

evidence of fraudulent activity, it is required to notify not only the Department of Homeland Security, but also the legal possessor of that Social Security number. This will enable innocent people to take steps to protect their credit, identity, and good name.

Although jobs are the primary magnets that bring illegal immigrants to this country, I have also introduced another bill that will remove a major incentive for people to come to this country illegally.

The Citizenship Reform Act of 2007 would simply bring our laws into line with virtually every other nation on earth by requiring that at least one parent be a citizen or permanent resident in order for a child to become automatically a citizen.

Additionally, I have also introduced a bill that will make our current immigration law more fair. Under current law, an illegal immigrant who leaves the country faces a bar of up to three years if he has been in the country illegally for more than 6 months, and a ten year bar if he has been here illegally for more than a year. However, if an illegal immigrant never leaves the country but applies to adjust his status, he faces no reentry prohibitions. This is fundamentally unfair. My legislation provides that all illegal immigrants face the same penalty—even if they are eligible for a change in status.

Finally, I have introduced two bills that would criminalize actions common among illegal immigrants.

Unfortunately, many illegal immigrants who are apprehended and agree to voluntarily depart either fail to leave or leave only to return. My bill would make it a felony, with a mandatory one year jail sentence, for illegal immigrants agree to leave and then either fail to leave or return illegally.

I have also found that too many illegal immigrants have figured out that they are given a “get out of jail free card” when they are given a notice to appear. Another bill I have introduced would make it a felony, with a mandatory one-year jail sentence, when illegal immigrants ignore the law and refuse to appear in court when ordered.

I know that these bills, if passed, will dramatically reduce illegal immigration and identity theft. I ask my colleagues for their support to protect our nation's sovereignty and our citizens' identities.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY PRESERVATION ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to protect the integrity of the Social Security trust fund by introducing the Social Security Preservation Act. The Social Security Preservation Act is a rather simple bill which states that all monies raised by the Social Security trust fund will be spent in payments to beneficiaries, with excess receipts invested in interest-bearing certificates of deposit. This will help keep Social Security trust fund monies from being diverted to other programs, as well as allow the fund to grow by providing for investment in interest-bearing instruments.

The Social Security Preservation Act ensures that the government will keep its prom-

ises to America's seniors that taxes collected for Social Security will be used for Social Security. When the government taxes Americans to fund Social Security, it promises the American people that the money will be there for them when they retire. Congress has a moral obligation to keep that promise.

With federal deficits reaching historic levels the pressure from special interests for massive new raids on the trust fund is greater than ever. Thus it is vital that Congress act now to protect the trust fund from big spending, pork-barrel politics. Social Security reform will be one of the major issues discussed in this Congress and many of my colleagues have different ideas regarding how to best preserve the long-term solvency of the program. However, as a medical doctor, I know the first step in treatment is to stop the bleeding, and the Social Security Preservation Act stops the bleeding of the Social Security trust fund. I therefore call upon all my colleagues, regardless of which proposal for long-term Social Security reform they support, to stand up for America's seniors by cosponsoring the Social Security Preservation Act.

TRIBUTE TO MR. NATHAN SUBER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding citizen of Columbus, Georgia who has distinguished himself as a dedicated and exemplary public servant. Mr. Nathan Suber joined the Columbus City Council in 1994 and for the past 12 years has served as City Councilman of Post 1.

Mr. Suber was born just across the waters of the Chattahoochee River in nearby Phenix City, Alabama. Being the oldest of three children in a military family, Mr. Suber learned at an early age the true meaning of “service before self.” As his father responded to the call of duty, Nathan Suber and his family relocated several times throughout his father's military career. It was not until the mid-sixties that the Suber family's roots were once again firmly planted in the Columbus, Georgia area. In 1968, Mr. Suber graduated from South Girard High School and later went on to earn an A.A. in Criminology at the City College of San Francisco and a B.A. in Criminal Justice at Columbus State University.

During his tenure as a Columbus Councilman, Mr. Suber served as Budget Review Committee Chairman for 1999–2000. In this appointed position, he was instrumental in changing policy to allow the citizens of Columbus access to budget sessions, which had previously been kept closed to the public. As Chairman of this committee, Mr. Suber exhibited steadfast dedication when he fought tirelessly to keep the Fluellen Recreational Center's doors open and, in the process, secured \$462,000 in additional funding for the facility.

Mr. Suber also served on the Public Safety Committee and had a major role in ensuring the security of our neighborhoods by implementing measures to monitor the use of community resources. Among the many notable and worthy projects to which he has contributed vital energy and leadership were his ef-

forts in designating the Midtown area of Columbus as a historic district. This vital rezoning measure provided a protective ordinance to the surrounding area, which prohibits development that would otherwise degrade the historic quality of the neighborhood.

Nathan Suber is known as a devout Christian and is a faithful member of Fourth Street Missionary Baptist Church, where he currently serves as Chairman of Trustees. His faith in God is shared with the younger generation through the Sunday school lessons he provides. His goodwill is further evident in his devotion to his family—his wife of twenty-nine years, Charlene B. Suber; two daughters, Kelly Suber Jones and Cynthia Suber; and one lovely grandchild, Morgan L. Jones.

Mr. Suber currently serves as Chairman of the Board of the Metro Columbus Urban League, which further attests to his unwavering commitment to community.

Today we honor Mr. Nathan Suber and thank him for all he has done for the benefit of Columbus, Georgia—as an elected official and as a private citizen driven by the compassion for others. His exemplary service to his community has set a standard of dedication and leadership that we are all compelled to emulate.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO CREATE A COOPERATIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 4, 2007

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, today, I am pleased to introduce legislation to establish a cooperative research program for hazardous materials transportation capable of meeting our Nation's urgent need for applied research that examines hazardous materials transportation from a comprehensive, multi-modal perspective.

During the 109th Congress, I introduced similar legislation and, although it failed to pass as introduced, provisions from that bill were included in the most recent federal transportation authorization, SAFETEA-LU. Those provisions provided a total of \$1.25 million in federal funding per year from fiscal year 2006 through fiscal year 2009 to support the conduct of multi-modal studies of hazardous materials transportation.

While the first of these 9 studies are now being planned for implementation and will cover such topics as technologies to improve safety and security and methods for improving the utility of data collected from hazardous materials incidents, I believe it is crucial that we create a permanent research program for hazardous materials transportation.

Madam Speaker, it is estimated that one million hazardous materials shipments move through thousands of local communities across the United States every single day—usually without the knowledge of residents or even of local officials. Between 1994 and 2003, unintentional releases of hazardous materials resulted in 210 fatalities and more than 3,400 injuries.

Unfortunately, it is our tendency to focus on mitigating the risks that these shipments pose