

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL
PUBLIC WORKS WEEK, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

MARCH 12, 2010.—Referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed

Mr. OBERSTAR, from the Committee on Transportation and
Infrastructure, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. Res. 1125]

[Including cost estimate of the Congressional Budget Office]

The Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to whom was referred the resolution (H. Res. 1125) supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week, and for other purposes, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the resolution be agreed to.

PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

H. Res. 1125 recognizes the contribution of public works professionals to communities across the country by facilitating a resolution to recognize this year's National Public Works Week, which will be observed from May 16, 2010, through May 22, 2010.

BACKGROUND AND NEED FOR LEGISLATION

“Public works” is loosely defined as projects or programs carried out by the federal or state government for the benefit of the community. These projects and programs include: transportation systems, such as rail, highways, and public transit; levees; water supply infrastructure; sewage and refuse disposal systems; public buildings; and other structures and facilities.

Public works infrastructure, facilities, and services provide safety, health, and economic assurances for both large and small communities. These services could not be provided in the efficient and effective method in which they are without the skill of public works professionals, such as engineers, administrators, and servicemen.

National Public Works Week is observed each year during the month of May. Spearheaded by the American Public Works Association, the following groups are also cosponsoring efforts to increase awareness of the dedication of public works professionals during this week: American Council of Engineering Companies, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Shore & Beach Preservation Association, The Associated General Contractors of America, National Association of Clean Water Agencies, National Association of Water Companies, American Road and Transportation Builders Association, and Water Environment Federation.

SUMMARY OF THE LEGISLATION

H. Res. 1125, supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week, and for other purposes, recognizes the significant diverse contributions that public works professionals make every day to improve public infrastructure in the United States and the communities that they serve. This resolution highlights the importance to our nation, our economy, and our citizens of public works infrastructure, facilities, and services, including: transportation systems, including aviation, highways, bridges, public transit, and rail; gas and hazardous liquid pipelines; water supply infrastructure, including levees, reservoirs, and other flood damage reduction measures; sewage and refuse disposal systems; and public buildings.

H. Res. 1125 states that the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week;

(2) recognizes and celebrates the 50th anniversary of National Public Works Week; and

(3) urges citizens and communities throughout the United States to pay tribute to these efforts from May 16 through May 22, 2010 together with the Federal Government.

This resolution also notes the successful implementation of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (P.L. 111–5) (Recovery Act), and observes that work has begun on 10,348 projects totaling \$22.8 billion, or 60 percent of the total funds made available under the Act for highway, transit, and wastewater infrastructure formula programs. As of December 31, 2009, these projects have created or sustained more than 300,000 direct, on-project jobs.¹ Total employment from these projects, including direct, indirect, and induced jobs, totals more than 938,000 jobs.² Job creation data, along with other transparency and accountability information

¹ Direct jobs are charged directly to the project, and include workers employed to build a facility or upgrade equipment on-site. Consistent with the U.S. Department of Transportation's (DOT) reports pursuant to section 1201 of the Recovery Act, the number of direct jobs is based on direct, on-project full-time-equivalent (FTE) job months. One person working full time or two people working one-half time for one month represents one FTE job month. FTE job months are calculated by dividing cumulative job hours created or sustained by 173 hours (40 hours per week times 52 weeks divided by 12 months = 173 hours). In addition, DOT is subject to additional reporting requirements pursuant to section 1512 of the Recovery Act and Office of Management and Budget guidance. In section 1512 reports, recipients report quarterly employment by dividing the hours worked in the reporting quarter by the hours in a full-time schedule in that quarter.

² Indirect jobs are not charged directly to the project, but are embedded in materials costs and include positions at companies that produce construction materials such as steel, sand, gravel, and asphalt, or manufacture equipment such as new transit buses. Induced jobs are positions that are created or sustained when employees spend their increased incomes on goods and services. To calculate total employment, which includes direct, indirect, and induced jobs, the Committee assumed that an expenditure of \$7,667 creates one FTE job month (\$92,000 creates one FTE job year). The multiplier is based upon the Council of Economic Advisers' guidance.

related to the Recovery Act, are released regularly by the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and reflect information directly submitted to the Committee, on a monthly basis, by States, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and public transit agencies. The Committee intends to update the data included in this resolution prior to Floor consideration, if new information is available at that time.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY AND COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

On April 1, 2009, Chairman James L. Oberstar introduced H. Res. 313, supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week for 2009. On April 2, 2009, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in an open session and ordered H. Res. 313 reported favorably to the House by voice vote with a quorum present. On April 21, 2009, the Committee reported the resolution to the House. H. Rept. 110–80. On May 5, 2009, the House agreed to H. Res. 313 by voice vote under suspension of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

On March 2, 2010, Representative Thomas S. P. Perriello introduced H. Res. 1125, supporting the goals and ideals of National Public Works Week. On March 3, 2010, the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure met in open session and ordered H. Res. 1125 reported favorably to the House by voice vote with a quorum present.

RECORD VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the House of Representatives requires each committee report to include the total number of votes cast for and against on each record vote on a motion to report and on any amendment offered to the measure or matter, and the names of those members voting for and against. There were no recorded votes taken in connection with ordering H. Res. 1125 reported. A motion to order H. Res. 1125 reported favorably to the House was agreed to by voice vote with a quorum present.

COMMITTEE OVERSIGHT FINDINGS

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee's oversight findings and recommendations are reflected in this report.

COST OF LEGISLATION

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, H. Res. 1125 is a resolution of the House of Representatives, and therefore does not have the force of law. As such, there is no cost associated with this legislation for fiscal year 2010, or for any fiscal year thereafter.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XIII

1. With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, and 308(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee advises that the resolution contains no measure that authorizes funding, so no comparison of the total estimated funding level for the relevant programs to the appropriate levels under current law is required.

2. With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee advises that the resolution contains no measure that authorizes funding, so no statement of general performance and objectives for any measure that authorizes funding is required.

3. With respect to the requirement of clause 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee advises that the resolution contains no measure that authorizes funding, so no cost estimate nor comparison for any measure that authorizes funding is required.

COMPLIANCE WITH HOUSE RULE XXI

Pursuant to clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee is required to include a list of congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits, as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), and 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives. H. Res. 1125 does not contain any earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits under clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of rule XXI.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause (3)(d)(1) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, H. Res. 1125 is a resolution of the House of Representatives and therefore does not have the force of law. As such, clause 3(d)(1) of rule XIII does not apply.

FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

H. Res. 1125 contains no Federal mandates.

PREEMPTION CLARIFICATION

Section 423 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974 requires the report of any Committee on a bill or joint resolution to include a statement on the extent to which the bill or joint resolution is intended to preempt state, local, or tribal law. The Committee states that H. Res. 1125 does not preempt any state, local, or tribal law.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act are created by this legislation.

APPLICABILITY TO THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act (P.L. 104–1).

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

H. Res. 1125 makes no changes in existing law.