

If the Budget Resolution is applied over the six-year period from fiscal years 2010 to 2015, the Resolution assumes a base allocation of \$324 billion for highway, highway safety, and transit programs, including \$312 billion of contract authority. Importantly, this allocation restores \$82 billion over the six-year period of highway contract authority that had been cut from the Congressional Budget Office baseline, which assumed fiscal year 2009 rescissions would recur in all future years.

In addition, the Resolution establishes a Reserve Fund to allow this base allocation of \$324 billion to be adjusted upward as necessary to accommodate higher funding levels to the extent they can be supported by the Highway Trust Fund.

The Resolution also assumes the Airport Improvement Program is funded at \$4.0 billion in FY 2010, \$4.1 billion in FY 2011, and \$4.2 billion in FY 2012, consistent with H.R. 915, the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2009, as ordered reported by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure on March 5, 2009. This is an increase of \$840 million over the baseline funding level for this program over the three-year period from FY 2010–2012.

The Resolution rejects the Office of Management and Budget's proposal to change how programs funded by contract authority are treated for budget scoring purposes. This proposal, had it been adopted, would have converted the mandatory contract authority that currently funds our highway, highway safety, transit and airport grant programs to a simple authorization of appropriations for budget scoring purposes. I am pleased that the Budget Resolution continues to recognize the unique nature of trust-funded programs by rejecting this ill-advised proposal.

A TRIBUTE TO HUMENA BUTE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Humena Bute, an educator and youth advocate.

Ms. Humena Bute worked for the NYC Department of Education from 1970 until her early retirement in 1995. While employed with the Department of Education she advanced to Special Education Records Manager in School District 19. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Community and Human Services from Empire State College in 1997. She applied for and received a per-diem substitute teacher certificate in 1998, and has worked in various NYC schools in Brooklyn to present.

In 2000, Ms. Bute became a member of the Brooklyn Club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club Inc (NANBPWC). She became a Life Member in 2005. During the past eight years Ms. Bute has held the office of Recording Secretary, Vice President (Membership Chair) and has voluntarily served on the Battered Women's Shelter project, the Thanksgiving Basket Committee and the Founders Day Celebration Committees from 2003–2005. Ms. Bute received an Appreciation Award from The Brooklyn Club president in 2002. In 2007 Ms. Bute received the Membership Chair of

the Year Award from National Director of Membership of NANBPWC Inc. She has recently been appointed to serve as Membership Director of the Northeast District of NANBPWC Inc.

From 1997 to 2000 Ms. Bute was given the opportunity to work with at-risk youths as an Educational Specialist for Mental Health Juvenile Justice Diversion project in Brooklyn N.Y. She was also a recruiter for Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Program in various High Schools in Brooklyn N.Y.

In 2004, Ms. Bute became a member of the Stuyvesant Heights Lions Club and in 2006 she received the Lion of the Year award from the club president. In 2007 Ms. Bute was nominated as Club President and still holds that title to this day. She is also a Board Member of the Bridge Street Child Development Day Care in Brooklyn NY. Ms. Bute has recently joined the American College of Counselors.

Ms. Bute is a mother of two children, Felicia Allen and the late Gregory Bute and three loving grandchildren Jason Allen, Geninne Allen and Shanay Bute. Ms. Bute regards her many accomplishments and children as gifts from God.

OMNIBUS PUBLIC LAND MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support H.R. 146, the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009. The rivers, mountains, parks and forests of the United States are a fundamental part of our national heritage, and it is crucial that these resources are protected for future generations to enjoy.

The majority of the bills in this monumental legislation had been considered and enjoyed strong bipartisan support in previous Congresses, and the passage of these provisions for public land management, forest preservation, and other crucial conservation measures is long overdue. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the work of Senate Majority Leader HARRY REID, Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI, the bill's sponsor Senator JEFF BINGAMAN, and Representative NICK RAHALL in keeping this legislation moving forward.

I would also like to congratulate my friend Congresswoman LOUISE SLAUGHTER for the inclusion of her provision on the Women's Rights National Historic Park in this important legislation. It is fitting that, as we work to protect the landmarks that help to make this country great, we commemorate the central role women have played in our Nation's history.

On July 19, 1848, a group of women activists including Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Lucretia Mott, and Mary Ann M'Clintock organized the first Women's Rights Convention at Wesleyan Chapel in Seneca Falls, New York. The document produced at the Convention, entitled the Declaration of Sentiments, articulated the then radical idea that certain rights accrued to women, such as the freedom to own property and the right to an education. That meeting

spearheaded a 72-year struggle for women's suffrage, ending with the ratification of the 19th amendment on August 18, 1920.

This provision in the Omnibus Public Lands Act would pay tribute to a milestone event in the women's rights movement by allowing for the construction of a trail in the Women's Rights Historical Park in Seneca Falls, New York, and permitting the establishment of a network of historical sites relevant to women's history.

The park would serve as a physical reminder of women's historical contributions to equality of rights and opportunity, values which are central to the legacy of the United States. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating these accomplishments by ensuring that the landmarks of the women's rights movement are remembered and preserved.

FEDERAL LAND ASSISTANCE, MANAGEMENT AND ENHANCE- MENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 1404) to authorize a supplemental funding source for catastrophic emergency wildland fire suppression activities on Department of the Interior and National Forest System lands, to require the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to develop a cohesive wildland fire management strategy, and for other purposes:

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express my strong support for H.R. 1404, the Federal Land Assistance, Management and Enhancement (FLAME) Act and I salute Chairman RAHALL for bringing this important bill to the floor today.

Last year a series of wildfires devastated counties across California, including Santa Cruz County in my Congressional District. The fires burned 1.4 billion acres of land across the State and cost over \$1 billion to contain. Experts expect a similarly difficult fire season in California this year. Over the past decade wildland fires have increased in size and quantity, and projections indicate that this trend will continue due to climate change, drought, and other factors.

The skyrocketing costs of fighting wildland fires have forced the Forest Service and Department of Interior to "borrow" funds from non-fire programs, distracting these agencies from their core missions. Wildland fire activities now account for 48 percent of the Forest Service budget and more than 10 percent of the Interior Department budget.

This bill will create the FLAME Fund to help cover the costs of fighting fires after the money appropriated by the federal government runs out. Agencies may use this fund only if the Secretary of Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture deems the fire large enough or dangerous enough to warrant using the fund.

The FLAME Act requires the Secretaries of Interior and Agriculture to submit a report to Congress containing a comprehensive wildland fire management strategy. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) found