

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCING H.R. 1271, THE FAA RESEARCH, ENGINEERING, AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as Chair of the House Committee on Science's Subcommittee on Technology to introduce the FAA Research, Engineering, and Development Act of 1997. The legislation authorizes the FAA to conduct research, engineering, and development [RE&D] projects and activities that improve the national aviation system by increasing safety, security, capacity, and productivity for fiscal years 1998, 1999, and 2000.

Although the budget for RE&D reflects a relatively small portion of the FAA's total budget, the program plays a critical role in the research and development of new aviation technologies to help meet the increasing aviation demands of the next century. A major challenge facing the FAA today is the modernization of an aging system infrastructure. An infusion of new technology and procedures is essential if air traffic services are to continue to support safe and efficient flight operations of the future.

For fiscal year 1998, the legislation authorizes a slight increase over last year's enacted funding level, from \$208,412,000 to \$217,406,000. The increase is necessary to safeguard sensitive computer and information system data from unauthorized disclosure, to enhance weather research activities recognizing weather as a major contributor to aircraft incidents, to strengthen research activities helping the FAA to meet its goal of reducing aircraft noise 80 percent by the year 2000, and to establish a new undergraduate research grants program. The legislation authorizes \$224,000,000 for fiscal year 1999 and \$231,000,000 for fiscal year 2000 to carry out the FAA RE&D program.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce this legislation which will assist the FAA in its efforts to increase airspace capacity, reduce inefficiencies, and to improve aviation safety and security. I encourage all my colleagues to join me in supporting the FAA Research, Engineering, and Development Authorization Act of 1997.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION ACT OF 1997, H.R. 1273

HON. STEVEN SCHIFF

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the National Science Foundation Act

of 1997. This 2-year authorization bill lays out a realistic and supportable plan to fund science.

The National Science Foundation [NSF] provides funding to over 19,000 research and education projects in science and engineering. It does this through grants and cooperative agreements to more than 2,000 colleges, universities, K-12 schools, businesses, and other research institutions in all parts of the United States. The Foundation accounts for about 25 percent of Federal support to academic institutions for basic research.

The President's fiscal year 1998 request for the National Science Foundation [NSF] is \$3.367 billion. While the President's request offers a 3-percent increase over fiscal year 1997, I believe this number serves as a baseline for science funding.

The Research and Related Activities [RR&A] Account serves as the bellweather indicator for basic research at the Foundation. My bill authorizes \$2.563 billion, or a 5.4-percent increase over fiscal year 1997. While I understand we are operating under tough budget times, I firmly believe that the discoveries of next century will be born from our Nation's current investment in basic research. This investment is a must for the United States to remain a world leader well into the next century. I am proud of the work of my subcommittee and the full committee in providing an achievable goal for the RR&A account in fiscal year 1998.

In fiscal year 1999, the bill increases the RR&A account to \$2.740 billion, a 7-percent increase over fiscal year 1998. I believe this is an achievable goal. Over this next year, I intend to make the case to Congress and to the science community that this goal is the right track for basic research funding.

This bill provides for full authorization of the Antarctic Rehabilitation Program. Both within my subcommittee and at the full committee, after numerous committee hearings and oversight activities, we believe this Antarctic Rehabilitation Program is extremely worthwhile. Mr. Norm Augustine stated at our full committee hearing on, "The Future of Antarctic Research," "It's our belief we would not send a ship to sea or a spacecraft to orbit in the condition of the facilities that we have at the pole." Furthermore, the Secretary of State, Madeline Albright, reaffirmed in a letter to the Committee, " * * * it is essential for the United States to maintain an active and influential presence in Antarctica, including the South Pole Station." I believe now is the time to make the commitment to our Nation and scientists.

In the Education and Human Resources Directorate, this bill incorporates the President's request of \$625.5 million, a 1.1-percent increase over fiscal year 1998. As a strong supporter of education, I am planning an aggressive oversight agenda for math and science education this year. Because I believe these programs are important, this bill provides for growth in this program to over \$644 million, in fiscal year 1999.

This bill stresses the need to maintain low overhead and expenses in the salaries and expenses account. Also, in both years, we provide slight increases to the Office of the Inspector General.

In other provisions of the bill, NSF is required to submit a plan to the Congress on the status of present and future construction, repair, and upgrades to our national research facilities.

Understanding that the science community should not be immune to justifying its expenses in these tough budget times, the bill directs the Office of Science and Technology Policy to undertake a study to review indirect cost rates.

I want to particularly thank my ranking minority member, Mr. BARCIA, for his efforts on this bill and the bipartisan support he has shown in supporting the National Science Foundation.

IN HONOR OF THE BAYONNE COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER: CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF INVALUABLE SERVICE TO THE CITY OF BAYONNE

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional organization, the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center which is celebrating its 25th anniversary. This achievement will be recognized at a celebration to be held the evening of April 12 at the Hi-Hat Caterers in Bayonne.

A quarter century ago, an exceptional group of concerned women recognized a need in the Bayonne community for mental health services. A place was envisioned where not a single person would be denied health services, regardless of his ability to provide payment for these valuable services. Through dedication and a commitment to excellence, the dream became a reality in the form of the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center.

Twenty-five years ago, people with a mental or psychological disability were often shunned by others within their communities. Through the efforts of the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center, this perception has been greatly reversed. In its first year, the center provided almost 300 mental health visits for the residents of the Bayonne community. By 1996, this number had grown to more than 16,000 people availing themselves of the services on a yearly basis. The extraordinarily qualified staff of therapists and psychiatrists at the center offer comprehensive and personalized care covering a full spectrum of psychological illnesses.

Missions as important as that of the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center are never accomplished by one person. Each staff member has played a vital role in serving the

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community. Chief among these individuals are the past presidents of the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center including: Rose Donski, Gloria Koenig, Ethel Rosenthal, Harold Strohefer, Leonard Kiczek, William Downey, Mary Brennan, and Peter Anastas. Their work is continued by current president Agnes Mangelli.

I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the outstanding contributions made by the Bayonne Community Mental Health Center to the people of Bayonne. The well being of all residents of the area has been enhanced by the invaluable work of the center's dedicated individuals. It is an honor to have such an outstanding organization working on behalf of the residents of my district.

TRIBUTE TO CLOVIS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. GEORGE P. RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Clovis Unified School District [CUSD]. In a Joint Powers Agreement, CUSD and Fresno Unified School District [FUSD], will open the Center for Advanced Research and Technology in Clovis, CA [CART]. An extended branch of the educational system in Clovis, CART will allow students in the community to adequately prepare for the technological challenges of the future.

Scheduled to open in the fall of 1999, CART pilot programs have been slated to begin in fall 1997. CART was made possible by a combination of grants and a partnership between local businesses and the educational departments of the community.

As a center striving to meet the employment needs of the community and adequately prepare students to take advantage of postsecondary options, the course work presented at the center will be responsive to the changes in the industry. CART will offer courses that require sophisticated laboratory environments and interdisciplinary curriculum that integrates higher order mathematics, sciences, and technology education. This course work will focus on the intellectual processes of problem solving, analyzing, team building resource allocation, and self-assessment through a cognitive apprenticeship instructional model. The skills taught at CART will be invaluable in both interpersonal and technological growth throughout the students lives.

Striving to educate all segments of the community, high school students and adults will reap the benefits of CART. High school students will spend half of their day at the center receiving laboratory instruction. The State Center Community College District will offer postsecondary classes for students. Additionally, the Central California Business Incubator Program will also be located at the center.

Mr. Speaker, it is a pleasure to welcome a program of this nature to the 19th District. I look forward to monitoring the progress that CART makes as it works closely with members of the local community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing the Center for Advanced Research and Technology my best wishes for future success.

A TRIBUTE TO DOUG DOBMEIER

HON. GLENN POSHARD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. POSHARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a good friend of mine, Doug Dobmeier, the senior vice president of operations for Tharaldson Enterprises [TE] in Shelbyville, IL. Tharaldson Enterprises builds hotels and other businesses across the country, including over 30 hotels in the 19th Congressional District of Illinois. On behalf of southern Illinois I want to extend our appreciation for the many jobs and businesses that TE has generated over the past three decades, and for many pleasant stays during my own travels throughout the district.

Tharaldson Enterprises, Inc., was founded in 1982 by Gary Tharaldson. In 1984, as the company started to grow and the expansion of three new hotels was added, Gary decided to hire Doug Dobmeier to oversee TE's thriving business. With Doug's leadership TE became the largest hotel developer in the United States. Doug was soon promoted to senior vice president of operations and during his tenure has seen this company grow from 3 to 230 hotels located in some 20 States. Today this company witnesses 40 to 50 hotels added every year, which equates to an average of 1 grand-opening per week, and the company's number of employees has jumped from 33 to over 4,000. Doug's vision and leadership have steered this company to phenomenal success. Currently, Doug is the driving force behind the Extended Services Division overseeing their main goal of reaching 400 hotels by the year 2000. Doug has a dedicated and loyal staff working with him, including executive assistant Jill Gates and regional vice presidents Larry Davis, Don Klain and Tim Gefroh.

Mr. Speaker, Doug also has the overwhelming support of his wife, Sarah Dobmeier, and his three children, Andrea, Adam, and Amanda. Doug is a dedicated father and takes an active role in his children's schooling as a parent teacher association member. He is an anchor in his community, taking a leading role in the Hope Lutheran Church in Fargo, ND, where he serves as associate deacon. Doug and Sarah contribute to the youth advocate counselor for their parish and recently took a group of 20 teenagers to the Black Hills in South Dakota for a retreat. Doug also played an integral role in starting a youth traveling basketball team for the Boy's and Girl's club of Fargo, ND, serving as head coach. The support of Doug's community and family has allowed him to run such a successful business in southern Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, it's people like Doug who help stimulate the economy in the 19th Congressional District and inspire young people to give back to their communities. Doug Dobmeier is not only a team leader, but an example for all of us as we enter the 21st century.

HONORING ILLINOIS MOTHER OF THE YEAR PAULA "POLLY" MYERS

HON. RAY LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a woman in my congressional district who was recently named Illinois' Mother of the Year. Paula "Polly" Myers, from Petersburg, IL, has been chosen for her involvement in her church, school, and community, but mostly for the love and dedication she has shown in raising seven wonderful children.

Polly Myers has lived her life displaying the qualities that inspire this type of award. Even as she was working and going to school to provide better opportunities for her children, she found time to teach Sunday School, serve on the PTA board, and play an active role in all aspects of her children's lives. She dedicated herself to her four natural children, and her three step-children, whom she raised as her own.

To be selected for this award, a nominee must meet a very rigid list of criteria. The search committee looks at the character and accomplishments of her children, her involvement in religious and civic institutions, her adherence to the Golden Rule, and how she embodies traits such as courage, patience, kindness, and understanding. By all of these standards, Polly Myers is a deserving recipient.

Polly Myers said herself that "You never go into motherhood thinking you're going to get an award." She is certainly right about that. Still, I am glad that awards such as this are given, and I am proud to honor Polly Myers, a truly deserving recipient.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PELL GRANT STUDENT/TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT

HON. MARGE ROUKEMA

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 10, 1997

Mrs. ROUKEMA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce the Pell Grant Student/Taxpayer Protection Act. This legislation would prevent a postsecondary school from participating in the Pell Grant Program if that school is already ineligible to participate in the federally guaranteed student loan program. Plain and simple, this legislation will make sure that if you have high default rates, then you should not receive any title IV higher education funding period.

This is a critical time for our country. Congress is trying to save taxpayer dollars while improving the quality of postsecondary education that is available to all Americans. We have taken strong steps forward in achieving this when we reauthorized the Higher Education Act with nearly 100 sorely needed reforms that were good for students and good for taxpayers.

Reforms such as the 3-year 25 percent cohort default rate were intended to put an end to risk-free Federal subsidies for those unscrupulous, for profit trade schools who promise