

way to meet them. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting against this legislation.

**AIR TRANSPORTATION SAFETY
AND SYSTEM STABILIZATION ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. WILLIAM J. COYNE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2001

Mr. COYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2926, the Air Transportation Safety and System Stabilization Act when it was considered by the House of Representatives on September 21, 2001.

This bill would provide \$5 billion in direct aid to the airlines for losses incurred as a result of the government-ordered shut-down of the nation's air travel industry, as well as \$10 billion in loan guarantees.

I oppose this legislation because I believe that it is incomplete. It fails to address several important and time-sensitive issues.

I oppose H.R. 2926 because this bill does nothing to help the tens of thousands of hard-working Americans who were laid off by the airlines and airline manufacturers in the wake of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. 78,000 airline employees and 30,000 employees of aircraft manufacturers have been or are going to be laid off. The workers who lost their jobs as a result of these terrorist attacks are also victims of the terrorists. While they were fortunate enough not to have lost their lives, they have lost their livelihoods through no fault of their own.

The airline workers who have lost their jobs will need continued health insurance coverage and job search and possibly retraining assistance. Unemployment benefits don't last very long, so time is of the essence. And while these employees can continue their existing health insurance coverage under COBRA, they will be responsible for the full cost of the premiums, which a family with the chief breadwinner out of work can find it difficult if not impossible to afford. Consequently, I believe that the federal government should provide premium assistance to the affected families.

This bill should contain provisions to help these unemployed individuals and their families. I think that it is unacceptable that Congress will act swiftly to help the airline companies while ignoring the injured employees of those companies. It is even more unacceptable in light of the fact that multi-million dollar severance packages are available to the Presidents and CEOs of the major airlines.

In addition, I oppose this legislation because it does nothing more than express the Congress's commitment to act expeditiously to strengthen airport security. It did absolutely nothing to actually improve airline security. I believe that improving security in airports and on airplanes should be our first and highest priority. I am convinced that airport security can no longer be left to the airlines. Now that terrorist attacks on airliners have become a major national security threat, I support the assumption of responsibility for airport security.

Finally, I am concerned that the bill does not adequately address the liability issue. I believe

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

that a little more time should be taken to think through the liability issue and come up with a more equitable, comprehensive solution.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that these shortcomings should be addressed before the House passes H.R. 2926. Consequently, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the motion to recommit and in opposing this legislation in its current form. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

**THE FRIENDS OF CHICKAMAUGA &
CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL MILI-
TARY PARK**

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Mr. WAMP. Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the work of a very special group of people, the Friends of Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park.

In September 1863, Union and Confederate soldiers fought over access to Chattanooga in what was one of the bloodiest battles of the Civil War. In 1890, Congress established the Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park as the country's first national military battlefield park. Those petitioning for its establishment were veterans of both sides who came together in a spirit of reunion and brotherhood to memorialize the hills and fields where their brothers had fought and died.

What is now known as the Chickamauga Battlefield is bisected by a two-lane portion of U.S. Highway 27, a major north-south artery extending from Michigan to Florida. Over the years, heavy commercial and commuter traffic has created a threat to the cultural, historical and abundant natural resources in the national park.

On December 24, 1987, Public Law 100-211 was enacted to authorize the relocation of a 5.7 mile section of U.S. Highway 27. This new section of road, on the western perimeter of the Chickamauga Battlefield, will be officially dedicated on October 12, 2001. Its successful completion is the result of a partnership among the Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation; the National Park Service, Department of Interior; and the Georgia Department of Transportation.

In honor of this accomplishment, Friends of the Park is presenting a weekend of activities to celebrate the opening of this new road that will allow Park visitors to experience this historical Battlefield more safely.

Mr. Speaker, the Friends of the Park was one of the first National Park support groups in the nation and has, in its 15 years, raised more than \$4.6 million for capital projects at the Park while pursuing its goals of advocacy, educational programming and fundraising. I applaud their effort and hard work to protect and preserve this land. Their dedicated membership assures continued support for the protection of the Chickamauga & Chattanooga National Military Park for years to come.

September 24, 2001

**TRIBUTE TO TROOPER BOBBY
KINTZEL**

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly outstanding individual from Nevada. Trooper Bobby Kintzel of the Nevada Highway Patrol is a six-year highway patrolman, Persian Gulf War veteran, and a Valley High School graduate. Several months ago, Trooper Kintzel was laying tire-piercing spikes across the highway to end a 40-minute high speed chase when a fleeing sport utility vehicle, driven by an escaping murder suspect, purposely struck him at an estimated speed of 90 mph. Trooper Kintzel suffered a fractured pelvis and skull, a severe brain injury, and internal bleeding. A few days later, surgeons removed a portion of his brain that had been irreversibly damaged. The family was devastated and are facing an uncertain future. Trooper Kintzel has recently begun using head and hand signals to communicate, and has had a throat operation to help him speak. Trooper Kintzel's plight has triggered sympathy from fellow law enforcement officers across the United States, as well as in Europe and Australia. More than a thousand well wishers have left encouraging messages for Trooper Kintzel, and on Sunday, September 30, 2001, the City of Las Vegas, and Clark County, Nevada will be honoring the Nevada State Trooper by proclaiming "Trooper Bobby Kintzel Day."

Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to recognize Trooper Bobby Kintzel before the Congress today. I call upon my colleagues to join me in honoring this special man for his bravery and courage in the line of duty.

**IN RECOGNITION OF MR. CARL E.
SWEARINGEN UPON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM THE NATIONAL
BOARD OF ADVISORS FOR THE
MUSEUM OF AVIATION IN WAR-
NER ROBINS, GEORGIA**

HON. SAXBY CHAMBLISS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Mr. CHAMBLISS. Mr. Speaker, I want to pay tribute to Mr. Carl Swearingen upon his retirement as the Chairman of the National Board of Advisors established for the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, Georgia.

Carl is the kind of man that strives to achieve the maximum of his ability. Following his service in the U.S. Air Force, he began his telephone career with BellSouth in 1972. With increasing responsibility in 1977 he became the general public relations manager for Georgia. By 1985 Carl was appointed assistant vice-president for public affairs in Charlotte, N.C. Four years later in 1989, he was promoted to state president of BellSouth Telecommunications in Georgia. He was elected a corporate officer and promoted to his current position Senior Vice President, Corporate

Compliance and Corporate Secretary from BellSouth Corporation of Georgia in June 1998.

He exemplifies strong character, leadership, fine management skills, and a dedication to improving education and his local community. Each of these qualities are demonstrated through the position he holds on several boards including the University of Georgia Foundation, Berry College, American Cancer Society, Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education, and Georgia Industry Trade and Tourism.

We hate to see him retire from his position as Chairman of the National Board of Advisors established for the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, Georgia where he has served since 1993. He and his wife have personally donated their time, money, and hard work to guarantee the educational programs offered by the museum have grown to reach 62,000 children a year. He has been responsible for raising millions of dollars from corporations and foundations throughout the country to benefit the museum. His leadership has been vital in the expansion and success of the museum and the educational programs associated with it. He is now heading a campaign called Century 2000 The Next Generation to raise 30 million dollars for the expansion of the museum and its programs.

Setting high standards, hard work and dedication have ensured his continued success. We all appreciate his service to the industry, the Museum of Aviation, and the 8th District of Georgia. He is a spectacular example of a fine businessman, family man, and role model for people of all ages. I wish him all the best in his retirement and continued success in all his future endeavors.

“THE KING OF VIBES”

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, as the Dean of the Congressional Black Caucus, and chairman of its annual Jazz Issue Forum and Concert, I rise to call to this body's attention the achievements of a distinguished American, Mr. Lionel Hampton. At the age of 92, he continues a career that has brought him international acclaim as a musician, composer, and bandleader. I am extremely honored that he will be my guest here in Washington, DC, on Thursday, September 27, 2001, during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference. That evening, my colleagues and I will have the opportunity to thank him for the great pleasure that his life's work has brought to us, and to millions across this nation and around the world.

The Congressional Black Caucus is not alone this year in recognizing the magnificence of what Lionel Hampton has accomplished. On January 31, 2001, the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History added "Hamp's" vibraphone to its collection of "national treasures." In addition, on February 22, 2001, the University of Idaho dedicated the Lionel Hampton Center for the

Study and Performance of Jazz. The University, however, did not just discover and acknowledge Lionel Hampton's genius, it did so many years ago by launching the Lionel Hampton Jazz Festival in 1984. It reaffirmed its reverence of Hampton in 1987 by establishing the Lionel Hampton School of Music; the first music school named in honor of a jazz musician.

Born April 12, 1909, in Louisville Kentucky, Lionel Hampton has for 70 years been a giant in the field of jazz. Many highlights of his career are noted in the following excerpts from a biography prepared by the University of Idaho:

Lionel Hampton began his phenomenal musical career at an early age when a student at the Holy Rosary Academy in Kenosha, Wisconsin, where he studied under the strict supervision of the Dominican Sisters. His first instrument was a set of drums and his idol during these early years was drummer Jimmy Bertrand whose records he treasured. Louis Armstrong soon became a major influence in Hamp's young years. It was in 1930 that Armstrong hired him to appear, on the drums, at a Los Angeles nightclub engagement. Louis was so impressed with Hampton's talents he invited him to join his big band for a recording session. During the session break, Armstrong led young Hampton to a set of vibes and asked if he knew how to play them. Lionel, who was well schooled in his keyboard studies, picked up the mallets and played. The first tune cut that day, "Memories of You," (with Lionel on vibes) became a tremendous hit and has remained a classic throughout the years.

In 1936, Benny Goodman asked Lionel to join his small group, featuring Goodman, Teddy Wilson on piano, and Gene Krupa on drums. They immediately became the legendary Benny Goodman Quartet. Musical history was being made, both for the brilliant music produced, and because they were the first racially integrated group of jazz musicians. The Swing Era had begun. "Moonglow," "Dinah," and "Vibraphone Blues" were immediate hits and will always remain classics in the jazz annals. Hampton formed his own band in the early 1940's. "Sunny Side of the Street," "Central Avenue Breakdown," his signature tune, "Flying Home," and "Hamp's Boogie-Woogie" all became top-of-the-chart best-sellers upon release and the name Lionel Hampton became world famous overnight.

The Lionel Hampton Orchestra had a phenomenal array of sidemen. Among those who got their start with Hamp were: Quincy Jones, Wes Montgomery, Clark Terry, Cat Anderson, Ernie Royal, Joe Newman and Fats Navarro. Among Lionel's proteges were singers Dinah Washington, Joe Williams, Betty Carter and Aretha Franklin. Over the years, jazz giant Hampton has received innumerable prestigious awards, which keep coming to the distinguished musical master. Among them: The title, American Goodwill Ambassador, bestowed by Presidents Eisenhower and Nixon, The Papal Medal from Pope Paul I, Sixteen Honorary Doctorates, and in 1992 the highly esteemed Kennedy Center Honors Award, in which he shared the musical distinction with Mstislav Rostropovich.

Also a celebrated composer, Hamp's original ballad, "Midnight Sun" (with Johnny Mer-

cer and Sonny Burke) has become a beloved classic in American Jazz and popular music. His talent in the symphonic field is highly respected. Two major symphonic works, "King David Suite" and "Blues Suite" have been performed often by leading orchestras throughout the world.

Despite the rigors of his hectic calendar, Hampton continues to amaze those in the music business with the care and time he devotes to many public service projects. A "dream" of his would be to aid in the creation of a university in Uptown New York "... where young Black kids can learn to be Doctors, Lawyers, IBM technicians, and, maybe even musicians."

Mr. Speaker, Lionel Hampton has established himself one of our nation's greatest cultural heroes and ambassadors. Therefore, I urge all Members to join me in paying him this well deserved tribute.

STOP THE VIOLENCE AGAINST
SIKHS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 24, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I was distressed to hear that on Saturday, September 15, a Sikh named Balbir Singh Sodhi, who owned a gas station in Mesa, Arizona, was murdered at his place of business. It appears that he was killed because of his turban and beard, which are required by the Sikh religion. Apparently, his killer thought that Mr. Sodhi was a follower of Osama bin Laden.

This was just one of well over 100 acts of harassment or violence against Sikhs in the week since the terrorist bombings of the Pentagon and the World Trade Center. A list of these acts can be found by visiting <http://www.sikh.org/hatecrime>.

This past Tuesday, just one week after the terrorists carried out their brutal acts, the Council of Khalistan held a press conference at the National Press Club to denounce these crimes against Sikhs and other minorities. Dr. Gurmit Singh Aulakh, the President of the Council of Khalistan, made some excellent remarks. He called on the Attorney General to investigate and called on the victims of these crimes to contact their local prosecutors and police. At this time, I would like to insert Dr. Aulakh's remarks into the RECORD so that we can all have a better understanding of this problem.

REMARKS OF DR. GURMIT SINGH AULAKH

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Media: Thank you for coming today. I want to talk to you about a very important issue. Then I will be open for questions. Sikh Americans, Muslim Americans, Christian Americans, our neighbors and countrymen, are being harassed and acts of violence are being committed against them merely because of their religious or ethnic heritage. All Americans should join together to condemn these cowardly acts.

On behalf of the 2 1/2-million strong Sikh Nation and more than 500,000 Sikhs in the United States, I strongly condemn these acts of violence. I condemn the violence against Muslim Americans and I condemn the attacks on Sikh Americans. There have been