

airlines share the responsibility to ensure optimal performance of security screeners. However, high turnover, low wages, and lack of adequate training hinder security screener performance.

S. 2440 directs the FAA to finalize by May 1, 2001, its proposed rule that would implement the Gore Commission recommendations to certify screening companies, and enhance screener training. In addition, S. 2440 mandates minimum training standards for screeners: 40 hours of classroom training and 40 hours on the job. Certification of screening companies and mandatory training requirements will go a long way toward ensuring a proficient and highly qualified screening workforce.

In addition, the Inspector General has made some very startling findings regarding the ineffectiveness of FAA's background investigative procedures, and the vulnerabilities in airport access control. An Inspector General study of security procedures at six airports concluded that compliance with existing FAA regulations was lax. Of the 35 percent of employee files reviewed, the IG found no evidence that a complete background investigation had been performed. Despite this failure, airport identification cards were issued to these employees. In addition, 15 percent of the files reviewed showed an unexplained employment gap, but with no requisite criminal background check being performed.

To ensure effective background investigations, S. 2440 requires criminal history record checks for those individuals who apply for a position as a screener or a screener supervisor, or who apply for a position that allows for unescorted access to secured areas of an airport. Importantly, S. 2440 adds several crimes, including illegal possession of a controlled substance, to the list of crimes that would disqualify an individual from holding a security-sensitive position.

Further, S. 2440 requires the FAA, in consultation with the Office of Personnel Management and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, to expand its electronic fingerprint transmission pilot project into an aviation industry wide program. This program will allow for a quick turnaround on criminal background checks for individuals applying for screener or other security-sensitive positions.

The FAA must take a holistic view toward its security responsibilities to ensure that all areas of vulnerability are addressed. However, the airlines and airports also share in that responsibility—and should not put cost considerations above passenger safety. S. 2440 directs the FAA to work with all responsible parties to eliminate access control weaknesses, requiring airport operators and air carriers to adopt training programs so that all employees are aware of the importance of complying with the access control procedures. S. 2440 also requires airport operators and air carriers to develop programs that award compliance with access controls procedures, penalize non-compliance, and hold individuals accountable for their actions.

I made a promise when I was on the President's 1990 Commission on Aviation Security and Terrorism that I would not let that Report gather dust on a shelf. Passage of S. 2440, in combination with the AIR 21 provisions, is just

another milestone on the infinite continuum of enhancing aviation security.

We must remain vigilant in our oversight of the FAA's progress in resolving these very significant and complex security issues. We owe it to the American traveling public both here and abroad. I urge my colleagues to support this critical piece of legislation.

Mr. LATOURETTE. 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 Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 2440, 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.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the Senate bill just passed.

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

There was no objection.

#### AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR DEDICATION OF JAPANESE-AMERICAN MEMORIAL TO PATRIOTISM

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate Concurrent Resolution (S. Con. Res. 139) authorizing the use of the Capitol grounds for the dedication of the Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. CON. RES. 139

*Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives concurring),*

##### SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

In this Resolution:

(1) EVENT.—The term "event" means the dedication of the National Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism.

(2) SPONSOR.—The term "sponsor" means the National Japanese-American Memorial Foundation.

##### SEC. 2. AUTHORIZATION OF EVENT TO CELEBRATE THE DEDICATION OF THE NATIONAL JAPANESE-AMERICAN MEMORIAL.

The National Japanese-American Memorial Foundation may sponsor the dedication of the National Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism on the Capitol grounds on November 9, 2000, or on such other date as the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Rules and Administration of the Senate may jointly designate.

##### SEC. 3. TERMS AND CONDITIONS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The event shall be open to the public, free of admission charge, and arranged so as not to interfere with the needs of Congress, under conditions to be prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board.

(b) EXPENSES AND LIABILITIES.—The sponsor shall assume full responsibility for all expenses and liabilities incident to all activities associated with the event.

##### SEC. 4. STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT.

(a) STRUCTURES AND EQUIPMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the approval of the Architect of the Capitol, beginning on November 8, 2000, the sponsor may erect or place and keep on the Capitol grounds, until not later than 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 11, 2000, such stage, sound amplification devices, and other related structures and equipment as are required for the event.

(b) ADDITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board may make any such additional arrangements as are appropriate to carry out the event.

##### SEC. 5. ENFORCEMENT OF RESTRICTIONS.

The Capitol Police Board shall provide for enforcement of the restrictions contained in section 4 of the Act of July 31, 1946 (40 U.S.C. 193d; 60 Stat. 718), concerning sales, advertisements, displays, and solicitations on the Capitol grounds, as well as other restrictions applicable to the Capitol grounds, with respect to the event.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) and the gentleman from Mississippi (Mr. SHOWS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE).

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

Mr. Speaker, Senate Concurrent Resolution 139 authorizes use of the Capitol grounds for the dedication ceremony of the National Japanese-American Memorial on November 9, 2000, or on such date that the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration jointly designate. The resolution authorizes the Architect of the Capitol, the Capitol Police Board, and the National Japanese-American Memorial Foundation, the sponsor of the event, to negotiate the necessary arrangements for carrying out the events in complete compliance with the rules and regulations governing the use of the Capitol grounds. The event will be free of charge and open to the public.

In 1991, former Congressman and now Secretary Mineta introduced House Joint Resolution 271 authorizing the Go For Broke National Veterans Association Foundation to establish a memorial to honor Japanese-American patriotism during World War II. This measure had the support of 132 cosponsors and unanimously passed the House and the Senate. In 1995, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure reported legislation transferring land between the Architect of the Capitol, the Department of the Interior, and the District of Columbia for the purpose of setting aside a parcel of land suitable for this memorial.

The memorial, which was authorized by Congress and is privately funded, occupies a triangular Federal park just south of the Capitol at Louisiana and

New Jersey Avenues and D Street, Northwest. This memorial will help us all better understand Japanese-Americans' World War II experiences. I would encourage all members to attend this important dedication ceremony. I support this measure, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

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

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

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 139, a resolution to authorize the use of the Capitol grounds on November 9 for the dedication of the National Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism. The memorial is to be constructed on a prominent site located at the intersection of New Jersey Avenue and Louisiana Avenue, just a few yards from the Capitol. The event will be free of charge, open to the public, and will be arranged and conducted on the conditions prescribed by the Architect of the Capitol and the Capitol Police Board.

I support the resolution and urge my colleagues to also support the resolution.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution, which authorizes the use of the Capitol grounds for the dedication of the National Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism. As with all events on the Capitol Grounds, this event will be open to the public and free of charge.

The Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, and its predecessor, the Public Works and Transportation Committee, has a long, proud history associated with this Memorial and the event. In 1991, our former Committee colleague, the gentleman from California, Norman Mineta, introduced House Joint Resolution 271. This Joint Resolution, which Congress adopted in October 1992, authorized the Go For Broke National Veterans Association to establish a memorial in the District of Columbia to honor Japanese American patriotism in World War II.

In November 1995, I had the honor of introducing H.R. 2636, co-sponsored by the gentleman from California, Mr. MATSUI, and the gentleman from New York, Mr. KING. The bill authorized the transfer of certain parcels of property to establish and build the memorial. In 1996, the bill was passed as part of the Omnibus Parks and Lands Management Act of 1996 (P.L. 104-333). Finally, today, nine years after then-Congressman Norman Mineta began this process, we authorize use of the Capitol grounds for the dedication ceremony and celebration to open the National Japanese-American Memorial to Patriotism on November 9, 2000.

The Memorial honors the patriotism of Japanese Americans who served the armed forces of the United States during World War II. More than 33,000 Japanese-Americans were drafted or volunteered for U.S. military service during the war. The Japanese-American 100th/442nd Regimental Combat Team is one of the most highly decorated military units in American history. Its members received more than 18,000 individual decorations. Just last week, this

body considered and passed a bill to name the new courthouse in Seattle, Washington, after just one of this unit's many heroes, William Kenzo Nakamura.

Mr. Speaker, this beautiful Memorial is more than a fitting tribute to World War II veterans of Japanese ancestry. It also recognizes one of our nation's darker moments—the sacrifices of approximately 120,000 Japanese-Americans who were interned as a matter of "military necessity" for up to four years during the War. One of those interned was my friend, Norm Mineta. We came to Congress together 25 years ago and I will never forget his story. He was only 11 years old when he and his family were forced from their California home at gunpoint. Norm was wearing his Cub Scout uniform and carrying his baseball, bat, and glove. Before he boarded the evacuation train, a Military Police officer confiscated his bat because it could be used as a weapon. Norm and his family would spend the next 18 months interned in the Heart Mountain concentration camp, outside Cody, Wyoming.

Many, like our former colleague, now-Secretary of Commerce Mineta, although placed in internment camps during the war, never lost their faith in America. They lost their jobs, their homes, and their livelihoods, but they clung to their belief in the justice of the American system. At a time when so many were faced with terror and adversity, they held in their hearts a steadfast belief in the American system. It is fitting that this Memorial to Japanese-American Patriotism is within a stone's throw of the U.S. Capitol.

I support the resolution and wish to extend my thanks to Secretary Mineta, the gentleman from California, Mr. MATSUI, and the gentleman from Hawaii, Senator INOUE, for their perseverance in their long struggle to create this Memorial, and their many contributions to our country.

I urge adoption of the resolution.

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

Mr. LATOURETTE. 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 Ohio (Mr. LATOURETTE) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the Senate Concurrent Resolution, S. Con. Res. 139.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on the Senate concurrent resolution just concurred in.

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

There was no objection.

#### SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

#### KEEPING SOCIAL SECURITY SOLVENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. SMITH) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to address what I think is one of the important issues in this election, and I would hope everybody all over the country would ask the candidates that are running for the United States Senate, or for the U.S. House of Representatives, or for the President, do they have a plan that will keep Social Security solvent.

Social Security, which is probably one of our most important, most successful programs in the United States, now pays over 90 percent of the retirement benefits to almost one-third of our retirees. Social Security is important. The longer we put off developing a solution for Social Security, the more drastic that solution.

I first came to Congress in 1993. I introduced my first Social Security bill that year; and then in 1995, 1997 and 1999, I introduced a Social Security solvency bill that was actually scored by the Social Security Administration, scored to keep Social Security solvent for the next 75 years.

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It is interesting that in the earlier years there were less changes, and we needed less money from the general fund to accommodate the continuation of Social Security. In other words, putting off that bill, missing our opportunity for the last 8 years has meant that the changes are going to be more dramatic. Somehow we have got to do it without reducing benefits for existing or near-term retirees and somehow we have got to do it with yet again increasing taxes on working Americans.

I am going to go through a few charts very quickly. This is, of course, a picture of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. When he created the Social Security program over 6 decades ago, he wanted it to feature a private sector component to build retirement income. Social Security was supposed to be one leg of a three-legged stool to support retirees. It was supposed to go hand in hand with personal savings and private pension plans.

A lot of people have said, well, Social Security somehow is going to solve the problem and so maybe I do not need to save. So where we have ended up in