

to offer their community, and Mr. Halliwell has made it his calling to help those members of his community who might have the most difficulty in doing this to contribute to the fullest extent. His service to the citizens of York County has been unparalleled, and for this I commend him.

My constituents have had their lives enriched by Mr. Halliwell in many ways. In addition to his activities with individuals with disabilities, he has been a member of numerous community and public service organizations. He has served as a board member of many State and local associations, including the Pennsylvania Association of Sheltered Workshops, the Children's Growth and Development Clinic of York Hospital, the United Way of York County, and other community organizations.

Mr. Halliwell has led a long and illustrious career of helping others, especially those who are most in need. His commitment to this goal of inclusion and assimilation into the community of his community's retarded citizens has made York County a better place. I believe he has served as a role model, placing his reliance in doing what he believes is right to help others, rather than waiting for others to act. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and the rest of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Halliwell for the long career of public service he has given to York County. He is truly an outstanding citizen.

THANK YOU, GERRIE WOLVERTON

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a woman who has been a leader not only in the field of health care but to other women and her community as well. On Wednesday, September 25, Gerrie Wolverton will be honored by the board of directors of Bay Health Systems. After 17 impressive years of service to Bay Health Systems and serving as corporate secretary to five Bay Health System boards, she will be retiring on September 30, 1996.

Gerrie Wolverton graduated from Central Michigan University with a degree in business administration. Through the years she has risen steadily through the company from secretary to vice president of corporate services in Bay Health Systems.

Gerrie presently directs the activities of the marketing department, which she initiated in 1985. She developed the corporate publication, *Newsline*, which is read by over 43,000 households and has received numerous awards in the field of health care publications. In 1993, Gerrie received the Apollo Award for achievement in community publications from the Michigan Hospital Public Relations Association. Always one to take the initiative, Gerrie has been instrumental in the formation of the patient representative program, which handles patient satisfaction and the senior class program, providing support and educational programs for seniors.

Gerrie has always championed the cause of women in business. In 1994, she won the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce Athena Award. Gerrie was nominated for the award for her in-

volvement with the Bay County YWCA as well as her establishment of the marketing intern program with Saginaw Valley. The majority of the interns are women and true to form, Gerrie has acted as a mentor to several and model for all.

Over the years, Gerrie has been involved with numerous charitable associations including fundraising for the Annual Cancer Foundation, the United Way, and the Professional Women's Association. She also established partnerships for education, a program in which medical professionals visit students in their classrooms.

As if all of these accomplishments weren't enough, Gerrie also found time to marry H. James Wolverton and raise five children, and now she has a total of seven grandchildren. Her accomplishments and activities in business, charity, and family life could fill three lifetimes. She is a leader and trailblazer not only for women but for all of us. Gerrie Wolverton's involvement in Bay Health Systems and her community has touched and improved us all.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and all of our colleagues to join me in congratulating Gerrie Wolverton as she celebrates her well-deserved retirement from Bay Health Services and best wishes for the new challenges ahead.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL CAMPBELL

HON. SAM BROWNBACK

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. BROWNBACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Michael Campbell, a shrink-wrap operator at Wichita Industries and Services for the Blind [WISB] in Pittsburg, KS. On Tuesday, October 8, 1996, Mr. Campbell will be honored at the Annual Training Conference of the General Council of Industries for the Blind and National Industries for the Blind, as the 1996 Peter J. Salmon National Blind Employee of the Year.

Mr. Campbell was diagnosed with diabetes when he was six and diabetic retinopathy when he was 18. However, a series of laser treatments temporarily preserved some of his vision. He worked at various jobs after graduating from high school but diabetes ended his hopes of entering the military. As his vision loss progressed, it became increasingly difficult for Mr. Campbell to make a living. Then, after he was told that laser treatments could no longer be continued, Mr. Campbell, his wife, and their two daughters moved to Pittsburg, KS, to be near family.

Over the next 10 years, Mr. Campbell was out of work and took classes at Pittsburg State University, hoping to earn a business degree. Again, complications from diabetes arose, this time in the form of an infection resulting in the amputation of one of his legs.

In 1993 he contacted a rehabilitation center and was told about employment opportunities at a new manufacturing plant, WISB, which was opening in Pittsburg. Mr. Campbell was one of the first people to interview for a position at WISB and is still one of WISB's most dedicated employees. In 1994 his other leg showed signs of infection. Rather than risk getting sick again, doctors decided he should

have it removed, but Mr. Campbell continues to succeed with unquenchable determination and dignity. He has worked as a machine operator, a box erector, and now a shrink-wrap operator.

Thanks to WISB, Mr. Campbell is once again supporting his family. Please join me in congratulating Mr. Michael Campbell, the 1996 National Blind Employee of the Year, a hard working Kansan, and a distinguished American.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE BULLHEAD CITY LITTLE LEAGUE JUNIOR LEAGUE ALL STARS

HON. BOB STUMP

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 19, 1996

Mr. STUMP. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I represent the champions of the Little League Baseball District Tournament and State Tournament, the Bullhead City Little League Junior League. This winning team went on to outshine teams in Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming to take the District 4 title. The State of Arizona could not have more pride in these super achievers.

Congratulations to the All Stars: Jake Dittler, Shannon Fernandez, Ross Gilbert, Mike Ingram, Lance Laven, Matt Long, Tom Messina, Shane Pollock, Chris Rivituso, Jason Scott, Art Strauss, Tom Talayumptewa, Jeremy Thompson, and Robert Tyler. Their success was led by their team manager, Ray Dittler and their coaches, Tom Messina and Tony Rivituso.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate for 1996 Arizona District 9 Champions, Arizona State Champions, and District 4 Champions on their achievements this season. I wish them the best of luck as these fine young players advance to the Junior League World Series in Taylor, MI. The entire State of Arizona will be cheering you on to your next winning game.

CONGRATULATIONS ON 85TH ANNIVERSARY OF REPUBLIC OF CHINA NATIONAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 1996

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of the 85th National Day of the Republic of China, I would like to convey my greetings and congratulations to President Lee Teng-hui and the people in Taiwan.

The Republic of China on Taiwan is the 7th largest trading partner with the United States and the 17th largest trading country in the world. The Republic of China on Taiwan is an excellent example to the third world of how a free market system can achieve economic success in tandem with democracy. The Republic of China on Taiwan has achieved one of the highest standards of living in all of Asia, coupled with respect for human rights, freedom of speech, and full-fledged pluralism.

Such a country deserves to be a participant in the international community, namely, all

international organizations. But the Republic of China has always been isolated by the People's Republic of China. I want to reiterate here an unfair situation of Republic of China's accession to the World Trade Organization.

The Republic of China applied to the GATT Secretariat for membership on January 1, 1990. Because the WTO was established in January 1995 to replace GATT after 1996, the Republic of China reapplied to the WTO Secretariat for membership on December 1, 1995. Under the pressure of the People's Republic of China, a political understanding among members—including the United States—of WTO was reached which promised that the People's Republic of China should be admitted to the WTO earlier than the Republic of China. But the People's Republic of China is still reluctant to remove obstacles to comply with WTO criteria, therefore the Republic of China has to wait even though they are ready to fulfill all obligations as a WTO member.

I believe that the Republic of China on Taiwan's accession to WTO should be considered separately with the People's Republic of China's. Whoever reaches the criterion first, should join the WTO first. It is unfair and unjust to ask Taiwan to wait for the People's Republic of China joining the WTO first.

I would like to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that I praise the Republic of China's endeavors in its bid to join the WTO, and I maintain that political pressure from the People's Republic of China should not hinder the Republic of China's accession to the WTO.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the conference report for H.R. 3675, the Transportation Appropriation Act, which passed on the House floor yesterday. I commend Chairman WOLF and the conferees for their hard work and support for the growing transportation needs of our country.

I'm especially pleased that the conference agreed to increase Federal highway funding from the trust funds by approximately \$500 million over last year's level. For Kentucky, that means an additional \$60 million will be available to fund important transportation priorities throughout the Commonwealth.

One of those priorities for the Governor of Kentucky and especially for Kentucky's 2d Congressional District is the William H. Natcher Bridge in Owensboro, KY. The Natcher Bridge was previously a demonstration project, receiving nearly \$54 million in Federal earmarks.

At the request of President Clinton, however, Congress eliminated surface transportation earmarks 2 years ago. Since then, I've testified and repeatedly discussed this project with Chairman WOLF and other members of the Transportation Subcommittee. Chairman WOLF understands the importance of this bridge and its economic value for the community. Therefore, in the 1996 spending bill, he

secured a \$7-million increase in Kentucky's overall spending level, and urged then-Governor Jones to use those funds for the Natcher Bridge.

This year, Chairman WOLF and the conference committee have upheld their commitment to our Nation's transportation needs by providing nearly \$500 million more in overall funding for highways. And once again, Chairman WOLF has remembered our bridge, and made sure Kentucky will receive its needed share of that increase.

Governor Patton has programmed \$25 million in Federal funds for the Natcher Bridge, through his 1997 transportation budget. I am pleased that this measure will provide him with twice that much, so that together, we can work to complete this transportation priority.

Again, I thank Chairman WOLF for his hard work.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

SPEECH OF

HON. VIC FAZIO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Mr. FAZIO of California. Mr. Speaker, due to an illness I was unable to vote for the fiscal year 1997 Transportation appropriations conference report. Nevertheless, I would like to let the Record reflect that had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 3675.

I would like to thank the Chairman, Mr. WOLF for shepherding this bill through the Appropriations Committee with little or no controversy. I would also like to take this opportunity to say that it has been an honor and a privilege to serve with RON COLEMAN, who is leaving this body at the end of this Congress. RON epitomizes the best characteristics of public service and his leadership will be missed by us all.

Chairman WOLF and ranking member COLEMAN have done a good job at balancing the diverse transportation needs of this country. I am particularly pleased that the committee has recognized the need to upgrade airline safety by funding additional positions at the FAA.

I am also pleased that the committee has included two projects that are very important to the transportation needs of my district.

BUS ACQUISITION—YOLO COUNTY

Last year the Yolo County Transit Authority [YCTA] was able to replace six of its aging and heavily polluting diesel-fueled buses with fully equipped compressed natural gas buses.

Because the six buses approved by the committee last year constituted a little less than half of the county's total request, I am pleased that the committee has supported by request to fund the remaining buses. Under this purchase, the count will be responsible for 20 percent of the cost of the total bus purchase.

Yolo County is part of the Sacramento non-attainment air basin and would face serious sanctions if aggressive efforts are not taken to reduce emissions. Compressed natural gas buses have made a significant impact on the air quality in Yolo County. YCTA already operates 4 compressed natural gas buses and has seen its emissions reduced by over 50,000 pounds due to the operation of these buses.

BUS ACQUISITION—CITY OF FAIRFIELD

I am pleased that the conference committee agreed to fund the purchase of seven new commuter buses for the city of Fairfield. While Fairfield is no longer in my district, it is adjacent to the Third Congressional District and more importantly, the new buses will serve constituents in my district.

The purpose of this bus acquisition is to provide for a commuter service along the I-80/680 corridors between northern Solano County—Fairfield/Suisun/Vacaville—and the Pleasant Hill BART in central Contra Costa County. The new commuter service is intended to reduce the level of congestion on I-80 and I-680, to improve local and regional multimodal connectivity, to improve the region's air quality, and to provide a mass transit alternative for commuters and large employers.

SOUTH-LINE EXTENSION

Also included in this legislation is \$6 million for final design of an extension of Sacramento's light rail system. Although the amount is less than the Senate's mark of \$7 million, I do think that \$6 million puts us on the right track. The extension will run southward from the existing rail hub in the downtown business district toward two community colleges, two hospitals, several major employment centers and redeveloping areas, and many of the region's most disadvantaged neighborhoods. These areas comprise the most transit-dependent sections of Sacramento, where no light rail service is available today.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to express my thanks to the conference committee for their fine work and urge my colleagues to support this bill.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1997

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 1996

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support the Transportation appropriations bill before the House today. In particular, I want to highlight the inclusion of \$27.5 million in funding for the Tasman Light Rail extension and the BART Airport Extension projects. This funding is just the latest step forward for these two projects and wish to acknowledge the leadership of Chairman WOLF and Congressman COLEMAN for their continued support.

Both BART and Tasman enjoy broad support. And while there are detractors, I believe the transit authority has made an honest effort to address concerns raised along the way. This latest appropriation is a validation of the value to the bay area that these projects represent.

Earlier this year, the Tasman project finalized its full funding grant agreement with the Federal Transit Authority. With the Federal Government committed as a full partner in this project, there should not be any derailments along the way to completion. With many major Silicon Valley employers located along the new route, the Tasman project's value to the region is apparent to anyone who has toured the site. Every effort has been by local authorities to ensure that the scarce funds available for the light rail extension will be put to