Deception in Labeling.'' Testimony was heard from Daniel Engeljohn, Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Policy, Program and Employee Development, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA; David W. K. Acheson, M.D., Assistant Commissioner, Food Protection, FDA, Department of Health and Human Services; and public witnesses.

HOMELAND SECURITY EMPLOYING VETERANS

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Management, Investigations and Oversight held a hearing on Examining the Department of Homeland Security's Efforts to Recruit, Hire and Promote Veterans. Testimony was heard from Marta Brito Perez, Chief Human Capital Officer, Department of Homeland Security; Leslye A. Arsht, Deputy Under Secretary, Military Community and Family Policy, Department of Defense; and a representative of a veterans organization.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands held a hearing on the following bills: H.R. 2334, Rocky Mountain National Park Wilderness and Indian Peaks Wilderness Expansion Act; H.R. 2632, Sabinoso Wilderness Act of 2007; H.R. 3287, Tumacacori Highland Wilderness Act of 2007; H.R. 3513, Copper Salmon Wilderness Act; and H.R. 3682, California Desert and Mountain Heritage Act. Testimony was heard from: Senators Salazar and Allard; Representatives Bono and Udall of New Mexico; Joel Holtrop, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, USDA; Elena Daly, Director, National Landscape Conservation System, Bureau of Land Management, Department of the Interior; and public witnesses.

LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AGENCIES EXECUTIVE DIVERSITY

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform: Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Postal Service, and the District of Columbia held a hearing on Opportunities Exist to Improve SES Diversity in Legislative Branch Agencies. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Library of Congress: Curtis Copeland, Specialist in American National Government, CRS; and Dennis Hanratty, Director, Human Resources Services; Nadine L. Elzy, Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, GPO; Ronald A. Stroman, Managing Director, Office of Opportunity and Inclusiveness, GAO; Teresa Bailey, Director, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity/Conciliation Programs, Office of the Architect of the Capitol; Stephanie Ruiz, Equal Employment Opportunity and Conciliatory Program, CBO; Daniel Nichols, Assistant Chief of Policy, U.S. Capitol Police; and public witnesses.

ORDERLY AND RESPONSIBLE IRAQ REDEPLOYMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a vote of 9 to 3, a closed rule. The rule provides two hours of debate on H.R. 4156, Orderly and Responsible Iraq Redeployment Appropriations Act of 2008, equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations.

The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill except those arising under clause 9 or 10 of rule XXI. The rule provides that the bill shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against provisions of the bill. The rule provides one motion to recommit the bill. Finally, the rule permits the Chair, during consideration of the bill, to postpone further consideration of it to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Chairman Obey.

TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS BILL, CONFERENCE REPORT

Committee on Rules: Granted, by a voice vote, a conference report rule. The rule waives all points of order against the conference report on H.R. 3074, Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008, and against its consideration and provides that the conference report shall be considered as read. Testimony was heard from Representative Olver.

Joint Meetings

RANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Conferees met on Thursday, November 8, 2007 and agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and House passed versions of H.R. 3074, making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008.

NEW PUBLIC LAWS

(For last listing of Public Laws, see DAILY DIGEST, *p. D1503)*

H.R. 1495, to provide for the conservation and development of water and related resources, to authorize the Secretary of the Army to construct various projects for improvements to rivers and harbors of the United States. Signed on November 8, 2007. (Public Law 110–114)

H.R. 2779, to recognize the Navy UDT–SEAL Museum in Fort Pierce, Florida, as the official national museum of Navy SEALS and their predecessors. Signed on November 13, 2007. (Public Law 110–115)

H.R. 3222, making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008. Signed on November 13, 2007. (Public Law 110–116)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2007

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine shareholder rights and proxy access, 10:30 a.m., SD–538.

Full Committee, to hold hearings to examine sovereign wealth fund acquisitions and other foreign government investments in the United States, focusing on assessing the economic and national security implications, 2 p.m., SD–538.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: to hold hearings to examine ways to improve the Federal Climate Change Research and Information Program, 10 a.m., SR–253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the Global Nuclear Energy Partnership relating to the United States policy on nuclear fuel management, 10 a.m., SD–366.

Committee on Finance: to hold hearings to examine the federal estate tax, focusing on uncertainty in planning under the current law, 10 a.m., SD–215.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider S. 1858, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish grant programs to provide for education and outreach on newborn screening and coordinated followup care once newborn screening has been conducted, to reauthorize programs under part A of title XI of such Act, S. 911, to amend the Public Health Service Act to advance medical research and treatments into pediatric cancers, ensure patients and families have access to the current treatments and information regarding pediatric cancers, establish a population-based national childhood cancer database, and promote public awareness of pediatric cancers, S. 1916, to amend the Public Health Service Act to modify the program for the sanctuary system for surplus chimpanzees by terminating the authority for the removal of chimpanzees from the system for research purposes, S. 1382, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide the establishment of an Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Registry, S. 1551, to amend the Public Health Service Act with respect to making progress toward the goal of eliminating tuberculosis, S. 1970, to establish a National Commission on Children and Disasters, a National Resource Center on Children and Disasters, S. 901, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide additional authorizations of

appropriations for the health centers program under section 330 of such Act, and the nominations of Julie Fisher Cummings, of Michigan, Mark D. Gearan, of New York, Tom Osborne, of Nebraska, Alan D. Solomont, of Massachusetts, Donna N. Williams, of Texas, all to be a Members of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for National and Community Service, Charles E. F. Millard, of New York, to be Director of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, and other pending nominations, 9:30 a.m., SD–430.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider S. 1667, to establish a pilot program for the expedited disposal of Federal real property, S. 1000, to enhance the Federal Telework Program, H.R. 390, to require the establishment of a national database in the National Archives to preserve records of servitude, emancipation, and post-Civil War reconstruction and to provide grants to State and local entities to establish similar local databases, H.R. 3571, to amend the Congressional Accountability Act of 1995 to permit individuals who have served as employees of the Office of Compliance to serve as Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director, or General Counsel of the Office, and to permit individuals appointed to such positions to serve one additional term, S. 2174, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 175 South Monroe Street in Tiffin, Ohio, as the ''Paul E. Gillmor Post Office Building'', H.R. 2089, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 701 Loyola Avenue in New Orleans, Louisiana, as the ''Louisiana Armed Services Veterans Post Office'', S. 2292, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002, to establish the Office for Bombing Prevention, to address terrorist explosive threats, H.R. 3297, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 950 West Trenton Avenue in Morrisville, Pennsylvania, as the ''Nate DeTample Post Office Building'', H.R. 3308, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 216 East Main Street in Atwood, Indiana, as the ''Lance Corporal David K. Fribley Post Office'', H.R. 3530, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1400 Highway 41 North in Inverness, Florida, as the ''Chief Warrant Officer Aaron Weaver Post Office Building'', H.R. 2276, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 203 North Main Street in Vassar, Michigan, as the ''Corporal Christopher E. Esckelson Post Office Building'', H.R. 3325, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 235 Mountain Road in Suffield, Connecticut, as the ''Corporal Stephen R. Bixler Post Office'', S. 2110, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 427 North Street in Taft, California, as the ''Larry S. Pierce Post Office'', H.R. 3382, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 200 North William Street in Goldsboro, North Carolina, as the ''Philip A. Baddour, Sr. Post Office'', S. 2290, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 16731 Santa Ana Avenue in Fontana, California, as the ''Beatrice E. Watson Post Office Building'', S. 2272, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service known as the Southpark Station in Alexandria, Louisiana, as the John ''Marty'' Thiels Southpark Station, in honor and memory of Thiels, a Louisiana postal worker who was killed in the line of duty on October 4, 2007, H.R. 3446, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 East Michigan Avenue in Marshall, Michigan, as the ''Michael W. Schragg Post Office Building'', S. 2150 and H.R. 3572, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4320 Blue Parkway in Kansas City, Missouri, as the ''Wallace S. Hartsfield Post Office Building'', S. 2107 and H.R. 3307, bills to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 570 Broadway in Bayonne, New Jersey, as the ''Dennis P. Collins Post Office Building'', H.R. 3518, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 1430 South Highway 29 in Cantonment, Florida, as the ''Charles H. Hendrix Post Office Building'', and other pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD–342.

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, to hold hearings to examine Medicaid providers, focusing on a recent study conducted by the Government Accountability Office on unpaid taxes, the extent of the problem, and possible solutions, 3:30 p.m., SD–342.

Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee on Human Rights and the Law, to hold hearings to examine accountability for human rights violators in the United States, 10 a.m., SD–226.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs: business meeting to markup pending legislation; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nomination of Michael W. Hager, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs (Human Resources and Management), 9:30 a.m., SD–562.

Select Committee on Intelligence: meeting of conferees on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2008 for the intelligence community, 4:30 p.m., S–407, Capitol.

House

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch, hearing on Capitol Visitor Center, 9 a.m., 2359 Rayburn.

Committee on Armed Services, hearing on Africa Command, 10 a.m., 2118 Rayburn.

Committee on Education and Labor, to mark up H.R. 4137, College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007, 1:30 p.m., 2175 Rayburn.

Committee on Foreign Affairs, hearing on the Merida Initiative: Assessing Plans to Step Up our Security Cooperation with Mexico and Central America, 10 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Europe, hearing on U.S.-Greece Relations and Regional Issues, 2:30 a.m., 2172 Rayburn.

Committee on Homeland Security, hearing entitled ''Cover Blown—Did TSA Tip Off Airport Screeners about Covert Testing?'' 10 a.m., 311 Cannon.

Committee on the Judiciary, hearing on Establishing Consistent Enforcement Policies in the Context of Online Wagers, 10 a.m., 2141 Rayburn.

Committee on Natural Resources, hearing on the following bills: H.R. 2445, To amend the Alaska Native Claims

Settlement Act to recognize Alexander Creek as a Native village; H.R. 3350, Alaska Native Veterans Land Allotment Equity Act; H.R. 3351, Native American Challenge Demonstration Project Act of 2007; and 3560, Southeast Alaska Native Land Entitlement Finalization Act, 11 a.m., 1324 Longworth.

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, hearing on Assessing Whistle Blower Allegations Against the State Department Inspector General, 10 a.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on Domestic Policy, hearing on the Environmental Risks of and Regulatory Response to Dental Mercury Amalgam, 2 p.m., 2154 Rayburn.

Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs, to continue hearings on Iran: Reality, Options and Consequences, Part 3—Regional and Global Consequences of U.S. Military Action in Iran, 2 p.m., 2247 Rayburn.

Committee on Rules, to consider H.R. 3915, Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act of 2007, 2 p.m., H–313 Capitol.

Committee on Small Business, Subcommittee on Urban and Rural Entrepreneurship, hearing on Program Harmonization in Rural America—How the Small Business Administration and the Department of Agriculture Can Work Together to Better Serve Small Businesses, 10 a.m., 2360 Rayburn.

Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, hearing on Effects of Gap in Health Coverage on Work, Family and Opportunity, 10 a.m., 1100 Longworth.

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, executive, briefing on Hot Spots, 8:45 a.m., and, executive, briefing on Cyber, 2 p.m., H–405 Capitol.

Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, hearing entitled ''State Leadership Towards a Low-Carbon Energy Future,'' 10 a.m., 2318 Rayburn.

Joint Meetings

Joint Hearing: Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, meeting of conferees on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 2008 for the intelligence community, 4:30 p.m., S–407, Capitol.

Conference: meeting of conferees on H.R. 3093, making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, and Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, 4 p.m., S–127, Capitol.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, November 14

Senate Chamber

Program for Wednesday: After the transaction of any morning business (not to extend beyond 60 minutes), Senate will continue consideration of H.R. 2419, Farm Bill Extension Act.

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

10 a.m., Wednesday, November 14

House Chamber

Program for Wednesday: Consideration of the conference report on H.R. 1429—Head Start for School Readiness Act (Subject to a Rule), H.R. 4156—Orderly and Responsible Iraq Redeployment Appropriations Act, 2008, (Subject to a Rule) and the conference report on H.R. 3074—Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 (Subject to a Rule). Motion to go to conference on H.R. 1585—National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 and motion to instruct conferees.

Extensions of Remarks, as insert in this issue

HOUSE

Akin, W. Todd, Mo., E2398
Davis, Geoff, Ky., E2396, E2397, E2398, E2399
Davis, Lincoln, Tenn., E2395
DeLauro, Rosa L., Conn., E2393
Diaz-Balart, Lincoln, Fla., E2396
Dingell, John D., Mich., E2391
Frank, Barney, Mass., E2399
Graves, Sam, Mo., E2397
Hastert, J. Dennis, Ill., E2392
Hastings, Alcee L., Fla., E2394
Herger, Wally, Calif., E2392
Kucinich, Dennis J., Ohio, E2395
Maloney, Carolyn B., N.Y., E2391
Perlmutter, Ed, Colo., E2391, E2391, E2392, E2392, E2393, E2394, E2394, E2395
Poe, Ted, Tex., E2395, E2397
Ros-Lehtinen, Ileana, Fla., E2398
Sestak, Joe, Pa., E2394
Space, Zachary T., Ohio, E2391, E2392, E2392, E2393, E2393, E2394, E2395, E2395
Tiahrt, Todd, Kans., E2396, E2398
Van Hollen, Chris, Md., E2399

Congressional Record

The *Congressional Record* (USPS 087–390). The Periodicals postage is paid at Washington, D.C. The public proceedings of each House of Congress, as reported by the Official Reporters thereof, are printed pursuant to directions of the Joint Committee on Printing as authorized by appropriate provisions of Title 44, United States Code, and published for each day that one or both Houses are in session, excepting very infrequent instances when two or more unusually small consecutive issues are printed one time. ¶Public access to the *Congressional Record* is available online through *GPO Access*, a service of the Government Printing Office, free of charge to the user. The online database is updated each day the *Congressional Record* is published. The database includes both text and graphics from the beginning of the 103d Congress, 2d session (January 1994) forward. It is available through *GPO Access* at www.gpo.gov/gpoaccess. Customers can also access this information with WAIS client software, via telnet at swais.access.gpo.gov, or dial-in using communications software and a modem at 202–512–1661. Questions or comments regarding this database or *GPO Access* can be directed to the *GPO Access* User Support Team at: E-Mail: gpoaccess@gpo.gov; Phone 1–888–293–6498 (toll-free), 202–512–1530 (D.C. area); Fax: 202–512–1262. The Team's hours of availability are Monday through Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, except Federal holidays. ¶The *Congressional Record* paper and 24x microfiche edition will be furnished by mail to subscribers, free of postage, at the following prices: paper edition, $252.00 for six months, $503.00 per year, or purchased as follows: less than 200 pages, $10.50; between 200 and 400 pages, $21.00; greater than 400 pages, $31.50, payable in advance; microfiche edition, $146.00 per year, or purchased for $3.00 per issue payable in advance. The semimonthly *Congressional Record Index* may be purchased for the same per issue prices. To place an order for any of these products, visit the U.S. Government Online Bookstore at: bookstore.gpo.gov. Mail orders to: Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250–7954, or phone orders to 866–512–1800 (toll free), 202–512–1800 (D.C. area), or fax to 202–512–2250. Remit check or money order, made payable to the Superintendent of Documents, or use VISA, MasterCard, Discover, American Express, or GPO Deposit Account. ¶Following each session of Congress, the daily *Congressional Record* is revised, printed, permanently bound and sold by the Superintendent of Documents in individual parts or by sets. ¶With the exception of copyrighted articles, there are no restrictions on the republication of material from the *Congressional Record*.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Superintendent of Documents, *Congressional Record,* U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402, along with the entire mailing label from the last issue received.