CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE

November 17, 1999

SEC. 2. HOLDING OF COURT AT WHEATON, ILLINOIS

Section 93(a)(1) of title 28, United States Code, is amended by adding after Chicago "and Wheaton".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Hyde) and the gentleman from New York (Mr. Weiner) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Hyde).

Mr. HYDE. Mr. Speaker, I seek unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on S. 1418. The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 1418, as amended. It contains two small but important provisions that will improve the efficiency of the administration of justice in our Federal court system.

Section I was approved in the House by unanimous consent. This section proposes to allow for the holding of court in Natchez, Mississippi, in the same manner as court is held in Vicksburg, Mississippi. It would eliminate a provision in current law that limits the authority of the Federal courts to lease space in the area surrounding Chicago, it would provide the efficiency of the administration of justice in our Federal court system.

While only a small number of Federal court cases are now tried at Natchez County Court facilities, it is important that the Federal Government be able to continue using the facility. I have a minor amendment that adds Section 2 to the bill. Section 2 designates Wheaton, Illinois, as a place of holding court for the Eastern Division of the Northern District of Illinois.

Wheaton is the seat of DuPage County, Illinois. Because of the large population growth in DuPage County and the area surrounding Chicago, it would be beneficial to designate Wheaton as an additional place of holding court.

Mr. Speaker, these are simple yet significant improvements to the Federal judicial system. I urge my colleagues to support S. 1418.

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

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. Hyde) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1418, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RAILROAD POLICE TRAINING AT FBI NATIONAL ACADEMY

Mr. HUTCHINSON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 1235) to amend part G of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to allow railroad police officers to attend the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy for law enforcement training.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 1235

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

SECTION 1. INCLUSION OF RAILROAD POLICE OFFICERS IN FBI LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING.

(a) In General.—Section 701(a) of part G of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3771(a)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) by striking "State or unit of local government" and inserting "State, unit of local government, or rail carrier"; and

(B) by inserting "including railroad police officers" before the semicolon; and

(2) in paragraph (5)—

(A) by striking "State or unit of local government" and inserting "State, unit of local government, or rail carrier";
Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

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

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of this important legislation which was unanimously approved by the other body last week. The bill amends 42 USC 3771(a) to authorize railroad police to attend the FBI’s training academy in Quantico, Virginia. Current law permits State and local law enforcement agencies to take advantage of the unique and high-quality training available at the FBI academy, and this legislation merely adds railroad police officers to the list of approved personnel. Why do we need this?

Railroad police increasingly are being called upon to assist Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies. Investigation and interdiction of illegal drugs crossing the southwest border by rail car, apprehension of illegal aliens using the railways to gain entry into the United States and investigating alleged acts of railroad sabotage are just some of the law enforcement functions being performed by the railroad police.

As just an aside, Mr. Speaker, I would like to note that according to recent congressional testimony, in 1998 alone, over 33,000 illegal aliens were found hiding on board Union Pacific railroad cars. As sworn officers charged with enforcing State and local laws in any jurisdiction in which the railroad carrier owns property, railroad police officers are actively involved in numerous investigations and cases with the FBI and other law enforcement agencies.

For example, Amtrak has a police officer assigned to the FBI’s New York City Joint Task Force on Terrorism and another assigned to the D.C./Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area to investigate illegal drug and weapons smuggling. Union Pacific railroad police receive 4,000 trespassing calls a month, arrest almost 3,000 undocumented aliens per month and arrest an average of 773 people a month for burglaries, thefts, drug charges, and vandalism.

This past summer, the FBI, local police and railroad police launched a 6-week manhunt in and around the Nation’s rail system to apprehend a suspected serial killer. The suspect, a railroad drifter, has been linked to nine slayings and is responsible for spreading terror from Texas to Illinois. The railroad police were asked to play an important role in this search and would have been much more prepared to face the situation had they received equivalent training.

Improving the law enforcement skills of railroad police will improve this interagency cooperation, ultimately making the rail system safer for America’s travelers. Some Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include bipartisan legislation introduced by Senators LEAHY and HATCH is supported by the FBI, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, and the Association of American Railroads, a trade association which represents North America’s major freight railroads, including Union Pacific, Norfolk Southern, Kansas City Southern, Illinois Central, CSX, Conrail, and Amtrak. Mr. Speaker, I am unaware of any opposition to this legislation and urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

The FBI is currently authorized to offer the superior training available at the FBI’s National Academy only to law enforcement personnel employed by State or local units of government. However, police officers employed by railroads are not allowed to attend this Academy despite the fact that they work closely in numerous cases with Federal law enforcement agencies as well as State and local law enforcement.

A recent example of this cooperative effort is the Texas railway killer case. Providing railroad police with the opportunity to obtain the training offered at Quantico would improve interagency cooperation and prepare them to deal with the ever-increasing sophistication of criminals who conduct their illegal acts either using the railroad or directed at the railroad or its passengers.

Railroad police officers, unlike any other private police department, are commissioned officers. The FBI enforces the laws of that State and any other State in which the railroad owns property. As a result of this broad law enforcement authority, railroad police officers are actively involved in numerous investigations and cases with the FBI and other law enforcement agencies.

For example, Amtrak has a police officer assigned to the New York Joint Task Force on Terrorism which is made up of 140 members from such disparate agencies as the FBI, the U.S. Marshals Service, the U.S. Secret Service and the ATF. This task force investigates domestic and foreign terrorist groups in response to actual terrorist incidents in my home area, Metropolitan New York.

With thousands of passengers traveling on our railways each year, making sure that railroad police officers have available to them the highest level of training is in the national interest. The officers that protect railroad passengers deserve the same opportunity to receive training at Quantico that their counterparts employed by State and local governments enjoy. Railroad police officers who attend the FBI National Academy in Quantico for training would be required to pay their own room, board, and transportation. This legislation, as my colleague pointed out, is supported by the FBI, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the Union Pacific Company, and the National Railroad Passenger Corporation. I thank Senator LEAHY for his work on this issue. I urge its passage.

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

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

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)
CONGRESSIONAL RECORD—HOUSE 30013

SEC. 202. PROGRAM AUTHORIZED.

(6) GRANTS.—From the funds appropriated under section 206, the Secretary is authorized to award a grant to the Ohio State University for the establishment of an endowed chair or professorship at the John Glenn Institute for Public Service and Public Policy.

The Secretary may enter into agreements with the University and include in any agreement made pursuant to this title such provisions as are determined necessary by the Secretary to carry out this title.

(b) PURPOSES.—The Institute shall have the following purposes:

(1) To sponsor classes, internships, community service activities, and research projects to stimulate student participation in public service, in order to foster America’s next generation of leaders.

(2) To conduct scholarly research in conjunction with public officials on significant issues facing society and to share the results of such research with decisionmakers and legislators as the decisionmakers and legislators address such issues.

(3) To offer opportunities to attend seminars on topics such as budgeting and finance, ethics, personnel management, policy evaluations, and regulatory issues that are designed to assist public officials in learning more about the political process and to expand the organizational skills and policymaking abilities of such officials.

(4) To educate the general public by sponsoring national conferences, seminars, publications, and forums on important public issues.

(5) To provide access to Senator John Glenn’s extensive collection of papers, policy decisions, and memorabilia, enabling scholars at all levels to study the Senator’s work.

(b) DEPOSIT INTO ENDOWMENT FUND.—The University shall deposit the proceeds of any grant received under this section into the endowment fund.

(d) MATCHING FUNDS REQUIREMENT.—The University shall match the proceeds of any grant received under this section only if the University has deposited in the endowment fund established under this title an amount equal to one-third of such proceeds.

The source of the funds for the University match shall be derived from State, private foundation, corporate, or individual gifts or bequests that may not include Federal funds or funds derived from any other federally supported fund.

(e) DUOTION; CORPUS RULE.—The period of any grant awarded under this section shall not exceed 20 years, and during such period the University shall not withdraw or expend any of the endowment fund corpus.

SEC. 303. INVESTMENTS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The University shall invest the endowment fund corpus and endowment fund income in accordance with the University’s investment policy approved by the Ohio State University Board of Trustees.

(b) MONITORING AND REPORTS.—The University shall annually report to the Secretary of Education on its activities in investing the endowment fund corpus and endowment fund income, shall exercise the judgment and care, under circumstances then prevailing, which a person of prudence, discretion, and intelligence would exercise in the management of the person’s own business affairs.

SEC. 404. WITHDRAWALS AND EXPENDITURES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The University may withdraw and expend the endowment fund income