

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday July 27, 2009

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I am requesting as part of H.R. 3288, the Transportation/Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act of 2010.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Airport Investment Program

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Burlington—Alamance County Regional Airport

Address of Requesting Entity: 3441 North Aviation Drive, Burlington, NC 27215

Description of Request: This project will lengthen the existing runway so that it may support larger aircraft and improve the safety of the runway. It will also increase the airport's economic viability in the area.

Requesting Member: Congressman HOWARD COBLE

Bill Number: H.R. 3288

Account: Grade Crossings on Designated High Speed Rail Corridors

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: North Carolina Department of Transportation

Address of Requesting Entity: 1553 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699

Description of Request: The purpose of this project is to implement the crossing safety improvement recommendations from the East Guilford County Traffic Separation Study (TSS) between Franklin Boulevard and Wagner Bend Road on the North Carolina Railroad, Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor and Greensboro. This project is part of the NC Department of Transportation's effort to reduce the occurrence of accidents at railroad crossings.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, on July 23, 2009, I did not cast a vote on an amendment to H.R. 3288, the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

Had I been present for the vote on H. Amdt. 384 (rollcall 631), I would have voted "no."

TRIBUTE TO DR. ALMA MONTGOMERY BLACKMON

HON. PARKER GRIFFITH

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2009

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Dr. Alma Montgomery Blackmon of Huntsville, an educator and mentor of fond memory to all she encountered. Dr. Blackmon passed away in June at the age of 87.

Dr. Blackmon had an unrivaled blend of passion for students, education and music. All three of these areas played vital roles in her life's purpose. She was born and raised in Washington, DC, where she began her distinguished career as an educator. Her love for music blossomed as a child when she served as an organist for her church at age 10. Her love for music never faded, and she instilled a zeal for music in her students throughout her 42-year career as an instructor. She was a scholar, a musician and a community activist whose impact will not be forgotten, and she is deeply missed by all who knew her.

Dr. Blackmon had a way with people that made personal interactions with her as harmonious as the music she played. Her influence will continue to flourish for generations to come through the love of music that her former students now share. On behalf of the Tennessee Valley, I respectfully rise in honor to pay tribute to a champion of American values.

HONORING MELISSA COLLINS FOR RECEIVING A PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 27, 2009

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Melissa Collins, an elementary school teacher from my district who will be honored by President Obama with the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching for her work mentoring students.

This is an honor awarded to teachers who do an exceptional job at mentoring students in the areas of mathematics and science. She is one of 100 educators who will receive a \$10,000 award from the White House on behalf of the National Science Foundation, which she will use a portion of to help her continue to teach her students.

Melissa teaches second grade students at John P. Freeman Optional School in my hometown of Memphis, Tennessee. While teaching others, this accomplished teacher is also working on improving her own education

by studying for a doctorate degree at the University of Southern Mississippi.

During a time in this country where math and science teachers are scarce, Melissa Collins exhibits the teaching skills necessary to inspire our children to learn. Melissa is a leader at the elementary school. The school principal sends new teachers to her classroom in order to observe her teaching style.

In 2008, John P. Freeman Optional School was awarded the No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon Award, which recognizes academically superior schools across the nation. It is beyond a doubt that Melissa helped John P. Freeman School achieve this great honor.

I want to commend and congratulate Melissa Collins on this great achievement.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Transportation-HUD Appropriations Act of 2010. This bipartisan bill appropriates a total of \$123.1 billion to fund the transportation, infrastructure, housing assistance and development and transportation security priorities of the American people. The bill includes urgently needed federal funding for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) for which the entire Washington area delegation has long advocated.

WMATA plays a major role in supporting the federal government. By some accounts, as many as 50 percent of peak hour riders are federal employees or contractors. Last year, Congress authorized \$1.5 billion in dedicated Federal funding over 10 years for capital improvements and preventive maintenance. The legislation required the local jurisdictions to amend the WMATA compact to commit to providing matching funding, create an office of Inspector General, and enable the appointment of Federal representation on the WMATA Board. In late June, the delegation introduced companion resolutions to ratify the compact amendments.

The tragic derailment on June 22nd highlighted the importance of securing a stable and dedicated funding source for Metro modernization efforts. This bill makes the first installment of Congress' 10-year \$1.5 billion commitment by providing \$150 million in new funding for grants to WMATA for the DC Metro to address safety deficiencies and to help maintain and expand the capital's subway system. This \$150 million will help WMATA make urgent safety improvements and I thank Chairman OLVER for his attention to this critical need.

The bill also includes \$4 billion for high-speed passenger rail projects, \$10.5 billion for

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.