

passed the House. We are acting today in a responsible manner to assure that airports do not lose available funding.

This past June 15 the House passed H.R. 1000, the Aviation and Investment Reform Act, AIR 21, by an overwhelming vote of 316 to 110. This critically important legislation is needed to move the aviation system into the 21st Century by providing adequate long-term funding for the FAA and for the Airport Improvement Program.

Unfortunately, the other body has not been able to pass a comprehensive FAA reauthorization bill. The House approach is preferable, but with the AIP program lapsed as of August 6, a short-term extension is better than losing scarce and precious airport development dollars. But this extension should not be misread by anyone. We will continue to insist on a long-term reauthorization bill for fiscal years 2000 to 2004.

The Nation's aviation system increasingly is in gridlock. Passenger frustration is growing and airport capital needs are underfunded by at least \$3 billion a year. We have to ensure long-term funding and a management reform plan for the FAA to address these problems, as we have already done in legislation crafted by the chairman of the full committee, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER) and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Aviation, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN).

It is appalling that we have reached a situation of gridlock when there are aviation revenues unused in the Aviation Trust Fund, specifically, as the chairman already cited, \$290 million for AIP. I understand the concerns that have been expressed that the FAA may be unable to issue grants by the end of the fiscal year. The reason for that is language in the manager's statement in the conference report for an emergency supplemental appropriations bill passed in the spring of 1998.

In that report, the managers directed the Department of Transportation to notify the Committee on Appropriations not less than 3 business days before any AIP grant is announced by the department. If that requirement is imposed on the pending bill, it may not be possible to make all grants authorized by this legislation before the end of the fiscal year, after which, of course, the funds will no longer be available.

As a matter of law, we do not believe that the discussion in the conference report on the fiscal year 1998 supplemental emergency supplemental appropriations bill imposes any requirement with respect to funds authorized for fiscal year 2000 by the pending bill. The Committee on Appropriations does not have jurisdiction to impose permanent conditions applying to funds made available in the future. Had the Committee on Appropriations attempted to impose a permanent requirement of prior notice through legislative language, that language would have been subject to a point of order under rule XXI, clause 2, of the rules of the House.

To resolve any questions about this matter, I state affirmatively that it is the intention of the pending bill that grants be made as promptly as possible and that the announcement of grants not be delayed for the purpose of giving prior notice to any Congressional committee.

I look forward to working with my colleagues and with the other body to get agreement on a long term reauthorization bill.

I also want to express my strong concern over aviation provisions in the DOT appropriations bill passed by the other body. If these provisions are included in the bill reported from conference, I will have difficulty supporting that bill.

My greatest concern is that the bill passed by the other body includes legislative earmarks for airport development projects.

This is a dangerous precedent. We have never done so in House authorization bills in aviation. We have objected to any such language in appropriations bills. Until now our airport development funds have been allocated by safety professionals in the Department of Transportation. These officials are in the best position to make objective decisions as to where limited Federal funds should be invested for the maximum benefit, for the safety and efficiency of our airport and air traffic control system.

Our aviation system is a complex national interrelated system. Its development must be managed by officials who have the big picture in mind and who understand these interrelationships.

Although the bill passed by the other body has only a few legislative earmarks, some might argue, I would state that it is a dangerous precedent which should be ended now. Our chairman, the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. SHUSTER), and I have both expressed these concerns in a letter to the appropriations conferees, and I take this opportunity to reaffirm that letter and to stand firm against this very bad and very dangerous precedent.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to, because of the necessity for fast action on this, request that the clerks expedite their processing of the papers in regard to this legislation, and I urge support of all of my colleagues for this very worthwhile and important legislation in regard to our Nation's airports.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. DUNCAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 1637.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof)

the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on S. 1637 and include extraneous material.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Tennessee?

There was no objection.

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SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 1999, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

"SHOELESS" JOE JACKSON

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. DEMINT. Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues know, I have introduced a resolution in the House honoring "Shoeless" Joe Jackson for his baseball accomplishments. I know most baseball fans are familiar with his story. It has been portrayed in recent movies, including *Field of Dreams* and *Eight Men Out*. Most sporting shows and magazines, including *Sports Illustrated*, *ESPN* and *Fox News*, have done stories on it.

The people of my district are very familiar with Shoeless Joe, since he grew up playing baseball in the mill leagues of Greenville, South Carolina, and he spent the last years of his life there as well.

Throughout his life, he never tired of teaching kids to play the game he loved. There is even a baseball park named after him in Greenville, where kids play today.

For those unfamiliar with Shoeless Joe, let me briefly outline his legendary accomplishments. Of his hitting, Babe Ruth once said, "I decided to pick out the greatest hitter to watch and study and Jackson was good enough for me." Joe Jackson batted .408 in his rookie year, a feat which has never been equaled. He has the third highest batting average of all time, behind only Ty Cobb and Roger Hornsby. Over a 10-year period, he never hit below .300. His fielding skills in the outfield were legendary. His glove was named "the place where triples go to die."

My colleagues probably also know that Shoeless Joe Jackson is famous, or infamous, for allegedly taking part in the fix of the 1919 World Series. In

that series, a group of New York gamblers bribed a number of players on the Chicago White Sox team to throw the series to Cincinnati. When the news came out in 1920, the new commissioner of baseball, Commissioner Landis, acted swiftly. In a summary judgment, without an investigation, the commissioner banned eight players on the White Sox team from ever playing baseball again. Shoeless Joe was included in the ban.

I am not going to debate whether or not the commissioner's verdict was the right thing to do. Jackson was acquitted of participating in the fix twice, once in 1920 by a friendly Chicago jury and once in 1924 by an impartial jury in Milwaukee. In fact, the jurors in Milwaukee were asked in a special interrogatory whether Shoeless Joe conspired or participated to fix a Series. The jury answered with an emphatic no.

I am also not going to debate if Jackson was given money. According to the story, Shoeless Joe's roommate Lefty Williams left \$5,000 for Jackson on his bed. Whatever the debate, there are four things that are very clear. First, Shoeless Joe tried to give the money back before the Series started, but was rebuffed.

Second, Shoeless Joe tried to inform the owners of the White Sox of the fix, but the owner refused to see him.

Third, Shoeless Joe offered to sit out the Series but was again rebuffed.

Fourth, and most notably, Shoeless Joe played to win. He led all players by hitting .375, and he had the only home run of the Series. His fielding was flawless, throwing out five men at home plate. He set a World Series record with 12 hits and combined with Buck Weaver, the other player who was unfairly punished, for 23 hits, a record which has stood for 60 years.

I have no doubt of Shoeless Joe's innocence. While it is to his discredit that he took the money, he did nothing for the money. In the end, he came clean the only way he could, with his bat and glove.

In July, Ted Williams, Tommy LaSorda, and Bob Feller filed a petition with Commissioner Selig. That petition does not ask major league baseball to exonerate Shoeless Joe or to endorse his candidacy. To quote,

Those issues are moot at this point as he served a very difficult sentence over a long period of time. The commissioner of baseball is merely asked to acknowledge that Shoeless Joe has fully paid his debt to society and the game, that he satisfied the sentence of the first commissioner with dignity and humility and without rancor. Because he has fulfilled his sentence, baseball has no further call or jurisdiction over Shoeless Joe.

I rise in strong support of this petition. It provides major league baseball with a graceful and dignified way to finally let the issue rest and let Shoeless Joe receive the honor he has long deserved.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, on his death bed, Shoeless Joe said, "I am about to

meet the biggest umpire of them all and He knows I am innocent."

Fifty years after his death, it is time for baseball to restore the honor of this good man. I invite all of my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring House Resolution 269 honoring Shoeless Joe for his outstanding accomplishments in baseball. Let us do our part.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. LIPINSKI) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. LIPINSKI addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

FILIPINO WORLD WAR II VETERANS DESERVE OUR RESPECT AND OUR THANKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Mr. FILNER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, in April of 1999 I was proud to join the distinguished chairman of the House Committee on International Relations, the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), in introducing H.R. 1594, the Filipino Veterans' Benefit Improvement Act.

I rise today to urge my colleagues to support this legislation. Preliminary steps have already been taken toward restoring fairness to the veterans of World War II who are of Filipino descent. In 1996, Members of this House and our colleagues in the Senate passed concurrent resolutions to recognize these brave veterans for their service and contribution toward the successful outcome of World War II.

In October of 1996, President Clinton issued a presidential proclamation recalling the courage, the sacrifice, and the loyalty of the Filipino veterans of World War II and honoring them for their contribution to our freedom. Hearings have been held in both the House and the Senate on the issue of benefits for Filipino World War II veterans; and the President included a line item in both FY 1999 and FY 2000 presidential budgets for Filipino World War II veterans.

Then just 3 months ago, the Filipino Veterans' SSI Extension Act, H.R. 26, was incorporated into H.R. 1802, which passed this House. This bill will allow Filipino World War II veterans who are currently on SSI and living in the United States to return to the Philippines if they wish to do so, taking a portion of their SSI with them. Many are currently living alone and in poverty, financially unable to bring their families to the United States, nor to return to their homeland.

Most importantly, H.R. 1802 will allow those who wish to return to the Philippines to be with their loved ones in their final days, but it also saves the U.S. Government money, money that could be used to balance the costs of

the bill that the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and I have introduced, the Filipino Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act.

These actions are important first steps in our quest for justice and equity. Now is the time to build upon these steps and restore the benefits that Filipino World War II veterans were promised when they were drafted into military service by President Franklin D. Roosevelt. With their vital participation so crucial to the successful outcome of this war, one would assume that the United States would be grateful to their Filipino comrades. So it is hard to believe that soon after the war ended, the 79th Congress voted to take away the benefits and recognition of Filipino World War II veterans in what was called the Rescissions Act of 1946.

The gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) and I, along with 209 cosponsors of last year's Veterans Equity Act, are now asking our colleagues to correct this injustice that these veterans have endured for over 50 years.

Because the Filipino World War II veterans are in their seventies and eighties, their most urgent need is for health care. Our bill that we have introduced will provide access to VA medical facilities for these veterans, both in the United States and in the Philippines. We have designed the bill so that it will also provide greater access to VA medical facilities in the Philippines for U.S. veterans who are living abroad. In addition, the bill will also increase the service-connected disability compensation from what is called the peso rate to the full dollar amount for Filipino World War II veterans living in the United States, as called for in the President's budget.

The rationale for a lower payment simply does not exist for the veterans who are now U.S. citizens. All this can be achieved, Mr. Speaker, for \$36 million a year. This should be included in our final budget negotiations. I would urge my colleagues to support this cost-effective humanitarian measure.

Taken together, these acts are the steps we must take during this session of Congress on behalf of our brave colleagues who serve side by side with the forces from the United States. The House has passed the SSI Extension Act. Let us now join together in a bipartisan effort to restore health benefits to the Filipino World War II veterans.

Let us pass H.R. 1594, the Filipino Veterans' Benefits Improvement Act.

THE NUTRACEUTICAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow I am introducing the Nutraceutical Research and Education Act which I am going to call the NREA. Many of