

Louisiana Avenue, Northwest. This property is adjacent to the Capitol Grounds.

The Union plans to demolish its existing headquarters and construct a new larger facility. In order to do this, a small section of parking spots and a sidewalk on Louisiana Avenue will be closed for about 2 years.

Let me be clear about the affected area along Constitution Avenue and Louisiana Avenue. It is the curbside lane between 1st and 2nd Street, Northwest only. This authority in no way extends beyond those two streets insofar as the Capitol Grounds are concerned.

This activity will not interfere with the needs of Congress and will not cost the government. The building owners will restore all affected areas of the Capitol Grounds to its original condition once construction is completed.

I support this resolution wholeheartedly and urge my colleagues to join in support.

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

□ 2130

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

First, Mr. Speaker, may I thank the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) for the way in which he has shepherded this matter through committee and to the floor. I am very grateful for the attention he has given it. May I also thank the distinguished ranking member the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR) for his invaluable assistance in getting this matter to the floor this evening. I very much appreciate the work of my own chairman the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) who in committee today saw to it that this matter came and was expeditiously handled in the subcommittee itself. This straightforward resolution will allow the Architect of the Capitol to permit temporary construction and necessary other work on the Capitol grounds. The site is along Constitution Avenue in my district between Second Street and Louisiana Avenue Northwest and along Louisiana to First Street Northwest. The construction project will create a high end building with class A office space right here at the foot of Capitol Hill. The new building will be 10 stories high and will contain 500,000 square feet. The Architect has requested a resolution to permit the temporary closing of the curb lane along Louisiana Avenue and Constitution Avenue.

Again I want to thank the gentleman from New Jersey for the very expeditious way in which he has handled this matter and for his continued support for activities that positively affect the economic health of the Nation's capital, the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR), the ranking

member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me this time. I rise to support the resolution and to express my great appreciation to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) for moving so expeditiously on this matter which is very timely for the carpenters union for the replacement and construction of this facility so near to the Capitol. I appreciate the support of the chairman of the subcommittee also for acting so quickly. I want to compliment the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia on her steadfast persistence and leadership on this matter. She is a true advocate and champion for the District and a great voice.

This facility has one of the prime locations in all of Washington. It shall be very interesting to see the facility removed and reconstructed. I understand that there is a splendid plan to replace that facility. It is very important to all who are concerned, not only those building the structure but those who are going to rent, the various associations that would be a part of this.

I just wanted to rise and express my great appreciation to the majority for moving so quickly on a matter of such timely importance to those involved and again to compliment the gentlewoman for her leadership and express my great appreciation to the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) for his cooperation.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume. I very much appreciate the remarks of the ranking member the gentleman from Minnesota (Mr. OBERSTAR). I do want to say that I know that the carpenters union is as grateful for the way in which this has been handled this evening as I am. I want to assure the House that the matter under construction has received already the approval of the appropriate Federal and local authorities and will continue to go through those approvals. We needed only now the approval of the House to make sure the construction could indeed proceed.

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

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MILLER of Florida). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. FRANKS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, House Concurrent Resolution 167.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey. 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 House Concurrent Resolution 167, the measure just considered by the House.

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

There was no objection.

AMERICAN INVENTORS PROTECTION ACT OF 1999

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1907) to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide enhanced protection for inventors and innovators, protect patent terms, reduce patent litigation, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1907

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 "American Inventors Protection Act of 1999".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

TITLE I—INVENTORS' RIGHTS

Sec. 101. Short title.

Sec. 102. Invention promotion services.

Sec. 103. Effective date.

TITLE II—FIRST INVENTOR DEFENSE

Sec. 201. Short title.

Sec. 202. Defense to patent infringement based on earlier inventor.

Sec. 203. Effective date and applicability.

TITLE III—PATENT TERM GUARANTEE

Sec. 301. Short title.

Sec. 302. Patent term guarantee authority.

Sec. 303. Continued examination of patent applications.

Sec. 304. Technical clarification.

Sec. 305. Effective date.

TITLE IV—UNITED STATES PUBLICATION OF PATENT APPLICATIONS PUBLISHED ABROAD

Sec. 401. Short title.

Sec. 402. Publication.

Sec. 403. Time for claiming benefit of earlier filing date.

Sec. 404. Provisional rights.

Sec. 405. Prior art effect of published applications.

Sec. 406. Cost recovery for publication.

Sec. 407. Conforming amendments.

Sec. 408. Effective date.

TITLE V—OPTIONAL INTER PARTES REEXAMINATION PROCEDURE

Sec. 501. Short title.

Sec. 502. Ex parte reexamination of patents.

Sec. 503. Definitions.

Sec. 504. Optional inter partes reexamination procedures.

Sec. 505. Conforming amendments.

Sec. 506. Report to Congress.

Sec. 507. Estoppel effect of reexamination.

Sec. 508. Effective date.